



[www.sgaofatlanta.org](http://www.sgaofatlanta.org)

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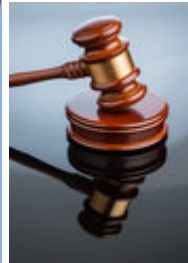
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# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

*DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP*

Volume 68 Issue 7

July 2024



**President**

**Ron Wade**

**Ron3392@aol.com**

**(706) 318-2379**



I encourage you to attend this year's Member/Guest tournament on September 30-October 2. After a surprising cancellation by Apple Mountain Golf Club several months after we had signed a contract, we have completed arrangements and signed a contract with Santee Cooper Golf Club in Santee, SC. A more complete announcement is on the web site, with a registration form. A registration form is also included below.

We will play three different courses at Santee: the Lake Marion Course (Monday), the Santee Cooper course (Tuesday), and the Santee National course (Wednesday). Range balls will be provided, and we will have access to a world class practice facility.

Check out the courses at [santecoopercountryclub.com](http://santecoopercountryclub.com), [santeenational.com](http://santeenational.com), and [lakemariongolf.com](http://lakemariongolf.com).

Lodging, including a hot breakfast, has been arranged at the Fairfield Inn and the Hampton Inn in Santee. We will have a wrap-up dinner at Clark's Inn in Santee on October 1. Three optional entrees will be offered: a rib eye steak, chicken, or seafood.

The location affords a number of attractions for wives. Santee is a one hour drive from Charleston. Wives may enjoy a day of shopping and sightseeing in Charleston. Mike Nobles' wife Jamie is exploring an optional tour of Charleston for wives. There are other attractions near Santee, including the Edisto Memorial Gardens and Cypress Gardens.

Please complete the registration and forward it with your check to me at 2025 Woodbury Run Drive, Snellville, GA 30078. If you plan to attend the tournament but wish to pay later, please email me at [ron3392@aol.com](mailto:ron3392@aol.com) including all of the information required by the registration form. Full payment will be due by August 15.

If you have any questions about the tournament, please contact me.

Here are some Statistics to make you think:

- Almost 80% of golfers will never have a handicap under 18.
- Odds of an average golfer making a hole-in-one is 1 in 12,500.
- Odds of an average golfer making two aces in a single round is 1 in 67 million.
- Odds of winning the Powerball lottery is 1 in 292 million.

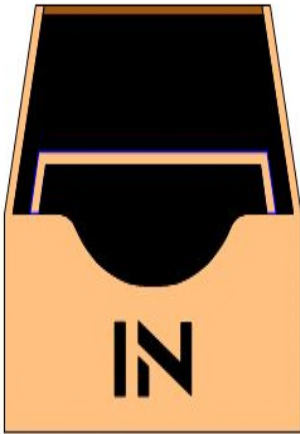
Courtesy of Mark Pazdur of *Executive Golfer*.

# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

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**Vice President**

**Mike Nobles**

**mike.nobles.usma79@gmail.com**

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It's funny to hear players on the PGA tour complaining about the difficulty of the greens while preparing for the US Open Championship this year. The greens on a few of the courses that we play can be difficult but can you imagine trying to play a course set up for the US open? Pinehurst #2 is 7,500 yards in length which is 50% longer than most of our courses. The fairways are pristine but the rough is deep and the hazards are numerous. The turtle-back greens are treacherous with "sadistic" runoffs. Amazingly, only four players have finished under par in the three US Opens previously staged there. The tournament champion definitely earns his prize money.

Even for the tour professionals, shooting a competitive score on a course as difficult as Pinehurst #2 is only possible because of the advancements made to the game of golf in the years since most of us started playing in the 1960's and 1970's. It's interesting to look back at how things have changed over the years. Way back when, there were only two sets of tees (men's and ladies). Now there are multiple tee boxes for men, women and seniors.

The clubs we used forty years ago were much different than the ones we use today. The drivers were made of wood (persimmon) and were very small (190 cc) compared to today's massive 460 cc metal drivers. The irons were blades with no perimeter weighting and hybrids didn't exist. They were very unforgiving and required a solid strike to get much distance. The shafts were steel and quite a bit heavier than the lightweight graphite shafts that most of us older hackers swing now.

