

The Next Shot™



"The most important shot in golf is the next one." -- Ben Hogan

American Singles Golf Association

July 20, 2016

Current and Past Issues at SinglesGolf.com/TheNextShot

ASGA in Spain — September 17 - 28, 2016

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN-UP!

ASGA members are continuing to sign-up for the Spain trip this September. I know some of you have in your head that jingle that plays during the Comfort Inn commercials . . . "should I stay or should I go," so just think of one thing: when will you ever visit Spain if you don't do it now?

REALITY CHECK: When we signed hotel contracts, we reserve a BLOCK of rooms. Sixty days prior to our event, we have to return the unused rooms to the hotel for them to sell to the public. However,

although our blocks have been released, you may still attend subject to room and tee time availability. But the sooner you commit, the more likely you can get in.

DETAILS OF OUR TRIP TO SPAIN THIS SEPTEMBER:

First, 98 people from many chapters across the county have signed-up and paid. They see the value we're giving them. So check out these details:

Eleven nights - play four rounds of golf as part of the package. Play Valderrama as an optional course subject to additional tee time availability. Seven dinners included; group transportation within Spain included, both by high speed train and motor coach. Airfare on your own.

SinglesGolf.com/Spain is where you need to go for more details, but here is more general info:

Dates: Leave the USA on 9/16/16, arrive next day in Madrid. 11 nights / 12 days. **Where:** Madrid, Costa del Sol (Marbella), Seville. **Payment:**

Prices vary based on whether you room by yourself or with a roommate and play upgraded golf. But you need to really get to the website for the details.

NOTE: Before you sign-up and pay, please call the office to make certain we have room for you. Most likely, we will, for now at least.

Multi-Chapter Events — Monterey Peninsula!

We are fortunate to live in a beautiful country. Part of being involved in ASGA is the opportunity to travel, play great courses in different lands and to meet new people and see established friends. If you've never been on a multi-chapter event, you're missing a vital part of your membership.

We recently announced the Monterey Peninsula, a multi-chapter event literally on the West Coast. This area is awesome. The views are magnificent. Sponsored by the Sacramento chapter, you really need to check into the event. Full details of this

golf weekend at SinglesGolf.com/MontereyPeninsula Dates are October 27-29.

Denver's also hosting their event August 12-15. Always a great event and yes, balls go farther! For more details on this go to SinglesGolf.com/RockyMountainHigh.

Fall and Winter Ahead

We're looking to head to **Hilton Head** for our Fall "Battle at the Beach," and have our post-New Year's event at **Sawgrass** (where the Stadium course would be an optional round) in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

We put these "possibilities" out to you ahead of time to get your input on them. Nothing firm yet so don't purchase your airline ticket yet. In the winter of 2017, we're looking at heading back to **Hawaii** where it's always between 80 and 82 degrees. The would be a week-long event so stay tuned.

And much-talked-about . . . many members have asked about a river cruise. Since 2000, river cruises have grown in popularity by 11% per year each year. One issue, of course, is that river cruise ships have a much smaller number of cabins than cruise ships. 60-75 cabins versus 2-3,000! So, if / when ASGA decides to do a river cruise, we believe it will sell-out fast. The interest is there; details forthcoming.

The Villages Not So Small

We "slightly" underestimated the number of golf courses at The Villages, location of our largest ASGA chapter in a previous issue of *The Next Shot* and I got called on it. After mentioning their chapter's growth success in this newsletter, this writer (whose name shall remain anonymous, at least until the next page), admits stating the incorrect number of courses at their very large layout. And it took a village to so inform me. I heard from a number of members and my thanks goes out to them.

After a quick glance at Wikipedia, I've determined that between the executive, championship and country club courses, there are 1,314 holes of golf in this community. If you played 18 holes once a week, it would take you 73 weeks to get them all in. So in case you sleep with your golf clubs and think and dream of golf on a 24/7/365 basis, check out The Villages in central Florida if you're ever in the area. And say "hi" to many of our 312 ASGA members who reside there!

Suddenly Senior

In a couple of weeks, I turn 65. Yesterday, I got my Medicare Card in the mail. This baby has boomed. I suppose I'm reaching a milestone but I'm not looking for a gold watch. I have Siri, that little lady hidden inside my iPhone. She's gold enough. Reflecting on getting older, I posed a serious question to her this morning: "**what are the important things in life I need to know?**" Fully anticipating a cute or comical answer, she re-

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Golf doesn't build character, it reveals it."

