

DECEMBER '11 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM NEPGA PRESIDENT JIM NORIS, PGA

Fellow NEPGA Professionals:

It is indeed my honor to have been elected to the position of President of the New England Section. I am truly looking forward to the next two years, a period of time I am sure will be filled with growth, change and many challenges.

Congratulations to Larry Kelley, PGA (Five Star Golf Cars) on his election to the position of Vice President and to Susan Bond, PGA (Weekapaug GC) on her election to Secretary. I am confident both Larry and Susan will serve the membership well and I look forward to working with both of them.

Additionally, I am excited to be working with 5 new members of the Board of Directors. I am confident they will all bring fresh perspectives to the table and will represent the New England PGA in a most professional manner.

Zack Wyman, PGA – representing District 1 and the Vermont Chapter
Joe Carr, PGA – representing District 5 and Central Massachusetts
Todd Cook, PGA – representing District 6 and Southern Massachusetts
Glenn Kelly, PGA – representing District 7 and the Cape Cod Chapter
Steve Napoli, PGA – representing the Senior Association

Even though our industry has been affected by the economic downturn, we are better positioned now more than ever to be the leaders in growing the game of golf. Not just at our own facilities, but throughout the New England Section as well as our Chapters within the Section. The PGA Professional is the most influential person on their staff to grow the game. This is based on our ability to fill so many vital roles at our facilities – and to drive revenue! Over the next year you will be hearing quite a bit about Golf 2.0. This is not just a PGA of America program to help grow the game, this is a program that golf itself has embraced and is supporting.

I am well aware that the current economic downturn has made it very challenging at all of our facilities, and our Chapters and Section are not immune to the economy either. It is a challenge to find and secure sponsors, create support for new programs and to increase the support of our existing programs. Mike Higgins and our staff will be tested this winter and they are well prepared and ready to tackle this difficult landscape. My goal as I put Committee Chairs in place is to create teams that will continue to position the New England Section as one of the leading Sections in the country.

2011 was an exciting year for the New England Section. In January we hit the “reset button” and I feel that we are back on track and now are headed in the right direction. Tournament participation was up, committees were active, education was strong, communication increased, and I expect 2012 to be even stronger. Many of you need to hit your own reset buttons this off-season. The fight to remain fresh and energetic is one that quite simply we must win to survive. Treat every day as if it were your first day on the job. Continue to be creative with your tournament formats and your day to day operations.

I hope you all enjoy your off-season and get as much family time in as you can because as time flies the season will be here before we know it.

If there is ever anything I can do to help, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me. Don't forget to lean on our Section staff either...they are very talented people and are there to serve you.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season,

Jim Noris, PGA
NEPGA President
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MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL HIGGINS

It is hard to imagine that this is the final newsletter of the season, and it is even harder to imagine that 2011 is coming to an end. Where did the time go? I am often asked by people "Does your schedule slow down this time of year", and my response usually is: "In a way, but this time of year is a different kind of busy." I am sure you all know exactly what I mean. Cleaning up loose ends, planning for the upcoming year, reflecting on what was accomplished and what can be done to improve.

As I reflect on my first year as the Executive Director I can honestly say that I have enjoyed serving the New England Section. We have put together a talented and dedicated staff that all care about the New England PGA and its members. I want to express my sincere thanks to the entire NEPGA staff for their time and hard work this season. I have enjoyed working with each of you. I also want to express my appreciation to those companies and representatives that have supported and sponsored the New England PGA. We would not be able to produce our high quality programs if it were not for your support. Lastly, I would like to thank each and every NEPGA Member and Apprentice for their support and dedication to their Chapter and Section. We truly have one of the best Sections in the country and it is because of our membership.

We find ourselves in the midst of the holiday season and I would like to wish you and your families the very happiest of holidays. Enjoy time with the people you love and try to spend some time away from your "different kind of busy." I hope you have enjoyed your New England PGA experience in 2011, and I am very excited for what we have in store for 2012.

Thank you for a wonderful year and I look forward to seeing you all in 2012.

