



[www.sgaofatlanta.org](http://www.sgaofatlanta.org)

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President: Ron Wade  
Vice-Pres: Mike Nobles  
Secretary: Ted Pogue  
Treasurer: Tom Vardase

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Ward Humphries	2025
Gary Nelson	2025
Jim Begnaud	2024
Ron Panter	2024
Cleve Shupe	2024

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Larry Fauconnet  
678-654-2594

### Chaplain

Norm Jaros  
404-636-2159

### Table Captains

#### Monday

Larry Fauconnet 678-654-2594

#### Tuesday

John Cyran 404-272-1571

#### Wednesday

Tom Gryder 404-232-9741

#### Thursday

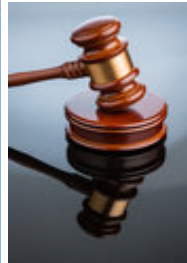
Bob Remich 404-822-1379

# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

*DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP*

Volume 68 Issue 1

January 2024



**President**  
**Ron Wade**  
**Ron3392@aol.com**  
**(706) 318-2379**



Well, here we are in 2024. I hope you had a Merry Christmas and on behalf of the officers and board, I wish you a Happy New Year.

It's stylish to make predictions at the beginning of the year. Here are some of mine:

1. SGAA will play more than 125 rounds in 2024.
2. We will play more than 20 different courses.
3. We will gain a number of new members.
4. Your president will leave a club on hole no. 17 on Bear Creek.
5. Wendell Jackson will pick it up and give the president a hard time.

Now for some suggestions about New Year resolutions:

1. Forget about dieting. It never works out.
2. Update your family budget, but don't plan to follow it.
3. Resolve to play more rounds with SGAA than you played in 2023.
4. Plan to introduce at least two golfers to SGAA. Our average green fee is under \$40, the most affordable golf available.
5. Add your scores correctly and legibly.
6. Check your additions again.

You will hear and read a lot about participation and membership this year. Golf is making a strong comeback. The number of starts is continuing to increase. As demand increases, costs will increase, but the green fees in our contracts will still be a bargain. Ironically, despite the increase in demand, we may lose additional courses in 2024 after the two we lost in 2023.

Please continue to preregister whenever possible, but don't hesitate to come out even if you have not preregistered. Our table crews can work miracles. And, speaking about table workers, there is probably a place for you on one of the table crews. Check it out. It's the highest compensated position in SGAA.

Preregistration has enabled us to make an important change in table hours. Beginning this month, the tables will open one hour before play begins rather than ninety minutes before.

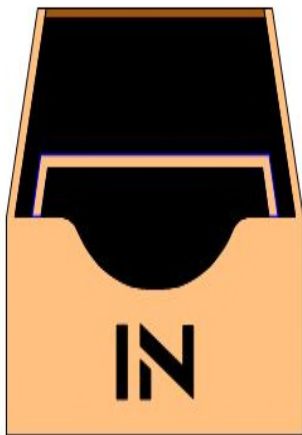
Hit `em long and straight, and putt `em out!

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**Vice President**

**Mike Nobles**

**mike.nobles.usma79@gmail.com**

**(678) 294-2363**



Happy New Year to all my friends and fellow members of the SGAA. I hope each of you had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends during Christmas and perhaps received that new driver or putter from Santa that will help you shoot your best round ever in 2024. My personal Christmas wish was for a very short winter—already tired of bundling up for tournaments in layers. Despite the chilly weather impacting my scores, I'm determined to embrace the challenges and adapt, evolving from a fair-weather golfer to an all-weather enthusiast.

I am truly honored to serve as your Vice President in 2024. The trust you've placed in me is humbling, and I am excited about the prospect of contributing to the growth and success of SGAA. I am passionate about the value that this organization brings to the senior golfing community in the Atlanta area and I promise that I will work hard to help SGAA grow and thrive for many years to come.

The two initiatives that I plan to focus on in the first quarter of 2024 are new member growth and speed of play. I have a number of ideas that I have been kicking around on both of these topics and I look forward to sharing those with you after they have been vetted by Ron and the other members of the board. I may be asking for your input and participation as we work together to shape the future of our organization.

