

www.sgaofatlanta.org

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President: Ron Wade Vice-Pres: Mike Nobles Secretary: Ted Pogue Treasurer: Tom Vardase

Board of Directors

Steve Allen	2026
Bill Herbert	2026
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Ron Panter	2024
Cleve Shupe	2024

Past President

Larry Fauconnet 678-654-2594

Chaplain Norm Jaros 404-636-2159

Table Captains

<u>Monday</u>

Larry Fauconnet 678-654-2594

<u>Tuesday</u>

John Cyran 404-272-1571

<u>Wednesday</u>

Tom Gryder 404-232-9741

Thursday

Bob Remich 404-822-1379

Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 68 Issue 8

August 2024



President
Ron Wade
Ron3392@aol.com
(706) 318-2379



Claude Rhen, Senior Golfers Association of Atlnata member for over 20 years, has been a model for SGAA volunteers. He has served in countless positions as table worker, committee member and chairman, board member, and president, not once but twice. Even when it was not his direct responsibility Claude organized several Member/Guest tournaments, and has been of great assistance to others with that responsibility. He has stepped back lately, but even until recently assisted in the review of reports to members.

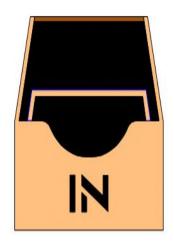
Early this year the board approved an award to the Volunteer of the Year in Claude's honor. I appointed a committee comprising the three immediate past presidents, Wendell Jackson (Chair), Dave Mueller, and Larry Fauconnet, to receive nominations for the award from members and recommend a finalist to the board. The award will be presented at the annual Year End Banquet.

Please give serious thought to this and submit a nominee for the award. Consider committee members and chairman and table crews; but also consider others without official titles who have made special contributions to our operations. You may submit nominations by email to Wendell with the name of the nominee and a brief summary of your reasons for submitting his name. Nominations should be submitted by September 15. Thank you for doing this.

Here's an interesting putting observation by Dave Pelz, reported by Mark Pazdur of *Executive Golfer Weekly Digest*.

"In 2019, the USGA allowed the flagstick to remain in the cup when putting on the green. According to the short game guru Dave Pelz... - The hole is 4.25-inches wide. - The diameter of a standard flagstick is typically 0.25-inch. - If you look at the space left for a golf ball, the 2.125-inch half-hole minus the 0.25-inch half-pin leaves 1.875-inches between the cup edge and the pin. - Golf balls are 1.68-inches in diameter. This leaves a .195-inch gap of open space for the ball to fit into the hole with the flagstick in place.

"This doesn't sound like much space, especially if the pin is leaning slightly toward the golfer. So, we rolled putts at different speeds, hitting different parts of the pin on flat, uphill, and downhill-sloping greens. The test results were conclusive: You will make a higher percentage of putts when you leave the flagstick in. Why? A significant amount of energy is lost from a putt's speed when the ball hits a fiberglass flagstick. The speed loss enables gravity to pull the slower-moving ball into the hole more often. Even though golf ball cover materials vary, holes and flagsticks have not, and the "energy-loss" effect will still win the day." — Dave Pelz



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Vice President
Mike Nobles
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(678) 294-2363



We are officially past the midpoint of our 2024 golf season and I think you would all agree that it has been a great year thus far. Although we were rained out a few times in the first few months, we have not yet had to cancel a single round this summer due to bad weather. We've had some hot days in July but I'll take the heat over the bitter cold every time. We have had two great out-of -town tournaments with two more, including the 2024 Member-Guest at Santee, SC, scheduled for later this year. We also have the SGAA Club Championship at Honey Creek in September. So there's lots of good golf and fine fellowship to come in 2024.