Respectfully,

Michael Higgins
Executive Director
New England PGA

NEPGA SPRING TRAVEL PRO-AM



Join us in the Caribbean for the 2012 NEPGA Spring Travel Pro-Am! Trade in the white snow of New England for the white sand beaches of Barbados this March.

The Spring Travel Pro-Am is open to all NEPGA Members & Apprentices. This trip is complimentary for the professional including the flight. Please contact the Section office with any questions. Click [here](#) to learn more about this new event! For additional details, please click [here](#) to visit the Travel Pro-Am web site. The deadline to register is February 15, 2011.

2012 GOLFPASS FACILITIES

The NEPGA GolfPass needs facilities for 2012! We hope that your facility might be interested in being part of this program. Proceeds from the sale of the GolfPass will go to the NEPGA Foundation and will be used for the growth of the game programs run by the section.

If you would like to be part of the NEPGA GolfPass Facility Listing, please click [here](#) to fill out the NEPGA GolfPass facility form and return it to the NEPGA office (fax 508.869.0009) or by email to jstuart@pgahq.com.

Thank you so much to the following facilities who have generously agreed to be listed on the NEPGA GolfPass:

- Maine: Fox Ridge Golf Club and Bob Darling, PGA
- Massachusetts: CC of Halifax and Bob Giusti, PGA; Holden Hills CC and Jeff Bailey, PGA; Reedy Meadow GC and Donnie Lyons, PGA; and Winchendon School GC and Tom Borden, PGA
- NH: Hooper GC and Ronald Rosko, PGA
- VT: Lake Morey CC and Bill Ross, PGA; Ralph Myhre GC and Jim Dayton, PGA; Montague GC and Paul Meunier, PGA; Sugarbush Resort GC and R J Austin, PGA; and Woodstock Inn & Resort and CC and Jim Gunnare, PGA

2012 AWARD NOMINATION FORMS



PGA
New England Section

The NEPGA is currently accepting nominations for the 2012 Section awards. Click [here](#) to view the list of current nominations.

The online award nomination forms have been emailed to NEPGA members. If you need to have this email resent to you, please contact Joan Stuart at jstuart@pgahq.com.

The Section is asking for members in good standing to complete and submit the form(s) by **December 16, 2011**. Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in the special awards nomination process!

NEW DATE FOR AWARDS BANQUET

A new date has been set for the NEPGA Awards Banquet that was postponed in October due to the weather. The dinner will now be held on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at Black Rock Country Club in Hingham, MA. We look forward to celebrating the 2011 winners this Spring!

2012 PAT SITES NEEDED

The Section is looking for potential PAT sites for 2012. Ideally, we would like to have a least one PAT in every state in our Section. Click [here](#) to view the course requirements. If your facility is interested, please contact Joan Stuart at the Section office at jstuart@pgahq.com or 508.869.0000. The process of selecting the venues for 2012 will not be finalized until mid-December.