Let's make 2024 a fantastic year together! I look forward to hearing your thoughts and expectations for the exciting times ahead. See you on the links.



**EVENTS FOR  
JANUARY 2024**

*All tee times  
are 10:00 a/m*

January 16  
TUES: 10:00 a/m  
**Cherokee Run \$40**

January 18  
THURS: 10:00 a/m  
**Bear Creek \$42**

January 22  
MON: 10:00 a/m  
**Chimneys \$45**

January 24  
WED: 10:00 a/m  
**Honey Creek \$32**

January 30  
TUES: 10:00 a/m  
**Providence \$37**

**The schedule is subject to  
change locations; check the  
SGAA website for the latest  
information**



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**Secretary  
Ted Pogue  
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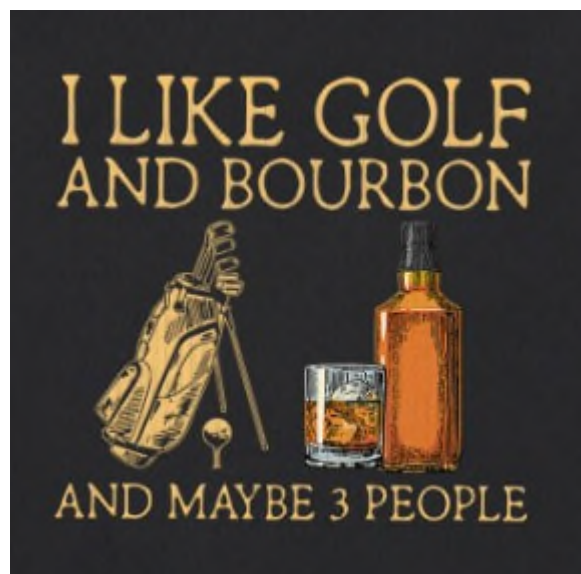
We begin January 2024 with 222 active members. This number will go down as we work through the due's payments for 2024. I'll post a list of the members who have chosen not to join for 2024 in the February newsletter. Seven members have passed away in 2023, Jim Hood, Bob Smith, Jeff Burke, Earl Conine, Harley Thompson, Harold Varn and Jim Adams

Keep up the good work on the new applications. We are accepting applications for 2024. Application forms are available at each registration table or by contacting me.

New applications should include a check for \$50 to insure membership.

**MAKE SURE THAT ALL THE BLANKS ON THE APPLICATION FORM ARE FILLED OUT. MAKE SURE THEY ARE EASILY READ.**

Continue to ask your friends and neighbors if they would like to join us. Get your blank applications from the registration tables. New applicants must have two (2) sponsors.





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Editor

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## *Rambling from Tee to Green*

Can you believe we're actually starting a new season already? The Pandemic and its lockdowns and social distancing seem like ancient history but it was only about a year and a half since it was officially declared over. Yet the blow the Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta took continues to linger and will take all of us working together to overcome the consequences.

Our name says it all: **Senior** Golfers Association of Atlanta. I can remember (barely) when I thought 55 was ancient; now I have children that age so it shouldn't come as a surprise that the Pandemic took a toll on our membership. Health issues became more prominent as we couldn't get out and socialize and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine on the golf course. I have read, albeit on the internet, that being able to socialize has great benefits for the well-being of everyone; especially the elderly. And you know if it's on the internet it has got to be true. So some of our members just haven't been able to get back out on the course and as a result are no longer active members of SGAA. And then again, some of those who have returned to the course just can't move as quickly as they did before and/or they don't hit the ball as far or as well. And that my friends can lead to slow play.

And with that we take up the double-edged sword. How do we reduce the length of our rounds without driving some of our long-time members away and at the same time add new members while we encounter what we perceive to be slow play? I wish there was a simple answer to this complex question, but alas there's not one.

But we can make the situation better if we work together. And it's going to take all of us.

I would like to think I'm not considered a slow player; but if you're behind my group as we approach the 5 hour mark of our round — everyone ahead of you is a slow player.

