

# HARTFORD SINGLES GOLF

Hartford, CT Chapter - American Singles Golf Association — January 2012

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### From the President

To begin with let me wish you all a happy new year. The emphasis for the upcoming year for the HASGA group is participation & fun. And we don't mean participation as in rain. We all know that rain-outs were almost the norm for 2011. Scheduling and re-scheduling became the way most of the weekend outing went. With as I recall only 3 or 4 golfing events actually going as planned. But based upon the events of last year, nor'easters, winter snowfall record & hurricane we should be happy that there was golf in New England. Here is to having a better 2012, & anyone that has control of the weather please step forward and give us all the help you can.

With the New Year come some new board members. **Maureen Viele** will be taking over as secretary, **Dave Walstrom** as golf chair, **George Duffy** as membership chair, **Patty Landry** will be co-chair for social with **Linda Carillo** continuing as social co-chair, **Diana Swinhall** will continue as Treasurer & be the webmaster, **Marty Rhine** will return as communications chair, **JoAnn Bryant** will continue to do handicaps, **Mary Lebel** will be taking the position of chairman of the board as past chapter president and yours truly as presi-

dent. All of these people are greatly appreciated for the time and effort that they have and will put in to make this fun group that it once was and can be again.

### Golf ... Golf & More Golf

Golf Chairman **Dave Walstrom** is back at the helm and his Golf Committee promises a fun and enjoyable schedule. And we have been assured of no rainouts in 2012. So while it's cold, snowy, miserable come forward and work with us so that 2012 will be a great Hartford ASGA year and for ALL of the members.

The golf committee has had its preliminary meeting. The courses and dates have been penciled in for the upcoming year. Now we face the daunting task of contacting the golf courses - in January no less - to negotiate fees & tees times toward the best outcome for our chapter. Dave and his group have a full task load for the next few weeks while they organize and confirm our golfing events. Please give them all the support and cooperation that you can. As the events are confirmed they will be put on the calendar on the website, please check it to find out the wheres, whens & whats.

### Social ... Social & More Social

The social committee is already working on having get togethers for the group during these "down times". Game night party, a super bowl party & an indoor virtual golf outing are in the planning stages. Plus by the time this is distributed we will have had our 1st social gathering in the form of an "After Holiday Party". Please check the calendar on the website for outings, get togethers and other dates and times of events.

### Members ... Members and More Members

The Membership Committee consists of **Ellen Gregory, Norma Spring, Maureen Viele** and Chairman **George Duffy**. They are hard at work urging members to be more active in 2012 ... play more golf ... dance more ... party more and just have fun. We need a couple or three more members on the Membership committee so volunteer your butt to come and work with us ... Please.

Some of our tentative plans include big pushes to get the famous ASGA yellow flyers out there and keep them out there ... advertising in local papers ... perhaps some

## NATIONAL OFFICE INFORMATION

Upcoming Events Include (see [SinglesGolf.com/events](http://SinglesGolf.com/events))

- **Golf Cruise to the Caribbean** - Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/Cruise](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/Cruise) - February 25, 2012 for 7 nights
- **Orlando & Ft. Lauderdale's Sunshine Fling Weekend** in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Feb. 17-19, 2012. Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/SunshineFling](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/SunshineFling)
- **Wilmington's Beach Blast** - Wilmington, NC - March 16-18, 2012. Details at [www.SinglesGolf.com/BeachBlast](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/BeachBlast)

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 normally be held the FIRST Tuesday every-other-month. General Meetings will normally be on the THIRD Tuesday of each month. Please check our Website calendar to see if a meeting is scheduled for a specific month.

**Our Website:** [www.hartfordsinglesgolf.org](http://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](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/join)

**Hartford, CT Chapter**  
of the  
**American Singles Golf Association**



**President**

Les McCoy

[Golfester\\_54@yahoo.com](mailto:Golfester_54@yahoo.com)

(423) 748-5361

**Golf Chairperson**

Dave Walstrom

[freelife2@cox.net](mailto:freelife2@cox.net)

(203) 681-7919

**Social Chairperson**

Linda Carillo & Patty Landry

[lpage@comcast.net](mailto:lpage@comcast.net)

[pal7574@aol.com](mailto:pal7574@aol.com)

(860) 683-2335

(860) 628-7574

**Communications Chairperson**

Martey Rhine

[mshrhone@att.net](mailto:mshrhone@att.net)

(860) 313-0348

**Membership Chairperson**

George Duffy

[George41500@aol.com](mailto:George41500@aol.com)

(203) 379-0078

**Newsletter Editor**

Les McCoy

[Golfester\\_54@yahoo.com](mailto:Golfester_54@yahoo.com)

(423) 748-5361

**Treasurer**

Diana Swenhall

[dswenhall@yahoo.com](mailto:dswenhall@yahoo.com)

(860) 620-0808

**Secretary**

Maureen Viele

[maureenviele@gmail.com](mailto:maureenviele@gmail.com)

(860) 970-4192

**Webmaster**

Diana Swenhall

[dswenhall@yahoo.com](mailto:dswenhall@yahoo.com)

(860) 620-0808

**Handicap**

JoAnn Bryant

[bryantjdb@comcast.net](mailto:bryantjdb@comcast.net)

(860) 268-3346

joint advertising with Fairfield, Central Mass and maybe even Albany. This year we have two main goals 1] Keep our existing members happy and getting them more involved. (We want to have more "usual suspects" at our events.) 2] Recruit more members. We will work hard and we need YOU to become part of our committee. Get involved ... this is an important year and we need lots of participation.

