

SHANKS AND FLOPS

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By The Latty Ledger Staff

MEMORIAL SUNDAY HONORS LEGENDS OF THE CLUB

Memorial Sunday once again delivered the perfect blend of golf, chaos, and heartfelt tradition as The Latty Club gathered for “Herbie Barghaan Day”, The LaTourette Club Memorial. Members and guests paid respects to the men who shaped the club long before today’s crew started drinking slushies on the patio.

Names like Charlie Amandoles, Earle Dallas, Dennis Malenka, Roy Nelson, Charlie Eller, Charlie Kerdock (“Mr. Golf”), and 9/11 hero Mikey Sofia, Vin Truscelli Sr., echoed across the course. Each left a mark, some through leadership, some through personality, and some through unforgettable footwear choices.

Charlie Amandoles, who has tournament carrying his name, still the coolest trophy on the Island. Earle Dallas, the Club President back when I was a young buck in the Golf Shop, strutting around in those unmistakable red, white, and blue FootJoy wing tips. Another President, and a great golfer, Dennis Malenka, a man who dotted every “i” and crossed every “tee” with Presidential precision.

Then there were the fathers of current members: Charlie Eller, who never turned down a post-round beer. For those who may not realize it, the Club still subsidizes a portion of the sons’ Sunday round on this day, which is as classy a tradition as any in Staten Island Club Golf.

And of course, Charlie Kerdock. For anyone who didn’t have the pleasure, he was known simply as “Mr. Golf.” I grew close to him while working nights; we’d both end up at Gary Ports’ golf shop on Manor Road. Every time the doors opened, he’d bark that he’d finally found the secret. He’d work on that secret all week, only to lose it by Sunday and shoot 105.

Firefighter Mikey Sofia was another one I met while working at the course, built like Ivan Putzsky and remembered just as strongly. And Vin Truscelli Sr., a great player, Staten Island Amateur Champion, and teaching pro at the Range during my time working there.

But the name spoken most often remains Dougie Schultz. The man who taught me how to “run the game” using nothing but a napkin. The creator of nearly every nickname in Latty history; “Wood”, “Pondie”, “Slippery”, “Whitey”, “CopyBoy”, “Tennis Pro”, “Slasher” “Pep”(I think Pep was always Pep), “Eye Chart”, and probably 20 more, somehow never had one himself. He was just Dougie. His ashes rest near the old #16 tree, and his scorecard tribute still says it best: “Say Hi to Dougie”

To all who showed up, THANK YOU. To all who keep this thing alive, thank you twice.

The point is simple: Club golf built these friendships, and the friendships will keep it going.

2026 MEMORIAL CHAMPIONS CROWNED

Aloisio steady, Arena scorching, Sala clutch on the carpet

Gross Champion: Pete Aloisio — 73

Net Champion: Lawrence Arena — 79 net 66

Team Champions: Arena & Joe Rafferty — Net 61

Putting Champion: Al Sala, defeating Vin DiCrescento before a 20-person gallery



FULL TEAM STANDINGS

1. Rafferty – Arena, L — **61**
2. Alesi – DeMartino — **65**
3. Sala – Falcone — **65**
4. Lally – Fareri Sr — **66**
5. DiCrescento – Grunlund — **67**
6. Scaglione – Sciandra — **67**
7. Padilla – Fareri Jr — **67**
8. Gino – Marino — **67**
9. Aloisio – Pirrone — **67**
10. Berardi II – Dummy — **67**
11. Foley – Arena S — **69**
12. Piazza – Pallotta Jr — **70**
13. Kelly – McDonald — **70**
14. Delin – Perpetua — **71**
15. Fappiano – Pennisi — **73**
16. Eller – Ricciardi — **75**

THE HEATER RETURNS: WEEKLY GAME REPORT

A format that exposes the weak

The club revisited **The Heater**, a format that rewards precision and punishes anyone who thinks “net 4-ball” is boring.

OVERALL – 122 pts: Rich Piazza, Ed Perpetua, Lawrence Arena, Mike Alesi

2nd OVERALL – 112 pts: Brian Foley, John Scaglione, Tom Lally, John Pirrone

FRONT – 70 pts: Piazza, Perpetua, Arena, Alesi

2ND FRONT – 61 pts: Foley, Scaglione, Lally, Pirrone

BACK – 54 pts: Pete Aloisio, Jim Fareri Jr, Jack Ricciardi, Guy Pennisi

T2 BACK – 52 pts: Piazza, Perpetua, Arena, Alesi • John Gino, Joe Rafferty, Sal Arena, Dominick Sciandra

Closest to Pins

• #3 – Piazza • #12 – L. Arena • #16 – Lally • #5 – Scaglione • #11 – Fareri Jr

Only three players broke 80: Aloisio (73), Arena (79), and Gino (79). The rough remains thick, the fringes long, and the greens small enough to make every GPS unit look like it's lying. Only four players hit their handicap: Arena (66), Fareri Jr (71), Alesi (71), Marino (72).

FROM THE PATIO

Pizza, Putting, and Fifth-grade arguments

Special thanks to:

- **Lenny DeMartino** for providing pizza while still under the weather
- **Richie Piazza** for designing the putting course
- **John Kelly & John Gino** on sign duty
- **The President** for steering the ship

Entertainment of the week: **Big Dom vs. Joe Berardi II**, arguing like fifth graders playing Spin the Bottle. One talks a big game; the other doesn't have one... *yet*.

Past putting champ **Joe Pallotta Sr.** made a ceremonial appearance before Bones dispatched him quickly.

And of course, the patio regulars; Pep, Davey Eller, Lalls, Scags, Lenny, Dom, Foles, and the rest, Lets keep the Sunday tradition alive.

“To Our Absent Members.” And as always: **Show up to the tee on time.**

AMANDOLES QUALIFIER SET FOR JULY 26

Gross Match Play returns; Tee assignments confirmed

Next week brings another major: **The Amandoles Cup Qualifier**. A cut is possible or if not, seeds will matter.

Championship Flight: Blue Tees **Other Flights (aka “Amadeus Cups”):** White / Senior / Red Tees.

SIGA TWO-MAN RINGER

A real event, run like a real event

Congrats to:

- **Eric Delin & Joe Pallotta Jr — 2nd Place**
- **Bones & Lalls — T3**
- **Berardi II & Sciandra — Day’s Low Round (Round 2)**
- **Davey Eller — grinding solo after Grunlund’s back gave out and then the Bitch assisted on Sunday**

A strong showing across the board.