As I implied, since Covid many of us aren't moving as quickly as we did pre-pandemic. But there are things we can do to mitigate our lack of quickness and most importantly is to play **Ready Golf!** That means we overcome our lack of rapid mobility by using our heads. As you leave the tee box consider where your ball lies and **think** about what your next shot will be and when you arrive at your ball, choose your club, take your practice swing, and make the shot. Repeat this as you go around the course. And if by chance a player has to look for his ball, don't wait on him, play your shot and **then** help him find his (remember you only have 3 minutes to search). Don't stand on ceremony if you're ready to play your shot even though you're not "away" and not in the line of fire, go ahead and play your shot. Once on the green we know every putt is important but it shouldn't take five minutes to line up your putt. And once the hole is completed move off the green and record your score at the next tee box — again not taking all day to do it.

Along with ready golf a change in attitude might be in order. You're not the only one on the course so don't act like it. Not everyone is a scratch golfer so don't get upset if they make a bad shot. Remember, if we were as good as we think we should be; we'd be on TV on the weekends. Not only will you enjoy your round more you'll help others have an enjoyable time too; it just takes the right attitude.



# SGAA 2024 Tee Off Banquet

## February 22, 2024

11:00 a/m — 2:00 p/m



### Tucker Elks Lodge

1775 Montreal Road  
Tucker GA 30084



**\$25.00 PER PERSON**

*(includes tip and tax)*



This will be a nice lunch — cash bar

Reservations can be made by sending your check — made out to **SGAA** — for **\$25.00** annotated as "Tee Off Banquet" to:

**Tom Vardase**  
**3502 Johns Road**  
**Tucker, GA 30084**

**Reservations MUST be received no later than **February 16, 2024****

This is not so much "going to lunch" as it is about the friends and fellowship we expect to enjoy this season.

Moving forward I encourage your feedback regarding any changes you'd offer. The menu and other suggestions to attract better attendance is welcome.

You can't put a price on friendship. I look forward to seeing you on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Harry Matthews*



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## *Classic*

**The Mitsubishi Electric Classic is looking for volunteers! This PGA TOUR Champions tournament will take place the week of April 22 - 28, 2024 at TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth Georgia. Volunteers play a pivotal role in the event's success. Since its inception in 2013, the Mitsubishi Electric Classic has raised over \$4.1 million for charity and we cannot do that without the help of our amazing volunteers.**

Volunteers can select from a variety of committees, performing the many tasks required to conduct a PGA TOUR Champions event. Please refer to the [Committee Descriptions document](#) for a brief description on the committees that are available. We will do our best to accommodate your preferences for your committee of choice.

**[Volunteer package](#) includes:**

- One (1) Logoed Polo Shirt
- One (1) Lightweight Logoed 1/4 Zip Pullover
- One (1) Ball Cap or Visor
- One (1) Clear Logoed String Backpack
- Personalized Volunteer Credential
- Annual Commemorative Volunteer Pin
- Volunteer Parking Pass
- Continental Breakfast and/or Lunch during Scheduled Volunteer Shifts
- Two (2) Weekly Grounds Badges (valid Friday – Sunday of tournament week)
- Opportunity to play TPC Sugarloaf post-tournament
- 15% Discount on Tournament Merchandise

**The volunteer registration fee is \$85, with options to add extra shirts, hats, and pullovers. If you register before the end of the year, you will be entered into a drawing to win a 4 some at TPC Sugarloaf. Also, by watching the Volunteer Training video and completing the Volunteer Training Quiz, you will be entered to be reimbursed the volunteer registration fee. 5 lucky winners will be announced after the tournament in May.**

Click [here](#) to register for the '24 Mitsubishi Electric Classic!

Please reach out to [info@mitsubishielectricclassic.com](mailto:info@mitsubishielectricclassic.com) if you have any questions.

# **The Volunteer Program is Supported by**



AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING • PLUMBING

*Story After Story, We Deliver Smiles!*

**JANUARY 2024**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Cherokee Run 10:00a/m \$40		Bear Creek 10:00a/m \$42		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			Honey Creek 10:00a/m \$32			
28	29	30	31	<b>DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE TEE-OFF BANQUET</b>		
		Providence 10:00a/m \$37				

Steve Puster  
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