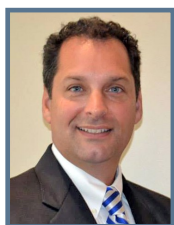




## MESSAGE FROM NEPGA PRESIDENT LARRY KELLEY



We made it!! 2013 proved to be a great year for the New England Section! All of our programs saw increased participation from the Junior Tour, Section Championship, Assistant Championship, and our Senior's Championship. This is a real tribute to our membership and our Section's staff. The hard work and effort by our whole Section staff does not go unnoticed and it shows in our bottom line as well as our field sizes.

November saw our Section officers head out to San Diego for the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual PGA Meeting. This was a great trip for our Section as we saw our Association working hard to make your PGA membership more valuable. We also enjoyed watching our own Bob Beach, PGA receive the National Patriot Award. If there was ever a prouder moment to be member of the New England Section I am not sure when that would be. We also were able to see Lee Trevino awarded a lifetime achievement award and we listened to former Mayor Rudy Giuliani speak to us about True Leadership and what it means and takes to be a leader. It was very inspiring to hear Lee Trevino talk about the impact of The PGA on his career and Mayor Giuliani speak about the attack on New York and all that went into the response to that attack.

Our own NEPGA-sponsored Resolution #2 came up one vote short. After exhaustive work and many phone calls by the officers and Mike Higgins we learned a lot about the process. We look forward to gathering more data and working harder to bring equity and fairness in how we collect and distribute dues from members who transfer sections multiple times in the same year. I predict there will be more on this issue moving forward.

There are only a few days left to nominate your fellow members for Section Awards. Please take the time to nominate a worthy PGA member as it can mean so much to that member and club they work at. To be recognized by their peers and Section can mean so much to our members.

Next week we will be working for two days at our NEPGA Planning Session. This is the opportunity for our Chapter and Section leaders to review the year we just finished and plan programs, events, and staffing models moving into 2014. This is something many companies and associations do every year and I encourage all of our members to take this off season to work hard on their own plan for next year. I know it will help to make our Section stronger and if you plan your work and work your plan you too will have a better year in 2014. Many thanks Andover Country Club for allowing us the use of their facility for this event.

Additionally, we welcome Donnie Lyons, PGA as our newest District One Director. He will represent the NEPGA, CTPGA, and the NENY on the National level. This is the second time Donnie has represented our district as he comes to this office ready to contribute and make an impact for our whole district and association. Please reach out to Donnie at any time if you have any questions or concerns about our association.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks to the best Section staff in the country! The hard work and dedication by Mike Higgins, Ron Green, Dave McAdams, Joan Stuart, Ben Vandal, Jacy Settles, Dave Christy, Frank Swierz, Tony Decker, and Mickey Herron does not go unnoticed! From all the Chapters to our Section office we are never worried about the great hands that we have placed our Section in. This only happens because our staff truly cares about us as members and we all know it shows every day in the effort they put forth!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you! Let's make 2014 better than the last!

Larry Kelley, PGA  
NEPGA President  
[Larry@FiveStarGolfCars.com](mailto:Larry@FiveStarGolfCars.com)



# PGA

New England Section

### NEPGA Officers



**Larry Kelley, PGA**  
President

[larry@fivestargolfcars.com](mailto:larry@fivestargolfcars.com)



**Susan Bond, PGA**  
Vice President

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



**Ron Bibeau, PGA**  
Secretary

[rbibeau@thefirstteemaine.org](mailto:rbibeau@thefirstteemaine.org)



**Jim Noris, PGA**  
Honorary President

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

### NEPGA Staff

**Michael J. Higgins**  
Executive Director  
[mhiggins@pgahq.com](mailto:mhiggins@pgahq.com)

**Dave McAdams**  
Tournament Director  
[dmcadams@pgahq.com](mailto:dmcadams@pgahq.com)

**Joan Stuart**  
Accounting/Finance Director  
[jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com)

**Ron Green, PGA**  
Rules & Championships Director  
[rgreen@pgahq.com](mailto:rgreen@pgahq.com)

**Jacy Settles**  
Junior Golf Operations Manager  
[jsettles@pgahq.com](mailto:jsettles@pgahq.com)

**Ben Vandal**  
Marketing & Communications  
[bvandal@pgahq.com](mailto:bvandal@pgahq.com)

### Chapter Tournament Managers

**Dave Christy, PGA (VT)**  
[dchristy@pgahq.com](mailto:dchristy@pgahq.com)

**Tony Decker, PGA (ME)**  
[tdecker@pgahq.com](mailto:tdecker@pgahq.com)

**Mickey Herron, PGA (CC/RI)**  
[mherron@pgahq.com](mailto:mherron@pgahq.com)

**Frank Swierz (NH)**  
[f.swierz@comcast.net](mailto:f.swierz@comcast.net)

### CONTENTS

Member News	1-9, 13
Ch. & Assoc. News	10-13
Member Updates	15



Follow us on **Facebook & Twitter!**



### MESSAGE FROM MIKE HIGGINS



It is hard to believe that this is the final news-letter of the 2013. Last year at this time we were all crossing our fingers that the Mayan prophecy of the world coming to an end on December 21, 2012 would not come true. Well it didn't come true, and as a result the New England PGA was able to have a very successful 2013! Quite possibly one of our best years yet.