More / Next Page . . .

ferred me to a page on a website written by Joshua Becker called "The More of Less." Becker teaches us how to become a minimalist and adds a blog called *The 10 Most Important Things to Simplify Your life.* You can find these great suggestions at www.TinyURL.com/asga01

Becker asks us "**not to settle for more!** Most of us know we own too much stuff. We feel the burden of our clutter. We tire of cleaning and managing and organizing. Our toy rooms are messy, our drawers won't close, our closets are filled, and we can't fit our cars in our garages. The evidence of clutter is all around us.

Meanwhile, this constant accumulation of stuff slowly begins robbing us of life. It redirects our given passions. It steals our greatest potential. It consumes our limited resources. And it distracts us from the very life we wish we were living. He suggests we "live a better life with less and that it's time to own your possessions instead of letting them own you. After all, the beauty of minimalism isn't in what it takes away. It's in what it gives.

So after looking at *The 10 Most Important Things* from above, I realized it wasn't about doing but not doing. Facebook, for example, or even email. How much time do we all spend with either of those expecting it to change our lives somehow. I get frustrated sometimes answering, or deleting, 100 emails each day. These things continue to consume too much of each day.

I know it's what you do in business but I feel like John Stossel sometimes and want to say "gimme a break!" But nonetheless, I bring a lot of stuff on myself. It's of my own doing, simply put.

I expect that someday, if it's not happening now, new jobs will open-up employing people who will do nothing but help other people simplify their lives as we get older. And if you happen to already be there, pass the info along and I'll spread the word.

Do We Have Senior Members?

We got an email the other day from a potential member wanting to know if we had any seniors in our group. I wanted to reply (so bad), well . . . duh! To some of our readers, 65 is where life begins. It's the new 50, etc. If I were a dog I'd be 455 years old. But for now, I'm happy as a lamb!



Double You Double You Double You

A few days ago, Irene Matthews, our beloved office manager here in Charlotte, received a call from a potential member as well. He wanted to know our website. "www.SinglesGolf.com," she said. It didn't go down that simple though. She was close to three minutes giving him the website. Ever been there?

I asked her if this was a prank phone call and she tells me "absolutely not."

Who They Gonna Call?

We might not think that often about what would happen if we got a major injury on a golf course? Ever wonder what would happen if you passed-out in the grocery store? Someone calls 911. First responders are there in minutes. Someone thinks to

call your ICE listing in your smart phone but find that there is no such listing.

So what is ICE? It's your "In Case of Emergency" number. Yes, you know if you're conscious who to call but would the emergency folks taking you to the hospital know if you were not.

These life-saving heroes of our world are trained to go to your phone and call your ICE contact, your son, brother, sister, daughter, best friend, etc. But it has to show-up as "ICE."

So if you haven't done it already, add ICE **and** In Case of Emergency to your list of contacts so the folks in charge of your life will know who to contact if something happens to you.

Playing a Round Elsewhere?

I was speaking with an ASGA friend the other day and she mentions that she travels the country from time to time. "Great," I said. "Do you ever check to see if we have a chapter in that area and try to play golf with them?" "No," she said. "How would I do that?"

I explained to her that on our website's homepage (see above article), there is a link at top left that says "List of All Chapters." A chart opens up and you'll see where we have chapters and then links to their website and/or newsletter.

Simply call-up or email the golf chair some days ahead of time, tell them you'll be in town on a given day that they are having a golf outing. Tell them you're in another ASGA chapter and would like to join them. It's as simple as that. Hopefully, you'll be introduced as an ASGA member from another chapter and will make new friends you never thought you had!

You can also access the page directly by going to this link: www.SinglesGolf.com/Chapters

Lost Club Labels

A benefit to ASGA membership is that you can receive one (1) set of lost club labels to wrap around your club shafts each year. These are personalized with your name and phone.

Order these by going to www.SinglesGolf.com/ContactUs and we'll get them in the mail to you.

Other benefits of membership in ASGA are listed at www.SinglesGolf.com/benefits

**- - Tom Alsop, President / Founder
American Singles Golf Association (ASGA)
Fun-Fellowship-Fairways Since 1992**

American SinglesGolf[®] Re:Sources

- ASGA National Website SinglesGolf.com
- Upcoming Multi-Chapter Events SinglesGolf.com/events
- To join or renew dues in ASGA SinglesGolf.com/join
- List of Chapters/See Newsletters SinglesGolf.com/chapters
- Request Brochures & Stand SinglesGolf.com/ContactUs
- Request Set of Lost Club Labels SinglesGolf.com/ContactUs
- Previous National Newsletters SinglesGolf.com/TheNextShot
- Email the National Office info@SinglesGolf.com