2012 TENTATIVE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Bold = Verbal Confirmation

DATE	EVENT	2012 SITE
January 29, 2012	NEPGA Winter Pro-Pro	Port St. Lucie
April 10, 2012	NEPGA Spring Meeting	TBA
April 10, 2012	NEPGA Spring Pro-Pro	TBA
April 23, 2012	NEPGA ProAm	Thorny Lea
April 25, 2012	NEPGA ProAm	Cummaquid
April 30, 2012	NEPGA ProPro Match Play	LeBaron Hills
May 7, 2012	NEPGA Pro-Am	Portsmouth
May 14, 2012	NEPGA Pro-Am	TBA
May 17, 2012	NEPGA Hudson Cup	Duxbury Yacht Club
May 21, 2012	Ahead Stroke Play #1	TBA
May 29, 2012	NEPGA ProAm Championship	Pinehills Golf Club
June 3, 2012	Haverhill Pro-Member	Haverhill Country Club
June 5, 2012	MASS OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP	Walpole Country Club
June 10, 2012	Sankaty Head Pro-Am	Sankaty Head Golf Club
June 11, 2012	VERMONT OPEN	Lake Morey CC
June 12, 2012	Ahead Stroke Play #2	TBA
June 14, 2012	US Open Championship	The Olympic Club
June 18, 2012	MAINE OPEN	Augusta CC
June 19, 2012	NEPGA Pro+1Am	TBA
June 24, 2012	PGA Professional National Championship	Bayonet/Black Horse
June 27, 2012	NEPGA Junior Championship	TBA
July 8, 2012	Needham Pro-Member	Needham CC
July 9, 2012	NEPGA ProPro Stroke Play	Mount Pleasant CC
July 17, 2012	Ahead Stroke Play #3	Montcalm GC
July 19, 2012	NEPGA ProLady	Kernwood CC
July 23, 2012	NEPGA Pro-Junior	Dedham C&PC
July 24, 2012	NEW HAMPSHIRE OPEN	Atkinson CC
7/30/2012	Acushnet Pro-Assistant	Bay Club
August 6, 2012	Coakley Pro-Am	Charles River CC & Woodland GC
August 7, 2012	RHODE ISLAND OPEN	Ledgemont CC
August 8, 2012	NEPGA Senior Championship	TBA
August 13, 2012	Ahead Stroke Play #4	Green Mountain National
August 20, 2012	NEPGA Championship	Salem CC & Kernwood CC
August 27, 2012	NEPGA Pro-Officer	TBA
September 4, 2012	NEPGA Pro-Senior Championship	TBA
September 11, 2012	New England Open Pro-Am	TBA
September 12, 2012	New England Open	TBA
September 19, 2012	NEPGA Assistant's Championship	Tedesco
September 24, 2012	Head Professional Championship	TBA
October 1, 2012	Ahead Stroke Play #5	TBA
October 4, 2012	NEPGA North Shore ProAm #1	TBA
October 4, 2012	Senior Professional National Championship	TBA
October 5, 2012	NEPGA North Shore ProAm #2	Tedesco
October 9, 2012	NEPGA Pro-Superintendent	Red Tail
October 11, 2012	NEPGA Cape Cod ProAm #1	TBA
October 12, 2012	NEPGA Cape Cod ProAm #2	TBA
October 15, 2012	Ahead Stroke Play Championship	TBA
October 22, 2012	Scholarship Pro-Am(s)	Kittansett & TPC Boston
November 2, 2012	PGA Assistant Professional Championship	PGA Golf Club
November 4, 2012	Las Vegas Pro-Am	Caesars Palace/Paiute
September 15, 2011	IGOE Pro-Member	Wellesley
TBA	Senior Junior	TBA

NEPGA TOURNAMENT NEWS

VEGAS! Based on all reports we all made it back safely, some a little richer, a few of us with slightly lighter wallets. FYI - I was perfect on my football wagers this year, five bets, five losses. If you need any extra cash for the holidays, I'll be happy to help out. Just bet the opposite of what I like, you can't lose!

The start of the 11th annual event was a little tough, cool temps combined with blustery (to put it mildly) conditions to make the first round more about finishing than scoring. Nevertheless, on the Paiute Resort Sun Course the Stowe Mountain Club led by Ron Philo, PGA and on the Snow Course the Carnegie Abbey Club led by Steve Napoli, PGA paced their respective divisions on day one.

Day two provided a much more pleasant experience, warmer and decidedly calmer conditions saw the team from Alpine CC with Eddie Kirby, PGA leading the way on the Wolf Course. On the Sun Course, Carnegie Abbey again was at the top, tied with the teams from Weston GC with Adam Hemeon, PGA (nice to have you back, AH), TPC Boston with Scott Peneau, PGA and Country View with Rick Finlayson, PGA.

Day 3 again provided comfortable conditions and the defending champions from 2010 from the Windham Country Club led by Marc Spencer, PGA took it deep on Wolf. The Stowe Mountain Club also took full advantage of the calmer conditions and returned to the top of the leader board on Snow.



Heading into the final round the odds makers had set the line for the overall Championship as a pick'em between three teams. Congrats to the Stowe Mountain Club team (pictured left) composed of Ron Philo, PGA, Doug Clapp, Ralph Lepore and Jim & Sharon McDermott whose final round heroics on the Snow

Course propelled them to a narrow four shot victory over the team from Carnegie Abbey Club, with the Weston Golf Club squad another five shots back in third. Those three clubs showed remarkable consistency, finishing in the top five on their respective courses each day.