I am thrilled to see that we have added 23 new SGAA members to our rolls through June. We had dropped below 200 for the first time in many years at the beginning of this year but we are currently at or near 220 and are growing at a pace of about one new member per week. Much thanks to the members who are asking their friends and neighbors to come play a round with us as a guest. It's up to all of us to make them feel welcome and show them how much fun we have as a group. We have a lot to offer senior golfers (e.g. three tournaments per week, 20 different courses across metro Atlanta, multiple flights, four out-of-town events, etc.) that the senior leagues at individual golf courses cannot offer. If you know golfers in those leagues, encourage them to join SGAA and play with us on the days their leagues are not golfing. New members are essential to the future of our organization, so please keep asking others to give SGAA a try.

The out-of-town tournament at Smoky Mountain Country Club in Whittier, NC was once again a big success due to the efforts of Dave Mueller and Larry Fauconnet. The course was in great shape and the weather cooperated much better than it did last year. We had twenty-four members and two guests participating and a lot of fun was had by all. I would encourage each member who is physically able to make an effort to participate in one or more of our out-of-town events. The first two days are team events and those are always fun. The third day is a standard dogfight tournament like we play in Atlanta. Ron would like to see a lot of participation in Santee for the Member-Guest. I hope some of our new members will sign up.

Finally, thanks to all of the members who participated in the 2025 Member-Guest Gulf Shores, AL Survey. Securing a suitable site at a reasonable price is challenging and requires a lot of planning. I know that October 2025 seems like a long time away but it will be here before we know it. I hope you will save your pennies and plan to be with us because I am going to do everything in my power to make it a memorable golf and fellowship event.

EVENTS FOR AUGUST 2024

August 1

THUR: 8:30 a/m CC of Gwinnett \$40

August 5 MON: 8:30 a/m Crystal Lake \$37

August 7

WED: 8:30 a/m

Panola Mountain \$32

August 8

THUR: 8:30 a/m Mystery Valley \$40

August 12 MON: 8:30 a/m **Heron Bay \$37**

August 13 TUES: 8:30 a/m Bear Creek \$42

August 14 WED: 8:30 a/m Browns Mill \$30

August 20 TUES: 8:30 a/m Sugar Creek \$45

August 21 - PAR 3 WED: 8:30 a/m Honey Creek \$32

August 22

THUR: 8:30 a/m **Providence \$37**

August 26 MON: 8:30 a/m CC of Gwinnett \$40

August 28 WED: 8:30 a/m

Georgia National \$37

August 29 THUR: 8:30 a/m Bear Creek \$42

Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

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



We begin August with 210 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. They all will 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

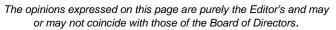


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Volume 68 Issue 8

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Editor
Steve Puster
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Rambling from Tee to Green

The caption in the masthead of my articles states "Rambling from tee to green" and this month we will be rambling for sure.

As Mike Nobles said, we've passed the halfway point in this year; but there is still plenty more golf left in this season.

Next month is pretty much taken over by our Annual Tournament; as well as the search for candidates for the slate of officers and Board members. Consider offering yourself as a candidate.

Then in October the month opens with the Member/Guest at Santee, SC. Don't forget to register by the 15th of this month (August).

November starts with the last Out of Town trip for this year and although the Year End Banquet is November 14th we still have seven more tournaments scheduled before the last round on December 11th.

Registration for our weekly tournaments **opens 7 days** prior to the tournament. That means if the tournament is scheduled for <u>next</u> Tuesday, registration opens at 12:01 a/m <u>this</u> Tuesday; not sometime late Monday evening or earlier. The Table Captain will disregard any attempts at registration prior to the official opening time. So don't be surprised when your group is not shown on the registration sheet if you attempt to sign up early. Trying to sign up early places additional unnecessary work on the Table and is unfair to the rest of the membership.

Speaking of which, we have a cadre of dedicated individuals working to make your golfing experience the best it can be – the Table Workers. You may not be planning to play one or more of our tournaments, but the men manning the Table are there at 7:30 a/m and they stay at the Table until 8:00 a/m.