The success of our Section is the result of the efforts of the dedicated volunteers who lead this organization. The Officer crew of Larry Kelley, PGA, Susan Bond, PGA, Ron Bibeau, PGA and Jimmy Noris, PGA lead a very talent Board of Directors that are dedicated to growing the game of golf, growing our Section and making it the best it can be for the over 1000 NEPGA members and apprentices.

We have an extremely talented and dedicated staff that cares about the New England PGA and each and every member and apprentice. My sincere thanks go out to the entire NEPGA staff for your 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 the New England PGA. Sponsor support has never been higher and 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. Our membership is the backbone of the New England PGA and we truly have one of the best Sections in the country. I have wholeheartedly enjoyed my third season serving as your Executive Director and I am honored to have the opportunity.

December is filled with holidays, families, giving and a time to reflect and rejoice. Let us all be thankful for what we have, and for those service men and women that keep us all safe each and every day. I would like to wish you and your families the very happiest of holidays.

Thank you for a wonderful year and I look forward to seeing you all in 2014.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Higgins  
Executive Director  
New England PGA

### PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY WISHES



**PGA**  
New England Section

### NEW 2014 NEPGA GOLFPASS

The New England PGA GolfPass is excited to announce a new partnership with Play More Golf Club in 2014. The New England GolfPass will still provide you with the ability to choose your own discount and create any specialized deal throughout the year, but will now offer:

#### **More Courses**

- The NEPGA GolfPass/Play More Golf Club card will feature 75 additional courses.

#### **More Exposure**

- The NEPGA GolfPass/Play More Golf Club card will be sold in over 30 BJ's Wholesale Club in the New England Section
- The NEPGA GolfPass/Play More Golf Club card will be advertised on the WEEI Radio Program *The Golf Radio Show*
- Partnership with the Central Massachusetts Golf Expo will generate donations for the NEPGA Golf Foundation as well as sales for the NEPGA GolfPass/Play More Golf Club.
- Partnership with Play More Golf Club and BJ's Wholesale Club will supply a bigger data base to display your seasonal deal and weekly web deal.

#### **New Dedicated Website**

The NEPGA GolfPass/Play More Golf Club card will now be featured on [www.playmoregolfclub.com](http://www.playmoregolfclub.com) in addition to [www.nepga.com/pass](http://www.nepga.com/pass).

We would like to have your facility on our pass this year. Please provide your 2014 deal to the New England PGA staff at [jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com) or [bvandal@pgahq.com](mailto:bvandal@pgahq.com) and we will be happy to supply you a list of our partners. You can change your deal at any time and will also have season long access to our email database for any weekly or daily deal you would like to offer.

