



# AWGA NewsLinks

A PUBLICATION OF THE ARIZONA WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

2006 ISSUE 8

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Help us reach more women golfers...  
When you're finished reading this newsletter don't throw it away, pass it along to a friend!

## IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLF! 2006 GOLF SUMMIT KEEPS US INFORMED

By Mary Ann Souter

In Arizona where golf is a \$3.4 billion industry, its impact on every resident in the state cannot go unnoticed. It affects all of us, whether we are interested in playing the game or not. From the spillover of spending in local businesses to water and natural wildlife habitat issues, the business of golf influences each of our daily lives. Over 100 participants attended the second Golf Summit in Arizona at the Phoenix Country Club on October 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the condition of both U.S. and Arizona's golf economy. People from all over the state representing every aspect of the golf industry attended.

The morning began with a warm welcome from Shawn Connors, President of the Golf Industry Association, followed by a four-man honor guard from Luke AFB, our National Anthem and the entire group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Shawn reiterated the vision of the GIA as a diverse alliance recognized as the unified voice for the business of golf in Arizona. His charge to everyone was "to be informed and be proactive."

Mike Tinkey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the National Golf Course Owners Association, was the first speaker and told the audience that the state of the golf industry is turning a corner. Nationally, rounds played were up 1% over last year and revenue also increased. In Arizona the numbers are greater with rounds up 3.4% and revenues up 13.5%. "Golf is good for business," he said. "It doubles the number of visitors to an area, increases the length of time they stay and they spend more money." He spoke about the importance and influence of the internet for research on travel and golf. "Travelers are looking for natural beauty and golf courses provide that need for a meaningful human experience." He emphasized the importance of customer satisfaction and said, "You have 7 seconds to make a good first impression." That, in addition to successful programming, can increase your rounds and revenue. "Discounters are here to stay," he said, "and there are both benefits and drawbacks to working with them."

Next on the agenda was Steve Mona, CEO of the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America, reporting upbeat statistics about the golf industry. "The U.S. golf economy is at \$62.2 billion," he said. "And golf is #1 of all sports in charitable contributions, giving \$3.2 billion through 140,000 charity events." He touts the environmental attributes of golf noting the green space, cooling effect, filtering effect (13 million tons of dust and pollen are filtered from our air), and oxygen production (courses produce enough oxygen for 51 million people nationwide). "Golf provides an oasis in a concrete jungle," he adds, "and it's good for the environment." The GCSAA is now gathering data from golf courses nationwide to have hard facts to support their lobbying efforts. He praised

Arizona for adopting the national model of bringing community golf organizations together to find solutions to problems. "Perception is reality," he said, "and we have to overcome the stereotypical image that has spread throughout our country. Golf is not just for middle-aged white males and it doesn't take all day to play. In fact, women are the fastest growing segment in golf but they are also the first to leave the game. It is essential that those who make their living from the industry communicate the positive attributes of golf, both economic and environmental, to our communities." Mona concluded his report saying he is "bullish on golf" and the data being provided by the courses will help to prove it.

John Meredith, VP of Government Relations and Senior Director of programs Federation of Employers & Workers of America, spoke about the H-2B Visa program, better known as the seasonal guest worker program. Since illegal immigration is a hot topic in many states, this program should help to alleviate the existing problems concerning illegal workers. But because golf in Arizona is year round, it does not fit into this program. We are waiting to see what happens with the Comprehensive Immigration Act which will be discussed in Congress in future sessions.

Water is continually a topic of discussion in the golf industry. Critics believe that golf courses use a considerable amount of our water and spread a negative image which persists in damaging the image of the golf industry. "The most vocal critics are non-golfers," reports Sandy Fabritz Whitney of the Arizona Department of Water Resources. These are the people who need to be informed about golf course conservation programs.

Shawn Connors set the record straight reporting that Arizona golf courses use only 2% of Arizona's water, yet the perception is that golf courses use a major share of available water and do not implement conservation programs. He also stated that less than 20% of the residents of Arizona play golf. "We have to show the 80% that don't play golf that we are using our water wisely," he said. 54% of our golf courses use reclaimed water and Arizona ranks among the best in the nation in water conservation efforts.

