

SHANKS AND FLOPS

The Latty Ledger • 2026.16

By The Latty Ledger Staff

Latty Boys Take Knob Hill by Storm

KNOB HILL, N.J. — The Latty Boys took their annual road show south this week, gathering at Knob Hill for an outing hosted by Tom Lally that delivered strong golf, late-afternoon laughs and a post-round party that quickly became part of club lore.

The later than preferred tee time did not sit perfectly with this writer, who had already been awake for seven hours, but the weather and course conditions were more than ready for the field.

Aloisio Fires 71, Socci Takes Low Net

On the course, Party Pete Aloisio stole the early headlines, firing a low-gross 71 that featured six birdies. Steve Socci also turned in a strong performance with a 77, good for low net at 70. Aloisio's net 72, after giving a stroke back to the field, left him and Socci as the only players to match their handicaps.

The heat was real, and for some players the scores made the day feel hotter than it was. Jim Fareri Jr. could not sustain his fine play from the previous week, as Bones posted a 101 which included losing a half dozen. The Fareri family line had a difficult day overall, as Jim Fareri Sr., citing heat exhaustion (his familiar explanation) came in at 105. The crowd favorite Lenny DeMartino mixed in a few good holes, but too many bad ones, rolling a pair of 10-pin gutter balls on the way to a 108. Of course, some of the good holes were good enough for the Dough Boy to collect a couple of scats.

Guest player and PBA Hall of Famer Joe Berardi Sr. impressed with an 81 from the stubbornly selected blue tees.

Team Berardi II Leads the Field

The team game was played as three-ball along with an overall team quota competition.

Overall honors went to Joe Berardi II, Squire Chris Panza, Knob Hill member and resident Bob Marino, and Mike "Chachi" Falcone, who finished with 110 points.

Front nine: Team Berardi II tied the front with John Scaglione, Rich Piazza, Gil Morales and John Pirrone at 55 points.

Back nine and team quota: Team Berardi II also captured the back with 55 points and the team quota at minus-12.

Closest to the pins:

#3: Piazza

#5: Berardi II

#6: Marino

#9: Aloisio

#12: Berardi Sr

#17: John Gino

Post-Round Party Becomes Main Event

After the round, the boys moved from the course to Lally's house. Before arriving, Piazza, Aloisio and John Kelly were seen at the 19th Hole, getting properly warmed up post round festivities.

At the house, the group was greeted by Mrs. Lally, Suzanne, the dog Finn, 15 pizzas and a fan-favorite pretzel, bacon and honey appetizer. The pool opened quickly, christened by Socci, who was pleased to get into his suit. Big Dom Sciandra followed with a flip into the pool, in golf clothes, that only a Division I athlete could reasonably attempt.

Rosey Marino arrived with her renowned pizza rustica, forcing Bones to consider extra cholesterol pills by Monday morning. Suzanne also launched Bobo into the pool, which naturally led to Bobo sitting on laps in an effort to share the water with everyone else. Johnny Scag may have left with a couple of sore hips, though Bobo claimed he was not truly sat on.

As the beer, malt beverages, 19th hole cocktails and whatever else was consumed across holes one through 18 began to add up, Pedro Aloisio was overheard slurring his way through a description of Chachi's 10-pound gold chain. The chain, reportedly real gold, may also explain the first-year member's difficulty shifting his weight.

Pay Window Opens, Lefty Goes Missing

Then the pay window opened, and Aloisio, first to be called, was nowhere to be found. Concern spread quickly. Was he sleeping? Was he feeling green? The answer soon became clear, as the long-hitting lefty was green around the gills and left evidence on the Lally living room floor. Seeking relief, he decided the pool was the obvious solution. It cooled him down, but did not entirely slow him down, as he was later seen leaning over the edge of the pool releasing the remnants of a fantastic round.

Fareri Jr. was heard saying, "If that's the secret to good play, I am in." The party began to thin little by little, while President Eric Delin considered whether a letter might be required. That thought faded after it was learned that Falcone, Pep and Uber driver John Kelly stayed late. The Uber did not leave until after 8:30 p.m., confirming that a good time had been had by all.

The group might still be there if not for Finn, the Lally family dog and perhaps the best dog on the planet, guarding Lefty as he lay poolside like a Sentry at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. His message was clear: "He is cut off."

In all seriousness, Pete continues to struggle with Jersey venues. It must be the water.

Slushies, Thanks and a Possible Dues Break

Club Treasurer Tom Aldycki contributed to the day's atmosphere as well, thanks to Knob Hill accommodating the Pond with a cart, so he could ride around and distribute a few of his slushy creations.

Overall, it was an outstanding day and an excellent time. Thanks again to the Lallys. Tom had been trying to host this gathering for 15 years as a Laker and kept getting denied. This year, the wish was granted by the best club on the Island, and the event was a success, sort of. Lally later texted Bones to suggest that free dues may be in order for 2027.

Correction at the Pay Window

Speaking of the pay window, the club Vice President Bones initially ran the results based on Latourette's holes, which meant the results were incorrect. After a Monday correction, a notice went out stating that a "rake" was coming. As usual, the club handled our transparency with the matter as gentleman and understood the correction process.

Thanks again.