All in all, a great time, in a truly unique place in the world, Las Vegas! If you can't find something that makes you happy in Vegas, I feel bad for you. It truly is Disneyland for adults. Thanks to all who participated this year, and hopefully even more of you will be able to join in the fun next year.

As I mentioned last month we will take a little break from Tournament News for the next couple of months, but we'll be back to get you up to speed and hopefully excited about coming out to play some tournament golf in 2012.

Best wishes for a safe, relaxing, enjoyable holiday season.

Greenie
rgreen@pgahq.com

PGA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



PGA

The application for the PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program is now available on the homepage of PGALinks.com.

After submitting the application, you must send an "official" transcript from your school to The PGA of America. The online application deadline date and receipt of the transcript is March 15, 2012, 5:00 p.m. Click [here](#) for more information.

PGALinks also offers helpful resources on preparing for college and additional scholarship opportunities. Click [here](#) to view more college preparation assistance and available scholarships. Click [here](#) to view some useful tips on searching for and completing scholarship applications.

BAIN FEATURED IN PGA MAGAZINE

Brian Bain, PGA of Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course and 2011 PGA President's Plaque award recipient was recently featured in PGA Magazine in light of this national honor. Click [here](#) to view the article on page 68 of PGA Magazine.

NEPGA 2011 VIDEO YEARBOOK

We invite you to take a moment to relive the 2011 tournament season by clicking [here](#) to view the 2011 NEPGA Video Yearbook. We hope you enjoy these memories and look forward to creating many more in 2012!

GO GREEN FOR THE 2012 SEASON!

If you are a NEPGA member or apprentice who plays in Chapter and/or Section events, please consider going green by receiving your tournament winnings through an ACH transfer to your checking or savings account.

Every year there are instances of paper checks getting lost in the mail. When this happens, we have to notify our bank to stop payment on the lost check (and there is a fee involved) and have a new check re-issued. This process can delay your payment for about two weeks! **The section has paid the stop payment fee in the past but this fee will be passed on to the professional starting in 2012.**

To avoid this happening to you, please click [here](#) to download the ACH Form that is very easy to fill out. All you need to do is to send it to the office (P O Box 743, Boylston, MA 01505) along with a voided check.

DID YOU KNOW?

"Did You Know?" is a new feature highlighting beneficial information for PGA members and apprentices. "Did You Know?" can be found in the Section's Mixed Bag emails, in our newsletter and on NEPGA.com in the Communications menu.

Click [here](#) to view our currently featured tips-- offers from Pepsi-Cola and OfficeMax. In addition, click [here](#) to learn about discounted dues rates in PGA of America President Allen Wronowski's Fireside Chat (you must log in with your PGALinks username and password).

GEORGE S. WEMYSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND HOLIDAY APPEAL



With the holiday season approaching, the NEPGA George S. Wemyss Scholarship Fund Committee is holding its annual Holiday Appeal asking for your help and support. Since 1985, children and grandchildren of New England PGA members have been awarded college

George S. Wemyss scholarships through this Fund. Today, faced with ever increasing tuition costs, more and more of our members are in need of financial assistance in order for their children to attend college. At the same time, we have experienced large increases in the number of applicants over the last few years. The Fund is in need of donations if it is to continue to help deserving students reach their academic goals.

The Fund has two main venues for fund raising, the annual Scholarship Pro-Am's and individual donations. If you participated in one of this year's Scholarship Pro-Am's, please accept our heartfelt thanks. We hope everyone will put the 2012 events on your calendar as soon as the dates are published and make plans to participate. Perhaps you could plan now to build the entry fee into your club budget for next year.

During this holiday season, we ask that each New England PGA member make a tax deductible donation to the fund, preferably by December 31, 2011. With these tough economic times, any amount you can contribute will be most welcomed and appreciated. Please click [here](#) to submit your donation online or click [here](#) to download the donation form. You will receive a personal letter acknowledging your contribution for income tax purposes.

