



Putting for Parkinson's

Attn: Scott Layman

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Fort Thomas, KY 41075

www.putting4parkinsons.com

*** PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY! ***

April 23, 2020

Dear Friends,

A couple of years ago, I accompanied a good friend of mine to an after-party for another local golf outing and fundraising event. Like our event, they had a big auction and a rocking band playing 80s hits. I was not having a good day Parkinson's-wise; in fact it was a terrible day for me, so bad that I told myself that I was going to stay at home on that particular evening, but a good friend of mine persuaded me to go. I'm glad she did.

What I witnessed was amazing. It was more than a packed house of beer guzzlers dancing to the music. It was more than a great display of raffle prizes for the lucky ticket holders. It was more than the thousands raised during their live auction. My take-away from that evening was a sense of pride of just being there. There was an electrifying and empowering feeling in the room, and I felt lucky to be a part of it, even if they did run out of beer.

I was sitting by myself in the back half of the room. Standing, walking, and even talking were problematic for me on that night, so I decided to remove a few things from the equation by taking a seat. A few friends noticed me and come over to say "hi." My ability to talk with people was easier when I sat, and I did my best to have a conversation when approached.

My next-door neighbor and good friend of mine was one of those who sat and talked with me for a spell. After we exchanged pleasantries and a few sick jokes, I said to him, "Look at this. Can you believe the number of people here and the amount of money they are spending? It's unreal." Living here most of his life, he replied, "It's amazing, and you won't see this kind of community in too many other places... rallying around a cause, some even writing checks they probably shouldn't be writing, but they do it anyway. That's what this town does."

That really made me feel special as I reflected upon our own fundraiser, *Putting for Parkinson's*, which is a big success every year because of several factors... the players, the sponsors, the donors, and those attending dinner and the silent & live auctions... they all make the money part of our fundraiser succeed. For that alone, I am extremely grateful. But there is something greater on the course that day and in the clubhouse that evening that makes me very proud to be a part of this event. It is the feeling of acceptance into this same community of love and friendship, where people open their hearts and wallets to support a cause so important to me. I did not grow up anywhere close to here; I am a 'transplant' into this town, and yet I have been embraced by the community as if I had lived here my entire life. You have no idea how special that makes a guy like me feel. **For that, I am forever grateful, beyond any words that I would use to try and describe it. All I can simply say is, "Thank you!"**



Community. This is the theme for this year's *Putting for Parkinson's* event. I type this letter in the midst of a global pandemic and a lot of people's uncertainty of their health and ability to earn an income. In consideration of the current CoronaVirus and the financial hardships it has placed on companies and individuals everywhere, The *Putting for Parkinson's* event is still being held on July 17, 2020, however we are focusing less on fundraising and more on just being together as one large Community of support toward a cure for Parkinson's Disease. We are also celebrating one of the reasons that I started this event in the first place – to increase public awareness of Parkinson's Disease. We are still golfing, but only in the afternoon. We are reducing the golf fees, with no add-ons like Mulligans and raffle tickets to buy, and we will not have any hole sponsors. We will serve lunch, but we will not have breakfast or dinner. We will, however, have appetizers to enjoy after your round of golf. We may pass the hat for donations, and people can still donate if they want to, but that is not our main objective. This year, 2020, is about getting together as a Community to just celebrate life and being together.

If the mandate for social distancing is not relaxed by the Governor in advance of July 17, then we will either postpone the event to a date in the Fall (TBD), or be forced to cancel it altogether if public health concerns still exist at that time of the postponement date.

We are holding our abbreviated golf outing this summer on **Friday, July 17, 2020!** Help us make this year's event extra special by playing golf or just by joining us for happy hour and appetizers. You can register yourself or your foursome at: www.putting4parkinsons.com.

Our 11th(!) golf outing will be held at Highland Country Club in Fort Thomas, KY, with an afternoon (1:00PM) shotgun start. Lunch and appetizers are included with your golf registration. It will be a great day, loaded with fun, friendship, and **Community**. I promise you'll have a great time, and I hope to see you on July 17!

God Bless, and Remember ... *Optimism Always Prevails!*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Layman', is written over a circular blue stamp that partially overlaps the signature.

Scott Layman
P4P Golf Committee

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