



www.sgaofatlanta.org

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Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 69 Issue 10

October 2025

President

Mike Nobles

mike.nobles.usma79@gmail.com

(678) 294-2363



I want to begin this month's newsletter by expressing my heartfelt thanks to all of you who sent cards, texts, and made phone calls while I was recovering from my gallbladder surgery. Your kind words and well wishes truly meant a great deal to me. I am really blessed to be a part of the SGAA community and I am happy to be out on the course playing again.

As I write this article, we've completed six of the nine rounds in the 2025 Annual Tournament. This year, we had 63 participants, and the level of play has been phenomenal. While some members were initially disappointed that Panola Mountain was selected as the host course, it turned out to be in fairly good condition—aside from the speed and bumpiness of the greens. The reality is that many courses on our circuit are simply unwilling to provide nine play dates over a three-week span. With that in mind, we've decided that starting next year; the Annual Tournament will be reduced to six rounds instead of nine. We hope this change will open up more venue options and improve overall flexibility moving forward.

I'm really looking forward to the 2025 Member-Guest Tournament in Gulf Shores this month. Although one member had to withdraw due to injury, we still have a great turnout—32 golfers (28 members and 4 guests) along with 21 spouses and significant others planning to attend. While the men are out on the course, the ladies will have a chance to enjoy a relaxing beach day on Monday, followed by a fun outing to nearby Fairhope, AL for shopping, sightseeing, and lunch at The Grand Hotel on Tuesday. I'll be sending out a detailed schedule of events to all participants via email prior to the tournament—so stay tuned!

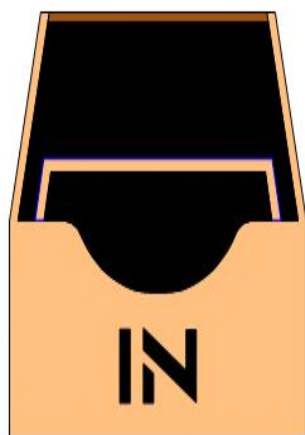
We'll wrap up the season with our Year-End Banquet on November 13 at Honey Creek, where we'll celebrate our champions, elect new officers and directors, and hold our annual raffle. This event is a wonderful opportunity to come together one last time before the holidays and recognize those who helped make this another successful year. I strongly encourage all members to attend and cast their ballots. If you're unable to join us in person, please be sure to submit an absentee ballot in advance. You also have several weeks left to purchase raffle tickets—and remember you don't have to be present to win a prize. So mark your calendars and plan to join us for what promises to be a fun and memorable afternoon!

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Volume 69 Issue 10

October 2025



Vice President

JJ Goldsack

goldsack@bellsouth.net

(770) 513-4609



The annual tournament was held the first three weeks of last month finishing up on the 18th. Congratulations, not only to the winners, but to all who participated during the 9 day event. And I offer a special thank you to the staff at Panola Mountain Golf Course for hosting the tournament. Next year the tournament will be played over a 2 week period with 6 opportunities to play 3 qualifying rounds. I would be remiss without mentioning all the work John Cyran has done handling the scoring for the tournament. To answer a question many have asked, yes your handicap for October will include the scores at Panola Mountain.

Mike Nobles has arranged a wonderful Member-Guest event in Alabama October 5-8. We will be playing 3 challenging golf courses. Between the Annual Tournament and the Member Guest we had 2 weeks of play at some of the membership's favorite courses. The second par 3 tournament this year will be played at Honey Creek on October 22nd. If you have never played in one, it's a great opportunity to show off your short game skills.

Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets for the drawings at the Year End Banquet on November 13th. Tickets are just \$5, 5 for \$20, or 30 for \$100. Don't miss your opportunity to win various prizes. You don't have to be present to win.



EVENTS FOR
OCTOBER 2025

NOTE TEE TIMES

October 1
WED: 8:30 a/m
Georgia National \$37

October 5-8
SUN-WED
MEMBER-GUEST GOLF
SHORES, ALABAMA

October 14
TUES: 8:30 a/m
Panola Mountain \$32

October 15
WED: 8:30 a/m
CC of Gwinnett \$45

October 16
THUR: 9:30 a/m
Honey Creek \$35

October 20
MON: 8:30 a/m
Hard Labor Creek \$39

October 22—**PAR 3**
WED: 8:30 a/m
Honey Creek \$35

October 23
THUR: 8:30 a/m
Providence \$37

October 27
MON: 8:30 a/m
Heron Bay \$37

October 28
TUES: 8:30 a/m
Cherokee Run \$45

October 29
WED: 8:30 a/m
Pine Hills \$28

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



We begin October 2025 with 225 active members. For the first time in several years, we have added more members than we lost last year.