At 8:00 the Table closes and the workers have to finalize the numbers, verify with the superintendent any pertinent information you will need to have regarding the course, and <u>IF</u> there's any time left check out the putting green and/or driving range.

We've had some instances with this hot weather that the course has given the greenlight to start play before the scheduled 8:30 tee time. This meant that as soon as the Table was finished with their administrative duties we were cleared to tee off. Unfortunately we had to wait for a few late arrivals. Don't be the reason the gift of an early tee off is delayed. Arrive at least 15 minutes before the Table closes so you can be informed of any changes that might be needed in the pairings or hole assignment. It will give you a chance to share in the pre-round fellowship as well.

Have you checked out the SGAA website https://sgaofatlanta.org/ There's been a lot of work put into the website to keep you informed. There's one section devoted to reports which give an insight as to how you – as well as the entire organization – play. One report gives a look back at how each of us played the various courses last year.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

August 2024

The following is a letter received from Jim Ruiz informing the membership about the Veteran's Museum in Lawrenceville and inviting all of us to visit. The Museum website is https://www.gwinnettveteransmemorialmuseum.org/

Did you know that Lawrenceville has a Veterans Memorial Museum considered one of the best in the Southeast?

It is located at the Old Historic Courthouse on the square. Established in 2005 as a tribute to the military veterans of Gwinnett County, the museum also serves as a remembrance of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service of our great nation. The museum offers exhibits that span the period from the Revolutionary War to the War on Terrorism. These exhibits include a collection of personal military memorabilia, uniforms, photographs, period weapons, and ship and plane models. I am certain the many veterans at SGAA will find a visit to the museum greatly interesting, if not somewhat nostalgic. The robust array of exhibits enables visitors of all ages to gain a better understanding of key military events in American history and a greater awareness of those who gave so much for our freedom.

You are cordially invited to visit the museum. Admission is free, and it is open Monday through Friday from 10 to 4 and Saturday from 10 to 2.

Jim Ruiz
Curator
Gwinnett County Veterans Memorial Museum
185 W. Crogan Street (1st floor)
Lawrenceville, GA 30046



Once we dropped in the troops and the battle had begun, it was time for us to return with supplies and to take the body bass back to be shipped home.

[&]quot;Letters to the Editor" will be included, on a first-come basis, as many as space will allow. Letters can not contain any slanderous or derogatory remarks about any individual. All letters must include the sender's name which will be included in the publication. The deadline for inclusion is the 15th of the month. (The Editor reserves the right to correct grammar and spelling as well as the right to reject any letters not adhering to the above guidelines.)

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I was born September 1, 1953 in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, the 3rd of what would become a family of 5 children. I received my Bachelor's degree from Penn State in 1975, moved to Atlanta for a job in 1976, and like a damn Yankee, never left. I earned an MBA at night at Georgia State University in 1980.



Steve Young
Member since 2024

I spent my career in the Telecom Industry in B2B Sales and Marketing, primarily with MCI. I retired from Verizon in 2009. I then joined the faculty at Georgia State, teaching Sales and Marketing to undergrads and MBA's, and serving as Coach of the Sales Team, before completely retiring in 2018.

I have been married to my wife, Betsy, for 42 years and we have 2 adult children, both in Atlanta. We live in the Ansley Park neighborhood in Midtown.

Besides golf, I enjoy cycling, yoga, reading and traveling. I am still an avid Steeler and Nittany Lion fan, traveling up north each Fall for football games. I volunteer one day per week at the Red Cross, delivering blood products to Hospitals. I am also a regular platelet donor.

I've enjoyed my short time as a member of SGAA, and look forward to meeting and playing golf with more of you!

All fees for the Member/Guest are due

August 15th



PAR 3 TOURNAMENT

HONEY CREEK

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21st

8:30 A/M

SPECIAL \$10 TABLE FEE

It's great that you long hitters can get 250+ yards off the tee; but how good is your short game?

