

Full Swing Official News Magazine of the New England PGA December 2015



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### **FRONT COVER:**

The Section wishes to thank those who have contributed to the NEPGA Scholarship Fund this holiday season as we aim to reach our goal of \$10,000! Through the generosity of our Section members and sponsor Avidia Bank, we are currently at \$7,750. See page 14 of this news magazine to find out how to donate before the year is over!

## **NEPGA OFFICERS**



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Rob Jarvís, PGA



It is the most wonderful time of the year! If you're anything like me, the holiday season is just that. For many of us, this time of year is one of the first chances we really get to spend significant time with our families and loved ones. The summer grind has come to a halt. We no longer have to miss out on barbeques, graduation parties, concerts, and all the other fun activities those not in the golf

profession can enjoy on a regular basis.

As we prepare for a fun-filled holiday season, I think it is important to remember the true essence of this time of year. Regardless of what holiday you celebrate, they all have similarities surrounding them. Old family traditions, spending time with loved ones, cookies, stringing up lights, surprising our children...did I mention cookies? What is equally important is what this season is not about. Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Plaid Friday, and whatever Wednesday is called now, were never a part of my holiday season as a child or now later in life.

We are all fortunate in our lives. Some of us, most of us, have had our shares of ups and downs at one time or another. We may be experiencing one of those times right now. This holiday season I ask that you keep this in perspective. Not everyone has a tree full of presents under it. Some folks have no family remaining and will spend the season in solitude. Many of our country's military will spend this year overseas defending our freedom. Some folks will sleep outside on Christmas Eve.

My intention is not to make the more fortunate feel guilty, or to be depressing. I simply ask that you look around you and do something nice for your fellow man. As PGA Professionals, we are held to a high standard. Some of that standard is creation of our own and some of it is how the community perceives us. We have a giving nature. We help those in need. We donate thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours to various charities throughout the country and the world. I believe we are not just leaders in our industry, but leaders in kindness.

The old saying is that "it is better to give than receive". That is partially true. I have been very fortunate in my life to have great holiday experiences. However, the greatest gift I have received has been through making small efforts to help those in need this time of year. My wife and I have the honor of working with our local Shriners on their "Feztival of Trees" holiday campaign. As you can see by the picture, we get to decorate a tree (we buy it on super clearance in January) and put toys for kids underneath it. Folks from the community come and buy tickets to stuff in the buckets next to the trees they like. If their ticket is drawn, they get the tree and everything under it. All of the proceeds go to the Shriners Children's Hospital. That has quickly become the most fulfilling holiday tradition we have.

I understand not everyone may be in the position to give financially. In fact, some of the kindest things you can do require no money. Maybe help serve lunch at a soup kitchen. Volunteer at a local hospital or VA. Write a Christmas card to one of our men and women in arms. There are dozens of great things you can do to give back that require nothing but your time. Trust me, it will not only make a difference in someone's life, but it may be the highlight of your holiday season.

In closing I ask this of all of you...Be a leader in kindness this year. Show your community that PGA Professionals are not just stewards of the game of golf, but stewards of mankind. Thank you and please enjoy this most wonderful time of year!

Respectfully,

Rob Jarvis, PGA New England PGA President robjarvis@pga.com



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: Michael Higgins



This newsletter is the final submission of the 2015 season. It has been a very active season and as I say every December, "where did the year go?" The success of this season could not have been achieved without the hard work of the NEPGA Staff, the Section Officers, Board of Directors and active committee members. I would like to thank all of these fine

individuals that contributed to the NEPGA being the best Section in the country.

I know many of us will look back on our year and reflect on our successes as well as our failures. Setting goals for the upcoming year typically is the next step after our time of reflection, and I recently viewed a comparison chart of successful people and unsuccessful people that might be helpful in setting your personal and professional goals for 2016.

#### Successful People

### Unsuccessful People

- Read every day
- Compliment
- Embrace change
- Forgive others
- Talk about ideas
- Continuously learn
- Accept responsibility for their failures
- Have a sense of gratitude
- Set goals and develop life plans

CONNECT = -

- Watch TV every day
- Criticize
- Fear Change
- Hold a grudge
- Talk about people
- Think they know it all
- Blame others for their failures
- Have a sense of entitlement
- Never set goals

I hope you find the list helpful as I personally want to incorporate the traits of successful people in my goals for next season!

The holidays are always a great opportunity to connect with friends and family. Earlier this year I received a call from a PGA Professional that read my December 2014 Newsletter message and told me "I heard your message and reached out to an old friend. I am so glad that I did, because my friend passed away after a long illness and is no longer with us." In an effort that someone else may hear my holiday message I would like to run it again for 2015. Even if it is only one person, it is worth it. I know I will be making calls this holiday season.

