



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 1

January 2026

President

JJ Goldsack

goldsack@bellsouth.net

(770) 513-4609



First I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season. Second, I will never email anyone asking them for financial assistance on an SGAA bill. If you receive such an email it is a scam and should be put in your junk box.

At the last board meeting a proposal for the Member Guest was approved unanimously. Mark your calendars for October 4-7. We will play Chatuge Shores Golf Course and Mountain Harbour Golf Club, both in North Carolina. We will stay at Lake Chatuge Lodge in Hiawassee, GA. Additional details to follow. This should be a very enjoyable trip. There is a nearby winery daytrip in the works for the wives.

We started 2025 with 198 members, 4 members passed away and we registered 40 new members. Congratulations to everyone who recruited a new member. This is the largest growth in the 10 years I have been with SGAA.

I encourage everyone to reflect on the highlights of an article Jeff Hyland shared on Ready Golf:

Long waits drain golfers age 50+ faster than bad swings. You stand around. Your back cools off. Your legs stiffen. By the time you reach the back nine, the game feels heavy. Not because you played poorly—but because your body shut down between shots.

Ready golf changes that feeling. It keeps your rhythm alive. It keeps your body warm. It keeps the round moving so you never fall into that long, frozen lull that steals your energy.

This guide shows you how to play ready golf the right way. You'll learn when to step in, how to stay aware of the group, and how to keep things flowing without stepping on anyone's toes. No rush. No pressure. Just smart moves that make the day smoother for everyone.

You'll feel the difference by the time you reach the back nine. Looser swings. Sharper focus. More fun.

Golf should feel like a good walk with good shots—not a slow march that wears you down.

To better golf,

GolfProblems.com

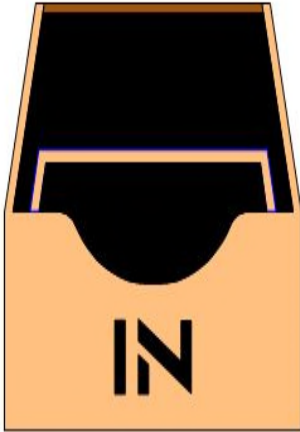
Finally, I'd like to thank and congratulate Mike Nobles on presiding over such an enjoyable and successful 2025 season. Look forward to seeing everyone out on the course in 2026.

Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 70 Issue 1

January 2026



Vice President

Dave Mueller

dlmuelles@yahoo.com

(770) 298-2829



Welcome to a new year of SGAA golf. The year will be filled with good times and a lot of great memories on the golf courses.

As we go through this year, give a thought to getting more involved with SGAA in the form of helping out. Right now, we need people to help on the Wednesday and Thursday tables. It's easy work, but it takes a little time to do. We need your help if you can.

I would also ask you to bring your idea's to make SGAA better, to someone's attention. We have Board meetings every quarter of the year. The dates are on the calendar.

I look forward to this years out of town trips as well. Larry and I just about wrapped up first two trips, and details will be coming to the web site soon.

You need to check the web site at least once a week for all the latest information.

Looking for a great year of positive idea's and fun golf.

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."

Fred Dyer member 2003 - 2023

Jim Goldsack member 1991 – 2025

Larry Whidby member 1998 - 2013

**EVENTS FOR
JANUARY 2026**

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

January 20
MON: 10:00 a/m
Panola Mountain \$35

January 22
THUR: 10:00 a/m
CC of Gwinnett \$45

January 27
MON: 10:00 a/m
Cherokee Run \$45

January 29
THUR: 10:00 a/m
Sugar Creek \$33



Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 70 Issue 1

January 2026



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



SGAA Membership Update: JANUARY 2026

Membership Overview

As of the publication of this Newsletter, the SGAA has welcomed 40 new members in 2025, bringing the total number of active members to 233. Last month, the association was pleased to welcome five new members to the group. Notably, last year marks the first time in several years that membership growth has exceeded member losses from the prior year. This encouraging trend highlights the ongoing commitment and enthusiasm of our members, who consistently invite friends and neighbors to join the SGAA. We encourage everyone to continue this effort, helping us sustain and build upon this positive momentum.

Membership Application Process

When inviting prospective members to join, it is important to ensure that all application forms are filled out completely and legibly. Incomplete applications that lack required information cannot be processed, so your careful attention to detail is crucial. By assisting with thorough and accurate submissions, you contribute to an effective and efficient membership process. Thank you for your ongoing support and diligence in this important matter.

Board Suggestions

If you have suggestions that could support the board or enhance the enjoyment of SGAA activities, please feel free to share your ideas with either myself or any other board member. While not every suggestion can be implemented, each one will be thoughtfully 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 six members who passed away in 2025: Lamar Frazier in February, Lyman Thompson in June, Danny Harris in August and Jim Goldsack in December. We also remember two former members, Phil Biggers in June and Gene Kane in August. Their presence and contributions to the SGAA will be deeply missed by all members.