# NEPGA TENTATIVE TOURNAMENT CALENDAR - 2014

DATE	EVENT	2014 SITE
Saturday, January 25, 2014	NEPGA Winter Pro-Pro	Orlando Reunion Resort
Tuesday, April 15, 2014	NEPGA Spring Meeting	Andover
Tuesday, April 15, 2014	NEPGA Spring Sponsor Appreciation Day	Andover
Monday, April 21, 2014	NEPGA ProAm	Thorny Lea Golf Club
Tuesday, April 22, 2014	NEPGA ProAm	TBA
Mon., 4/28 - Wed., 4/30/2014	NEPGA ProPro Match Play	LeBaron Hills Country Club
Monday, May 05, 2014	NEPGA Pro-Am	Portsmouth Country Club
Tuesday, May 13, 2014	Stroke Play Series #1	TBA
Thursday, May 15, 2014	NEPGA Hudson Cup	Duxbury Yacht Club
Monday, May 19, 2014	Acushnet Pro-Assistant	The Bay Club
Tuesday, May 27, 2014	NEPGA ProAm Championship	Pinehills Golf Club
Sunday, June 01, 2014	Haverhill Pro-Member	Haverhill Country Club
Sunday, June 08, 2014	Sam Sylvia Boys & Girls Club Invitational ProAm	Sankaty Head Golf Club
<b>Tue. 6/10 - Thu. 6/12/2014</b>	<b>MASS OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>Weston Golf Club</b>
<b>Thu., 6/12 - Sun., 6/15/2014</b>	<b>US Open Championship</b>	<b>Pinehurst No. 2</b>
Tuesday, June 17, 2014	Stroke Play Series #2	TBA
<b>Sun., 6/22 - Wed., 6/25, 2014</b>	<b>PGA Professional National Championship</b>	<b>The Dunes Beach Club</b>
<b>Mon. 6/16 - Wed. 6/18/2014</b>	<b>VERMONT OPEN</b>	<b>Lake Moree CC</b>
Monday, June 23, 2014	NEPGA Pro+1Am	TBA
Sunday, June 29, 2014	Needham Pro-Member	Needham Golf Club
Monday, June 30, 2014	NEPGA ProPro Stroke Play	Mount Pleasant Country Club
Monday, July 07, 2014	NEPGA Junior Championship	Marlborough Country Club
Wednesday, July 09, 2014	Stroke Play Series #3	Montacalm Golf Club
Monday, July 14, 2014	NEPGA Pro-Senior Invitational	Metacomet Country Club
Monday, July 21, 2014	NEPGA Pro-Junior	Hopkinton Country Club
Thursday, July 24, 2014	NEPGA Pro-Lady	Kernwood Country Club
TBA	Pro-Officer	TBA
<b>Mon. 7/28 - Tue. 7/29/2014</b>	<b>MAINE OPEN</b>	<b>Augusta Country Club</b>
<b>Wed. 7/30 - Thu. 7/31/2014</b>	<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE OPEN</b>	<b>Owl's Nest</b>
Wed. 7/30 - Thu. 7/31/2014	NEPGA Senior Championship	Okemo Valley Golf Club
TBA	<b>MASS SENIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Mon. 8/4-Wed. 8/6/2014</b>	<b>RHODE ISLAND OPEN</b>	<b>Agawam Hunt Club</b>
Tuesday, August 05, 2014	Stroke Play Series #4	TBA
Monday, August 11, 2014	Coakley Pro-Am	Charles River & Woodland
Mon. 8/18 - Wed. 8/20/2014	NEPGA Championship	Golf Club of New England & Portsmouth
Tuesday, August 26, 2014	NEPGA Senior/Junior Championship	TBA
Wed. 9/3-Thu 9/4/2014	NEPGA Assistant's Championship	TBA
Tuesday, September 09, 2014	Stroke Play Series #5	TBA
Sunday, September 14, 2014	IGOE Pro-Member	Wellesley Country Club
Mon. 9/15 - Wed. 9/17/2014	New England Open	Belmont Country Club
Wednesday, September 24, 2014	Head Professional Championship	TBA
Tuesday, September 30, 2014	Stroke Play Championship	Old Sandwich Golf Club
TBA	Mohegan Sun ProAm Finals	Mohegan Sun Country Club
<b>Thursday, October 09, 2014</b>	<b>Senior Professional National Championship</b>	<b>PGA Golf Club</b>
Tuesday, October 14, 2014	NEPGA Cape Cod ProAm #1	Oyster Harbors Club
Wednesday, October 15, 2014	NEPGA Cape Cod ProAm #2	Eastward Ho! Country Club
Thursday, October 16, 2014	NEPGA Cape Cod ProAm #3	Willowbend Country Club
Friday, October 17, 2014	NEPGA Cape Cod ProAm #4	Wianno Club
Monday, October 20, 2014	Scholarship Pro-Am	TPC Boston
Wednesday, October 22, 2014	NEPGA Pro-Superintendent	Black Rock Country Club
Friday, October 24, 2014	Fall Meeting & Awards Banquet	TBA
<b>Thu., 10/30-Sun., 11/2/2014</b>	<b>PGA Assistant Professional Championship</b>	<b>PGA Golf Club</b>
<b>Sun., 11/2 - Wed., 11/5/2014</b>	<b>Las Vegas Pro-Am</b>	<b>Paiute Golf Resort</b>





# PGA

New England Section

## *Winter Pro - Pro*

*Reunion Resort - Orlando, FL*

*January 25, 2014*

*\$300 per Team*

*Sign Up at [www.nepga.com](http://www.nepga.com)*



*2013 NEPGA Winter Pro - Pro Champions  
Shawn Warren, PGA and Jeff Seavey, PGA*

## EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### **2014 Winter Cracker Barrel #1 with Tom Cavicchi, PGA**

**Date:** Monday, January 6, 2014  
**Place:** The Harmon Golf and Fitness Club  
**Time:** 9:30 am to 1:00 pm  
**Cost:** \$25  
**MSR Hours:** 4 PGA Education MSR hours  
**Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)

### **Improving Your Game & Instruction through Strength Training Golf Fitness Seminar with Kaitlyn Sharpless, PGA [Click here for details](#)**

**Date:** Friday, January 10, 2014  
**Place:** MBCS, 29 Draper St, Woburn, MA  
**Time:** 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**Cost:** Free  
**MSR Hours:** 2 PGA Education MSR hours  
**Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)

## 2014 AWARD NOMINATION FORMS

The deadline to submit nominations for the 2014 NEPGA Special Awards is Monday, December 16th. Members in good standing may submit a nomination(s). Click [here](#) to view the current list of nominations.

The online forms were previously emailed to NEPGA members. If you need the award nomination forms emailed to you again, please contact Joan at the Section office, [jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com). Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in the special awards nomination process!

## *New Changes for 2014:* PGA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



**PGA**

The PGA Financial Assistance Scholarship application will go live on the homepage of [PGALinks.com](http://PGALinks.com) beginning on Friday, November 15th, with a

submission deadline of Monday, March 17th. Graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of PGA members are encouraged to apply. Click [here](#) to view more information.