Please continue to ask your friends and neighbors to join our group. Make sure the application is complete and readable. I cannot process the application for a new member if the application is missing needed information. Keep up the good work.

If you have any suggestions that will help the Board, make changes that will make playing more enjoyable, send them to me or another Board member. We may not agree, or the suggestion may not happen; but it will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Three members passed away in 2025, Lamar Frazier in February, Lyman Thompson in June and Danny Harris in August. Two former members, Phil Biggers and Gene Kane passed away earlier this year.

MEMBERS, IF ANY OF YOUR INFORMATION CHANGES

(ADDRESS, PHONE #, OR EMAIL)

PLEASE LET ME KNOW AT tandgpogue@att.net.

**WE CANNOT KEEP YOU INFORMED IF WE DON'T HAVE THE CORRECT
INFORMATION.**





Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

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Volume 69 Issue 10

October 2025

Editor

Steve Puster

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The opinions expressed on this page are purely the Editor's and may or may not coincide with those of the Board of Directors.



Rambling from Tee to Green

Orchard Hills; Lake Spivey; Eagles Landing; Summit Chase; Eaglebrook; Northwoods; Cedar Creek; The Oaks; Lane Creek; Hickory Hills; Stone Mountain; The Highlands; Heritage; Trophy Club; The Hampton; Royal Lakes; Traditions; Cottonfields and the list goes on.

These are all golf courses that have been on our schedule at some point between when I joined Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta in 2015 and today. There are primarily two reasons why we're not playing those courses anymore. First and foremost is that the course no longer exists; then we have courses that chose not to have us back.

Economics plays a major part in the first group. There's a lot of expense that goes into the maintenance and upkeep of a golf course on a daily basis with the weekend being the prime income period. So when a developer comes along with a fat checkbook another golf course becomes an apartment complex or shopping center.

With very few exceptions a month doesn't go by that some of us aren't grumbling about how long it takes to play a round of golf. Golf courses expect a round of 18 holes to take about 4 hours and for seniors 4-1/2 hours. We start out on the back nine so a few course members can start on the front nine and not impact our play. Unfortunately when we take 5 hours, or more, to complete our rounds we adversely impact the course member's play. When that happens enough, courses -- like Cedar Creek -- don't renew their contract.

The In-Town Tournament committee works hard finding courses for us to play. It would be great if our 2026 schedule is finalized by the end of this year, but reality and experience says it probably won't be finalized by then.

We ALL need to do our part to assist the In-Town committee. "How can I do that," you ask:

- Be friendly, cheerful, and respectful to the course staff.
- Play **READY GOLF** – if you're ready to take your shot; take it, don't wait "your turn" if your playing partners aren't ready.
- Take care of the golf course, sand your divots, and fix any and all ball marks you find on the green.
- Help the In-Town committee by suggesting any courses you think would be good for us to play.

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Dave Deweese

Member since 2025

Dave Deweese

I was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA. I received a BSBA from the University of Phoenix and an MBA from Pepperdine University.

I married my wife, Lisa, and moved to Orange County, CA in 1993 and lived there for 25 years before relocating to Milton, Georgia in 2019. I worked for Cox Communications and Cox Enterprises for nearly 25 years managing Facilities & Real Estate and spent the last 10 years of my career managing Environmental Compliance for Cox Enterprises before retiring in December last year.

Lisa and I have two children, Ryan (28) who lives in Irvine, CA working for Google and; Danielle, who lives with us in Milton and is a recent graduate of The University of Georgia and works for Miller Knoll.

I am really enjoying retirement, playing golf and lots of pickle ball!!

In Memory

Lest we forget, this golf we play is just a game. A game we enjoy as often as we can. These members passed away this year and no longer have that opportunity let us not forget them. Let us offer this golfer's prayer...

