



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

### Officers

President: JJ Goldsack  
Vice-Pres: Dave Mueller  
Secretary: Ted Pogue  
Treasurer: Tom Vardase

### Board of Directors

Jim Begnaud	2028
Larry Fauconnet	2028
Harry Matthews	2028
John Cyran	2027
Benny Russo	2027
Steve Young	2027
Jim Knapp	2026
Kerry Phillips	2026
George Shingler	2026

### Past President

Mike Nobles  
678-294-2363

### Chaplain

Perry Provost  
678-360-1229

# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

*DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP*

Volume 70 Issue 5

May 2026

**President**

**JJ Goldsack**

**goldsack@bellsouth.net**

**(770) 513-4609**



We have now completed one third of 2026. Turnout for Little Ocmulgee was great. Upcoming events include this year's first Par 3 Tournament on Thursday, May 28 at Providence Golf Club and our second out of town trip is set for June 15-17 Smoky Mountain CC. Our Member Guest is October 4-7 in Hiawasse, GA. Be advised that on October 3rd, Bob Seger will be putting on a concert at Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds -- just half a mile from the Lake Chatuge Lodge, where we will be staying for the Member Guest. Rock n Roll never forgets.

We are still in need of volunteers. Most positions have no backups and we are an aging organization. Specifically we need someone to help with recruiting and scheduling golf courses for 2027.

This has become a two person job and is currently being handled by Travis Newberry. While Travis has done an outstanding job, he needs assistance. Please consider stepping up and helping to insure we have a full schedule for 2027.

By the way, every year SGAA holds an appreciation tournament for our volunteers. This year's Appreciation Tournament will be at Providence Golf Club on Tuesday, November 3rd. Additional details will be sent out to our volunteers in September.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone who has reached out and inquired about my son John. His recovery from the stroke has been slow, frustrating, but steady. Mary and I appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

Play well!

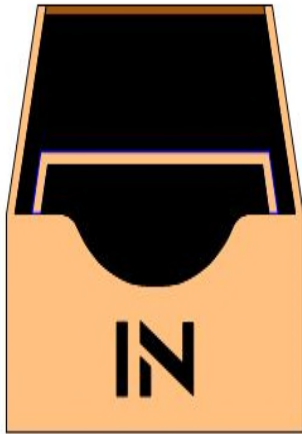


# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

*DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP*

Volume 70 Issue 5

May 2026



**Vice President**

**Dave Mueller**

**dlmuller@yahoo.com**

**(770) 298-2829**



A funny thing happened on the way to not making my points. As we played the 17<sup>th</sup> hole at Providence, I hit my drive right down the middle. As I came to my ball, I saw nothing but white; I knew it had to be my ball because it was the not the closest to the green. I hit a nine iron that landed on the green and I was looking at a birdie. When I got to the ball, I noticed it was not my ball; resulting in a two-stroke penalty and no points. I was mad at myself for not checking the ball before I hit it. I missed making my points by three strokes, that one hole made a huge difference.

My whole point is this; golf is a game of rules and they must be followed. If you break the rules; you must pay the price. It would not be fair to the entire field of players if we don't call the penalties on ourselves. It can affect every phase of the game; the amount of pay outs, your handicap and everyone in your flight.

We urge you to sign up for Smoky Mountain. It will be here before you know it. All the answers are on the web page and the registration form is on the web page and in this Newsletter.

The weather is getting warmer; okay it's HOT. Please use sunscreen and drink lots of water – keep hydrated. Enjoy your next round and have fun.

## ***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."*

**Gene Bryant** member 1998 – 2022

**Harry Chapman** member 2017 – 2021

**David Mason** member since 2008

**Gene Latham** member since 2007

EVENTS FOR  
MAY 2025

All tee times  
are 8:30 a/m

May 5  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
Bear Creek \$45

May 6  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
Heron Bay \$37

May 7  
THUR: 8:30 a/m  
Georgia National \$39

May 11  
MON: 8:30 a/m  
Pine Hill \$28

May 12  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
CC of Gwinnett \$45

May 13  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
Panola Mountain \$35

May 18  
MON: 8:30 a/m  
Crystal Lake \$39

May 19  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
Dogwood \$40

May 21  
THUR: 8:30 a/m  
Ashton Hills \$43

May 26  
TUES: 8:30 a/m  
Southland \$41

May 27  
WED: 8:30 a/m  
Honey Creek \$35

May 28  
THUR: 8:30 a/m  
PAR 3 Providence \$37

# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 70 Issue 5

May 2026



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



## Membership Overview

As of May 2026, the SGAA has welcomed several new members, bringing the total active membership to 210. This year, we have added four new members, continuing the positive trend of growth. Our ongoing efforts to encourage friends and neighbors to join are making a difference, and it would be beneficial to maintain last year's momentum in membership additions.