**Please note the two new changes for 2014!** 20% of funding will take in to account financial need, please see details in Financial Need Section of application AND beginning with 2014 graduating high school seniors (incoming Freshman in Fall of 2014) the total number of scholarships a student can receive will be limited to 2 total scholarships over the 4 years of undergraduate college attendance.

### **Scholarship Resources:**

[Click here to view Scholarship Search Tips](#)

[Click here to view Additional Scholarships](#)

## YOUTH & FAMILY GOLF SUMMIT

The 2014 Youth & Family Golf Summit at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando kicks off Monday, Jan. 20, with numerous educational opportunities for PGA Professionals during the 61st PGA Merchandise Show week. Carrying the theme, "The Power of Youth & Family Golf!" the Summit is all about "Driving value to your facility and your bottom line."

PGA members who attend the PGA Youth & Family Golf Summit will earn 9 MSR credits in the PGA required category. The deadline to register is Monday, Jan. 13, 5:00 p.m. Click [here](#) for more information on PGALinks.com and to register.

## ASSISTANT JOB OPPORTUNITIES POSTED ON NEPGA.COM



*Don't forget ~* All NEPGA Professionals who would like to list an Assistant Professional job opening for 2014 can simply email the position's information to Joan Stuart at [jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com) or call the NEPGA office at 508.869.0000 and we will post the opening for you until your position is filled. Of course, this is in addition to posting the opening through the Employment Center on [www.PGALinks.com](http://www.PGALinks.com).

## 2014 PAT SITES NEEDED

The Section is looking for potential PAT sites for 2014. Ideally, we would like to have at 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](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com) or 508.869.0000. The process of selecting the venues for 2014 will not be finalized until mid-December.

## JR TOUR HOST SITES NEEDED



Once again the New England Junior Tour Department faces the task of securing the finest facilities for the NEPGA Junior Tour (2014). We're looking to expand the tournament schedule for 2014 and are in need of additional host facilities. We are aware that all clubs face the challenge of balancing their event schedule while providing ample playing opportunities for juniors.

The NEPGA Jr Tour tournaments are 18-hole individual stroke play events with fields consisting between 40-70 juniors (based off of tee time allotment). We pair players in the 9-hole divisions last in order for you member/public play to have open holes when making the turn.

That said, if you are interested in hosting the NEPGA Jr Tour in 2014 please email Jacy Settles (Director of Jr. Golf Operations) at [jsettles@pgahq.com](mailto:jsettles@pgahq.com).





## RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Bob Beach, PGA head professional at Braintree (Mass.) Municipal Golf Course, who for nearly two decades has been a lead instructor in the New England PGA Section for teaching golf to the physically challenged, has been named recipient of the 2013 Patriot Award. He was honored at the 97th PGA Annual Meeting at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina. Click [here](#) to read more on PGALinks.com.

Click [here](#) to listen to Bob's interview with John Maginnes on the PGA TOUR Radio show, Maginnes On Tap, that aired on December 4th!



Bob was also recently recognized by the Braintree American Legion for his commitment to serving veterans. Click [here](#) to listen to Bob's acceptance speech.

## GEORGE S. WEMYSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND HOLIDAY APPEAL



**George S. Wemyss** 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 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 2014 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 NEPGA member make a tax deductible donation to the fund, preferably by December 31, 2013. 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.

*Thank you to the following PGA Professionals who have donated to the Scholarship Fund during the 2013 Annual Holiday Appeal:*

Brian Hamilton, PGA in memory of Warren Birch, PGA  
 Stuart Cady, PGA  
 Mark Larrabee, PGA in memory of Jeff Hadley, PGA  
 Lou Rivers, PGA  
 Jim Sheerin, PGA in memory of Joe Clark Sr.  
 Jim Salinetti, PGA  
 Dave McAdams in honor of Kylie McAdams  
 Troy Pare, PGA  
 Lou Katsos, PGA  
 Bucky Buchanan, PGA in memory of Francis J. Love III  
 Dan Diskin, PGA in memory of Tom Murphy  
 Donnie Lyons, PGA in memory of Bill Barclay, Bill Flynn, and Tom Murphy  
 Bob Beach, PGA in memory of Ken and Andrea Campbell  
 Jim DiMarino, PGA in memory of Bill Flynn  
 Jack Neville, PGA in memory of Gerry Mackedon  
 Chris Carpenter, PGA  
 Chris Carter, PGA  
 Scott Johnson, PGA  
 Peter Meagher, PGA  
 Brendan Walsh, PGA  
 Jane Frost, PGA in honor of Bart Brown  
 Jim O'Leary, PGA in memory of Tommy Murphy  
 Paul Rudeen, PGA in memory of Paul Rudeen, Jr.  
 Bryce Roberts, PGA in memory of John Angis

REGISTER YOUR TEAM BY JANUARY 15th!