On behalf of the entire Scholarship Committee and all the NEPGA students we will assist, please accept our sincere thanks for your valuable support.

Thank you to the following PGA Professionals who have donated to the Scholarship Fund during the 2011 Annual Holiday Appeal:

Phil Schuster, PGA in memory of Dorothy Schuster
 Lou Katsos, PGA
 Bryce Roberts, PGA
 Brian Hamilton, PGA in memory of Warren Birch, his mentor
 Donnie Lyons, PGA in memory of Bill Flynn and Bill Barclay
 Jim Lane, PGA in memory of Phil Lane
 Gordon Swennes, PGA
 Bob Beach, PGA in memory of Bill Flynn
 Barry Pearson, PGA in memory of George Kamal
 Brendan Walsh, PGA



PGA

Official Card of PGA Professionals

PGA ANNUAL MEETING & SHOW



PGA

The 95th PGA Annual Meeting will take place at the Hilton Orlando on January 23-24, 2012. Click [here](#) to view the information on PGALinks.com. In addition, the PGA Merchandise Show will take place at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando on January 25-28, 2012. Click [here](#) to visit the Show web site. Click [here](#) to find out what MSR opportunities are being offered this year.

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THANK YOU

2011 SPONSORS



CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS

CAPE COD CHAPTER

Cape Cod Chapter Leads the Way...Top Teachers!

In the November issue of Golf Digest, several PGA Professionals from the Cape Cod Chapter were recognized as "The Best Teachers in Massachusetts" by virtue of a vote polling over 1500 teaching professionals from across our region and the nation. Representing Cape Cod were: **MARK HEART-FIELD, PGA** Head Professional/ Sankaty Head GC, **GENE MULAK, PGA** Head Professional/ The Vineyard GC, **JANE FROST, PGA** Teaching Professional/ Sandwich Hollows GC & **BOB MILLER, PGA** Head Professional/ The Club at Yarmouthport.

Two other PGA Professionals who made Massachusetts' top-15 list have longstanding ties to the Cape Chapter: Tom Cavicchi, PGA/ The Harmon Club and Tommy Sullivan, PGA/ Wyantenuck GC, both of whom worked for many years at various clubs on the Cape.

All Things...The Francis Ouimet Fund & Marathon

The Ouimet Golf Fund Marathon, thanks to 41 supporting clubs – 9 of whom representing the Cape Cod Chapter – was again the largest golf marathon in the country for the 19th straight year! Fundraiser Rick Stimets along with Oyster Harbors assistant Steve Colt emerged as the top team. Colt played 120 holes at Stowe Acres GC and Oyster Harbors led all clubs and organizations raising over \$19,000 in pledges for his efforts. The event raised a total of \$285,000.

Interestingly, there was an award for low score from the first 100 holes – and New Seabury's assistant Brian Hayes took home the honors.

Chapter clubs participating in the marathon were: Bass River/ Bayberry Hills, Kittansett (Dick Fagan, PGA), New Seabury

(Brian Hayes, PGA), Oyster Harbors (Steve Colt), Plymouth area clubs as a group (3), Sankaty Head & The Ridge Club (Bob Travers, PGA).

A total of 16 Chapter clubs donated rounds of golf used as prizes for the marathoners, easily garnering the largest percentage of donations from any region in the state. They were: Cape Cod CC, Cape Cod National, New Seabury, Eastward Ho, Golf Club of CC, Hyannisport, Kittansett, Oyster Harbors, Pinehills, Pocasset, The Bay Club, The Ridge Club, Wianno, Willowbend & Woods Hole.

The Bay Club, additionally, hosted the Ouimet Fund's 13th annual NEPGA Pro-Am in the Fall with over 100 participants in this worthy fund-raising tournament.

What does all of this mean to our Chapter professionals and their respective clubs? Currently, a total of 57 collegians who have worked in Cape Cod golf shops, caddied, or as course maintenance staffers representing Cape Cod Chapter clubs are Ouimet scholars at various colleges and universities all over the country – receiving much needed financial assistance to pay for tuition.

