



News Release
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Kasmer & Aafedt Oil, Links of ND raise \$940,000 for Nonprofit Organizations

Kasmer & Aafedt Oil isn't one to toot its own horn. The Williston-based firm together with the Links of North Dakota have quietly raised nearly \$1 million for nonprofit organizations since they started the Kasmer & Aafedt Classic six years ago. The charity golf tournament and fundraiser has gotten so strong it raised nearly \$300,000 in 2019 alone!

While owners John Kasmer and Dean Aafedt silently raise funds for local charities; their impact is loud and clear.

"In the past we raised more than \$200,000 for some charities," said Kasmer. "This year we over \$290,000 for a total of \$940,000 in six years."

This is how the tournament works: Kasmer & Aafedt Oil provides the golf, food and prizes while each player contributes \$175 to the charity of his or her choice. In addition, Kasmer & Aafedt Oil donates \$5,000 to the charity with the most teams and \$10,000 to the winning team's nonprofit. Kasmer is also known to fundraise softly, yet aggressively, on the side.

"We don't have the big sponsors at our tournament," said Kasmer. "We have found our local people are the most giving."

Williston Mayor Howard Klug is a long-time supporter and chef for the fundraising event.

"I'm involved in many charitable events, but I believe in this event so much that I take full responsibility for my contribution to the tournament," he said. "It's a great cause and one that I want to be involved with for many years to come."

Klug has generously purchased and prepared prime rib for the golfers. There is also deep-fried walleye and all the fixings. A special treat that does not go unnoticed.

"The food is top notch. It is definitely worth the entry fee," said Kasmer. Kasmer & Aafedt and The Links don't sponsor the event for the recognition. They do it because of the love for their community.

"The Aafedt's and (Tom) Powers families have been giving long before I ever got here," said Kasmer.

Powers is a member of the core group that purchased the nationally recognized course in 2002. The owners have steadily been making improvements ever since.

"My son enjoys golf and I thought it was a good way to promote family," said Powers.

The Links, which has consistently been ranked as one of Golfweek's Best Courses You Can Play from 2009-2019 (Ranked No. 1 in North Dakota), has added 20 year-round RV spots, 12 cabins and expanded its golf cart shed to double as a venue for special events.

This year, the tournament raised the most funds ever. Some of the projects that benefited were Bethel Lutheran Foundation's building campaign, the Community Connections' lunch program for less fortunate students and Lewis and Clark Elementary School's parking lot upgrade.