

Dear Members,

“January, you start the year off fine,” is a line from Neil Sedaka’s song Calendar Girl released as a single in December 1960. The dictionary’s definition of a calendar is that it’s a “chart or series of pages showing the days, weeks, and months of a particular year, or giving particular seasonal information. It’s also a list of appointments or activities.” It’s all about the calendar this month! And I am late! Get your calendars handy (even the Hallmark ones!)....here goes....

GVWGA has started the year off fine with the implementation of Golf Genius Premium. Golf Genius Premium will allow our organization to move to a paperless membership/renewal payment on line, paperless tournament registration/payment on line, paperless Spring/Fall Banquet payment online, live scoring, golf reports...everything but making coffee for you! Google Meets-Meetings are ongoing with Golf Genius Contacts who have been assigned to our 2026 tournaments. Tournament Chairpersons will begin formal training in March.

It’s important to recognize these fine members who have been working hard and steadily since the beginning of this month:

**Golf Genius Contacts for the 2026 Tournament Season:** Liz Prescod, Mary Cook, Kathy Myers, Kathy Kamann, Cathy Smith, Linda Cardot, Kathy Emison.

**Tournament Chairs for the 2026 Tournament Season:** Debbie Loughlin, Barbie Huckle, Lissa Schaefer, Sue Case, Judy Gagnier, Nancy Schlinger, Sylvia Franz, Luisa Sam, Jennifer Cole, Margaret Anderson, Barb Cosmano, Kathy Emison, Marie DeRosa, Chris Jerome, Mary Jane Witkiewitz.

**Special Shout Out To These Geniuses:** Liz Prescod, Kathy Myers, Cathy Smith. These gals have been working non-stop with “Josh” our guy from Golf Genius Premium. Brava!

We could not be successful year after year, now heading into our 91<sup>st</sup> year of this organization, without the time and efforts of our volunteers! Thank you from my Heart to Yours!

**2026 Membership Renewal:** You will be receiving your GVWGA Membership Renewal sometime during the week of February 1<sup>st</sup>. Our Membership Chair, Luisa Sam, will send a welcome and intro with step by step instructions to our new membership process. The second email will be a personalized email from Golf Genius, and this email places you in the membership driver seat. This also includes instructions to complete your membership registration, profile, membership program selection, and on-line payment.

Within your profile, you will notice two areas both of which are **OPTIONAL** for you to fill out ; first is a career/skills-set blank box, and second is a hobbies/interests blank box. There is also an **OPTION** for adding a photo of yourself.

GVWGA asserts that filling in these Optional Boxes is not meant for soliciting a personal business, or soliciting professional expertise. GVWGA makes no claim to the validity of

information given. GVWGA's intent for this Option is to provide members common likes, shared experiences and skills, with the purpose for conversation in getting to know each other. Making these fields Optional, gives the member a choice to add this information and/or photo..or not to add at all.

Most of you will find the 2026 Membership Registration an efficient walk through to securing your membership in one of the most successful golf tournament organizations for women.

For any assistance in filling out the member registration form, please send your concern to: [gvwga.webteam@gmail.com](mailto:gvwga.webteam@gmail.com)

For membership related questions or problems, please email Luisa at [luisa.sam7777@gmail.com](mailto:luisa.sam7777@gmail.com) or text her at 585-880-8367.

**2026 Tournament Schedule (without cost) – See Attached:** I think you will be pretty excited about the new courses we will be playing this year; Big Oak Golf Course in Geneva, Webster Golf Club, The Club at Silver Lake in Perry, N.Y. Kathy Myers has taken the time to include on the tournament schedule a column for Tees, Length of Course, Course Rating, and Slope. Thanks Kathy! Hugs to Barbie Huckle in securing the NEW courses for play in 2026! And of course, GVWGA is thrilled to be back at the Brook-Lea Country Club for a 2 Person Multi Format Play Tournament. We listened to you as members, and we have have increased team events this year. 13 tournaments for 2026 have been scheduled for team event formats. And of course, the popular Birdies/Skins will be back with the addition of the Eagle (once in a life time..maybe..but certainly possible) scores.

**RDGA 2026 Tournament Schedule:** Popular with our Membership are the RDGA Tournaments. There are some beautiful golf courses on the 2026 schedule that I am looking forward to playing .... no matter what my score is (loving the team events)! Here is just a sampling of the tournaments scheduled for 2026:

\*RDGA Women's Open, Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> Monroe CC

\*RDGA Two Person Stableford, August 31<sup>st</sup> Locust Hill CC

\*RDGA Two Person Best Ball, Monday September 14<sup>th</sup> Irondequoit CC

\*RDGA Two Person Best Ball, Monday September 21, Mendon GC

\*RDGA Two Person Scramble, Monday September 28<sup>th</sup>, Brook Lea CC

\*RDGA Two Person Scramble, Monday October 5<sup>th</sup>, Monroe CC

The RDGA schedule for 2026 is available on line for your viewing pleasure at [www.RDGA.org](http://www.RDGA.org).

**Golf Simulators:** If you're not a snow bird from our ROC winter, there are many golf simulator places, some of them new, in which to enjoy golf when the snow and cold weather are flying:

\*Big Oak Driving Range- 441 N Washington Street

\*SimGolfNow- 3000 East Ridge Road

\*Birdie's Social – East Avenue

\*AVID Indoor Golf – 3655 W Ridge Road

\*X-Golf Pittsford – 3349 Monroe Ave

\*GOLFTEC Rochester 1855 Monroe Ave

\*Glacier Ridge Sports Park – Spencerport, N.Y., with lunch after at Blue Ridge Diner – highly recommend! Wear warm clothing; it's chilly inside the dome. It's probably the cheapest place to hit some balls.

\*Bill Grays – Webster – golf and a burger go good together!

...and the list of simulators is gi-normous including golf courses offering them too!

**Spring Banquet News:** The 2026 GVWGA Spring Banquet is on the calendar for Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Ontario Golf Club.

**Prayer Request:** Some of you may know our Great Friend-Member and Past GVWGA President, Lisa Valbergs. Sadly she has been diagnosed with Bile Duct Cancer. There is a Go Fund Me Page at: <https://gofund.me/d51a90455>

“Lisa is a fighter, but medical costs on a retired budget are a heavy weight to carry. Our goal is to remove that financial stress so she can focus entirely on healing.”

GVWGA Members are with you Lisa! Dear Lisa, we pray for continued strength, faith, hope, and a lot of love and hugs. Love You Girl! Prayer Warriors in Effect.

Cindy Keller

President-GVWGA