## Membership Application Process

When inviting prospective members to join, it is essential to ensure that all application forms are completed fully and legibly. Applications that are missing required information cannot be processed, so careful attention to detail is crucial. By assisting with accurate and thorough submissions, you help promote an efficient and effective membership process. Thank you for your continued support and diligence in this important matter.

## Board Suggestions

If you have suggestions that could help the Board or improve the enjoyment of SGAA activities, please share your ideas with me or any other Board member. While not every suggestion can be implemented, all will be carefully discussed at the next Board meeting. Your input is valued and plays an important role in the ongoing improvement of our group.

## In Memoriam

We honor and remember Gene Bryant, who passed away in January. Gene was a member for over 20 years and was actively involved in the operation of SGAA until he could no longer participate. Gene Latham passed away on 02/09/2026. Gene was a member from 2007 through 2026 and was known for being a likable person and enjoyable golf companion. Harry Chapman, who passed away this year after moving away from the Atlanta area, Harry enjoyed his family and time outdoors. David Mason, a member for 18 years and well-liked by the membership, and Gene Latham, a 19 year member and friend are also remembered. All these gentlemen will be greatly missed.

## Contact Information Updates

If you change your address, phone number, or email, please notify me at [tandgpogue@att.net](mailto:tandgpogue@att.net). Keeping your contact information current ensures you receive timely updates about SGAA news and upcoming events.

# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

*DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP*

Volume 70 Issue 5

May 2026



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 cannot express strongly enough, the need to check and recheck your scorecards before signing and submitting them to the Table.

My playing partner and I were paired with two fine gentlemen for a recent round. It was a most enjoyable round; not because of the golf, but the conviviality of these two gentlemen. At the end of the round we tallied up the strokes of the players in the other cart, and verified the number of playing points to ascertain the accuracy of the scorecard. When the scorecards were submitted the scores for these men were invalidated because the score was not assigned correctly.

How can that be?? The strokes and the playing points tallied; apparently the score was not posted correctly on one hole: so the scorecard was not correct. As a result these two men; both "A" players, were denied the opportunity of being credited with the award points they earned and for this we are truly sorry for our mistake. What was a great example of the "fine fellowship" of SGAA was tarnished by a simple oversight.

It is not enough to just count the strokes taken, add in the playing points and come up with 108. You **NEED** to make sure the score is correct for each hole.

We can't apologize enough to these two men, nor can we undo the error we made; but we can make sure it doesn't happen again to anyone with whom we're paired. We hope everyone will take this lesson to heart and not duplicate our mistake by not checking and rechecking scorecards.



# Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

*DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP*

Volume 70 Issue 5

May 2026



Ed Beshel



**Ed Beshel**

Member since 2025

Hey everyone, my name is Ed Beshel and I joined SGAA in October 2025 after playing a few rounds as a guest, along with some heavy recruitment from my friend, Benny Russo. His Nil offer was too hard to refuse. Ha. Seriously, since retiring I've been looking for a group to join that was a little competitive, had fun playing the game, and that I enjoyed being around and SGAA met all those keys for me. From the first round that I played as a guest I felt welcome and included.

As I stated above, I retired in February of 2025 after a 37 year career with Hormel Food Sales with the Foodservice group in sales and sales management.

Renee and I have been married for 37 years with two wonderful daughters and two beautiful granddaughters and 2 more granddaughters (twins) expected in May of '26.

I look forward to getting to know more of the members and enjoying many rounds chasing that little ball around the course this next season.

## **UPCOMING OUT OF TOWN TRIPS**

This edition of the SGAA Newsletter contains the registration form for the June 15-17 trip to Smoky Mountain Country Club in Whittier, North Carolina as well as the registration form and activity information for the October 4-7 Member-Guest at Chatuge Shores in Hiawassee, Georgia.