Don't think you've got it where you want it to be? Then it's time to get it together because in a few short weeks you'll be put to the test.

That's right; SGAA is holding another Par 3 Tournament at Honey Creek on Wednesday, May 10th. This will be a shotgun start at 8:30 a/m. Special \$10 per player table fee applies for this event.

Payouts will be the same as our normal dogfight tournaments plus a low gross for each flight.

There's only a few short weeks left to dial in those distances and hone your aiming skill before this event.

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

oolf: Santee Cooper C 9069 Old Hw Santee, SC 29	y 6	Lodging: Fairfield Inn, 9069 Old Hwy 6, or Hampton Inn, 9060 Old Hwy 6, Santee				
Occupancy	Price	Check Option All packages				
Shared room-2 go	Shared room-2 golfers				Include	
Single Golfe		\$825.00			Tuesday Dinner, Awards	
Golfer and non-playi	ng guest	\$885.00	8		Dinner, Awards	
Golf only	\$350.00					
arly arrival or late departure	room rates are	\$158 per night	, singl	e or doul	ole occupancy.	
YOUR NAME		MEMBER#	SHIF	RT SIZE		
GUEST NAME		STROKE HANDICAP	SHIF	RT SIZE		
SPOUSE	'S NAME IF AT	TENDING				
	Fairfield	Hampton	No pr	eference		
Preferred Lodging						
We will honor your re	quests on a first co	me-first served bas	is.			
Entre preference Rib eye		Seafood	Ch	icken		
Golfer				111111111111111111111111111111111111111		
Guest or wife		200				
	RESTRICTION	IS. IF ANY			l)	

Mail completed form with check to Ron Wade 2025 Woodbury Run Drive Snellville GA 30078

ANNUAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Our Annual Tournament begins on Tuesday, September 3rd at Honey Creek Golf Course. Tee time is 8:30 AM for all rounds of the tournament. There is a special one-time table fee of \$10.00 to be paid at the start of your tournament play. Green fees (\$32.00) are to be paid to the course before each round. There are 9 rounds scheduled for this tournament. You may play as many rounds during the tournament schedule as you like, but you MUST PLAY a minimum of 4 rounds to be considered as competing in the Annual Tournament. No matter how many rounds you complete during the Annual Tournament, your 4 best rounds will used to determine your tournament standing.

The standard pre-registration applies to the tournament. You do not have to enter the tournament to play. You may also just show up, notify the table of your intentions, get a hole assignment, and pay your green fee.

The following SGAA rules are provided as a refresher as we begin tournament play. Additional information may be provided by the Table Captains, or on the SGAA website, as the tournament progresses.

- 1. Rules of Play—USGA, PGA and local course rules shall govern play except as listed below. While SGAA Rules may seem to be very tolerant it is for the benefit of members of the Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta and to promote speedier play. Any member or members wishing to abide strictly by USGA and PGA rules are welcome to do so.
- 2. A PLAYER--May pick up to identify, clean or exchange a ball that comes to rest anywhere within the boundaries of the golf course and replace the ball one club length, or within one club length, no closer to the hole without penalty except on the green (see rule #3), or in a sand trap (see rule #4). The ball must be placed in the same general environment (1st cut, 2nd cut, rough, etc.) as it originally came to rest. If a ball cannot be played within one club length and still considered unplayable it can be moved any distance on a line of entry back towards the last point the ball was struck with a one stroke penalty.
- 3. ON THE GREEN—A player may mark the balls location and pick up to identify, clean or exchange his ball. Ball must be replaced at the mark where it was picked up.
- 4. SAND TRAP PLAY—If your ball is in a fairway bunker or greenside sand trap and lies in a foot print (human or otherwise), any untended sand marks from previous a player, or maintenance equipment, you can pick up your ball, rake the area of untended marks and replace your ball in the same spot without penalty. Also, any ball resting in water or mud can be pulled out and placed one club length no closer to the hole but still in the trap or bunker, without a penalty.
- 5. BALL OUT OF BOUNDS, UNPLAYABLE or LOST—When a ball is hit out of bounds, declared unplayable (see rule #2) or lost, after searching for a <u>maximum</u> of three (3) minutes, the player may place his ball any distance along the flight of the ball where the ball went out of bounds, is presumed lost or determined unplayable. A one (1)-stroke penalty shall be counted.
- 6. 14 CLUB RULE—Each player shall have no more than 14 clubs in his bag or face disqualification from that round.