The big-named golf balls were Acushnet, Maxfli, Wilson Staff, Hogan, etc. and they were all pretty much 100 compression. It is not an exaggeration to say that hitting them was not much different than hitting a rock. The covers on the old balls also cut relatively easily. Today's name brands have a number of different compressions catering to different swing speeds and the covers on them are almost indestructible.

Rangefinders and GPS watches/apps didn't exist back in the day for calculating distances. We had to use the markers on the course and a calibrated eye to determine how far we needed to hit our next shot. Golf shoes had metal (and only metal) spikes. Now they are hard plastic and you would probably be asked to kindly leave the course if you show up with metal spikes.

I could include other enhancements (e.g. plastic vs. wooden tees, hybrids vs. long irons, riding vs. walking, etc.) but I think you probably get the message. As design and manufacturing technology has improved over the years, so have the tools that we use to play our favorite game. I, for one, am glad that we have them to hit longer, straighter and more accurate shots. We may not be up to playing Pinehurst #2 but these innovations help us have a chance to make our points at challenging courses like Cherokee Run and Monroe Country Club.

EVENTS FOR  
JULY 2024

July 1  
MON: 8:30 a/m  
**Mystery Valley \$40**

July 2  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
**Panola Mountain \$32**

July 3  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
**CC of Gwinnett \$40**

July 8  
MON: 8:30 a/m  
**Hickory Hills \$25**

July 10  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
**Browns Mill \$30**

July 11  
THUR: 8:30 a/m  
**Bear Creek \$42**

July 15  
MON: 8:30 a/m  
**Pine Hills \$28**

July 16  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
**Sugar Creek \$33**

July 17  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
**Providence \$37**

July 22  
MON: 8:30 a/m  
**Monroe CC \$45**

July 23  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
**Bear Creek \$42**

July 24  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
**Georgia National \$37**

July 30  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
**Southland \$36.72**

July 31  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
**Honey Creek \$32**

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



We begin July with 208 active members. Two members have passed in 2024 and three past members. Past members Bill Lewis, Bill Almand and Stan Shaw and present members Don Helm and Charles King will all be missed.

Please continue to ask your friends and neighbors to join our group. Make sure the application is complete and readable.

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.** 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!!!!!!!!!!!!**

## ***In Memorium***

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."*

**Bill Lewis** member from 1998 – 2020

**Don Helm** member since 2002

**Charles King** member since 2019

**Bill Almand** member from 2002 – 2023

**Stan Shaw** member from 2000 – 2020

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**Editor**

**Steve Puster**

**steve.puster@gmail.com**

**(678) 262-7541**



*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*

I looked at the calendar this morning and felt like Rip Van Winkle – we're at the halfway point of the year already. Where has it gone? If time flies when you're having fun then this year must be hilarious.

I know we've been playing golf because of an email reminder of things to remember, and I had a golf ball picked up while my cart partner played his shot. Okay, I guess I shouldn't have been in another fairway, but still when the course is crowded the ball should stop rolling before you pick it up.

As for the email reminders, there was one thing I'd never heard of, "... 2. when you hit the green on a par 3 place the marker an equal distance behind the hole." In theory, this is a good thing to do; but I don't think it will work in actuality. Case in point – reminder "1. All putts MUST be holed out..."

For the new members, back in the day as they say, a ball within the leather (24" or less) was considered a gimmie. The idea was to speed up the game and avoid slow play. In theory a great idea but not so much in action. It seems that as we get older our eyesight begins to diminish and that 24" became a lot longer until it got to the point that it seems some golfers were considering they had a gimmie if they hit the green.

Let's consider the other "reminders" as they all are important:

"When teeing off, play the tees where the markers are. Do not say we "normally" do not play from here and decide to play the "normal" tee placement." The golf course sets up the tees according to directions from the Table. Play the tees that are announced at the beginning of the round no matter where they are placed on the course.

"Write the scores and points LEGIBLY on the scorecards. And DO NOT total the points and subtract from the max score to get your score..." Yes, that is easier but is not the correct way to tally your score and can lead to errors which in turn can impact any awards points you may have earned for the round.

"If you hit your ball into the woods or out of bounds, you drop on the line of flight of your ball. You do NOT drop perpendicular to where you think the ball may have ended." This is not an SGAA rule; it's a USGA rule and listed within the Rules of Golf.

