

“It is by far the best desert golf course I have ever seen. It has everything but an ocean — changes of elevation, beautiful rock formations, and desert flora. It’s an awesome piece of land,” lauded Jay Morrish, golf course architect.

A Dedication To Excellence

“Come join us at *The Stone Canyon Club*.” — PHIL MICKELSON, A 42 TIME WINNER ON THE PGA TOUR, INCLUDING FIVE MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIPS AND THREE MASTERS

ORO VALLEY, ARIZONA: Few brands in golf match the strength and stability of Phil Mickelson. So, two years ago, it was big industry news when Phil, along with longtime agent and friend, Steve Loy, purchased The Stone Canyon Club, located 20 minutes north of Tucson, Arizona.

“We simply kept our promise to the membership,” asserted Roger Nelson, president of Stone Canyon. “We committed to *start* construction on a new clubhouse within 48 months. We *completed* it in 22 months. By delivering, we protect both the community and Phil’s reputation.”

The hacienda-style, rectangular clubhouse maximizes the use of natural light. “It’s hard to tell whether you are indoors or outdoors,” explained Erik Peterson, lead architect of the clubhouse. “The dining room and bar open onto the patio. My vision was to design a clubhouse with a contemporary look and clean lines. The bar has a zinc countertop with punches of color throughout. We also have a couple of unusual showstoppers. The fireplace mantle and dining room tables are made from reclaimed wood of a 1920’s cotton mill from Truman, Arkansas.”

LIVING IN A CACTI FOREST

Stone Canyon’s Jay Morrish golf course, nestled in the Tortolita Mountains, is carved through a boulder-filled

canyon and peppered with an impressive collection of large saguaro cacti, many more than a century old.

“The elevation, at 3,000 feet, provides an ideal climate for desert vegetation. Even with the prime conditions, saguaros grow slowly. It is common to take 50 to 75 years to grow their first arm,” explained Nelson. “Several of our most majestic cacti date back to when Arizona became a state in 1912.

“Our homesites are literally surrounded by a cacti forest. When you add in one of the largest outcroppings of boulders in the desert Southwest, you know you are someplace special. In the winter, when many parts of the country are gray and cold, our bright sunshine illuminates the yellow flowering brittlebush, purple verbena, and desert lavender blossoming in the foothills,” said Nelson.

VALUE OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA

Tucson, located 90 miles south of Phoenix and Scottsdale provides a much smaller community feel. “One look at the difference in population tells the story,” described Nelson. “Greater Phoenix has a population of 1.8 million, while Tucson’s is 500,000. We lack the urban sprawl, creating a more intimate lifestyle.

“The value proposition at Stone Canyon is compelling

STONE CANYON has appeared in *Golf Digest’s* rankings of “America’s 100 Greatest Courses” and “Top-100 Best Practice Facilities.”



There are a variety of social activities at The Stone Canyon Club which include wine dinners, nine and dine couples golf, ladies holiday shopping trips, and cigars under the stars evenings.

compared to other Arizona and Southern California desert communities. Raw land and labor costs are noticeably less, allowing us to provide the same amenities at a lower price point. You receive a greater bang for your buck. Full golf membership is reasonably priced at \$15,000 and provides reciprocal privileges at The Rim Golf Club and Chaparral Pines in Payson, up in the High Country of Arizona.”

GROWTH BEGETS GROWTH

Membership at Stone Canyon is at an all time high. “I like to think of our community as summer camp for adults,” teased Nelson. “There is a culture of pride and accomplish-

ment. We are now in the process of building 28 stay-and-play casitas, constructed out of the finest materials and finishes, for our members and their guests. They are the ultimate turnkey homes. Literally bring your clubs and clothes and you are ready to go.

“We take great care in the design and construction process to protect the surrounding cacti and rock formations,” said Nelson. “Your casita will literally look like it was dropped in place among one of the most beautiful spots in the Sonoran Desert.” ■

For more information, please visit StoneCanyon.com.

The 15th hole green complex