



AWGA NewsLinks

A PUBLICATION OF THE ARIZONA WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

2005 ISSUE 5

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THE SPOTLIGHT'S ON...

ELLEN O'HARA

By Mary Ann Souter

A champion golfer, a wife and mother, a cancer survivor, a dedicated volunteer, a mentor, a swimming coach and instructor, an accomplished bridge player, a natural health enthusiast, a born leader – all of these are just part of what makes up the many faces of Ellen O'Hara. Her health has been sprinkled with set-backs and triumphs, but she consistently emerges as an example of strength, persistence, optimism, and resourcefulness. She is a woman of character who continually shares her expertise with others. Ellen is a glowing example of the "true spirit of golf for women" sparing no time or energy to promote her favorite sport. Her willingness to accept leadership roles in various golf organizations is a testament to her benevolent nature.

Ellen has been a member of the AWGA since 1990. She and her husband joined the Mesa Country Club that same year and Ellen soon became fully immersed in both organizations. She has won her Club Championship four times and has served there as Team Captain, Rules Chair, Tournament Chair and is now the Handicap Chair. She has been on the Course Rating Team since 1992 and became a Team Captain for the Central Region in 1997 and frequently performs course ratings in her area. This year Ellen participated in the USGA/PGA Rules school in Tucson. "Although I'm qualified as a Rules official, I prefer to play in tournaments," she admits. "But I plan to become more involved as a Rules official in the future."

As a player, Ellen is a skilled golfer. She has won the AWGA Four-Ball Championship with her friend and partner, Lynn Zmistowski, three times since 2001. She was also the Gross Winner for the 2002 AWGA Scotch Play Tournament with Lynn. In 2001, she qualified for the US Senior Women's Amateur Championship but was subsequently diagnosed with breast cancer. Anxious about her upcoming health issues, she knew she wouldn't play her best. She returned home from the tournament on September 10, 2001 just before the tragedy in NY City, and started her treatment shortly after. She underwent surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation. Just a few weeks after completing her entire regimen of treatment in April of 2002, Ellen and Lynn played in the Trans National Four-Ball Championship and finished third, their best national showing. Ellen is still cancer free and relies on natural remedies to stay healthy. "I have learned that diet can be so detrimental to our health and we need to be more proactive," Ellen said. She works with a homeopathic practitioner who guides her in keeping her body strong and healthy through cleansing fasts, juicing, and taking natural supplements. Having been a friend of Mo Cruikshank and having breast cancer herself, it was especially meaningful to Ellen to be on the winning team at the Mo Cruikshank Memorial Tournament last year at The Rim.

Ellen wasn't always a golfer. Her early athletic life was as a swimmer and she later became interested in

continued on page 2

2005 Partners Winners

Antelope Hills GC

June 16-17, 2005



Overall Winners:

Gross:

Sue Basso &

Joanne Travis231

Net:

Julie Dodds & Dorothy Swehla 203

First Flight:

Gross:

1st – Teddi Lewis & Cheryl Shepard 239

2nd – Kathleen Gillespie & Kelda Tolliver 244

Net:

1st – Helen Grassbaugh & Sue Durkin 215

2nd – Tari Sherwood & Ruth Parker 225

Second Flight:

Gross:

1st – Janie Denmark & Sue Hyllested 240

2nd – Dawnielle Baca & Nancy Harden 252

Net:

1st – Judy Browning & Diane Klein 212

2nd – Lori Zaun & Caroline Wallis 214

Third Flight:

Gross:

1st – Luanne Lea & Norma Scuri 253

2nd – Sharon Gibson & Jann Jemsek 262

Net:

1st – Jill Barrett & Karen Brunetti 216

2nd – Gayle Johnson & Laurie McCormick 217

Fourth Flight:

Gross:

1st – Fran Meek & Priscilla Harand 264

2nd – Phyllis Schiller & Jane Ross 264

Net:

1st – Jane Townsend & Kathy Ehrlich 210

2nd – Jan Dietrich & Jane Neville 220

Fifth Flight:

Gross:

1st – Ruthie Morgan & Julie Castle 278

2nd – Fran Rayhawk & Cobyann Berglund 278

Net:

1st – Kimberly Alexander & Deborah Haines 215

2nd – Evelyn Marquardt & Betty Patterson 217

Sixth Flight:

Gross:

1st – Gayle Maisonneuve & Vash Matlon 279

2nd – Carol Hisey & Sharon Wilson 293

Net:

1st – Carolyn Jarvis & Shaleen Rodenborn 212

2nd – Anna Davis & Barbara Walker 215



2005 AWGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

STATE AMATEUR STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Moon Valley Country Club - Phoenix
August 23 - 25, 2005

STATE SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

Pinetop Country Club - Pinetop
September 27 - 29, 2005

SCOTCH PLAY TOURNAMENT

Yuma Golf and Country Club -Yuma
November 14 - 15, 2005

STATE MEDALLION CLUB TEAM TOURNAMENT

Granite Falls North & South
Desert Springs Golf Club
December 8, 2005

2006 AWGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

AWGA SEASON OPENER TOURNAMENT

Site TBA • February 26, 2006

AWGA WEEKEND CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

Site TBA • March 18, 2006

STATE FOUR BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Refuge @ Lake Havasu
April 24 - 25, 2006

STATE MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Site TBA • March 22 - 26, 2006

AWGA PARTNERS TOURNAMENT

Omni Tucson National Golf Resort
June 12 - 13, 2006

AWGA DAY IN HADES TOURNAMENT

The Boulders
August 7, 2006

STATE STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Site TBA • August 28 - 30, 2006

STATE SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

Esplendor Golf Resort @ Rio Rico
September 25 - 27, 2006

AWGA SCOTCH PLAY TOURNAMENT

Trilogy Golf Club @ Vistancia
November 27 - 28, 2006

STATE MEDALLION TOURNAMENT

Sun City Grand
December 14, 2006

AWGA NewsLINKS

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3 AWGA MEMBERS IN ARIZONA SENIOR OLYMPICS QUALIFIER

North Park Golf Course, in Pittsburgh, PA, was the site where Arizona Senior Olympics qualifiers represented our state at the 2005 National Senior Games.

Winners in their respective age groups were:

- 60-64: 1st Place, Gold Medal – Etsu Suzuki of Tucson. Etsu won in a 4 hole play-off with Kay Daley.
2nd Place, Silver Medal – Kay Daley, Tucson
65-69: 2nd Place, Silver Medal – Sallie McCutcheon, Phoenix

Congratulations ladies!

The following courses have been re-rated or have made changes since the 2005 AWGA Club Directory was printed. Please make a note of this updated information. These ratings have been entered into the Arizona Handicap Network, including front and back nine details.

The Boulders Golf Club – North (combo tee added)

Red 68.4/114
Gold 71.2/123
Gold/Copper combo 72.8/129
Copper 73.7/131
White 76.5/140

The Boulders Golf Club – South (combo tee changed)

Red 68.5/117
Gold 71.1/125
Gold/Copper combo 72.5/135
Copper 73.3/139

Fortuna Del Rey Golf Course

Red twice 71.8/120
Red front/White back 73.2/122
White twice 74.6/124

Heritage Highlands Golf Club

(Quail tee changed)

Hummingbird 66.9/118
Quail 70.7/126
Roadrunner 71.8/129

“Spotlight’s On...” continued...

tennis. She grew up on a country club, and although her father was a golfer and tried to get her involved, she thought “golf was too slow” and wanted to spend her time swimming. She was an age-group state champion and later participated in the 1968 Olympic trials. Ellen went on to swim on ASU’s National Championship Swim Team. She was also an All American Water Polo player. After completing college, she coached swimming and taught lessons for 15 years. She was still playing tennis but in 1990 she injured her shoulder and could no longer swing the racket with the required strength and speed. Her husband, John, was a golfer and she began walking the course with him. When her shoulder healed, she thought she’d go back to tennis but by then she’d discovered how much she really enjoyed golf. It has been her sport of choice ever since. Ellen has endured much discomfort with her shoulder over the years and has had surgery four times since 1990. However, she has been able to continue playing golf with intermittent “time outs” for easing her condition.