"For all the times I have swung a club, for the many friends and the game I love, for the patience I have found in sand or rough, for the excitement of making the shots though tough; for success is not measured by holes in one; but by the times that are shared when having fun.

Lord would you grant me one last request; to play You a round of the game I love best."

Lamar Frazier member since 1995

Lyman Thompson member since 2008

Phil Biggers member 2002 – 2018

Gene Kane member 2013 - 2023

Danny Harris member since 2021



SGAA 2025 Year End Luncheon*

November 13, 2025



Honey Creek Golf and Country Club

635 Clubhouse Drive SE
Conyers, Georgia 30094

\$25.00 PER PERSON

(includes tip and tax)

When I asked about the menu, the response was mouthwatering "Think Italian."
Rest assured you will have a good meal along with some mighty fine fellowship

**** Luncheon involves eating a fine meal, electing a new slate of Officers and Board Members, taking part in the Year-End Raffle, and a whole lot of fine fellowship***

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***

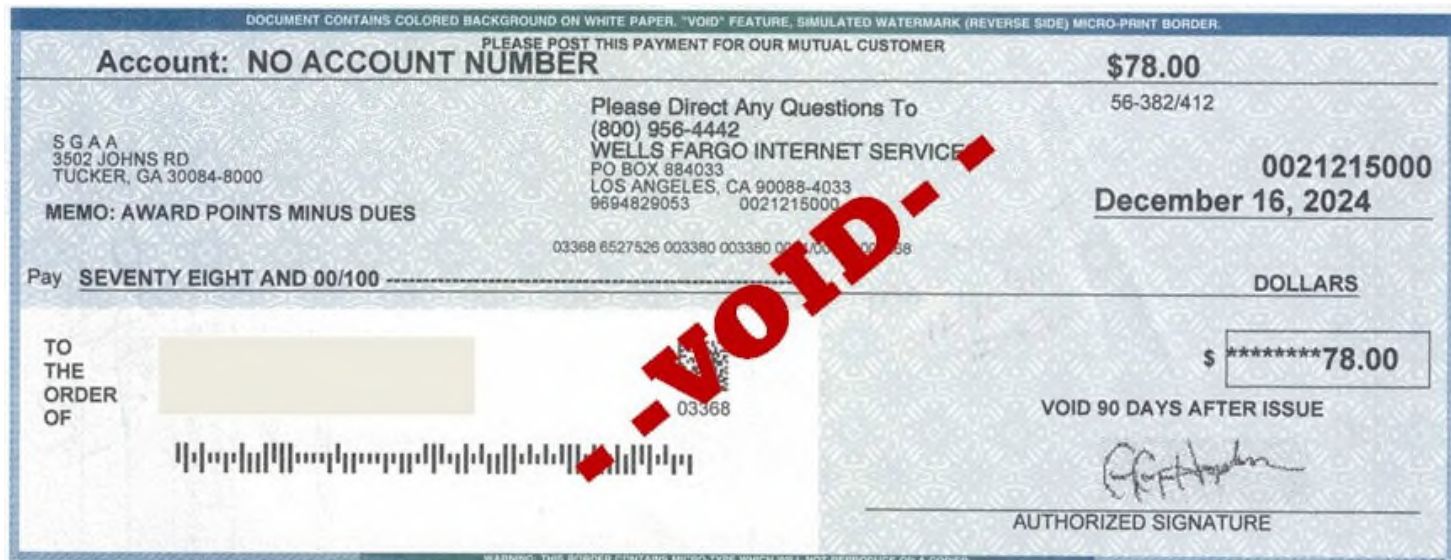
Reservations MUST be received no later than **November 6, 2025**

This is not so much "going to lunch" this is the **ELECTION of OFFICERS**; presentation of awards; announcement of raffle winners; and more all around good fellowship with friends we made the loop with this season

I look forward to seeing you on November 13th.

Harry Matthews

No, the check wasn't lost in the mail!



And it's easy to make sure your check isn't lost either

2025 "Award Points" checks, minus \$25 for 2026 dues, will go out a few days after the end of our last 2025 tournament (DEC 10th) and should arrive before the end of the year.