Along with the NEPGA George Wemyss Scholarship Fund which annually awards thousands of dollars to PGA members' children and grandchildren, these two funds offer such profound and enormous help to our college-bound youth who are involved in the game of golf.

The happiest of holidays,

Mickey Herron, PGA
NEPGA Cape Cod Ch. Tournament Operations Manager
mherron@pgahq.com

VERMONT CHAPTER

Chapter President Josh Olney, District Director Zack Wyman, NEPGA Vice President Larry Kelley, and Operations Manager Dave Christy all attended the NEPGA Planning Session at the International on November 15-16. Upon our return, many of the session's initiatives were discussed at the Chapter meeting.

On November 30th, the BOD held a meeting to discuss the 2012 playing events and 2012 budgets. Budgets will be completed and sent to the NEPGA office by the December 15th deadline. A survey was sent to our Chapter members requesting any issues/concerns that they would like the board to discuss. A good number of items concerning education, PAT schedules, venues for majors, and growth of the game issues were sent in and discussed by the board. A meeting will

be held in early January to firm up some of the board responses to the other concerns.

Also that afternoon, Vice President Dave Pfannenstien, Director Roger King, Chapter member Jim Dayton, and Operations Manager Dave Christy attended a presentation to the Vermont Tourism Board at the State House concerning some new ideas for marketing of golf in Vermont.

David Christy, PGA
NEPGA Vermont Ch. Operations Manager
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dchristy@pgahq.com



New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Todd Anzlovar, PGA	A-8	Wellesley Country Club
Brandon Klakowicz, PGA	A-8	The Country Club
Nabeel Nour, PGA	A-8	Bradford Country Club

New Apprentices

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Jason Baldini	B-8	Laconia Country Club

New Transfers into Section

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Previous Section</u>
Chris Newberry, PGA	A-8	Northern Texas

New Master Professionals

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>As Of</u>
Alex Kollar, PGA	A-6	Instruction	11/10

Classification Changes

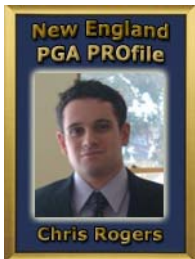
<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Facility</u>
James Callahan, PGA	A-6	GolfTEC-Burlington
Phil Davis Jr., PGA	A-1	Manchester Country Club
John Eldridge, PGA	A-15	Dick's Sporting Goods
Michael Rothera, PGA	A-8	Pinehills Golf Club
Timothy Talbot, PGA	A-4	Thomson Country Club
Chris Young, PGA	A-1	Thomson Country Club

Employment Changes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Facility</u>
James Callahan, PGA	A-6	11/15	GolfTEC-Burlington
John Eldridge, PGA	A-15	11/14	Dick's Sporting Goods
Richard Johnson, PGA	A-1	12/1	Willowbend Golf & CC

*These reports reflect changes made between November 3, 2011 and December 11, 2011.

NEPGA DECEMBER PROFILE



PROfile: **Chris Rogers, PGA**
 Year turned Pro: 2011
 Facility: Dick's Sporting Goods
[Click here to view entire PROfile.](#)

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The NEPGA Section office will be closed this Holiday season from Friday, December 23, 2011 through Monday, January 2, 2012. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2012.



NEPGA BULLETIN BOARD

Senior-Junior Team Championship
 PGA GC - Port St. Lucie, FL
 January 16-19, 2012
 If you're looking for a partner, [click here.](#)

2012 BARBADOS
 NEPGA SPRING TRAVEL PRO-AM
 March 11-15, 2012
[Click here for details!](#)

GolfTEC Boston
 NEPGA Professionals:
 practice at any one of three practice facilities
 Dec. 1 - March 1
[Click here for details!](#)

NEPGA Winter PRO-PRO
 PGA GC - Port St. Lucie, FL
 January 29, 2012
[Click here for details!](#)

To promote your upcoming club event, please send the details to Joan Stuart at JStuart@pgahq.com.

Comments or Suggestions?

We'd love to hear from you about our newsletter!
Please email JStuart@pgahq.com.