Volunteering is a major part of Ellen’s life. She is on the USGA Women’s Amateur Public Links Committee and is in charge of the local qualifier. She also participates in running the National Championship interpreting Rules and assisting with the tournament. “It’s fun to be part of something bigger,” says Ellen. She’s also on the Board of the JoAnne Winters Arizona Silver Belle Championship where she serves as the Director of Sponsorship. Her responsibility is to raise adequate funds to conduct the tournament. Ellen has been involved with this group since 1996 and is a strong believer in its philosophy. “This tournament started when there weren’t many opportunities for girls,” she said. “It’s for top-notch players ages 13 to 23.” This nationally known tournament pairs players based on scores rather than age allowing a 14 year old player with a low score to be paired with a 23 year old. “I really enjoy working with young people promoting the game,” Ellen says. Outside of golf, Ellen is a member of the Desert Club. This well-known Mesa organization provides funding for a variety of community organizations. They raise approximately \$150,000 a year to help local charities. After many years of service, Ellen is now a sustaining member.

For the past seven years Ellen and John have spent summers in Whitefish, Montana and enjoy playing golf at Whitefish Lake Golf Club. Ellen has won their Club Championship three times as well as numerous other tournaments. Ellen and John are avid hikers, trekking the lush green trails in Montana’s Glacier National Park. She and John also golf regularly with other couples in Whitefish. They have two sons, one living in San Diego and the other in Baton Rouge, who recently returned from a humanitarian mission in South Africa.

When asked about her favorite memories with the AWGA, Ellen was quick to answer. “The Parker trip was the highlight of my golf experience with the AWGA. We had a great time on the river in the middle of nowhere. We laughed, told stories, and

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RULES TIP: EMBEDDED BALL — what to do with a ball that plugs in soft ground?

Under Rule 25-2, a ball embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground in any closely mown area through the green may be lifted, cleaned and dropped, without penalty, as near as possible to the spot where it lay embedded but not nearer to the hole. "Closely mown area" means any area of the course cut to fairway height or less. This may include paths through the rough, teeing grounds of other holes, the fringe around putting greens, etc. "Through the green" is the whole area of the course except the teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played, and any hazards on the course.

You should try to drop the ball almost back into the pitch mark. You are not permitted to repair the pitch mark before dropping (to do so would be a violation of Rule 13-2 and would result in loss of hole in match play or a penalty of two strokes in stroke play). If the dropped ball bounces or rolls back into the pitch mark, it is considered embedded and you may start the lift-clean-drop procedure all over again!

If your ball is embedded in the green, you may mark, lift and clean it, then repair the ball mark, and replace your ball on top of the repair.

Sometimes a local Rule is published which provides free relief for a ball embedded in its own pitch mark in the ground anywhere through the green, except in loose sand. If such a local Rule is in effect, you may lift, clean and drop your ball when it is embedded in the rough as well as the fairway.

To avoid all this grief, you might try to hit the ball with a lower trajectory, or perhaps play only firm, dry golf courses... On the other hand, it is nice to be able to clean your ball between the tee and the green!

Warren Simmons, warnsimnn@aol.com, AWGA State Rules Committee

TWO NEW PARTNERS GIVING AWGA MEMBERS GREAT DISCOUNTS

After months of legwork, our partnership program is growing and the benefits to you are growing as well. Here is a brief description of the newest Partners we have recruited to add value to your AWGA membership.

1. CHOICE HOTELS

Choose one of the many Choice Hotels while you're traveling and you'll receive a 15% discount on your room rate. This discount is available only by calling their toll free number 1-877-240-AWAY (2929) or by making reservations through their website at www.choicehotels.com. Click on "Enter Your Special Rate ID" – then enter the Discount Code for the AWGA – **00216170** when booking a room online (it will ask you to confirm that you are an AWGA member) or give the Discount Code to the customer service agent when calling. *You will not be able to receive the discount when you walk up to a reservation desk at a hotel. It must be made online or through their toll-free number.* Choice Hotels include: Comfort Inns, Comfort Suites, Quality Inns, Sleep Inns, Clarion, Main Stay Suites, EconoLodges, and Rodeway Inns. Choice Hotels can be found all over the world so visit their website before you plan your next trip and enjoy the savings that being a member of the AWGA can give you.