If you have moved

— please send me an email with your new address **ASAP** to: mvp-bestt@att.net

. . . Tom Vardase, Treasurer

Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

2025 ANNUAL TOURNAMENT RESULTS



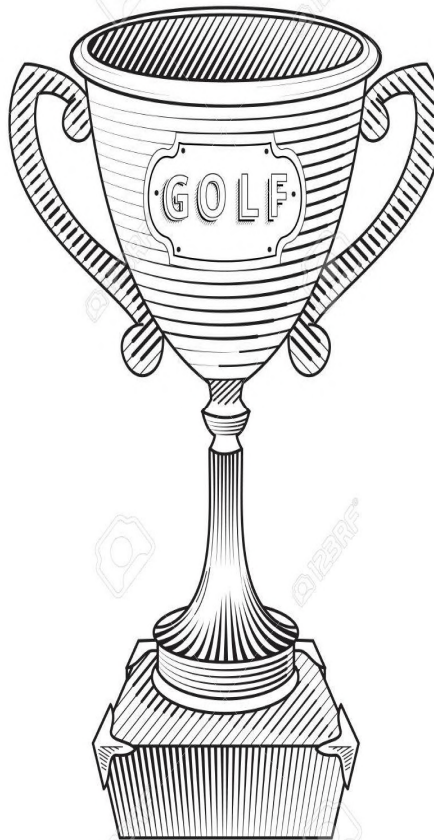
Pat Parisi
Club Champion



Bob Remich
A Flight Winner



George Shingler
B Flight Winner



Tim Dickinson
C Flight Winner



Tim Walters
D Flight Winner

I believe I speak for all who played in this year's Annual Tournament when I say THANK YOU to all who were involved behind the scenes to make the 2025 SGAA Annual Tournament such a great success. The groundskeepers did an excellent job as the course was in great shape and was as challenging as ever, particularly the greens.

But a SPECIAL THANK YOU goes to Tournament Team for all the work they did with keeping the scores straight after each round and doing the tabulations needed to determine this year's winners.

2026 SGAA CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

JJ GOLDSACK -- I'm Jim Goldsack; most of you in SGAA know me as JJ. I have been a member since 2016 when you could only be a member in January. One day in March of that year my dad won the B group and I won the A group and that confused some of the members. Joe Roberts then changed my name in the computer to JJ.



JJ Goldsack
Member since 2016

Six weeks later Joe asked if I could be his backup calculating the Handicaps. Six weeks after that Joe moved to Florida, I have been calculating the awards & handicaps ever since with Claude Rhen and then Danny Boyles as my backups.

In September of that year I replaced Jim Adams on the Thursday table, a position I left in July 2023 so I could play with my dad who had left the table earlier that year. I was a member of the Board 2021-2023.

Currently I calculate the handicaps and Awards, as well as serving as vice president of SGAA.

FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT

DAVE MUELLER -- I am once again running for the office of Vice President of SGAA.



Dave Mueller
Member since 2013

I joined the SGAA in 2013, after retiring from 27yrs at Georgia Power. I have held the office of Vice President in 2021. I was President of the SGAA in 2022. I have been a member of the Board of Directors for several years. I am also working the Tuesday table and am on the Out of Town Committee. I was in charge of booking the courses we play for five years.

I have two grown kids, and have been married for 57 years. I was a Corpsman in the Navy, serving with the Sea Bees, and Marines in Vietnam.

I am active member for of the VFW, Am-Vets and a member of the American Legion.

I thank you for your vote.

FOR THE OFFICE OF TREASURER

TOM VARDASE – After approximately eight years as the SGAA Treasurer, all I can say is, “the check is in the mail.”



I came south in '75 to work in minor league baseball for the Jacksonville Suns – a privately owned club affiliated with the KC Royals. I left after two seasons and in 1980, I got the opportunity to begin a career in broadcast television production for a new independent station. Came to Atlanta in '84 as the Production Manager for WATL, Channel 36, an independent station as well – you may have passed by the station on Ponce de Leon Avenue (an old bank building). In '88, I began to work for myself, incorporated as MVP Inc. In '92, we began working under contract with Georgia Public TV producing Prep Sports +, a high school sports and academics program. When it was all said and done, we completed 405 original half-hour programs as well as approximately 400 live high school football and boys & girls state basketball championship games.