An interesting topic was added this year by Peter Leuzinger, a consultant specializing in golf course and environmental management. His enthusiastic promotion of Audubon International is a natural match with the golf industry. "People golf because it puts them in touch with nature," he said. "90% of golfers believe in the need to protect the environment." Golf courses can coexist with nature. Golf courses are important to the environment

*continued on page 2...*

## 2006 GOLF CALENDAR

Date	Tournament	Location
<b>November</b>		
10-11 .....	Phoenix Metropolitan Tournament .....	Cave Creek Golf Course
27-28 .....	AWGA Scotch Play Tournament .....	Trilogy Golf Club @ Vistancia
<b>December</b>		
5 .....	Southern District Winter Scotch .....	del Lago Golf Club
14 .....	AWGA State Medallion Tournament .....	Wigwam G & CC

### *It's All About Golf, continued...*

because of the open spaces they provide which enhance wildlife habitats. His parting words were poignant, "Stewardship is the right thing to do." And so it is. No-one in the room could dispute it. Audubon certification is available when courses meet all the criteria and participation in the program helps to promote the positive aspects of golf courses and their environmental and stewardship efforts.

A panel from the Society of Golf Course Architects discussed the life cycle of a golf course. Forrest Richardson suggested replacement in stages. He urged managers to plan ahead and budget for improvements rather than waiting for components to wear out. Golf courses change and components need to be replaced. The panel also described some creative uses of land citing a place where the driving range also included three par-3 holes. Richardson noted that since Arizona has a year-round season for golf, components need to be replaced more often than in other states.

Novel equipment from four-seater golf carts (to promote the social aspect of golf) to giant inflatable screens for movies at the driving range (for families) are being tested to attract more golfers and retain those with families. And new opportunities such as the AWGA Ambassador program, a partnership between the Southwest Section PGA and the Arizona Women's Golf Association, gives weekly lessons by a Golf Pro and pairs new golfers with avid women players as liaisons to help them feel comfortable on the course, enjoy the game more and ultimately continue playing for years to come.

This year again, the Golf Summit Work Group, headed by Lynn Cannon of the Golf Industry Association and Shawn Connors, GIA President, planned and executed a first-class program of presenters with valuable information pertaining to the golf industry in Arizona. Golf impacts all residents, whether they are connected to the game or not. It is imperative that all Arizonans know the facts concerning golf and its indisputably beneficial impact on our economy, our environment, and our human spirit.

## IN THE MOOD FOR SOME GREAT MUSIC?

If you missed *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, the first show of this year's line-up at the Phoenix Theatre, the next one is right around the corner.

From November 1 through November 26<sup>th</sup>, "I Left My Heart: The Music of Tony Bennett" will be playing on their main stage. Check your calendar and bring a friend to enjoy the entertainment presented by their professional music ensemble.

Remember, just call the Box Office, tell them you're an AWGA member and order as many tickets as you'd like at their Group Discount rate. It promises to be a totally enjoyable evening, so take advantage of our partnership with the Phoenix Theatre and take pleasure in the mellow music of Tony Bennett.

## !!IMPORTANT MESSAGE!!

### ABOUT NEW "OPT OUT" POLICY FOR GOLF FOR WOMEN MAGAZINE

Last year, AWGA partnered with Golf For Women magazine, to offer a one-year subscription to all of our members as another benefit to your AWGA membership dues. The process that we established last year was for each member to send back a magazine sign-up card that was mailed in the newsletter or to sign up through our website. However, we have learned that many members had expected to receive the magazine automatically upon paying their renewal dues.

Good news!!!! In 2007, we will simplify the process - so that our members can receive and enjoy this publication immediately upon paying their 2007 dues. It will be an "opt-out" policy whereby if you **do NOT** wish to receive the magazine, simply notify us by phone (602-253-5655) or email Logan@awga.org by December 31, 2006. We will then take your name off the list from receiving the magazine.

Remember, if you are already a Golf For Women subscriber - your subscription will be extended for another year at no additional cost!

Happy reading!



## AWGA NEWSLINKS

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## Tui Selvaratnam makes bid for U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship

West Point, Miss. – Local favorite and University of Mississippi women's golf coach Meghan Bolger, 28, of Oxford, Miss., defeated Thuhashini Selvaratnam, 30, of Sri Lanka, 5 and 4, to win the 2006 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the 6,151-yard, par-72 Old Waverly Golf Club.

Exempt from local qualifying for the national championship based on advancing to the quarter finals in 2005, Tui Selvaratnam made us all very proud again this year. (Although Tui records her native Sri Lanka on her entries, members of the AWGA watch with local pride as she plays in amateur championships around the world.) Tui, a former honorable-mention All-American at Arizona State and team member on three NCAA Division I national-championship teams, is assistant golf coach at Xavier College Prep in Phoenix.