The New England PGA invites you to take in the breathtaking scenery and world class golf of the Dominican Republic this March by playing in our Casa de Campo Pro-Am. Click [here](#) to view the package details and everything in store for you during your five night visit featuring unlimited food, golf and drinks. In addition, any professional bringing three couples (amateur and spouse) may bring his spouse for FREE!

For more information, please contact Ben Vandal at the NEPGA office, [bvandal@pgahq.com](mailto:bvandal@pgahq.com) or 508-869-0000 or call Gilles Gagnon to register at 809-523-8215. Please mention that you are with the New England PGA Pro Am. The deadline to register is January 15th!

## OUTSIDE THE ROPES

The NEPGA is highlighting our Section's PGA Professionals who are giving back to their communities in a feature called "Outside the Ropes". If you have a story to share that might inspire other Professionals to become involved in charitable endeavors outside of the realm of golf, contact Joan at [jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com) to request a questionnaire. This month, we're featuring **Brendan Reilly, PGA** of Compass Athletics.

*"Several veterans and myself in conjunction with the Dennis Chamber of Commerce hammered in 200 stakes to prominently display flags uniformly 10 feet apart from each other in honor of our soldiers active, retired and deceased. The middle school children assisted by putting each flag into the stakes that were driven into the ground. The appearance was greater than Arlington National Cemetery as the American Flags were very large. Once complete, it was ceremonial and extremely patriotic. It was an impressive scene and brought tears to several onlookers. My father served in WWII as a Second Lt in the Army Air Corp. I am a proud son of a veteran and spent five hours of complete pride assisting in this venture."*

~ Brendan J. Reilly, PGA





## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PGA EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANT



### ***Now is the time for Performance Evaluations & Annual Reviews***

Many PGA Professionals have a dim view of performance reviews and either dread them or avoid them completely. I would challenge you (whether you are the employer or the employee) to understand how much value performance reviews can provide. The benefits are two-fold and are generally overlooked by both supervisor and employee. With the end of the year approaching and many professionals being involved in performance reviews, I thought I'd offer a quick overview of why performance reviews are beneficial.

A well-designed and implemented performance review system helps both employer and employee. For the employer, it is an opportunity to discuss performance expectations, give credit and thanks for accomplishments and where needed, offer constructive criticism. For employees, reviews provide a frank assessment of their work and how they are meeting expectations, encouragement and reinforcement for a job well done and a framework for improvement to continue to advance their career.

Employers and employees must take the initiative to get more from performance discussions. This is an ongoing process, not a chore to "get it over with" until another 12 months goes by. Think of it as a yearlong system that includes:

1. Clear expectations and career development plans. Not handed down from above, but jointly created and negotiated.
2. Ongoing coaching and feedback. Though many people do dread the idea of the annual review, employee surveys across industries reveal that receiving ongoing coaching and feedback is what employees want more of most.
3. Annual summary of accomplishments and improvements. The year-end review is the chance to step back and look at the year as a whole. Focus on end results that were achieved. Discuss responsibility for things that didn't go as planned. Keep the focus on the future, using the past as a learning experience.

Employers assisting employees in reaching new heights of performance will ensure success in any business venture; ultimately creating a scenario where everyone is a winner!

Michael Packard, PGA  
Employment Consultant  
Central New York, Connecticut, Metropolitan, New England,  
New Jersey & Northeastern New York Sections  
[mpackard@pgahq.com](mailto:mpackard@pgahq.com)  
860.851.9008

## 2013-14 NEAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please see listed below the NEPGA Assistants' Association Board of Directors for 2013-2014. Dan Venezio, PGA is the newest addition to the board, having been elected at the NEAA Fall Meeting on October 24, 2013.

**Keith Gagnon**, President  
**Chris Sessa**, Vice President  
**TJ Anthoine**, Treasurer  
**Jake Leech**, Secretary  
**Dan Venezio**, Officer at Large  
**Matt Closter**, Honorary President

## CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Jason Malcolm, PGA of Winchester Country Club and his wife Ingrid on the birth of their daughter MacKenzie Juliet Malcolm, born on October 17th weighing 6 lbs. 2 oz.



## HOLIDAY SECTION OFFICE HOURS

The New England PGA Section office will be closed for the holidays from December 24th through January 1st. We wish you and your families a happy holiday season!



# THANK YOU 2013 SPONSORS



## CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS

### CAPE COD CHAPTER / RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER

#### CHAPTER TEAMS VISIT VEGAS!



Seven teams from Rhode Island & Cape Cod enjoyed the NEPGA Las Vegas Pro-Am in early November. This year, because of flooding in October, the tournament played one round at TPC Las Vegas while using Pauite GC for the remaining two days.