2. CATEGORY 5 RAINWEAR

Go to the AWGA home page on our website at www.awga.org and click on the icon displaying Category 5 Rainwear. You will be redirected to a page with rain jackets and pants. As an AWGA member, you will be charged \$110 for each piece. The clothing is being advertised for \$134.99, which is their regular price. The reduced price will be shown when you check out. AWGA membership will be confirmed to receive the discounted price.

There are more in the works so be watching for the next Partners to give you extra savings on products and services.

2005 Heather Farr Trophy Match Results



The 14th Annual Heather Farr Trophy Matches were held this year on June 28th and 29th at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale. The competition was two days of match play, scratch competition, between a team of ten Arizona female amateurs and a team of ten Arizona LPGA and PGA non-touring female professionals.

This year's winning team of ten professionals re-captured the cup after four straight amateur wins. The winning team was composed of top professional players Alicia Singer, Kelly Spooner, Kristi Fowler, Denise Martinez, Caroline McMillan, Suzie Corona, Kim Prashaw, Terese Dynjan, Sue Weiger, and Lynn McNee.

Both teams fought hard to win the better of 15 points. After the first day, the teams were tied at two and a half, but the professionals battled the second day and won five and a half points to capture the victory with eight total points.

The Amateur team, consisting of ten top Arizona women golfers, included Missy Farr-Kay, Chris Giza, Brooke Todare, Sue Durkin, Ashley Peyman, Melanie Boyles, Laura Moore, Alison Hurley, Lynn Simmons, and Mime Chapo.

The Heather Farr Trophy Matches were established in 1992 by Heather Farr, an Arizona State All-American and LPGA tour player. Heather died of breast cancer in 1993 and in 2002 was inducted into the Arizona Golf Hall of Fame. The matches are traditionally held at Grayhawk Golf Club, which named its first hole of the Talon Course "Farrview" as a tribute to her, and erected a bronze statue in her memory near the first tee.

DONATIONS FOR GIRLS JUNIOR AMERICA'S CUP NEEDED TO REACH OUR GOAL

The Girls Junior America's Cup is about bringing girls together from several states and countries to foster new friendships and mutual respect while enjoying the game of golf. It is a program that promotes better understanding of regional history and customs, allowing the girls to learn about different cultures and emphasizing that they are more alike than different. The AWGA is proud to be a sponsor of this most worthwhile tournament for young ladies.

Each team consists of the top four girls from each state/country. These golfers exemplify not only outstanding skill and experience, but also true sportsmanship, discipline, courtesy and strength of character. The tournament is a 54-hole competition and includes a practice round, opening and closing ceremonies, a tournament banquet and a social event. Being chosen to represent your state/country to play in the Girls Junior America's Cup is one of the highest honors in girls junior golf. So we want to make it the best it can be for the girls.

Tucson will be the site of this prestigious event for Girls Junior Golf in 2006. Help us reach our goal of \$45,000 to host this event. Every dollar adds up so send in your donation to the AWGA office today. You can be part of an effort that helps young ladies develop pride in self, team, state and country. Don't forget to mark your donation "Girls Junior America's Cup."

\$45,000

\$17,447 June 2005

\$15,897 May 2005

\$9,517 Dec 2004

Girls Junior America's Cup Donations



COURSE OF THE MONTH THE PANORAMIC GOLF CLUB AT EAGLE MOUNTAIN

If you're looking for an outstanding golf experience at a public course, The Golf Club at Eagle Mountain is the place to go. Voted the Best New Public Golf Course by the Arizona Republic when it first opened in 1996, it has consistently remained a high ranking course receiving many awards including a 4 ½ star recipient of Golf Digest's Places to Play. Designed by Scott Miller, it offers the beauty of a course designed to incorporate the natural desert surroundings as it winds through canyons, rolling hills and valleys. Players can enjoy the spectacular views of mountains, green foliage, desert plant life and even the downtown cityscape. And although it is considered a desert-style course, it is landscaped with generous fairways and manicured emerald greens. Eagle Mountain offers both a fair and challenging game appealing to low and high handicappers alike. The forward tees are set at 5,065 yards with a slope of 118.