From 2014: As we sometimes get distracted by the holiday lights, the extravagant department store advertisements and displays, or the radio stations that have been playing holiday music since Halloween, let us not forget those that are less fortunate or alone this holiday season. Call that friend from college you haven't spoken with in a while. Reach out to your grandparents that are a few states away. Let your neighbor know that you are thinking about their family as their child is protecting our country while stationed in another part of the world. Connect with that someone who may have recently lost a loved one and will be spending the holiday without them for first time. You will be happy that you did...and so will they.

Remember the epiphany our green friend who lives on top of Mount Crumpit once had... "Maybe Christmas doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps, means a little bit more."

I have enjoyed serving the New England Section and its wonderful PGA Professionals. Thank you so very much for the opportunity, and I am excited for 2016 and beyond.

I sincerely wish you all a very Merry Christmas, the Happiest of Holidays and a Safe and Successful New Year!

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Respectfully,

Michael Higgins Executive Director New England PGA

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# **2016 NEPGA Special Award Nominations**

The nomination period for the 2016 NEPGA Special Awards has come to a close. All of our nominees are listed below. Nominees will be sent the official nominations forms during early January with a submission deadline of February 5, 2016. Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual awards process!

# Golf Professional of the Year

Norm Alberigo James Antonelli Bob Beach Stuart Cady **Tony Decker** Mike Dugas Sean Edmonds **Boomer Erick** John Fields Tom Giffin Bob Giusti Steve Gonsalves Brian Hamilton Steve Hancock Mark Heartfield Jason Hurd **Rob Jarvis** Brian Kellev Larry Kelley Steve Lundquist Steve Mann Mike Menery **Bob Miller Jimmy Noris** Peter Norton Jim O'Mara Don Roberts Dave Tiedemann Brendan Walsh Jay Wick Zack Wyman

### Hall of Fame

Susan Bond Jack Gale Arthur Harris James Lane Bob Menne Bill Safrin

### **Horton Smith Award**

Brent Amaral Ron Bibeau Mike Bradshaw Tom Cavicchi Tracy Djerf Rob Jarvis Mark O'Brien Erik Sorensen Eric Steindel

## **Teacher of the Year** Mark Ashton

Keith Barber Eric Barlow John Blair Allie Bloomquist Todd Campbell Garv Cardoza Tom Cavicchi Chris Colucci **Boomer Erick** Terry Felty Kristy Gleason Webb Heintzelman Shawn Hester Andrea Johnson Chip Johnson Dave Marcotte Scott Maver Anne McClure Todd McKittrick Joe McNulty Sean McTernan Paul Meunier **Kyle Phelps Bob Prange** Tim Riese Don Roberts Mike Rothera Jason Sedan Abby Spector Marc Spencer Tim Tierney Jimmy Tirone Bob Tramonti Phil Truono

### **Patriot Award**

Bob Beach Todd Campbell Mike Cloutier Bill Curtin Dick Dichard Doug Errhalt Brian Gara Dan Gaughan Bob Giusti Jim Tobin

### Youth Player Development Award

Ben Alexander John Chatelain Todd Cook Paul Coutoumas Nicholas J. Deni Brian Diamond Peter Doherty Dave Donnellan Mark Gammons Dan Gaughan Roman Greer Matt Havers Andrew Jordan Aaron Karr Kirk Kimball David Moore Jim Ouellette Abigail Spector Mike Sullivan Andrew Walkley Tim Watroba

### Bill Strausbaugh Award

Matt Arvanitis Mike Bradshaw John Del Bonis Jim DiMarino John Fields Bob Guisti Brian Golden Adam Hemeon Larry Kelley Glenn Kelly Alex Kirk Dave Mazzeo John Rainone Dave Soucy Doug Van Wickler Brendan Walsh Zack Wyman

#### George S. Wemyss Award

Susan Bond Peter Dalton Gary Larrabee

## Assistant Golf Professional of the Year

**TJ** Anthoine Chris Bohac Jim Chojnowski Matt Closter Joe DiSanto **Michael Farrell** Tyler Gosselin **Rob Jarvis** Nick Kaiser Aaron Karr Ryan Kesten **Bill Maguire** Nick Maresca Tom Moffatt Brian Moskevich Mark Nelson Brendon Ray Mike Roy Michael Sullivan Zachary Sweet Dan Venezio Tim Watroba Jason Winslow

### Player Development Award

Ron Bibeau Brian Bickford **Barrie Bruce** Chris Carpenter Graham Cunningham Joanne Flynn Matt Havers **Rick Johnson** Aaron Karr Don Lyons Scott MacArthur Jill Philips John Rainone Michael Rothera Abigail Spector John Wollen Zack Wyman Greg Yeomans