Contact Information Updates

If you change your address, phone number, or email, please notify me at tandgpogue@att.net. Keeping your contact information up to date ensures you receive timely updates about SGAA news and upcoming events.

2026 DUES COLLECTION

As the dues collection process continues, our membership will drop. We will not be able to publish those numbers until early January 2026 (look for the list in the February Newsletter).



Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 70 Issue 1

January 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

Did you wake up and realize that another year has flown by and it's the beginning of the 70th year of Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta? Just like you, I didn't realize how much fun I had in 2025.

I'm sure everyone planned to spend the six weeks between seasons just resting and recuperating. Yeah right! How did that go? I know that was MY plan. Unfortunately I had the misconception that I was king of the castle – apparently I live in a matriarchy. [I thought she was being facetious when she hung the sign, "A veteran lives here with his Commander-in-Chief" on the kitchen wall.] Although R&R was a figment of my imagination I survived and actually had a pretty good time.

My son drove in from Arizona with the express purpose of playing golf with the "old man". We haven't had the chance – just the two of us – to have a father/son round of golf in over 5 years.

Not sure what to make of it, but several weeks after his departure I received a couple of packages from Arizona containing 4 dozen golf balls and a new 5 hybrid.

I'm sure many of you received golf clubs, golf balls, and other golf accessories for Christmas too.

It would be a shame not to put that thoughtful gift giving to use. So limber up in the backyard, or a driving range, watch all the training videos on YouTube while you wait for January 20th to arrive. Then long about the 13th register to play in the 2026 inaugural SGAA tournament at Panola Mountain – and bring a friend with you.



"I love these senior citizen discounts."



Senior Golfers Association of Atlanta

DEDICATED TO GOOD GOLF AND FINE FELLOWSHIP

Volume 70 Issue 1

January 2026



Al Shugart



Al Shugart
Member since 2025

Al is the former owner/operator of Shugart Remodeling Inc., a small residential remodeling company operated in the Atlanta metro area for 30+ years. After closing this business in 2014, Al finished his working career with a couple of non profit organizations, doing program management and facilities management for them. Al fully retired in September 2023.

Al was raised in St. Augustine, FL and graduated from the University of North Florida in 1978 with a Bachelor degree in Secondary Education. After teaching for a few years, he decided to change careers to start his own business as a residential remodeler and what better place to start than Atlanta GA, that was in August 1984.

Al married his wife Beth in 1986 in Decatur GA. They have moved several times around Atlanta and the West GA area, finally landing in Tucker for the last 10 years. Along the way they raised 2 adopted children, a daughter Carly living in Mascotte, FL, mother of 2 kids and a son David, living in Rincon, GA.

Al has many memories of being on the golf course caddying for his dad and uncles. One standout is, - while caddying for dad, he had just watched Dad top a fairway shot that dribbled a short way down the fairway. Al, silently made his way several strides down the fairway with the bag of clubs over his shoulder. Dad was behind him and off to the side. Then Al sees the fairway wood, flying past him down the fairway and his dad yelling "See, I can throw that club further than I hit that ball!"

While Marshalling at a Senior Golf tournament at Sugarloaf this past spring, Al met Ward Humphries on the crew for hole 14. After finding out they share playing golf, Ward invited Al to check out SGAA. Al is glad to have found this group of great people sharing this game. He looks forward to many rounds of golf with them and to opportunities to be of service with SGAA.

**Don't forget to send in your registration
For the
TEE OFF LUNCHEON**



SGAA 2025 Tee Off Banquet

February 19, 2026

11:00 a/m — 2:00 p/m



Honey Creek Golf and Country Club

635 Clubhouse Drive SE
Conyers, Georgia 30094

\$25.00 PER PERSON

(includes tip and tax)

The menu details are being finalized as we go to print. Rest assured you will have a good meal along with some mighty 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 February 13, 2026

This is not so much "going to lunch" as it is about the friends and fellowship we expect to enjoy this season.

Moving forward I encourage your feedback regarding any changes you'd offer. The menu and other suggestions to attract better attendance is welcome.

You can't put a price on friendship. I look forward to seeing you on February 19th.

Harry Matthews

January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Tee Off Banquet February 19th – 11:00 a/m Honey Creek Country Club			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Panola Mountain 10 a/m \$35	21	22 CC of Gwinnett 10 a/m \$45	23	24
25	26	27 Cherokee Run 10 a/m \$45	28	29 Sugar Creek 10 a/m \$33	30	31

Steve Puster
122 Salem Ridge Drive
McDonough, GA 30253