*Susan Bond, PGA*



*Dave Tiedemann, PGA*



*Jeff Halunen, PGA*



*Jay Wick, PGA*



*Matt Walsh & his Warwick team*



*Rick Finlayson, PGA*

#### SINCERE THANKS TO...

The following sponsors of **Rhode Island PGA Chapter** tournaments in 2013 - CALLAWAY/ Peter Guild, TAYLOR-MADE/ Gary Rencurrel, FOOTJOY/ Peter Butt, TITLEIST/ Dave Moynihan, THE HAVERSHAM RESTAURANT/ Jay Beausoleil, CCE/ Keith Tortorella, CLEVELAND-SRIXON/ Matt Howard, PING/ Shannon Johnson, OXFORD-GARB/ Cary Gordon, STERLING CUT GLASS/ Haley Hill, THE GOLF CONNECTION/ Tom Jaronski.

And to the following sponsors of **Cape Cod PGA Chapter** tournaments in 2013 - CALLAWAY/ Peter Guild, TAYLOR-MADE/ Jamie Griffiths, FOOTJOY/ David Woods, TITLEIST/ Dave Moynihan, CAPE COD REHAB/ Joe Carroll, CLANCY CONSTRUCTION/ Greg Clancy, BOBBY BYRNES PUBS/ Jeff Moore, THE LANES BOWL & BISTRO/ Jeff Moore, JB JONES ELECTRIC/ Brad Jones, FAIRWAY & GREENE/ Jeff DiBona, CCE/ Keith Tortorella, OXFORD-GOLF BUDDY/ Cary Gordon. Note: New sponsors already signed for 2014: CAPE AIR & JOFIT!

#### AWARDS

Cape Cod PGA Chapter President Jesse Schechtman and Awards Committee Chairman Rich Iwaszko have announced the following award winners: GARY PHILBRICK PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR/ Greg Yeomans – The Bay Club, TEACHER OF THE YEAR/ Rick Coleman – New Seabury, ASSISTANT PRO OF THE YEAR/ Robert Foster – Pocasset and JUNIOR LEADER OF THE YEAR/ Roman Greer – Hyannis GC. Congratulations to all.

Mickey Herron, PGA  
NEPGA Tournament Operations  
Cape Cod & Rhode Island Chapters  
[mherron@pgahq.com](mailto:mherron@pgahq.com)



## CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

### MAINE CHAPTER



The off-season is officially here for most of us, that means that we get a chance to slow down and recharge the battery. I know PGA Professionals really never stop and that is what makes us the leaders and experts in the game of golf. The Chapter also does not stop as this is the time of the year where we reflect, evaluate, prepare and implement. I have attended a few committee meetings already and more are planned for December and January.

When it comes to reflecting and evaluating, 2013 was a good year for us, participation in events was up significantly in 2012 and we were able to maintain that participation this year (for the record, we were about 1% up from 2013). Our committees were strong and active, we had three NEPGA Section Award winners, three of our members qualified for the PNC next June and we brought in some new partners.

**Preparing** – The tournament schedule is nearly complete, just waiting on confirmation from one facility. Here is a sneak peek at some of the 2014 calendar;

Chapter Championship – Dunegrass GC – June 4-5  
Pro-Pro Stroke Play – Webhannet GC – June 9 (Please note this is not our traditional May date)  
State of Maine Championship – Sugarloaf GC – July 15-16  
Assistant's Championship – Spring Meadow – August 12  
Robert Dugas Cup Matches – Cape Arundel – October 6-7

Some new venues to the Pro-Am schedule for next year...  
Biddeford-Saco CC, Kebo Valley GC, Augusta CC and Toddy Brook GC.

I have also met with the Portland Sea Dogs on two occasions and we are busy planning some new and unique Growth of The Game Initiatives.

I am looking forward to reporting lots of new and great information to you over the coming months.

The first educational seminar of the off-season was held at The Woodlands Club on Tuesday, November 19. Ben Vandal and Brian Bain put on a two hour seminar on Social Media. More than a dozen professionals saw the power, convenience and endless opportunities of social media. Many thanks to Tom Moffatt and the Education Committee for organizing and coordinating the seminar.

I wish all of you and your families a healthy and happy Holiday Season.

Safe travels!

Tony Decker, PGA  
NEPGA Maine Ch. Tournament Operations Manager

### MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER



**PGA**  
New England Section  
Massachusetts Chapter

Well the season has come to an end and it is time to take advantage of the holiday season and spend some time with friends and family before refocusing on the 2014 golf season. There are going to be many educational opportunities this offseason so if you can take advantage of them. We have a great tournament schedule planned for the spring of 2014 with sites and dates confirmed and our Chapter has secured another sponsor for the 2014 year, Avidia Bank. During the 2014 PGA show we have scheduled meetings with three companies in hopes of securing a few more sponsorship possibilities, and assuredly our Chapter will be keeping our relationship with Pro-Quip.

The fall meeting produced a lot of good conversation, concerns and ideas and much of those have been discussed in the past two months, and with constant communication between the Chapter leadership and district directors we feel the Massachusetts Chapter is in a very strong place to be an industry leader and innovator (education opportunities, tournaments, awards, scholarships, innovative meetings, etc.) for many years to come and as always we welcome all ideas, thoughts and questions. We hope all have a great holiday season and new year and we look forward to seeing many of you throughout the next few months.