The Golf Professionals at Eagle Mountain offer several programs and services to help players improve their game. Their mission statement is to provide world-class instruction in an ideal learning environment. Impressive for a public course. They are dedicated to assisting players in achieving their goals and offer many opportunities for women's classes and play. The professional staff hosts a Women's Clinic every Tuesday morning for 30 minutes of instruction. Afterwards, they play 9 holes of golf. The clinic is open to women of all ages and skill levels who are interested in learning more about the game and improving their skills.

Eagle Mountain has also recently established a Women's Club which plays on Thursdays at 4:30 PM. Although it is currently a small group, they certainly don't lack in enthusiasm. According to Dave Horihan, First Assistant Golf Professional, the group started with just two members a few weeks ago and it is growing very quickly. They play 9 holes and enjoy contests such as "closest to the pin" every week to make it more fun for the ladies. Women can join for a \$95 annual fee, which entitles them to their USGA Handicap Index through the AWGA, a dozen Lady Precept golf balls, an Eagle Mountain visor, and 15% off merchandise in the Pro Shop.

Dave describes the course for women as "friendly off the tee and challenging around the greens." The Golf Club at Eagle Mountain received an award for the Top 100 Fairways for Women Golfers in 2000 by Golf for Women Magazine. Dave adds, "The contoured fairways are wide and slope toward the center making them player-friendly. But the undulating greens make it easy to get into trouble if you miss your shot. Some holes present some real challenges that require target shots."

Eagle Mountain offers a variety of events appealing to golfers with varied interests and skill levels. Besides the women's programs, they also host a Couples Golf Summer Series, have individual and group lessons, organize special tournaments throughout the year, and are quick to provide that individual attention that makes you want to come back again and again. Their Clubhouse offers not only fine food in its Dining Room but also friendly service and some of the best views of the Valley of the Sun. When you're deciding on a new place to play, call The Golf Club at Eagle Mountain in Fountain Hills at 480-816-1234. You'll be glad you did.

CONGRATULATIONS To The Following Ladies on Their HOLES IN ONE!!



Lu Wheeler	3/02/05	CorteBella WGA
Shirley Herring	4/21/05	CorteBella WGA
Pat Prati	4/21/05	SaddleBrooke WGA 9'ers
Glee Pope	5/05/05	EWGA-Phoenix Valley of the Sun
Betty Krug	5/17/05	Sun City Vistoso GC Teal WGA
Janet Biehl	5/22/05	CorteBella WGA
Natalie Smith	5/23/05	TPC of Scottsdale WGA
Margaret Wilson	5/24/05	Stonecreek Womens Club
Pat McIntyre	5/27/05	Prescott Country Club Women
Lori Pearce	5/29/05	Heritage Highlands Women 18
Sandy Kelley	5/30/05	PebbleCreek Ladies Niner's
Mary West	6/02/05	Lone Tree WGA
Marilyn Pinkerton	6/04/05	Trilogy LGA
Bennie Miller	6/07/05	CorteBella WGA
Lorraine Udell	6/07/05	Valle Vista Women
Lee Anne Taylor	6/07/05	Ahwatukee CC WGA
Kathy Lauer	6/10/05	Desert Hills Municipal WGA
Maggie Lambert	6/14/05	Ahwatukee CC WGA
Ann Running	6/14/05	SaddleBrooke WGA
Rita Holt-Walsh	6/24/05	Hassayampa Golf Club Women
Jean Lombard	6/27/05	Sun City Riverview WGA

Please report all holes-in-one as they occur. Holes-in-one occurring prior to the previous newsletter publication date may be excluded from publication.

ASK THE PRO

Marc Chandonnet
Women's Golf Coach
Grand Canyon University

PROBLEM: Your Tee Shots look more like wedge shots.