- 7. DROP LOCATION—A ball hit into a water hazard must be marked off from the side of initial entry into that hazard as stated above (where the ball first crossed the yellow line).
- 8. GUEST PLAY—Members may bring a guest during the year except to the Annual Tournament, or other designated tournaments when published to the membership. However, members have priority in the event of a cart shortage. The cards for this foursome will be held by the table captain until all member players have checked in, holes and carts assigned. After this time, the foursome with a guest can be assigned a hole. As stated, in the event of cart shortage the guest will not be allowed to play and the remainder of that foursome has the choice of playing (if there are openings in a group) or not playing. Never will an SGAA member be asked to leave and a guest allowed to play.



SCORING AND HOW TO DO IT CORRECTLY

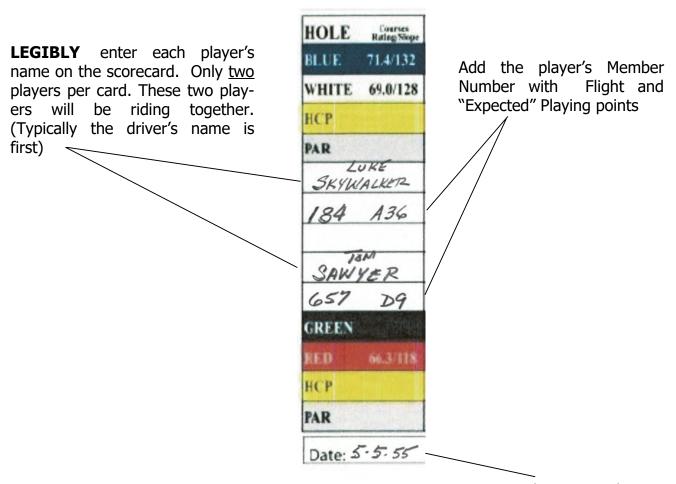
The next four pages are a detailed explanation of what needs to be done to correctly complete the scorecard for a round of golf with the Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta.

Whether you and your group pre-registered or just showed up to play, doesn't change the way the scorecard should be completed.

- Arrive at the course in plenty of time to check in with the Table. The Table opens one hour before the scheduled tee time and closes thirty minutes before the tee time. For the summer schedule with the 8:30 a/m tee time that means the Table opens at 7:30 and closes at 8:00. For the winter months with the 10:00 a/m tee time we're talking about the Table opening at 9:00 and closes at 9:30. Give yourself plenty of time to complete the check in process and visit the driving range and/or putting green.
- Although our tee time is 8:30 (10:00), we often go early to help free up the course for their members and
 for us to finish earlier. Our By-Laws state that if a member arrives after the Table closes; it's the Table
 Captain's option to let the member play. It has become a growing problem waiting for a registered player
 to arrive, holding everyone up. Members should notify the Table Captain or their playing partners if they
 are going to be late or not show at all.
- If you are the first in your group to arrive; complete the scorecard correctly and turn it in to the Table. [You MUST have at least three players in your group to turn in your scorecard. If you have less than three players inform the Table and they will assist in finding additional players to add to your group]. Table fees (currently \$5/player) are to be paid for the entire group when the scorecards are presented to the table.
- PAY YOUR GREEN FEES before loading your clubs onto a cart and going to the practice areas.