Tui played superb golf all week but struggled in the final match. As quoted on the USGA website, "I didn't have my hot putter (in the final) like I did (in the semifinal)," said Selvaratnam. "It was miserable...It was raining and both Meghan and I had to deal with it and she played great. I told myself, 'Don't let it get to you,' and I did the best I could."

Bidding to become the second consecutive foreign-born U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur champion, Tui grew up in Sri Lanka, and captured that country's Women's Open Amateur Championship in 1989 at the age of 12. With that victory, she became the youngest national champion in history, which landed her in the Guinness Book of World Records.

Selvaratnam has held eight national titles, including the 2000 Chinese Amateur, the 2000 Thailand Amateur, the 2000 Philippine Amateur and the 2000 All-Indian Amateur. Four of her wins were in the Sri Lanka Amateur and she was crowned Sri Lanka's Sportswoman of the Year in 1997.

She came to this country in the mid-1990s to play college golf at Arizona State. After graduation, Selvaratnam remained in Arizona and was the state's Player of the Year five consecutive times, from 2001-2005.

In 2005, Selvaratnam reached the quarterfinals of the Women's Mid-Amateur, in 2004 she made the semifinals and this year advanced to the final. In 2007, the championship will be played at Desert Forest Golf Club in Carefree, Ariz., which is Selvaratnam's home course.

## STATE SENIORS CHAMPIONSHIP



**Judy Miller**  
Overall Champion



**Jane Townsend**  
Overall Net Winner & Minnie Lemons Award

### Flighted Results

Overall Champion - Judy Miller ..... 233  
Overall Net Winner - Jane Townsend ..... 214

**Freshman Division Winner - Barb Byrnes ..... 233**

### Freshman Flight A

First Gross - Sue Basso ..... 236  
First Net - Donna Marden ..... 227

### Freshman Flight B

First Gross - Amy Kim ..... 276  
Second Gross - Caroline Wallis ..... 278  
First Net - Pam Wallace ..... 236  
Second Net - Vickie Bricker ..... 236

**Sophomore Division Winner - Peggy Hunter ..... 245**

### Sophomore Flight A

First Gross - Mary Fink ..... 248  
Second Gross - Mary Lou Plagmann ..... 258  
First Net - Dee Dee McCabe ..... 229  
Second Net - Barb Kahler ..... 234

### Sophomore Flight B

First Gross - Jan Lawrence ..... 276  
Second Gross - Charol Wilson ..... 285  
First Net - Sharon Wilson ..... 226  
Second Net - Candace Shelton ..... 236

**Junior Division Winner - Cindy Bryniarski ..... 241**

### Junior Flight A

First Gross - Lynn Zmistowski ..... 244  
Second Gross - Bonnie Marsh ..... 254  
First Net - Susi Rambo ..... 226  
Second Net - Ardis Vandenbos ..... 228

### Junior Flight B

First Gross - Carolyn Suttles ..... 300  
Second Gross - Peggy Bishop ..... 311  
First Net - Lynne Nelson ..... 225  
Second Net - Anne Walsh ..... 231

**Senior Division Winner - Barb Simmons ..... 251**

### Senior Flight A

First Gross - Ginny Husted ..... 275  
Second Gross - Rose Rubio ..... 285  
First Net - Carolyn Burow ..... 227  
Second Net - Penny Freel ..... 235

### Senior Flight B

First Gross - Fran Stephens ..... 304  
Second Gross - Olga Alcaraz ..... 317  
First Net - Kathryn Ridlehoover ..... 239  
Second Net - Beverly Wagner ..... 243

**Post Grad Division Winner - Norma Hill ..... 282**

### Post Grad Flight

First Gross - Ann Warren ..... 294  
Second Gross - Fran Meek ..... 301  
First Net - Joyce Blobner ..... 235  
Second Net - Rosalie Dressler ..... 237

**Super Senior Division Winner - Lila Ritchie ..... 306**

### Super Senior Flight

First Gross - Dorothy Swehla ..... 311  
Second Gross - Hildegard Bacon ..... 331  
First Net - Dot Forshee ..... 249  
Second Net - Ellie Schmidbauer ..... 262