Mark Aldrich, PGA  
Vice President, Massachusetts Chapter  
508-853-5087

### VERMONT CHAPTER



The Vermont BOD and Chapter members would like to wish a Happy and Healthy Holidays to all our fellow professionals in the New England Section as well as the NEPGA staff and their families. Our best wishes for a wonderful holiday season go out to all our generous sponsors from this past season.

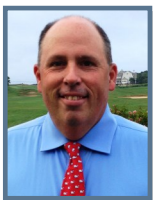
The VT Chapter BOD has begun the process of finalizing our 2014 playing schedule and budgets for the coming year. Meetings have been scheduled after the NE planning session to complete these tasks by the beginning of the year.

Our facility relations committee, through the leadership of Mike Packard, PGA, has completed two new job bulletins at Burlington CC and Alburgh GC.

David Christy, PGA  
NEPGA Vermont Ch. Operations Manager  
802-476-7007  
[dlcpga@myfairpoint.net](mailto:dlcpga@myfairpoint.net)

## CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

### ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION



Seasons Greetings to my fellow brother and sister New England PGA Professionals and Apprentices! As we reflect upon the past year, it is my sincerest hope that your 2013 season has brought you and your facilities and most importantly your families, great prosperity.

On behalf of myself and the New England PGA Assistants' Association board, I would like to thank our members for their support and participation during the 2013 season. We are most grateful to those PGA Professionals and their facilities that hosted Assistants' Association events this year. We are truly privileged to have so many talented and supportive Professionals that allow us the honor of playing at some of New England's most fabulous venues. I would be remiss if I did not give thanks and recognize the incredible support and flat out hard work from the NEPGA Staff. With the amount of hours and time put in on our behalf, the Assistants' Association simply would not and could not function without you! I personally would like to thank the New England PGA Assistants' Association board. They continue to do an outstanding job in making the Association something we can all be proud of. You are a pleasure to work with and are gentlemen Par Excellence!

As we turn our attention toward the holidays, I hope we are all sharing the feeling of just how blessed we are in our lives. Not only do we have our basic needs met each day, but to the have the privilege to work in an arena like the Golf industry is a true blessing. We are in a very unique position to positively affect the lives of a great many people. Golf is our vehicle to that end. We model to ourselves, our children and people we associate with to be loving, polite, respectful, generous, noble, kind, empathetic and sympathetic people, as well as ambassadors to the game. Well, if that isn't in a nutshell what the game of Golf fosters, than I don't know what does. If we can live these values and spread the word of Golf at our clubs and in our communities, I am optimistic that Golf will take on a place in sport and in life that transcends problems and dividing lines that create conflicts morally in other sports that Golf simply doesn't have.

May the Christmas season be filled with peace, hope and love for you and your families. And may we always hope and pray for those less fortunate than we. I hope you will in some way this holiday season, acknowledge the blessing of Golf in your life as I certainly do and maybe pass it on to someone else! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families! And as always, may Golf and Life be kind to you!

Keith W. Gagnon, PGA  
The Club at New Seabury  
New England PGA Assistants' Association President

### SENIORS' ASSOCIATION



Thank you to all seniors for their participation this past season. The Seniors' Association would like to reach out to all senior NEPGA members to join the Seniors' Association. Benefits include opportunities to play in pro-pro tournaments, pro-and-one-amateur tournaments, and pro-and-three-amateur tournaments. All tournaments are scheduled according to the availability of the club, usually any day from Monday to Friday.

Many thanks to Joe Carr, Paul Barkhouse, Dennis Selvitella, and Joan Stuart for all that they do to organize senior activities, and to the host professionals who welcome us to their clubs. Joe, Paul, Dennis and Joan are already at work scheduling events for next season. Look for ongoing announcements on the NEPGA website beginning mid-winter. There are many benefits to maintaining old and forming new relationships with our fellow senior professionals.

The spring meeting for the Senior Association will take place at Middleton Golf Club in Middleton, MA in April.

The Seniors' Association sends best wishes during this holiday season to all members and NEPGA staff.

Jack Neville  
NEPGA Senior Director

# Happy Holidays





## CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

### NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER



*Pictured top right:* Alex Kirk (L) Hanover CC Head Professional and past president of the New Hampshire Chapter presents Player of the Year award to Matt Arvanitis (R), Concord CC Assistant Professional. Arvanitis narrowly beat out annual contenders, Dan Wilkins of Laconia and Rich Berberian, Jr. of Windham CC.

*Pictured bottom right:* Taking part in a New Hampshire Chapter Seminar: Golf Operations Cracker Barrel held in early December at Derryfield CC in Manchester were the following professionals: Alex Kirk, Hanover CC; Matt Arvanitis, Concord CC; Dave Krumenacker, Country Club of NH; Mark Larabee, Eastman Golf Links; Dan Diskin, Overlook GC and Dustin Ribolini, Hanover CC. This was the first of monthly scheduled cracker barrel sessions that the Chapter is planning to conduct throughout the winter months.