The Smoky Mountain trip is an annual summertime pilgrimage to the mountains. Smoky Mountain Country Club is a favorite place of our membership and draws a crowd each year.

The Member-Guest is an annual event, but the location changes from year to year. This event includes a list of activities for our non-golfing guests so it is only fitting we provide as much information as early as we can. While guests are welcome at all of our tournaments, the Member-Guest is specifically intended for us to include our wives and/or significant others along with our friends and neighbors.



**SMOKY MOUNTAIN COUNTRY CLUB**  
**JUNE 15-17 2026**  
**1112 Conley Creek Road**  
**Whittier NC 28789**

ACCOMMODATIONS ARE FIRST CLASS TWO BEDROOM CONDO UNITS WITH FULL KITCHEN LIVING ROOM W/TV AND PORCH. EACH BEDROOM HAS A TV AND A PRIVATE BATHROOM.  
**CONDOS HOUSE 2, 3 OR 4 GOLFERS: 2 SINGLES, OR 1 SINGLE AND A DOUBLE, OR 2 DOUBLES. WE'VE RESERVED ADDITIONAL ROOMS, BUT CONDO SPACE IS LIMITED. INDIVIDUAL ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE "SLEEP INN" IN BRYSON CITY.**

**GUEST WELCOME! BRING FRIENDS AND/OR FAMILY - THE MORE THE MERRIER. PRICES ARE PER PERSON, SINGLE OR DOUBLE AND INCLUDES GOLF AND MEALS.**

Package	1 Golfer/Bedroom	2 Golfers/Bedroom
Golf 3 Days, 2 Nights, Meals	\$490.00	\$450.00
Golf 3 days,3 Nights, Meals, Sunday early arrival	\$560.00	\$490.00
Spouse/Meal pack	\$92.00	
Golf Only	\$180.00	

**All reservations must be made by SGAA and received by June 8. No refunds after that date**

Name		SGAA Member Number	
Guest		Guest Handicap	
SGAA Roommate		SGAA Roommate Number	
Comments			

Make Checks Payable to SGAA annotated Smokey Mountain Mail Reservation Form and Check to:  
 DAVE MUELLER  
 1167 Vintage Way  
 Hoschton, GA 30548

**All three days will be a Dogfight format.**  
**Monday will be four-man team A, B, C, D.**  
**Tuesday will be two-man Teams. A/B players against A/B players. C/D players against C/D players.**  
**Wednesday Tournament will be an individual dogfight format.**

## 🏌️ Celebrating 70 Years — A Special Member/Guest Fall Getaway!

In honor of the **70th Anniversary of the Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta**, I am excited to **invite you** to a **Member/Guest Outing** inspired by the traditions and camaraderie of years past. This year's celebration will take us to the scenic beauty of **Hiwassee and Lake Chatuge**, a perfect fall destination just a relaxing **2–3 hour drive** away. Surrounded by stunning mountain views and vibrant autumn colors, this promises to be a truly memorable experience.

For **less than \$900 per couple**, enjoy a full lineup of activities—including:

- Golf outings
- **A live band on Tuesday evening**
- Beautiful fall scenery
- A variety of local activities for non-golfers at rates below standard pricing

Whether you're on the course or exploring the area, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

**Included in this newsletter** you'll find the application and additional details about the trip. If you have any questions, feel free to contact: **Larry Thomas** (Larry knows the area well and is happy to help!) 770-596-4432 or [elt620@aol.com](mailto:elt620@aol.com)

---

### Make It a Fall Tradition

Bring a guest—friend or family member—and celebrate this milestone year with a relaxing and fun-filled getaway.

#### **Application Deadline: August 15**

Due to the popularity of this destination, space is limited. Reservations for rooms and tee times were made based on past participation, and we **do not want to turn anyone away** due to availability.

**Please:**

- Submit your application early
- Or let me or Larry know your intention to attend as soon as possible

*Applications are fully refundable through August 30.*

---

I look forward to celebrating **70 wonderful years of fellowship, friendship, and great golf**—and making new memories together this fall! 🏌️



# 2026 SGAA MEMBER/GUEST TOURNAMENT

## Chatguc Golf Course & Mountain Harbor Golf Course

October 4th – 7th, 2026

Hiawassee, Ga.