In closing, the task as always to set up for the upcoming year is a difficult one. So please be patient and understanding. Offer your assistance to any group that you can. And be supportive of the events, outings & get together that are scheduled. Remember a group is only as good as its members. This year it will be a concerted effort to get involvement and fun for the whole chapter. Let's make this a banner year for attending the golfing events, outings & get together that are in the process of being scheduled for 2012

Sincerely,  
~mor or Les

**About Our Members**

**Happy Birthday to these members:**

George Duffy - 01/11

Nancy Hammond - 01/14

Judy Unsworth - 01/21

**These members are up for renewal:**

*(date shown is last day of membership)*

Susan Rand - 01/31/2012

**These members did not renew their dues:**

*(date shown is date membership expired)*

Jerry Maxwell - 11/30/2011

**Our chapter currently has 71 members.**



**Rules and More Rules**

**Visible ball in hazard covered by leaves obstructing golfers ability to see ball, may leaves be moved?**

Scott's ball landed in a hazard (sand filled bunker). The top of the ball was covered by several leaves and not visible to Scott when he addressed the ball. He then said he was going to remove the leaves so he could see the ball. Larry said, "Not so fast, From my angle I can see the ball. That means you can't move the leaves." Scott said, "Larry, your not trying to hit the ball, I am. I don't think your being able to see the ball is relevant, just as a golfer who has a ball buried in sand is allowed to move enough sand to see the top of the ball, I too should be allowed to move the leaves so that I can see the top of the ball, after all, I am the one who has to hit it!"

What is the correct ruling?

- A. Scott is correct, he can remove enough leaves so that he can see the ball. In a hazard, if a ball is believed to be covered by loose impediments or sand, the player may remove by probing or raking with a club or otherwise, as many loose impediments or as much sand as will enable him to see a part of the ball.
- B. Larry is correct, the ball is visible, maybe not by Scott when he addresses the ball, but the ball is nevertheless visible. Searching for the ball is unnecessary. Scott may not remove the leaves. A player is not necessarily entitled to see their ball when addressing it.

And the answer is...

The correct answer is B, Larry was correct, Scott is not allowed to move the leaves to see the top of the ball. While this would have been allowed if the ball was "buried" and could not be seen, such was not the case in this scenario. Rule Decision 12-1/3 states that a player is only entitled to remove loose impediments covering a ball in hazard, only if the ball is not visible from any angle. To further emphasize the point of this scenario, Rule 12-1 states that a player is not necessarily entitled to see his ball when making a stroke.

# ASGA NATIONAL NEWS

AMERICAN SINGLES GOLF ASSOCIATION — JANUARY, 2012

## Take Me To Your Leader!

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 chairpersons 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. And we at the 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.

The Number One job for a chapter president is to delegate. Delegate to the four key people know as committee chairs. Your chapter should have by now your four key committees organized for 2012: golf, social, membership and communication. Those committees do the detail work on the activities your chapter will be involved in over the next year. Committees are 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*. We're all about bringing happiness to your life, so just continue to remember the first word in our three-word slogan we adopted 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 monthly membership 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 guests don't join because they are never asked to join.
- ◆ New members 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 provide chapter structure. They're at [www.SinglesGolf.com/bylaws](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/bylaws) - - and make a great read!
- ◆ Submit guest names at [www.SinglesGolf.com/addguest](http://www.SinglesGolf.com/addguest) Doing this will put that guest on your chapter's mailing list.
- ◆ 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 that work!

### Who's Your ~~Daddy~~ New Chapter President?

Please make sure SOMEONE in your chapter has notified ASGA National of the name of your new chapter president and other board members. We need this information for the 2012 newsletters. Of utmost important is who your treasurer will be so we can issue the chapter portion of the dues to the right person. You can e-mail this information to our office manager, Irene Matthews at [ASGANational@aol.com](mailto:ASGANational@aol.com) if you've not already done so.

### Thank You Outgoing Presidents, Volunteers

Although we have a natural tendency to always look to the future, I think it's important for each of us to look back at this past year and give thanks to those within our chapters who have dedicated a segment of their lives towards making your social life a little better. So we thank all of our 75 local chapter presidents nationwide and the key committee heads and volunteers. Buy 'em a drink at your next meeting or outing!

### Write It Here: Your Time to Speak-Up!

**Time for something different.** I've been writing this column for over 15 years now and I thought we should shake it up a little in 2012 and give members an opportunity to say something to the rest of the nationwide membership. So, if you have something to say of an uplifting nature, something you think others would be interested in reading about, then send it my way. We'll create a separate box entitled "Members' Soap Box," and let you tell the world. Just keep it to about the size of this short article and we'll select the best offering each month for publication in this spot for the world to see.

- Tom Alsop, President / Founder  
American Singles Golf Association  
[GolfASGA@aol.com](mailto:GolfASGA@aol.com)