

CELEBRATING 17 YEARS OF SINGLES GOLF IN AMERICA

HARTFORD SINGLES GOLF

Hartford, CT Chapter - American Singles Golf Association — January 2010

FEBRUARY 7TH - SUPER BOWL PARTY AT FIREHOUSE STEAKHOUSE

President's Message

Happy New Year to all!! I hope you had a safe and happy New Years and are looking forward to your next decade of golf.

Even with all the cold, snowy, wintery weather, golf looms large for our Opening Day in April, 2010; AS THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 90 DAYS UNTIL OUR 2010 GOLF SEASON BEGINS!!

Opening Day details will follow from our Golf Co-Chairs **Mary Lebel** and **Nancy Hammond**.

In addition, this dynamic duo has planned a fabulous, multi-chapter event in September.

Winter is always a good time to reflect on your "inner golf game", to read some golf materials, and to make a trip to a golf store and browse the equipment. Also, there are some driving ranges with heaters, like Torza's in Cromwell, that are open during the winter months.

Our 2010 Board Members are:

President: **Betsy Schwartz**

Golf Co-Chairs: **Mary Lebel** and

Nancy Hammond

Membership Co-Chairs: **Patty Landry** and

Tom Woods

Treasurer: **Jean Cooper**

Communications Co-Chairs: **Cathy Duncan** and **Jerry Maxwell**

Social: **Sue Rand**

Webmaster: **Rhonda Idleman**

Secretary: **Ellen Gregory**

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the outgoing Board members for their outstanding commitment and work during 2009.

Joke of the Month:

Two long-time golfers, about to tee off, were standing overlooking the river. One golfer looked to the other and said, "Look at those idiots fishin' in the rain."

~*Betsy Schwartz, Hartford ASGA President*



Hartford ASGA Monthly General Meeting

February 16, 2010

BILLY TEE'S

150 Sebethe Drive, Cromwell

Join us for the Monthly General Meeting, where everyone has the option to purchase food from the menu (everyone is on their own for payment) and enjoy the **cash bar!**

No reservations are needed...just show up...and bring a friend!

Meeting Schedule:

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – **Cash Bar** and/or

Order off the Menu and **Socializing**

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – **Business Meeting**

Potential Members/Inquirees are welcome to attend the meeting to learn more about the **Hartford ASGA** and socialize with the group! It's always a good time when Members, new and old, get together...please plan to attend!

Directions:

I-91 North:

Take EXIT 21

At the end of the exit, take a RIGHT onto ROUTE 372 WEST

At the 2ND TRAFFIC LIGHT, turn RIGHT

NATIONAL OFFICE INFORMATION

Upcoming Events Include:

- Wilmington's Winter Chill - February 26-28, 2010 - Details at www.SinglesGolf.com/WinterChill
- We're Going to Scotland - August, 2010 - Details at SinglesGolf.com/scotland

National Website: www.SinglesGolf.com

E-Mail: ASGANational@aol.com

Office Hours: 9:00am to 2:00pm, M-F (Eastern)

National Office: 704-889-4600 or 1-888-GOLFMATE

LOCAL CHAPTER INFORMATION

Regular Meeting Date: The Board Meetings will be held the FIRST Tuesday of each month and the General Meeting will be on the THIRD Tuesday of each month

Meeting Location: Billy Tee's

Our Website: www.hartfordsinglesgolf.org

Our (National) Hotline: 1-888-465-3628

(See next page for list of officers and board members.)

To join, renew dues, make a change of address, phone, etc., call National Hotline above or go to www.SinglesGolf.com/join

Hartford, CT Chapter
of the
American Singles Golf Association



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onto SEBETHE DRIVE
Continue straight for about ½ mile and Billy Tee's restaurant is on the RIGHT

I-91 South

Take Exit 21

At the end of the exit, take a RIGHT onto ROUTE 372 WEST

At the NEXT TRAFFIC LIGHT, turn RIGHT onto SEBETHE DRIVE

Continue straight for about ½ mile and Billy Tee's restaurant is on the RIGHT

Route 9 North

Take Exit 19

At the end of the exit, take a LEFT onto ROUTE 372 WEST

Continue straight for 11 TRAFFIC LIGHTS
At the 11TH TRAFFIC LIGHT, turn RIGHT onto SEBETHE DRIVE

Continue straight for about ½ mile and Billy Tee's restaurant is on the RIGHT

Route 9 South

Take Exit 19

At the end of the exit, take a RIGHT onto ROUTE 372 WEST

Continue straight for 10 TRAFFIC LIGHTS
At the 10TH TRAFFIC LIGHT, turn RIGHT onto SEBETHE DRIVE

Continue straight for about ½ mile and Billy Tee's restaurant is on the RIGHT

December's General Meeting

In December, a General Meeting wasn't scheduled because of the HASGA Holiday Party.

2009/2010 Board Transition Meeting

To help smooth the way for incoming 2010 board members, an out-going/incoming Board Member transition meeting was held on December 16, at Billy Tee's restaurant. Some of the 2009 Board Members aren't actually leaving the Board in 2010, but are assuming different responsibilities.