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JIM BEGNAUD – I joined the SGAA in 2016 and for the past three years have served on the Wednesday Table. I am a past member of the Board of Directors and the Membership Committee. A CPA by profession I worked in Public Accounting and Financial Management throughout my career, including positions with KPMG, Tenet Healthcare, Pony Express and Hays Financial Consulting.



Jim Begnaud
Member since 2016

I hail from Texas, graduated from Lamar University and served with the US Army in South Korea. My wife Patty, a retired RN, and I have lived in Tucker for forty-six years and have two children and four grandchildren. I look forward to helping guide our organization into the future.

LARRY FAUCONNET -- Larry has been an active member of the SGAA for over ten years. During that time he's served the SGAA in a number of roles to include: BOD, VP, President, Table Chair, Monday Table Captain, Chairman of the In-town tournament committee, and Chairman of the out-of-town tournament committee. During his various tenures he's actively worked alongside and assisted all of the current and recent past leadership teams towards keeping the SGAA a growing, fun, and fair organization.



Larry Fauconnet
Member since 2015

Larry is a retired LTC from the Army's Intelligence corps – a 28-year veteran (roughly split between active and reserve time) with several combat deployments. Most of his time was spent in various combat units, with a little “strategic” time mixed in. In his civilian life he worked on the strategy team of BellSouth and then AT&T's Advertising & Publishing unit.

He and his wife remain quite active in the crazy dog-rescue world and have facilitated the rescue and rehoming of over 1,000 dogs over the past decade – some coming from as far away as California and being sent to new homes as far away as Corsica. In addition to golf, Larry enjoys spending time at his family's fishing cabin on Lake Ontario – among other things.

JEFF HILL -- I'm honored to be considered for a seat on the Board of Directors of the Senior Golf Association of Atlanta. Golf has been more than a sport to me—it's been a source of friendship, purpose, and joy throughout my life, especially in my senior years. I'm eager to give back to the community that has given me so much.



Jeff Hill
Member since 2024

Over the years, I've had the privilege of organizing and leading senior “dog fight” groups at Hard Labor Creek and Lane Creek. These gatherings weren't just about competition; they were about building camaraderie, fostering fairness, and creating a space where everyone felt welcome. I've always believed that good record keeping, clear communication, and a cheerful spirit go a long way in making golf more enjoyable for everyone.

I've also been involved in events like the Hero Golf Tour, which allowed me to combine my love for the game with my support for veterans and charitable causes. Whether I'm helping plan trips for senior golfers or simply showing up to play with integrity and sportsmanship, I try to bring both fun and fairness to everything I do.

I want to serve on this board because I care deeply about the future of senior golf in Atlanta. I believe our association can continue to grow in ways that honor tradition while welcoming new ideas. I'd be proud to contribute my experience, my energy, and my heart to that mission.

Thank you for considering me.

Continued on next page

HARRY MATTHEWS --I moved to Georgia in 1955. After High School I went back to Wisconsin for College. I drove a beer truck for a year and then got a job with Allis Chalmers. That was the beginning of a 40+ years of working in Corporate America manufacturing. I was involved in 7 major new plant start- ups or expansions in my early years and retired as Plant Manager at a printing plant for Weyerhaeuser and International Paper that I started 26 years earlier.



Harry Matthews
Member since 2014

Donna and I have been married for 39 years we have 3 children and 4 granddaughters. We have lived in the Tucker Stone Mountain area since the late 80's.

After retiring in 2013, I joined the SGAA in 2014. Since that time my golf game has gone to Hell but the enjoyment I get out of it has more than doubled. I am currently responsible for the Par 3 Tournaments and host the 2 annual banquets. I wondered could I do more. When Mike Noble announced they were doubling the salary for the Board members I couldn't resist.

I would love to be your new Board member and I will do my best to see you enjoy GOLF whatever level you play.

JEFF McKENNA – Golf plays a key role in my family history. My dad's dad, Earl McKenna, built his own golf clubs. My dad's brother-in-law, Bill Junker, co-founded Golf Pride. My dad, also named Bill, owned a banged-up set of Northwestern clubs that he would let me borrow as a kid for our backyard golf rounds in Indianapolis – aiming at targets like clothesline poles, rose bushes, birdbaths, and basketball goals. I never got any golf lessons, never played on a school team, and never signed an honest 18-hole scorecard until I joined SGAA 3 years ago. But I inherited a smidgen of my dad's skill and all of his passion for the game.



