



www.sgaofatlanta.org

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John Cyran	2023
JJ Goldsack	2023

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Dave Mueller
770-298-2829

Chaplain

Norm Jaros
404-636-2159

Table Captains

Monday

Kevin Anderson 404-513-6347

Tuesday

John Cyran 404-973-0007

Wednesday

Ron Wade 706-318-2379

Thursday

Bob Remich 404-822-1379

Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 67 Issue 2

February



President

Larry Fauconnet

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(678) 654-2594



As I write this, on the 20th of January, our year is off to a rollicking start! . . . Not. Our first two games were a washout – literally. The first round at (Providence) was cancelled purely due to weather (a great call as it turned out) and our second round (Bear Creek) was really cancelled due to low registration as groups dropped out for fear of rain potential. George and I played anyway and, while it did rain on one or two holes, the killer would have been the wet course. It was cart path only. That cancellation was probably the right call as well. Many members may not understand the angst that the table captains go through as the play day approaches, especially with rain in the forecast! Meteorological and social computations that would baffle a Nobel Laureate fly back and forth between us as we try to determine whether or not to play. Hopefully, the weather will start to cooperate and we'll all find ourselves on the course before this newsletter is published.

We're starting the year with 203 players (by my count and I think that Ted would concur). Over 30 didn't renew membership this year which is up a bit from last year. However, we did have well over 20 new members join during 2022 and we already have some interest expressed by others who we hope will join in the coming year. At the same point in January last year I think we had about 213 players, so we had an overall net membership loss of about 5% year/year. One of our goals this year is finding a way to conduct more effective outreach in order to bring new members in.

Collectively, we played over 4,400 rounds of golf in 2022 bringing nearly \$150k of revenue to our local golf courses. When I cull those members who didn't renew this year (most didn't play at all last year) I can see that 75% of our rounds are played by around a third of our members – a sort of Pareto effect. Additionally, over 100 members played fewer than 10 rounds last year and over 50 members played no rounds at all. While I/we are grateful for every member, regardless of whether or not they play, we'd love to see more play from the members if possible. Our strength of numbers on the course gives us better leverage in negotiations with clubs. So, I'm appealing to all. If you can play and are wondering if it's worth the effort to come out to the course in spite of the fact that your normal group isn't there, come on out and play. We'll always be happy to have you and the table will always be able to find a place for you (unless we run out of carts at the course, but that hasn't happened for a while!).

While we face some challenges from both the economy as well as shifting roles of key leadership in the club (Claude and Danny stepping back – taking well-deserved breaks from their years of toil - and others stepping up to fill the gaps, and Dave handing over scheduling to Jeff, for example), we have a great group of volunteers who are actively engaged in ensuring the club will stay strong and grow. Thanks to all. Along that line, I want to mention that Ron Wade is stepping back from his role as table captain for the Wednesday table as he puts on the mantle of VP. Ron is passing the baton to Tom Gryder.

Remember, the Tee-Off banquet is set for February 23rd. Please put that on your calendar and send your reservations into Tom. Also, while the Member-Guest isn't until the first of October, I'm looking for early commitment to help finalize the room block early this year so look for reservation forms for that to be out early (just let me know if you're planning to attend would be helpful too). Finally, our first out-of-town is at Little Ocmulgee in April so pencil that in now; and, we are working on our fall out-of-town venue and hope to have that available shortly.

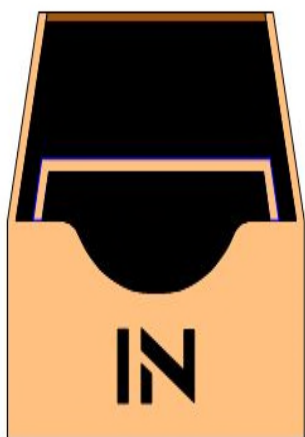
See you on the course when the weather clears! Larry