Click [here](#) to view the 2014 New Hampshire Chapter tentative schedule .

The Chapter board of directors expresses its best wishes to members and their families for a joyous holiday season!

Frank Swierz  
NEPGA NH Ch. Tournament Manager  
[fswierz@comcast.net](mailto:fswierz@comcast.net)



## SECTION NEWS *Continued...*

### DONATE CLUBS FOR VETERANS

#### *PGA Best Practice in Player Development Submitted by Bob Beach, PGA*



#### **Bob Beach on the importance of donating clubs for veterans:**

The New England PGA Section conducted a six-week session of free golf clinics for veterans and disabled veterans last fall at Braintree Municipal Golf Course. We were pleasantly surprised that

six of the veterans had never played golf before. We extended the clinics an additional two weeks in order to get the beginners out on the golf course. A nonprofit called Golf For All donated full sets of golf clubs to each of our new golfers. One of our female students has a husband who is serving our country in the Coast Guard. We were having trouble finding her a set of clubs, so we contacted the New England PGA Section office. Our Section quickly sent out an email entitled "Clubs for Vets," and within a couple of days the woman had a new set of golf clubs courtesy of two Section members. Several other PGA members have also donated golf clubs. We like to have the person receiving the golf clubs write a short bio about their military service, which we publish in the Section newsletter along with a photo of them receiving their new clubs.

#### **Bob Beach on the business impact of donating clubs for veterans:**

We held 46 free clinics for veterans and disabled veterans in the New England PGA Section in 2012, and we set a goal to top that number this season and attract more veterans that are new to the game. We plan to give them a set of golf clubs whenever possible. It is a privilege to be able to help veterans in any way and thank them for their service to our country, and it is the right thing to do. I feel if we, as PGA Professionals, can also provide them a set of golf clubs and help get them started in something new, that's even better. Creating new golfers out of veterans will only help our game.



**Donate Today! Click Here to Learn More**



# Protect Your Game

Available to all golfers mid October!

Get health, fitness, and injury prevention information from Hospital for Special Surgery, the nation's #1 orthopedic hospital

[www.hss.edu/hssgolf](http://www.hss.edu/hssgolf)



Look up common conditions affecting golfers

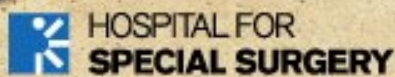


Easy-to-follow, unique videos

Easily access injury prevention tips



Promote ideal body movement and prevent injury



PGA

Official Hospital of The PGA of America





## New Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Scott F. Carroll, PGA	A-8	Stone Meadow Driving Range
Matthew Cunningham, PGA	A-1	Black Swan CC
Edward J. Dobbins, PGA	A-23	Dick's Sporting Goods
Christopher E. Gagnon, PGA	A-8	The Ridge Club

## New Apprentices

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Ryan M Amburn	B-8	Montaup CC
Joshua M Brickley	B-8	Meadow Brook GC
Tyson R Dion	B-8	Tedesco CC
Jason E Harris	B-8	Penobscot Valley CC

## New Quarter Century Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Award Date</u>
Thomas Giffin, PGA	A-1	11/30/2013

These reports reflect changes made between  
11/6/2013 and 12/11/2013.



**PGA**

Official Card of PGA Professionals

## Classification Changes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Jim Burke, PGA	A-1	Leo J. Martin Memorial GC
Arthur W. Carlson, PGA	A-14	Leo J. Martin Memorial GC
Dan Diskin, PGA	LM	
Mitch E. Jefferson, PGA	A-1	Ridgewood CC
Brendan J. Reilly, PGA	A-14	Compass Athletics
Michael J. Shutte, PGA	A-20	Polo Golf / Ralph Lauren
Rodney F. VanGuilder, PGA	A-14	Rod's Golf Improvement Center Inc

## Employment Changes

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Jeff D. Czerwinski, PGA	A-14	11/20	GolfTEC - Natick
Mitch E. Jefferson, PGA	A-1	11/25	Ridgewood CC
Brendan J. Reilly, PGA	A-14	11/29	Compass Athletics
Michael J. Shutte, PGA	A-20	12/1	Polo Golf/Ralph Lauren
Rodney F. VanGuilder, PGA	A-14	11/19	Rod's Golf Improvement Center Inc

## New Transfers into Section

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Previous Section</u>
Michael J. Shutte, PGA	A-20	New Jersey

## NEPGA BULLETIN BOARD

Do you have a birth or wedding announcement you'd like to share with your fellow NEPGA members? Send us your special announcements for the newsletter! Please send to Joan at [JStuart@pgahq.com](mailto:JStuart@pgahq.com).

To promote your upcoming club event or post an item on the Marketplace, please send the details to Joan Stuart at [JStuart@pgahq.com](mailto:JStuart@pgahq.com). Ads will run for 1 month.

Buy or Sell!

### MARKETPLACE

For Sale:

2 Slightly-used Range Pickers

[Click here for more info](#)

Contact [JStuart@pgahq.com](mailto:JStuart@pgahq.com) to post on the marketplace.