Jeff McKenna
Member since 2022

I met and married my wife Christine in 1979 in the Washington, DC, area, where we were both working at the National Institutes of Health – she as a full-time secretary and I as a science-writing intern as part of my master's program in journalism at the University of Tennessee. I had enrolled at UT a couple years after receiving my degree in environmental science from Purdue. (Go Vols and Boilermakers!)

My three daughters were born in Maryland before we all moved to Atlanta (Duluth) in 1992 when I took a job at CDC, where I managed press relations and communication campaigns for chronic disease issues like preventing smoking and promoting nutrition and physical activity. I was blessed to be able to retire at the end of 2015.

I enjoy woodworking and home repair, so I spent most of my early retirement life fixing up my house. Finally neighbor Ward Humphreys talked me into getting off my ladder and picking up my golf clubs for an SGAA guest round at Chimneys. Now I divide my time among spoiling our three young grandkids, nursing my rickety joints, and hitting countless Titleists out of bounds.

I look forward to joining y'all for many more years of good golf and fine fellowship!

KERRY PHILLIPS -- Hello my name is Kerry Phillips and I am running for the Board of Directors. I have been in SGAA for 9 years.



Kerry Phillips
Member since 2016

I attended college in Cookeville, Tennessee majoring in Health and Physical Education. I taught and coached for 40 years.

I am from Griffin, GA. and my wife, Marilyn, and I have been married 18 years. I love golfing and fishing.

If elected I would like to help SGAA continue to be a great golfing organization.

STEVE YOUNG --I became a member of SGAA in March of 2024 and have enjoyed the fellowship and the golf ever since. Understanding that it takes volunteers to make SGAA operate, I began working the Thursday Table in 2025 and have appreciated getting to know the members as well as some of what it takes to run the organization.



Steve Young
Member since 2024

We wouldn't be able to enjoy the fruits of SGAA without the many volunteers that make it all happen, so when nominated for the Board I felt the responsibility to step up and accept the nomination.

I spent my career in the Telecom industry, retiring from Verizon in 2009 as a Senior Vice President. I then taught in the Business School at Georgia State University for 8 years. My wife of 43 years, Betsy, and I have two adult children, both living in Atlanta, and we welcomed our first grandchild in April 2025.

If elected, I pledge to do my best to serve the members of SGAA with integrity and to help the organization prosper and grow.

These gentlemen comprise the official list of candidates for the 2025 Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta election and are the only names on the ballot.

The By-Laws, Article IV, Section C paragraph 4; specifically states:

" All names for nominees must be submitted by September 15. Any member desiring to run for office after that date must participate as a write-in candidate. (R15)"

BALLOTS and VOTING

A ballot follows with instructions for mailing your ballot or delivering it in person to the Election Committee.

The ballots will be counted and the results made public at the Year End Banquet on November 13th



Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

OFFICIAL 2025 SGAA OFFICIAL BALLOT

FOR PRESIDENT (Vote for One):

___ JJ GOLDSACK

___ WRITE-IN _____

FOR VICE PRESIDENT (Vote for One):

___ DAVE MUELLER

___ WRITE-IN _____

FOR TREASURER (Vote for One):

___ TOM VARDASE

___ WRITE-IN _____

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (3yr Term) (Vote for **three***):