Attending were **Betsy Schwartz, Cathy Duncan, George Duffy, Patty Landry,**

Jean Cooper, Barbara Wysocki, Nancy Hammond, Jerry Maxwell, Tom Woods, Mary Lebel, and Sue Rand.

Betsy welcomed the group, thanked the members for their work during the 2009 season, and said that she requested the meeting so board members could exchange information, tips and ideas. She asked that the golf committee start work on the 2010 season as soon as possible.

Nancy Hammond said the 2010 Golf Committee had met on December 7; a tentative golf schedule had been put together, and calls had already been made to some golf courses being considered for 2010 HASGA events. Nancy mentioned that the opening day tournament at Westwoods Golf Course was firm.

Betsy also asked that all Board Members pass on any ideas that they had for social functions, and reiterated the need for a Social Chair.

There was discussion about the noise level at Billy Tee's, and there was some discussion about trying to find another venue for HASGA's General Meetings, due to the small room size and high room noise level at Billy Tee's.

Barbara Wysocki said that she had talked with the new management of the Whinstone Tavern Restaurant (at Stanley Golf Course) and they would welcome us back.

Cathy Duncan said that she thought if we talked to Billy Tee's owner some draperies might be installed to help soften the room and reduce the noise level.

The location of the HASGA General Meeting site will be an agenda item at an upcoming 2010 Board Meeting.

George Duffy passed a number of "golf committee lessons learned" across the table to **Nancy Hammond**. George said he needs to take time off from Golf Committee membership, but could be called on for counsel at anytime in the upcoming season.

The meeting concluded with members wishing each other Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. ~*Jerry Maxwell*

JOIN BY PHONE, FAX OR WEB

You can join the Hartford, CT chapter over the phone by calling toll-free 1-888-GOLFMATE (465-3628), faxing the application with credit card information to our toll-free fax at 1-888-465-3295, or go on-line at www.singlesgolf.com and submit your application with credit card information. Our office hours are 9:00-2:00 EST(M-F).

2010 Golf Committee Meets

On December 7, **Nancy Hammond** hosted at her home, a meeting of golf committee members for the HASGA 2010 golfing season.

Attending were: **Judy Biernat, Jean Cooper, Jack Curtiss, Nancy Hammond** (Golf Co-Chair), **Mary LeBel** (Golf Co-Chair), **Harry Mackenstein, Jerry Maxwell**, and **Barbara Wysocki**. **Ronda Idleman** and **Margaret Doyle** were not able to attend.

After a smattering of social chit-chat, the group surrounded the dining room table, rolled-up their sleeves and got to work. Some members "brown bagged" it, and Nancy provided refreshments in the form of brownies, mixed nuts, veggies and dip, along with a plethora of beverages.

As we were well fed and lubricated, a lot was accomplished. HASGA golf event 'ground rules' were established, Friday Night Golf and Sunday Night Golf locations were determined, a tentative 2010 golf season was put together (dates, courses, and event types), and individuals took Chairmanship of the individual golf events.

In the 2010 season there will be 9 weekend events, 6 hooky day events, the Ryder Cup (Central Mass will be hosting), and a 3-day weekend event at Cape Cod.

The season will kick-off on April 24 with an Opening Day Tournament at the Westwoods Golf Course in Farmington; and Nancy Hammond, the Event Chairperson, has guaranteed that the weather will every bit a nice - but cooler than it was on opening day 2009.

The Golf Committee can use additional help; currently each committee member has responsibility for a minimum of two events, not including Ryder Cup or Hooky

Day events, Friday Night Golf or Sunday Night Golf; so to those who have offered to help, as well as anybody else who would like to join the golf committee or be an associate golf committee member, please contact Nancy Hammond or Mary LeBel. You're wanted and needed.
~*Jerry Maxwell*

Open House At Mary LeBel's

Mary LeBel hosted an open house on Sunday, December 27. Stopping by for some cheer and good food and bringing their favorite desserts and cookies (some of which I am still eating) were **Linda Carillo, Betsy Schwartz, Sue Rand, Jack Curtiss, Sharon Viveiros, Pat Rondinone, Peter Folts, Nancy Hammond, Judy Biernat, Rhonda Idleman, George Duffy, Brian Stere, Carol DeBerry, Margaret Doyle, and Jean Cooper**.

Everyone enjoyed the food and drink, exchanging golf stories from the past season, and discussing how we are all going to improve our games in the upcoming year. ~*Mary Lebel*

Super Bowl Party - February 7, 2010

HASGA's 9th Annual Super Bowl Party will be held at the **Firehouse Steakhouse, 412 Main Street**, in downtown Middletown. There's a back entrance and lots of free parking behind the restaurant.

The party will start about **5:30 pm** with the game beginning about **6:18 pm**. (As I write this NFL.com tells me there's 29 days, 5 hours, 59 minutes, 41 seconds



until kickoff!)

There will be a FREE Half-Time Buffet, \$2.50 domestic beers and other bar specials!

We will be upstairs in the Tap Room where there is a bar, pool table, conversation area and seating just for us with a good view of the televisions in the room; so we can see all the action!