"Unless the table captain announces a "breakfast" ball, you may not hit one." You can take as many "breakfast balls" as you'd like on the driving range before the round begins.

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In the  
Spotlight

I was born in Milwaukee, WI on October 13, 1951. My parents and all my kin folks are from the Green Bay, WI area, thus I'm a Green Bay Packer fan along with a Falcon's fan when it comes to NFL football.

Graduating with a BA degree in Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has provided me dual allegiance to the Wisconsin Badgers and UGA Bulldogs. Truth be known, I'm a bigger SEC football fan than the NFL along with being a Braves fan.

I have been married to my wife, Jeanne, since 1977 and we with two grown children -- son, who lives in St. Louis, MO and a daughter in Monroe, GA. We have four grandchildren. My son has two boys and a girl and my daughter has one girl.

I spent my work career in the logistics and transportation industry with management positions in sales and operations. A promotion brought me to Atlanta in 1985. We have lived in Gwinnett County the entire time with homes in Lawrenceville, Lilburn and Snellville; the last 6 years after career stints going back to 1978 necessitated moves to Coffeyville, KS for 3 years and Jackson, MS for 6 years.

I retired in 2021 and vowed to myself to play more golf, but it took me two years to get to this point! I'm happy to officially be a member of SGAA now as of May 6, 2024 and want to thank Ron Wade for mentoring and sponsoring me along with Richard Patterson and Tom Bruce.



**Gary Klopotic**  
Member since 2024

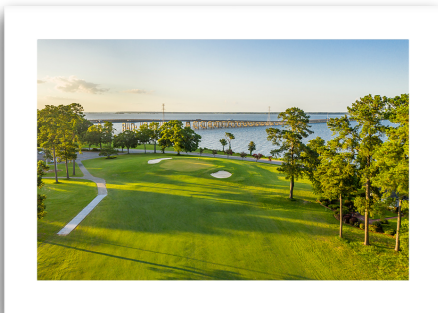


## **2024 Member/Guest Tournament**

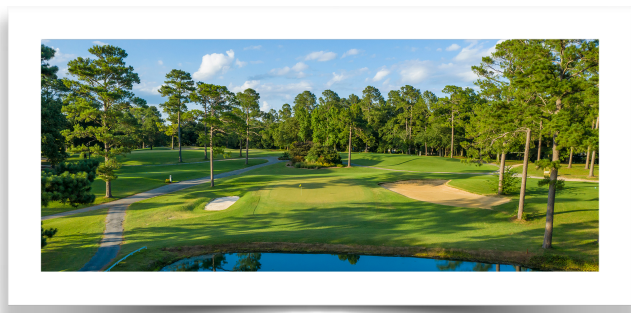
With sincere thanks to Mike Nobles, we have completed arrangements for the 2024 member guest tournament. After we signed a contract and made a deposit with Apple Mountain Golf Club the club unexpectedly canceled our contract informing us that the golf course will be closed on September 30 and October 1.

Mike contacted Santee Cooper to inquire about holding the 2025 member guest at that club. He graciously agreed to permit us to contact Santee for this year's tournament, and we have executed a contract with them for the original dates, September 30-October 2. We will have a wrap-up dinner at Clark's Inn one October 1.

We will play three different courses at Santee: the Lake Marion Course (Monday), the Santee Cooper course (Tuesday), and the Santee National course (Wednesday). Range balls will be provided, and we will have unlimited access to a large practice facility.