**Masters Division Winner - Allene Mueller ..... 325**

### Masters Flight

First Gross - Ester Grimsley ..... 325  
Second Gross - Betty Shafer ..... 338  
First Net - Margie Bonini ..... 231  
Second Net - Prudence Arnold ..... 246

### Special Awards

**Mo Cruikshank Memorial Award**

Sue Basso & Dee Dee McCabe -  
El Conquistador CC Women

**Mary Lou Sauer Memorial Trophy**

Amy Kim & Jane Townsend -  
San Marcos WGA

**Minnie Lemons Plaque**

San Marcos WGA - Jane Townsend

### Legends Champion

Overall Low Gross - Mary Hines ..... 306  
Overall Low Net - Dorothy Boyle ..... 225

**Legends Champion, Gross - Mary Hines**



**Legends Champion, Net - Dorothy Boyle**

**Mary Lou Sauer Memorial Trophy - Amy Kim & Jane Townsend**



**Mo Cruikshank Memorial Award - Dee Dee McCabe & Sue Basso**

## COURSE RERATINGS

The following courses have been re-rated or have made changes since the 2006 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.

### **FireRock Country Club**

Forward Red ..... 69.9/122  
Red ..... 70.6/124  
White ..... 75.0/139

### **Red Enke Golf Course**

Red ..... 69.9/119  
Gold ..... 72.5/129  
White ..... 73.7/137

### **Pinetop Country Club**

Red ..... 69.6/123  
White ..... 73.1/131

## THINK GOOD THOUGHTS

*As Norman Vincent Peale says, "We tend to get what we expect."  
So always feel good about how your game is going and expect the best. You just might get it!*

## FLIGHTING FOR PRIZES

By Mary Ann Souter

An article about flighting could not be written without including information about handicapping since flighting is based on handicapping. The history of handicapping goes way back to 1893 when the Ladies' Golf Union (of Ireland and Great Britain) was formed. The greatest achievement of these women was the gradual establishment of the first national system of handicapping, which was carefully thought through in an effort to be fair to all players. Yes, women created the first handicap procedure and although it underwent many modifications over the years, it was reasonably reliable and efficient and their ingenuity and resourcefulness made things happen. Before the introduction of this newly created handicap system, women played in their Ladies' Clubs using only gross scores.

Following the legacy left to us by our pioneer sisters in golf, the AWGA takes great pride in managing the challenging task of balancing the size of flights with the handicap spread in each tournament. And this is no easy task. With each tournament comes a new group of handicaps that need to be fairly split into flights. Thorough evaluations are made in each event to make the handicap spread in each flight as narrow as possible. If a player's handicap is accurate and the flight has a narrow spread, then players are competing against someone of their own skill level. This system naturally encourages golfers to play their best. If the handicap spread were narrow enough in each flight, net flight prizes would be rendered unnecessary.

The AWGA pays prizes to at least 33% of the entire field. The number in the flight determines the number of prizes in that flight. In a flight of 15 players, prizes may be paid to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Gross and Net. In a flight of 12 players, prizes may be paid to only 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Gross and Net. The question has come up on several occasions about the necessity of net prizes. Since flighting is meant to put players of similar skill levels together in competition, why would we need to have net prizes? The answer becomes simple when an evaluation of AWGA tournament entries is examined. Net prizes are necessary because some flights have too large a spread and some players would not have the opportunity to win a prize in their own flight if only gross prizes were paid. This could apply to players in the upper end of the handicap range in every flight, particularly the first and the last.

"In AWGA tournaments we try to keep flights within a 2 to 3 stroke range if at all possible," says Sandy Jacobson, AWGA Board Member and Tournament Director. "This is the most difficult in the case of the first flight and the last flight in which the spreads are always the largest. Some times the last flight could have as much as a 10-12 stroke spread. Since handicaps are not evenly distributed among players, some flights must have a larger spread than what is optimal."

One caveat in the flighting process is that all players are assumed to have recorded ALL scores from their last 20 rounds. Entering good and bad games is what makes the Handicap System work as an accurate tool for determining flights, which keeps individuals competing with their peers. When players abuse the system by either omitting low scores or high scores to manipulate their Handicap Index, the procedure for flighting and paying prizes weakens and the true winners are not always rewarded. Flighting is meant