There's **no fee** to attend. Everyone is on their own for drinks and food. This is a fun time to get together with friends and enjoy a once-a-year event!

Watch for upcoming Tee Blasts with detailed directions to the restaurant.
~*Sue Rand*

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Happy Birthday to these members:

George Duffy - 01/11
Nancy Hammond - 01/14
Carolanne Kennedy - 01/11
Elisabeth Schwartz - 02/10
Brian Schwerkolt - 02/10
Judy Unsworth - 01/21
Sharon Viveiros - 02/12
Barbara Wysocki - 02/14

These members are up for renewal:

(date shown is last day of membership)
Shirley Monk - 01/31/2010
Elisabeth Schwartz - 01/31/2010

Welcome newest members:

Jan Rusczyk - Joined 11/20/2009

These members recently renewed:

Jerry Maxwell

These members did not renew their dues:

(date shown is date membership expired)
Peter Borkoski - 11/30/2009
Sylvia Stevenson - 12/31/2009

Our chapter currently has 81 members.

Life in the Trap by Rick Newell



www.lifeinthetrap.com

ASGA NATIONAL NEWS

AMERICAN SINGLES GOLF ASSOCIATION — JANUARY, 2010

Kicking-off Twenty Ten

Valentine's Day: Sunday, February 14th, 2010

"Love on the Links" was a headline a reporter named his article which appeared in a newspaper years ago. It was a great article about ASGA but it was a great headline as well. Since then, some chapters have borrowed the headline and created an annual golf outing with the same name. It initially was played on a weekend day on or around Valentine's Day each year as a way to interest new members and to get the season kicked-off, but occasionally, chapters move it to a different month due to weather.

But think about the publicity! Whether it's cold or not, love is a year-round thing. So what if you "call it a day" after six-holes of golf? The crazier your event is, the more likely the article in the newspaper is going to attract more interested readers who'll hopefully join or pass along the message to friends who play golf and are single.

Do you want to let this date slide by and wait for a date of a mundane month to "kick-off" (yawn) an event that won't get any publicity? I could imagine the new headlines about this group of golfers who are crazy about each other enough (and the game of golf) to attempt to play golf when the ground is frozen.

So think about running your "Love on the Links" tournament with the goal to expose ASGA to more singles. It's a great way to start your new year and a great way to generate interest in your chapter.

If you need help writing your press release, contact us at the national headquarters. This event can get your other information to help you get a new tradition going for your chapter for 2010 and beyond.

Welcome New Chapter Leaders!

Just as we turn the corner on the new year, we also turn the corner with new leadership in each of our seventy chapters nationwide. New leaders bring new ideas. Last year's chapter presidents become Board chairs and offer continuity to the leadership, but it's the new president that emerges as the team leader. This is our annual ritual and somehow it works.

It's been said that the greatest thing about being a chapter president is that one day you get to become a past president. Those who have served in that capacity this past year deserve your thanks as those of us at national headquarters thank them as well. With or without your knowledge, chapter presidents are in contact with the national office many times throughout the year, looking after your concerns.

But the Number One job for a chapter president is to delegate. Delegate to the four key people known as committee chairs. Your chapter should have by now your four key committees organized

for 2010: golf, social, membership and communication. Those committees do the detail work on the activities your chapter will be involved in over the next year. It's a great place to start if you want to volunteer for your chapter.

So we welcome the new chapter presidents, officers and committee members. Make the best of your year. Realize the potential of what your local chapter can mean to *you*. This organization is about bringing happiness to your life, so just continue to remember the first word in our three-word slogan we adopted almost 15 years ago . . . fun, fellowship, fairways . . . and all we ask is that you keep it FUN first!

Keys to a Great Year Ahead

No doubt, everyone has their mental list of "what works" and "what doesn't". Here's our Top 10 Recommendations for new leaders:

- ◆ Regarding your meetings, remember the three E's: make them Entertaining, Educational and Enlightening
- ◆ Encourage every member to invite a guest to each meeting. That automatically doubles the attendance.
- ◆ Most people don't join because they were never asked to join.
- ◆ New people have their own circle of friends who will join as well.
- ◆ Display the free brochure stands at golf courses. They work!
- ◆ Remember to work as a team. You're not going to win every battle. Always keep the interest of the chapter as your priority.
- ◆ Follow your bylaws. They're on the national website if you've never read them. They provide the structure for your chapter.
- ◆ Submit guest names via our online "add-a-guest" form. One out of every three guests become members!
- ◆ Encourage attendance at multi-chapter events in order to get the full experience of ASGA from members across the country.
- ◆ Read newsletters from other chapters (posted on the national website under "List of Chapters") to get additional ideas.

Dates: Feb. 26-28, 2010

Wilmington's Winter Chill

Our Wilmington chapter will again host their Winter Chill which will be in the Southern Pines / Pinehurst area of North Carolina. Details at www.SinglesGolf.com/WinterChill. For a list of all other upcoming multi-chapter weekend events, go to SinglesGolf.com/events

- Tom Alsop, President / Founder
American Singles Golf Association
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