**Lake Marion Course**



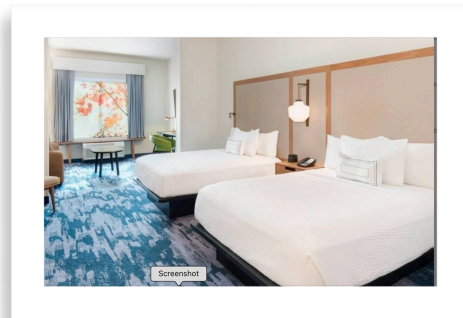
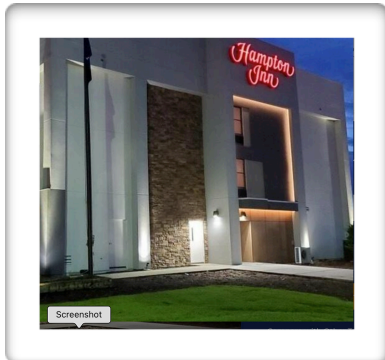
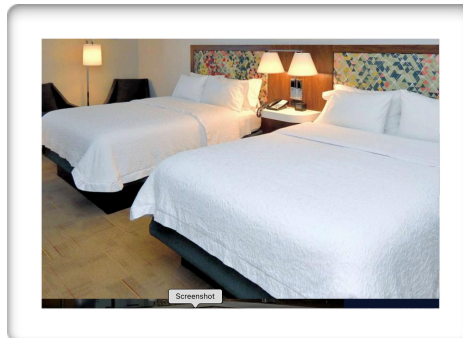
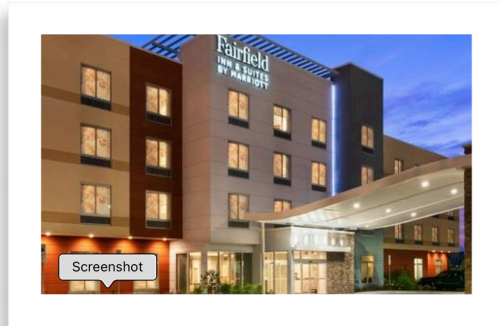
**Santee Cooper Course**



**Santee National Course**

Check out the courses at [santeecoopercountryclub.com](http://santeecoopercountryclub.com), [santeenational.com](http://santeenational.com), and [lakemariongolf.com](http://lakemariongolf.com).

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Please plan to attend the tournament. Bring your wife and a guest. The location affords a number of attractions for wives. Santee is a one hour drive from Charleston. Wives may enjoy a day of shopping and sightseeing in Charleston. We are also working on an optional tour of Charleston for wives. There are other attractions near Santee, including the Edisto Memorial Gardens and Cypress Gardens.

A registration form is attached. Complete the registration and forward it with your check to Ron Wade, 2025 Woodbury Run Drive, Snellville, GA 30078. If you plan to attend the tournament but wish to pay later, please email Ron at [ron3392@aol.com](mailto:ron3392@aol.com) including all of the information required by the registration form. Full payment will be due by August 15.

If you have any questions about the tournament, please contact me.

**Ron Wade**

**2024 Member Guest Tournament  
September 30-October 2, 2024  
Registration Form**

<b>Golf: Santee Cooper Country Club 9069 Old Hwy 6 Santee, SC 29142</b>	<b>Lodging: Fairfield Inn, 9074 Old Hwy 6, or Hampton Inn, 9060 Old Hwy 6, Santee</b>
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Occupancy	Price	Check Option √	All packages include Tuesday Dinner, Awards
Shared room-2 golfers	\$590.00		
Single Golfer	\$825.00		
Golfer and non-playing guest	\$885.00		
Golf only	\$350.00		

Early arrival or late departure room rates are \$158 per night, single or double occupancy.

YOUR NAME	MEMBER #	SHIRT SIZE
GUEST NAME	STROKE HANDICAP	SHIRT SIZE

SPOUSE'S NAME IF ATTENDING
OTHER GOLFER, IF SHARING ROOM

Preferred Lodging	Fairfield	Hampton	No preference
We will honor your requests on a first come-first served basis.			
Entre preference	Rib eye	Seafood	Chicken
Golfer			
Guest or wife			

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, IF ANY



**JULY 2024**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Mystery Valley 8:30a/m \$40	<b>2</b> Panola Mountain 8:30a/m \$32	<b>3</b> CC of Gwinnett 8:30a/m \$40	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Hickory Hills 8:30a/m \$25	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Browns Mill 8:30a/m \$30	<b>11</b> Bear Creek 8:30a/m \$42	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Pine Hills 8:30a/m \$28	<b>16</b> Sugar Creek 8:30a/m \$33	<b>17</b> Providence 8:30a/m \$37	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Monroe CC 8:30a/m \$45	<b>23</b> Bear Creek 8:30a/m \$42	<b>24</b> Georgia National 8:30a/m \$37	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Southland 8:30a/m \$36.72	<b>31</b> Honey Creek 8:30a/m \$32	<i>Member-Guest Registration Is Open</i>		

Steve Puster  
122 Salem Ridge Drive  
McDonough, GA 30253