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Vice President

Ron Wade

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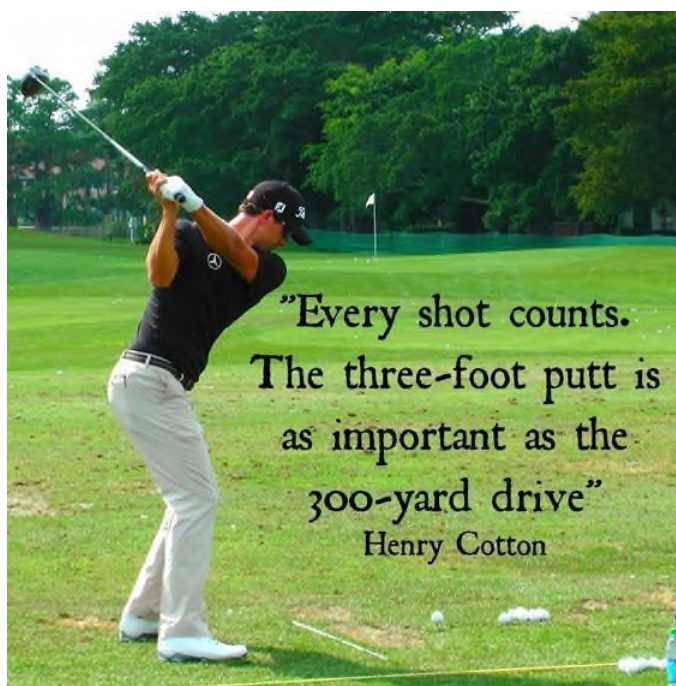
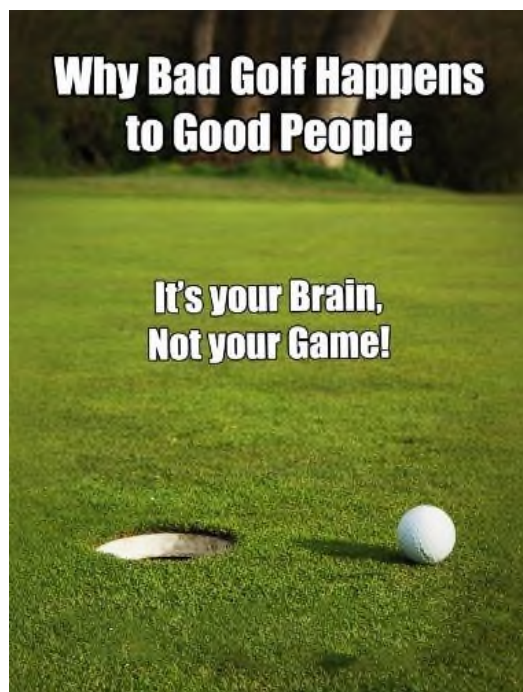
(706) 318-2379



One of my favorite authors is P. G. Wodehouse. Known best for his stories about Jeeves, valet to the feckless Bernie Wooster, Wodehouse was also an avid golfer and wrote a number of humorous stories about golf. He describes the game in several ways. Once he wrote that: "Golf is the Great Mystery. We see big two-fisted men floundering around in three figures, stopping every few minutes to let through little shrimps with knock knees and hollow cheeks, who are tearing up snappy 74s." Elsewhere he describes the happy man as the man who has given up golf.

So, why do we play this four-letter game? Some play for the money involved. Obviously that isn't why we SGAA members play. Some play for exercise; others for the good company; others for a variety of different reasons. One of my personal excuses for playing is that rarely do my competitors criticize my game, no matter how bad it is. I did face criticism occasionally at work, and I still do from time to time at home, and even on the road. But let me shank one out of play on hole 6 and no-one in the foursome will say a word.

SGAA is starting a brand new year of play, so whatever your reason for playing, I hope to see you on the course often.



**EVENTS FOR
FEBRUARY 2023**

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

February 2
THUR: 10:00 a/m
Pine Hills \$25

February 6
TUES: 10:00 a/m
Southland \$32

February 8
WED: 10:00 a/m
Panola Mountain \$30

February 14
TUES: 10:00 a/m
Bear Creek \$36

February 15
WED: 10:00 a/m
Honey Creek \$30

February 16
THUR: 10:00 a/m
BOARD MEETING

February 20
MON: 10:00 a/m
Cotton Fields \$28

February 22
WED: 10:00 a/m
Southland \$32

February 23
THUR: 11:00 a/m
TEE OFF LUNCHEON

February 28
TUES: 10:00 a/m
Pine Hills \$25

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**Secretary
Ted Pogue
tandgpogue@att.net
(404) 281-6158**



We begin February 2023 with 203 active members and 32 inactive members. The inactive members have until March 31st, 2023, to pay their dues and a late fee to be reinstated.

This is the list of inactive members who I have not had a response from. If you know any of these members feel free to contact them and let me know their status and why they are not renewing their membership.

#956 Jim Adams	#1231 Jim Majersky
#1325 Dan Bailey	#1093 Jim Mitchell
#1183 Fred Bradley	#754 Jack Mixon
#1141 Bill Coulson	#391 Ed Nugent
#1368 Robert Feldman	#1248 David Pope
#904 Bob Gardner	#897 Jim Smith
#101 Marvin Gibbs	#1379 David Williams
#1375 Marc Hunt	#1344 Larry Zerm
#686 Cliff Johnsa	#308 Don Zwick

Keep up the good work on the new applications. We are accepting applications for 2023. 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.

SEE YOU ON THE COURSE!!!!!!!!!!

ENJOY THE FINE FELLOWSHIP AND GOOD GOLF!!!!!!!!!!



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Editor

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Rambling from Tee to Green

The 2023 season is underway, a lot of golf to play, and a chance to enjoy the great outdoors with your friends and neighbors. Okay, so we ran into a rainy day or two but that doesn't change the fact we've got over 100 rounds of golf scheduled between January 17th and December 12th on 20 different courses by my count.