Now let's look at preparing the score card in closer detail



Be sure to enter the current date

At the completion of this step for both scorecards (you will have two scorecards for a threesome or for a foursome as **only two player's names per card**

You do <u>not</u> keep your own scorecard. The driver of each cart maintains the scorecard for the other cart.

SCORING & POINTS:

Bogey = 1 playing point

Par = 2 playing points

Birdie = 3 playing points

Eagle = 4 playing points

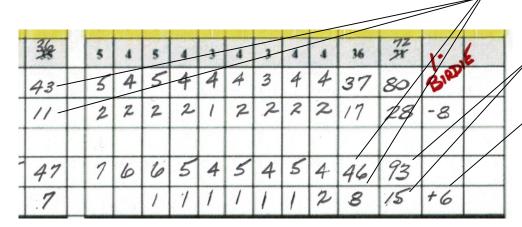
Enter the appropriate score for each hole

Enter the appropriate playing points for each hole

TOT HCP NET 2 3 Out 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 Courses Rating Nope HOLE 71.4/132 334 419 145 397 527 193 415 40/4 351 502 413 492 414 215 374 151 365 390 6501 BLUE 3185 WHITE 69.0/128 315 403 119 385 478 170 886 862 326 469 401 479 379 186 358 134 353 316 2944 3)75 6019 HCP 15 13 3 4 PAR 3 LUKE 4 4 3 37 43 SKYWALKETZ 2 2 2 2 2 2 28 2 BIRDIE 93 47 3 6 46 SAWYER 15 +6 2 657 D9

Note and circle (preferably in red) all birdies and above

Tally the score and playing points for each player for both nine holes. **DO NOT** total the points and subtract from 54 to arrive at the score. Use the points to verify the score.



Show the total score with the playing points.

Show the difference between the "expected" points and the playing points

Scorer: Huckberry fim

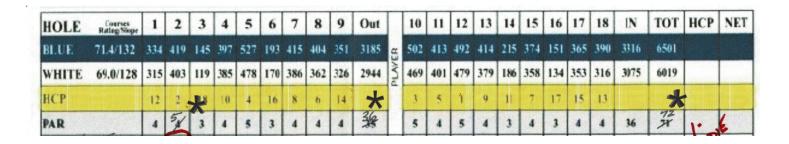
Attest: Luke Skynelper

After verifying the score the Scorer is to sign the card. The scorer for the other scorecard in the group is to sign the card attesting to its accuracy

TURN THE COMPLETED SCORECARDS IN TO THE TABLE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ROUND BEFORE TAKING YOUR CLUBS TO YOUR VEHICLE

Their may be a tournament when the **TABLE** will alter the score to provide for a more equitable round for all players and make the course a Par 72. Those changes are highlighted with an * and are made only by the Table.

These changes will be noted at check in and the Table Captain will give verbal verification at the start of the round



AUGUST 2024	Saturday	ဧ	10	17	24	31
	Friday	2	6	16	23	30
	Thursday	T CC of Gwinnett 8:30a/m \$40	8 Mystery Valley	8:30a/m \$40 15 Board of Directors Meeting CC of Gwinnett 10:00 a/m	22 Providence 8:30a/m \$37	29 Bear Creek 8:30a/m \$42
	Wednesday	Register for the Member-Guest By August 15 th	7 Panola Mountain	8:30a/m \$32 14 Browns Mill 8:30a/m \$30	PAR 3 Honey Creek 8:30a/m \$32	28 Georgia National 8:30a/m \$37
	Tuesday		9	13 Bear Creek 8:30a/m \$42	20 Sugar Creek 8:30a/m \$45	27
	Monday		5 Crystal Lake	8:30a/m \$3/ 12 Heron Bay 8:30a/m \$37	19	26 CC of Gwinnett 8:30a/m \$40
	Sunday		4	1	18	25

Steve Puster 122 Salem Ridge Drive McDonough, GA 30253