Monday – Wednesday T-Time 9:00 am at Chatguc Shores. Tuesday T-time 9:30 at Mountain Harbor.

Guests are welcome. Bring a friend, a family member, a neighbor. The more the merrier. Packages include the following: 3 nights lodging, 3 rounds of golf, 2 dinners, live band on Tuesday, and cash bar on Sunday and Tuesday.

*If you are sharing a room and planning to play only two rounds and/or two nights, your roommate must have the same package as you.* **RESERVATION MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE August 15<sup>th</sup>. All reservations must be made through the SGAA. NOTE: A continental breakfast is included with coffee, juices, cereal, sweet rolls and fruit.**

OCCUPANCY	PACKAGE	PRICE	CHOICE
Couple Occupancy	3 Nights, 3 Rds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2 – Lakeview	\$878	
Single Occupancy	3 Nights, 3 Rds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2 – Lakeview	\$776	
Double Occupancy	3 Nights, 3 Rds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2 – Lakeview	\$574	
Couple Occupancy	3 Nights, 3 Rds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2 – Regular	\$811	
Single Occupancy	3 Nights, 3 Rds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2 – Regular	\$709	
Double Occupancy	3 Nights, 3 Rds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2 - Regular	\$540	
Other Accomadations	3 Rounds of Golf, 2 Dinners for 2	\$473	

**Other options may be available on an individual basis. Please call Larry Thomas at 770-596-4432 for rates.**

Ladies golf on Monday/Wednesday at Mountain Harbor is \$65, Tuesday at Chatguc Shores is \$35. If your companion plans to play any of these days, please provide: NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Mon\_\_\_ Tue\_\_\_ Wed\_\_\_

Wine Tasting Tuesday 11:00 – 1:00 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday dinner: Member – Trout \_\_\_ Brisket \_\_\_ Dessert – Pecan pie \_\_\_ Peach Cobbler \_\_\_  
Spouse - Trout \_\_\_ Brisket \_\_\_ Dessert – Pecan pie \_\_\_ Peach Cobbler \_\_\_

Tuesday dinner: Member – Steak \_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_ Dessert – Apple pie \_\_\_ Bread Pudding \_\_\_  
Spouse – Steak \_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_ Dessert – Apple pie \_\_\_ Bread Pudding \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SGAA Member Number \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Stroke Handicap \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

SGAA Roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

**EARLY ARRIVAL: If you plan to come in on Saturday or stay over on Wednesday night, call Chatguc Shores for information on making an early arrival/late departure reservation. Let them know you are with SGAA.**

Lake Chatguc Lodge, 653 Hwy 76, Hiawassee, Ga, . Phone 706-896-5253

**SEND CHECKS TO: LARRY THOMAS**

**2065 WOODBERRY RUN DR.**

**SNELLVILLE, GEORGIA 30078**



## 2026 SGAA MEMBER/GUEST ACTIVITIES



**Famous as the home of Georgia's highest peak, Brasstown Bald, Hiawassee is full of gorgeous mountain scenery and recreation opportunities. Hiawassee was originally inhabited by Cherokee tribes. It is located near the Appalachian and Southern Highroads trails. Lake Chatuge is another beloved landmark with countless recreation opportunities, along with the trout fishing favorite, the Hiawassee River. Don't miss the changing color of the leaves.**

**Brasstown Bald, is a must-see at over 4,000 feet and surrounded by the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest. On clear days, visitors can see four states from the observation deck.**

### Walking Trails in Hiawassee, GA

Hiawassee, Georgia, is a treasure trove for hikers and nature enthusiasts. The town offers a variety of walking trails that cater to different skill levels and preferences. Here are some of the best walking trails in Hiawassee:

1. Wagon Train Trail: This trail is known for its challenging incline and beautiful waterfall views. It has a 4.6-star rating from 401 reviews, making it a popular choice for hikers.
2. Bell Mountain Trail: Offering stunning summit views, this trail is perfect for photography enthusiasts and is open year-round.
3. Tallulah Gorge State Park Trails: With over 20 miles of well-maintained trails, this park is a must-visit for those seeking epic views and waterfalls.
4. Little Tennessee River Greenway: A scenic river trail that provides a peaceful, shaded path with beautiful views of the river.
5. Nantahala Bikeway: A bike trail that runs alongside the Little Tennessee River, offering a unique experience for those who prefer biking.
6. Hamilton Rhododendron Gardens: A hidden gem, this botanical garden features a variety of native plants and flowers, making it a peaceful spot for a stroll. A sprawling botanical garden with more than 3,000 plants, including dogwood, native azaleas, wildflowers, trillium and rhododendron. In fact, the more than 400 varieties of rhododendron make it the largest collection in the state. The garden includes two lovely hiking trails— a 1-mile trail and a 2-mile trail— as well as walking paths that lead along the shore of Lake Chatuge and to a popular fishing hole.
7. High Shoals Falls - One of the area's most stunning waterfalls is High Shoals Falls, five falls in one area that have a total vertical drop of 300 feet. Accessible by the 1.2-mile High Shoals Trail, there are observation decks along the way.
8. The Chatuge trail - The 1-mile, dog-friendly hiking trail takes you through the forest along the banks of a small peninsula, offering sensational views of the shoreline and southern Appalachian Mountains along the way.
9. Rent A Boat - As much fun as a day at the beach can be, there's nothing better than exploring the lake in your own boat or jet ski.

These trails are just a few examples of the many walking opportunities Hiawassee has to offer. Whether you're looking for a leisurely stroll or a challenging hike, Hiawassee's trails provide a perfect escape into nature. Remember to pack hiking safety essentials and enjoy the breathtaking scenery along the way.



## 2026 SGAA MEMBER/GUEST ACTIVITIES

### Shopping places in Hiawassee

1. Art Works
2. Trailful Outdoor Co.
3. TATA On Main
4. Lakeview Vintage Market
5. Hiawassee Antique Mall
6. Secret's Attic
7. Always Christmas
8. Mountain Quilts
9. The Wishing Well
10. Hen's Nest

**Alexander's "Everything Under The Sun" has been family-owned since 1953. And families love coming to Alexander's, where there's something for everyone. With 50,000 square feet of retail space (and expanding all the time), Alexander's sells just about everything. ADDRESS: 4482 Town Creek School Road, Blairsville, GA 30512, 706-745-6450.**

**Harrah's Cherokee Valley River – A Caesars Rewards Destination - 777 Casino Parkway, Murphy, NC 28906. Take advantage of recreation opportunities such as the casino, or grab a bite at Brew Brothers, one of the hotel's 6 restaurants. A great escape with glorious views.**

**Enjoy a great afternoon on Lake Chatuge by renting a boat from one of several local venues. Lake Chatuge and the surrounding rivers and creeks are home to a great variety of fish making it the ideal place to relax and enjoy a fishing adventure.**

**Enjoy the scenery and North Georgia Mountain views while on horseback. There are several trails and horseback riding opportunities around the Lodge.**



### Cane Creek Vinery – Young Harris

**Widely regarded as one of North Georgia's best wineries, Crane Creek Vineyards encompasses 20+ acres high in the hills of Young Harris GA. Cane Creek offers full wine service, including tastings, wine by the glass, and bottles, along with drip coffee, espresso drinks, snacks, and pastries. It is the perfect spot to unwind with a glass of wine or freshly brewed coffee—whether you're relaxing in the lounge or enjoying the sweeping vineyard views from the deck. Prices for the wine, cheese, snacks tastings are have not been finalized. This will be updated as soon as they are finalized.**



**May 2026**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE SMOKY MOUNTAIN TRIP</b></p>						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Bear Creek 8:30 a/m \$45	Heron Bay 8:30 a/m \$37	Georgia National 8:30 a/m \$39		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Pine Hill 8:30 a/m \$28	CC of Gwinnett 8:30 a/m \$45	Panola Mountain 8:30 a/m \$35			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Crystal Lake 8:30 a/m \$39	Dogwood 8:30 a/m \$40		Ashton Hills 8:30 a/m \$43		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Southland 8:30 a/m \$41	Honey Creek 8:30 a/m \$35	<b>PAR 3</b> Providence 8:30 a/m \$37		
31	<p><b>IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE MEMBER/GUEST</b></p>					

Steve Puster  
122 Salem Ridge Drive  
McDonough, GA 30253