## CONGRATULATIONS

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

LaVerne Bartlett	6/21/06	.....	San Ignacio Golf Club WGA
Janet Neff	7/04/06	.....	Palmbrook CC Ladies
Gail Soltwisch	8/01/06	.....	El Caro Women's Club
Carol Patten	8/15/06	.....	Stone Ridge Women's Golf Club
Roxy Harshbarger	8/17/06	.....	Canoa Ranch WGA
Sarah Cox	8/28/06	.....	Antelope Hills WGA
Dolores Fedorka	9/09/06	.....	Arizona Traditions Women
Sandy Ankeney	9/10/06	.....	Pinetop CC WGA
Norma Murdock	9/20/06	.....	San Marcos WGA
Lucille Obara	9/26/06	.....	Las Colinas WGA
Mary Ellen Petersen	9/26/06	.....	Sun City West – Deer Valley Women
BJ Schuller	9/29/06	.....	Oakwood CC WGA
Karren Hannon	9/30/06	.....	Sun City West – Deer Valley Women
Joan Junsay	10/02/06	...	Pines Golf Club at Marana Women
Lynn Coulter	10/05/06	...	Encanto Ladies Golf Club
Jan Dietrich	10/06/06	...	Prescott Country Club Women
Maggie Tomkins	10/17/06	...	Sun City Willowcreek WGA
Sheila Hilt	10/17/06	...	Mountainview Women's Association
Kate Deitch	10/23/06	...	Cobre Valle 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.

to give people the incentive to have a true Handicap Index and to play to their Handicap.

And so it is. In a perfect world, all flights would have a very small spread and individuals would ultimately qualify for only gross prizes since the intention of the game is to play against the course. As Betsy Paul, AWGA Board President, says so concisely, "In the true spirit of golf, gross is the name of the game."

But in the imperfect world of golf in which we play, the practical viewpoint is that although we all aspire to be scratch golfers, flighting is what makes golf more fun and most players have even more fun and a chance to win when net prizes are given.

## AWGA AMBASSADOR PROGRAM A GREAT WAY TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON!

A new program! A great opportunity for new golfers! A chance for you to be an AWGA Golf Ambassador! Starting in early December the AWGA is partnering with the PGA to start classes for women who are interested in learning to play golf. It will be a six week course with lessons from the pro, tips on etiquette, discussion of different games, and an introduction of on course play in a scramble format. There is an optional two weeks following the program when the AWGA Ambassadors will play 9 holes with the new golfers. The cost varies from site to site, but is expected to be in the \$160 range. Each participant should have a starter set of clubs.

The key to this program is including experienced women golfers (AWGA Ambassadors) in the lesson environment. We know from experience that the average new woman golfer is much more likely to develop a strong lasting interest in the game if she has a support network of other women with whom to learn, practice and play. It's also important that our AWGA Ambassadors represent the "average woman golfer" meaning that the Ambassador's would usually maintain a Handicap in the 20s.

"So what's in it for me?" you might ask. For agreeing to become an AWGA Ambassador, you will benefit from each week's lessons from the Pro and be able to play golf with the class at no cost during the six weeks and for two 9-hole sessions afterwards. In addition to that, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you've played a significant role in introducing new women golfers to the game and helping to keep them in the game.

We have several locations established throughout the Phoenix Metro Area with lessons beginning this fall. You don't have to be a great golfer to be a good ambassador. You just need to love the game and be patient and helpful with new golfers.

You can be involved in two ways – first, volunteer to be an AWGA Ambassador for the program (you don't have to be there for all six weeks) and second, spread the word to your club members, family and friends who are interested in learning to play golf.

Call the AWGA office at (602) 253-5655 or e-mail [maryann@awga.org](mailto:maryann@awga.org) if you're interested in being an AWGA Ambassador or want to register for the program.

## AWGA MEMBERS SHARE SOME UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS FROM SUMMER GOLF OUTINGS

With all of the AWGA members who spend their summers in cooler climates, we thought it would be fun to ask our members to share any unusual, funny, or interesting events that occurred during the summer. Here are a few.

### TWICE AS NICE

Cindy Bryniarski and Teresa Price had a most exciting moment while playing at a Ladies Invitational at Pagosa Springs Golf Course in Pagosa Springs, CO on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Their foursome was playing the second hole, which was a 100-yard par 3. The first two women hit great shots to the green. Next up was Teresa who hit a beautiful shot at the flagstick. They watched as the ball hopped right into the hole! This was Teresa's second career hole-in-one. Her foursome was so excited that they began to celebrate before they realized that Cindy had not yet played. Cindy, the 2005 Colorado Women's State Senior Champion, asked how she could follow Teresa's achievement to which Teresa responded – "just put it on top of mine!" Cindy hit her shot and yes, her ball landed on top of Teresa's at the bottom of the cup. According to Fal Wood, Head Golf Professional at Dalton Ranch Golf Club in Durango where these women are members, the odds of two players recording back-to-back holes-in-one on the same hole are around 17,000,000 to 1! Needless to say, the excitement was heard all over the golf course. But the rest of the story is that their team won the Championship Flight by two shots! Congratulations on a great feat on a great day!