___ JIM BEGNAUD

___ LARRY FAUCONNET

___ JEFF HILL

___ HARRY MATTHEWS

___ JEFF McKENNA

___ KERRY PHILLIPS

___ STEVE YOUNG

___ WRITE-IN _____

___ WRITE-IN _____

___ WRITE-IN _____

****Voting for more than
three candidates for the
Board of Directors will
make your ENTIRE ballot
null and void***

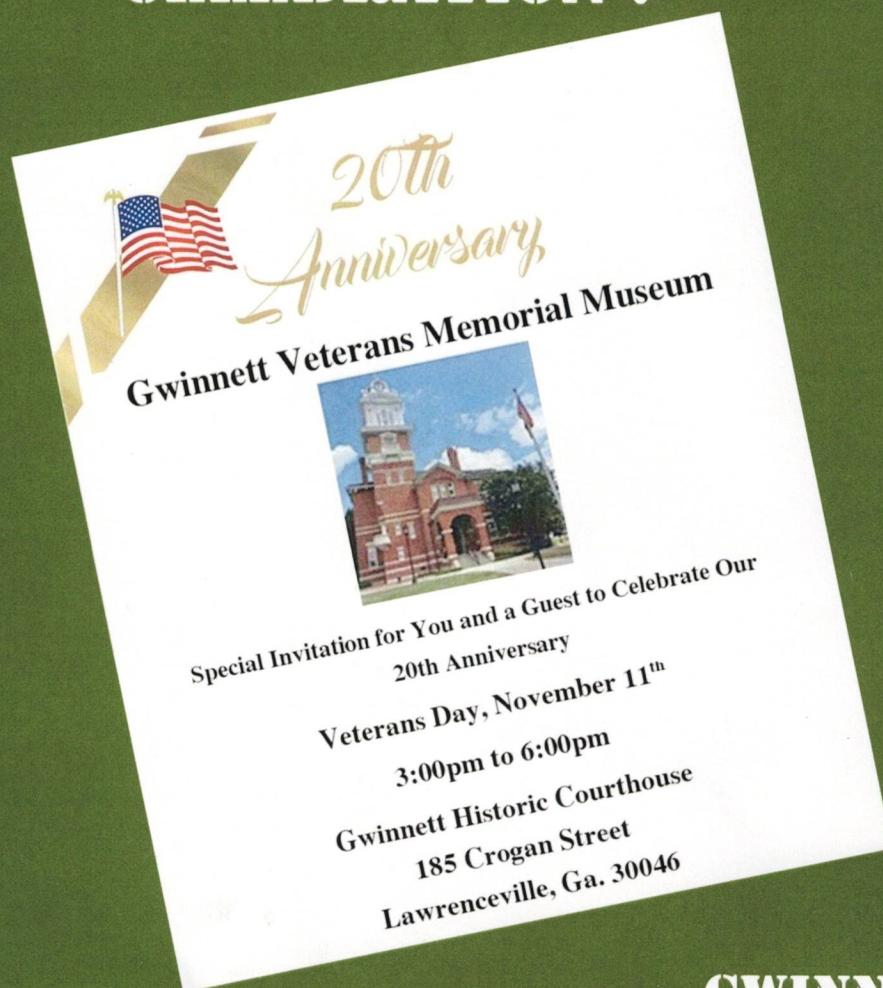
If you choose to vote using this as an absentee ballot, mark your ballot and place in an envelope. Seal the envelope and print your name, SGAA membership ID number and "BALLOT" on the envelope. **Either bring your ballot envelope to the Year End banquet; or place your ballot envelope in another envelope and mail to:**

JOHN CYRAN, Chairman, SGAA Elections Committee
360 McKenzie Grace Lane
Grayson, GA 30017

Your mailed ballot **MUST** be received prior to the Year End Banquet (November 13th)

★ **SAVE THE DATE !** ★

**COMING NOV. 11 TH
GWINNETT VETERANS MUSEUM
20TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION !**



VETERANS WELCOME !

PUBLIC WELCOME !

EVERYONE WELCOME !

**GWINNETT
HISTORIC
COURTHOUSE

ON THE SQUARE
LAWRENCEVILLE**

OCTOBER 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	DON'T FORGET VOTE & REGISTER FOR THE YEAR BANQUET		1 Georgia National 8:30a/m \$37	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	MEMBER - GUEST GULF SHORES, ALABAMA					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Panola Mountain 8:30a/m \$32	CC of Gwinnett 8:30a/m \$45	Honey Creek 9:30a/m \$35		
19	20	21	22  PAR 3 Honey Creek 8:30a/m \$35	23	24	25
		Hard Labor Crk 8:30a/m \$39		Providence 8:30a/m \$37		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Heron Bay 8:30a/m \$37	Cherokee Run 8:30a/m \$45	Pine Hills 8:30a/m \$28			

Steve Puster
122 Salem Ridge Drive
McDonough, GA 30253