Cause: If you often find your tees smashed into the ground, it is a sign that your swing path is too steep. Try to keep your backswing shallow and maintain a shallow swing through impact.

Drill: Put a tee in the ground (without a ball) sticking up approximately 1 inch. You should be able to strike the tee consistently without hitting, or even brushing, the ground at all. If you miss the tee, or touch the ground in any way, keep practicing until you just hit the top of the tee. This will shallow out your swing and lower your ball flight.

WELCOME

To our newest AWGA Member Club:

Antelope Hills Lady Twilighters

To our newest AWGA Associate Club:

Talking Stick Golf Club

THINK GOOD THOUGHTS

*Ponder these words
from Grandma
Moses, "Life is what
we make it, always
has been, always
will be."*

"Spotlight's On..." continued...

enjoyed each other's company during the 2004 Four-Ball Tournament and after. That's what it's all about – sharing something everyone has in common." Ellen has made some of her closest friends through golf and although she isn't playing as much lately because of her shoulder injury, she still plays socially with her husband and other couples. With a Handicap Index of 5.1, she rates among the best in the AWGA.

"The AWGA has come a long way since I joined over 15 years ago," says Ellen. "The professional staff and volunteers are moving this organization into new territory." Ellen's right. The AWGA is definitely becoming more active in promoting the spirit of golf for women in Arizona but what she might not realize is that it is women like her who are propelling the AWGA along that path. Her support, knowledge, and willingness to share her expertise make this association possible. The AWGA recognizes Ellen O'Hara's contributions to women's golf and offers a heartfelt "Thank You" for the time and effort she so generously provides. We're glad you made your home in Arizona!

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STATE SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

September 27-29, 2005

OPENING DATE: August 2, 2005

CLOSING DATE: September 16, 2005

No entries will be accepted with a postmark date prior to the opening date.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

PLAYER NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____ AWGA# _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY/ST/ZIP _____

CLUB REPRESENTED _____ Email Address _____

DATE OF BIRTH ____ - ____ - ____

(Please Check appropriate age group below)

Freshman(50-54) _____ Sophomore(55-59) _____ Junior(60-64) _____ Senior(65-69) _____ Postgrad(70-74) _____ Super Sr(75-79) _____ Masters(80 & Up) _____

Past Board Member? _____ Year _____ 2003 or 2004 Overall Gross or Net Winner? _____

I have read and agree to abide by the Updated 2005 Conditions for AWGA Competitions as published in the current AWGA Directory and at www.awga.org

SIGNATURE _____ (Maximum Handicap Index: 40.4)

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$165.00 payable to AWGA. Yes, I want to add a \$2.00 donation for Junior Girls Golf. \$ _____.

Mail entry and fee to: **Arizona Women's Golf Association 141 E. Palm Lane, Suite #210, Phoenix, AZ 85004**

One entry per envelope. All entries will be acknowledged in writing via email, if provided. Additional information regarding registration and conditions of competition will be provided at that time.



STATE SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP

PINETOP COUNTRY CLUB

928-369-2461

September 27-29, 2005

Pinetop Country Club will be a delightful treat for the Seniors Championship on September 27-29. In the last week of September, at 7500 feet the daily temperatures are usually comfortable - in the 80s and low 90s. Remember

that the course can be cool in the morning so don't forget to pack a sweater.

The club sits on 1,100 beautiful acres adjacent to Sitgraves National Forest. The course itself winds its way through peaceful stands of Ponderosa Pines, some which guard cutting the corner on the par 5 dogleg 8th hole.

The course provides both beauty and challenges. There is water on 5 of the 18 holes. The water on the 9th hole is situated along the right side near the green and will definitely come into play if you are less than accurate with your approach shot.

The course is rewarding for the straight hitters - the fairways and greens are well manicured and in excellent condition. There are challenges though for those of us who wander into the rough - it can be described as "lush" and escaping it is tricky. The 18th is a demanding par 4. It plays slightly uphill and has water along the left side near the green. There is also water on the par 3 11th hole, which will be a 91 yard carry over water.

Take the time to go on line and take the virtual tour of the course - www.pinetopcc.com

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