### THE MYSTERIOUS ROLLING GOLF CART

Lyn DeLano from Antelope Hills Golf Course in Prescott went back to Bend, OR to visit some friends this summer. As was customary for their foursome, they all walked the course with one gal using a battery operated cart with a hand-held remote control. They got to the 4<sup>th</sup> hole, which curves around a lake, hit their tee shots and were walking toward their second shot.

The lady with the cart set up and was ready to strike her second shot when for no apparent reason her cart started up and headed directly into the lake! By the time they reached the lake, the cart was fully submerged! The owner waded up to her waist to retrieve her cart while her friends helped her pull it out — laughing so hard they were almost rolling on the fairway! Right about then the Marshall came by to see what all the commotion was about. They dried off the cart and all walked toward the green. By the time they finished putting, the Marshall came back and had a life vest for her — sort of a badge of honor to wear for the day. He also took her dead cart back to the clubhouse and brought her a regular push cart for her to finish the game.

Great vacation for Lyn with a memory of a special time she won't forget any time soon.

### NOT EVEN A SORE BACK COULD STOP HER

Dolores Fedorka from Arizona Traditions is no sissy! Although she was suffering from "a horrific back problem" she decided to play with her ladies group anyway. The 107 yard 17<sup>th</sup> hole made it all worthwhile as Dolores hit the ball and it seemed to go right toward the flagstick. When her foursome got up to the hole, they saw her beautiful pink breast cancer awareness ball in the cup.

But the best part was that she got up the next morning, looked out her front window and saw that her family had decorated her front lawn with golf ball and star cutouts. That acknowledgement from her family really made her day and her back started to feel better too! In her words, "At 70, that was a lot of excitement!"

### PLAYING WITH CHAMPIONS?

Carol Peterson writes that her experience playing in the USGA Senior Women's Amateur Qualifier at Silverleaf was definitely unforgettable. She thinks the course was set up for Freddie Couples since he lives and plays there. The carries were tough with no spotters. BUT she was so glad she participated, even though she thought she might not survive the occasion, and added that "Played in the USGA Women's Amateur Qualifier at Silverleaf" would look good in her obituary! In her words, "with my 18 Handicap, I played mostly to support those that would go on to qualify and play in the national championship. That ain't all bad!"

### IT WAS MEANT TO BE

The excitement isn't any less when you get a hole-in-one while playing only 9 holes. But Jane Neville, a member of Prescott Golf and Country Club, couldn't win her Club's hole-in-one prize because she didn't play 18 holes. So her great shot on hole #12 didn't even count. But she came back to show her prowess on the course a few weeks later when she got a second hole-in-one on the same hole while playing in her regular women's group. Seems like it was meant to be! Congratulations, Jane. There should be a special prize for you!



*Barb Byrnes  
& caddy,  
Bob Sink*



*Judy Miller  
& caddy,  
Kathryn  
Riddlehoover*

## JUDY MILLER AND BARB BYRNES PLAY IN THE USGA SENIOR WOMEN'S AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

So much news from Sea Island Golf Club and some great performances by our AWGA women — players and caddies!

Congratulations to Judy Miller who made the cut to Match Play, won two matches and was moving toward a comeback on her third to make the quarter finals. She was 3 down at 15 and won 16 and 17. "I got a little aggressive," Judy confesses, "and put it in the water in front of the green on 18." She lost to Anna Shultz who ultimately lost to defending champion Diane Lang. Judy's caddie, Kathryn Riddlehoover, walked the course for 7 rounds of golf! As Barb Byrnes put it, "It had been 35 years since she walked 18 much less 127 holes! It was awesome." Kudos to both of them!