As our Secretary's article indicated we've started the year off with 234 active members but this month we're at 203 active members which sounds okay. Or does it? That term "active members" means they've paid their dues and are eligible to play. Referring to Ted's article again, you will note there are 32 inactive members, those who have not paid membership dues for 2023. Some, but probably not all, of those inactive members might renew their membership. I bring this up because we have developed a trend that must be reversed if our organization is to survive.

The By-Laws limit our membership to 355 and as we go to press we're down to 57% of that limit. It wasn't that long ago, January 2018, that we started the year off with 90% of our membership capacity (323 members). We've seen a steady decline since that high water mark.

Our very name signifies we're an organization of older golfers and can expect that as time progresses, alas some of us won't be able to play; and others will be making the loop with St. Peter. But that does not account for the 33% decline in our membership in 5 short years. We have several members that have their 90th birthday in the rearview mirror so age can't be the sole factor in this decline.

I wonder if part of our decline in membership can be attributed to change; whether it is a lack of change or maybe changes that weren't seen as beneficial. I will admit that I am a creature of habit and am not very partial to change, especially just to make a change. I was a vocal opponent of the change to pre-registration because it seemed like a knee-jerk reaction to one course not expecting our turnout and scheduling another tournament on the same day. I have come to see the benefit of the pre-registration.

Is it a coincidence that our membership decline began the year the survey of our membership was conducted and very few of the responses resulted in action? The most significant change made was the change in tee times for the winter months. Maybe a review of that long forgotten survey could reverse the trend?

I'm sure there are those who will disagree with my assessment and opinion, but it is what it is.



SGAA 2023
Tee Off Luncheon
February 23, 2023
11:00 a/m—2:00 p/m



Monroe Golf and Country Club

1414 Alcovy St
Monroe, GA 30655

\$20.00 PER PERSON

(includes tip and tax)

This will be a buffet Luncheon—with a new menu — similar to our Year-end Luncheon

Reservations can be made by sending your check for **\$20.00** made out to **SGAA**
annotated as "Tee-Off Luncheon" to:

Tom Vardase
3502 Johns Road
Tucker, GA 30084

Reservations MUST be received no later than **February 17, 2023**

This is not so much "going to lunch" as it is about the friends and fellowship as we kick off a new season. .

Moving forward I encourage your feedback regarding any changes you'd offer. Cost and location are probably the foremost, but 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 23rd.

Harry Matthews

SGAA Out of Town

Little Ocmulgee



Little Ocmulgee State Park and Lodge
80 Live Oak Trail
Helena, GA

April 17,18, 19, 2023
Monday Tee-Time 12:30 pm (EST)

Guests are welcome. Bring a friend, a family member, a neighbor. The more the merrier.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: April 3, 2023.

Packages include the following:

Two- or three-nights lodging, golf, dinners, breakfasts, & lunch on Tuesday.

All roommate must have the identical packages!

Check your Choice

OCCUPANCY	PACKAGES	PRICE PER PERSON	SUNDAY ARRIVAL
SINGLE	3 Days Golf, 2 nights, meals	475.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$595.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
DOUBLE	3 Days Golf, 2 nights, meals	\$360.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$425.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
CALL FOR	ADDITIONAL PACKAGES		

Name: _____ SGAA Member Number _____

Guest: _____ Guest Stroke Handicap _____

SGAA Roommate: _____ SGAA Number _____

All reservations, including Sunday, must be made through SGAA.
NO REFUNDS AFTER RESERVATION DEADLINE APRIL 3, 2023!

Make Checks Payable to SGAA
Mail Reservation Form and Check to:
Danny Boyles
P.O. BOX 390506
Snellville, GA 30039

Monday Tournament will be four man teams A,B,C,D. Dogfight format. Tuesday Tournament will be two man Teams. A/B players against A/B players. C/D players against C/D players. Dogfight format. Wednesday Tournament will be an individual dogfight format.

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEB 17TH ALL TEE-OFF BANQUET RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED						
5	6 Southland 10:00a/m \$32	7	8 Panola Mountain 10:00a/m \$30	9 Pine Hills 10:00a/m \$25	10	11
12	13	14 Bear Creek 10:00a/m \$36	15 Honey Creek 10:00a/m \$30	16 Board of Directors Meeting CC of Gwinnett 10:00 a/m	17	18
19	20 Cotton Fields 10:00a/m \$28	21	22 Southland 10:00a/m \$32	23 TEE OFF BANQUET MONROE CC 11:00a/m	24	25
26	27	28 Pine Hills 10:00a/m \$25				

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR

LITTLE OCMULGEE

APRIL 3, 2023

Steve Puster
122 Salem Ridge Drive
McDonough, GA 30253