Barb Byrnes' second round of Match Play with Mourge D'Algue of France ended with D'Algue winning 6 and 4. "Sea Island is an awesome resort," says Barb, "and that Southern hospitality is fantastic." Barb was tied for 32<sup>nd</sup> after two days. She won her first match and was paired with the medalist for her second. After her opponent made an "improbable downhill putt on 11 for birdie", she missed her 4 foot birdie putt. In her words, "I totally lost it at that point and proceeded to lose the next 3 holes to lose the match." Barb's caddie was Bob Fink, our own Mary's husband, who walked the course while Barb cruised around in her cart. He walked 4 rounds with Mary and two matches with Barb. "He was great," Barb says, "but I can't figure out why he vanished after the match to go sit in the hot tub! Gee, he had his hip replaced more than 6 months ago!"

Congratulations to all of our Arizona representatives — Judy Miller, Barb Byrnes, Chris Giza, Janet Weber, Mary Fink, Ginny Zak, Marlu Allen, Maggie Gray, Paula Page, Sue Erredge, Joyce Buss, and Etsu Suzuki. And a pat on the back to Officials, Jan Wobken, Barbara and Warren Simmons and to caddies, Kathryn Riddlehoover and Bob Fink!

*(Editor's Note: A big thank you to Barb Byrnes for providing the personal information for this article!)*

## **VOLUNTEERS WANTED ASSIST AT AWGA TOURNAMENTS**

Did you ever wonder what it takes to put on an AWGA tournament? Here's your chance to be an assistant to the tournament operations chair and not only find out but also help prepare for and work on the day of the tournament.

Several women are needed in areas all over the state. You would only be required to work tournaments in your area so travel will be minimal, however, mileage reimbursement is available. And you will know months in advance about your assignment(s). You make the choice of the number of tournaments you can work.

Some of the duties include:

- Assist the Tournament Director to put on a successful tournament.
- Visit assigned course three to four months prior to tournament to recommend tees, and yardage, evaluate course conditions and amenities for players and volunteers.
- Assist the Tournament Director with recommending number of volunteers needed, recruiting them locally and giving them job assignments.

Every tournament has a variety of facets and all are interesting and fun. Learn from experienced tournament directors, meet new women golfers from all over Arizona, expand your knowledge of the game and have a good time!

### **BE AN AREA ADVISOR**

We are looking for an experienced, or current, AWGA club representatives, familiar with the services of the AWGA, to act as an advisor to other AWGA club reps in your area.

Duties include:

- Setting up a two-way communication with AWGA club reps in your area;
- Providing advice on setting up the State Medallion Tournament;
- Identifying members in your area who may be interested in volunteering with one of the ongoing AWGA committees.

Area Advisors are members of the Communications Committee, attend two to four meetings per year and

are invited to participate in the presentation of the annual AWGA Rep meetings.

The Central Region needs Area Advisors in the following areas: Tempe/Ahwatukee, Mesa, Rio Verde, and Scottsdale. The Northern Region needs Area Advisors in the following areas: Payson, Parker, and Page.

To volunteer for these or other AWGA Committees, go to the [www.awga.org](http://www.awga.org), click on "Volunteer" on the right hand side under "Take Action" and complete the "Volunteer Interest Form". A representative from the AWGA will be in touch with you.

## **PROTECT YOUR EYES FOR BETTER GOLF**

Dry eye syndrome, which is very common here in Arizona, is a condition that causes decreased tear production and can damage eyes. For an avid golfer, your eyes can be a tremendous asset to your game or an unfriendly liability. As people age they produce fewer tears, so increased age, in addition to our dry climate, is an added risk factor for dry eyes. Being sensitive to bright lights (sun) and eye irritation are common symptoms.

In a recent study of women aged 45 to 84, researchers discovered that if your intake of omega-6 fatty acids is much greater than your intake of omega-3 fatty acids, your chances of suffering from dry eyes increased. So eat your salmon, chunk light tuna, flaxseeds and walnuts to boost your omega-3 intake to help keep your eyes healthy and reduce the risk of getting dry eye syndrome.



## **Marc Chandonnet**

**Head Women's & Men's Associate Golf Coach  
Grand Canyon University**

### **How can I improve my putting?**

In order to get the most out of your putting you should try out this tip out next time you are practicing and see if it helps to improve your consistency. We have all heard the saying keep your body and head still while putting. I have found that just saying "keep still" does not work. The key is to keep your eyes still during the stroke, then the body and head will naturally remain quiet. To accomplish this, I tell my players to look at the grass that was under the ball after the stroke has been made. In this way, you make a positive move to keep the eyes over the ball until it is already moving toward the hole. This drill should help your putter become one of the more reliable clubs in your bag, and who doesn't want that!

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