# Merchandiser of the Year ~ Private

James Antonelli Mike Bradshaw Stuart Cady Graham Cunningham **Tony Decker** John Fields Nick Glicos **Brian Hamilton** Adam Hemeon Steve Mann Todd McKittrick Jim Noris Mark Nowosielski Jim O'Mara Kyle Page Jeff Phillips Eri Seguin Erik Sorensen Eric Steindel Chris Twombly Matt Walsh Jay Wick

# Merchandiser of the Year ~ Public

Brian Bickford Peiter DeVos Tony DiGiorgio Nick Glicos Mark O'Brien Josh Olney Jim Pavlik Don Roberts John Tuffin Al Vallante

# Merchandiser of the Year ~ Resort

Pat Fannon Gary Soule

### Deacon Palmer Award

William J. Flynn (posthumously) Mick Herron Peter Norton Brian Owens Mark Petrucci Abby Spector

# Avidia Bank NEPGA Professionals Program

At Avidia Bank, we know you and your Pro Shop are a vital part of the golf community. To help you succeed, we have made it our practice to deliver specialized financial solutions and expertise including a banking relationship package - **NEPGA Professionals Banking** delivers the best of Avidia, so you can be at your best.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please submit to **nepga@avidiabank.com**.

## Business Benefits

## **Commercial Checking Account\***

- No monthly service fee.
- No daily fees or transaction fees, including per check fees.
- \$250 per year to be used towards new checks.
- No fee bank checks.
- An optional, no fee automatic sweep for balances in excess of \$25,000.
- Free Business Express, our on-line banking tool, including bill payment and wire transfers.

## **Commercial Money Market Account**

- No fees.
- Competitive interest rates.

## eDeposit – Make check deposits from the convenience of your own office

- No need to purchase or rent a scanner (normally \$600 \$1,200), we'll loan you one of ours, free of charge.
- No cost to service the scanner, we'll even replace it if needed.
- No per deposit or per check deposited fees.
- No monthly maintenance fee (normally \$50).

# Merchant Card Services - Provide your customers with the convenience of paying with debit/credit cards

- Highly competitive rates.
- Free use of merchant terminal, normally \$350 \$550 if purchased.
- Free maintenance and service of terminal.
- No set up fee (normally \$150).

## **Business Lines of Credit and Term Loans**

- 90 Day Deferral Option. Ask how it works!
- Whether you're just starting out or looking to expand. Let's talk!

## **Closing Cost Discounts on Residential Mortgages**

- \$300 off closing costs for all NEPGA members
- Additional \$500 off closing costs for First-Time Home Buyers

\*You must maintain one of the following requirements: \$10,000 in your business checking account(s) or A minimum \$25,000 balance in a business loan(s).

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Now you can get the card that's just right for you-right from us. You'll enjoy very competitive rates and personalized local service.

## Benefits

- No annual fee
- No balance transfer fee
- Zero liability
- Extended warranty
- ID theft protection
- Purchase assurance
- Avidia Bank will credit a portion of every NEPGA MasterCard® purchase to the NEPGA Foundation

## Generous rewards program

- 16,000 points after initial purchase and annually thereafter
- Earn 4 points for each dollar spent for all NEPGA sponsored events and any merchandise purchased in PGA Pro Shops
- Earn 3 points per dollar spent for travel and 2 points per dollar spent for all other purchases\*\*
- No expiration or cap on points earned
- Redeem points for merchandise, cash and gift cards

## **Apply Online!**

You can apply for the NEPGA Avidia Bank MasterCard® faster and easier than ever before. Visit nepga.avidiabank.com to apply.

\*The MasterCard rate for which we approve you will be based on your creditworthiness and other factors.

\*\*Transactions excluded from point calculation include cash advances, ATM withdrawals, convenience checks, and balance transfers, any fees and card-related charges posted to a Card account, tax payments or any unauthorized charges or transactions. Avidia Bank is not affiliated with any retailer participating in the bonus point program. Avidia Bank reserves the right to change the program at any time.





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## EMPLOYMENT MESSAGE: Míchael Packard, PGA



## 6 Tips To Ace Your Phone Interview

If your resume lands in the "YES" pile, the next step a Search Committee or a General Manager may offer is a phone screening. The purpose of this is to test your communication skills, can you

articulate on your work experience, which will determine if an interview will be granted. The sole purpose and the only outcome are for them to test your communication skills.

Here are six important tips that will make sure you ace your phone interview:

## 1. Be Prepared

Basic preparation steps include having your resume in front of you, making sure you are on a good phone line with no disturbances, and allocating enough time for the screening, even if it goes beyond what was scheduled.

## 2. Research the Position and the Interviewer/Committee

The first question, usually an ice-breaker by the employer is, "What do you know about us?" They also want to know if you have spent time reviewing the position and facility. If you do not know some particulars about the position or the facility you are applying for, you will most likely be downgraded on the applicant list. Spend some time reviewing the facility website, their social media and press releases, and see what members say about them. Utilize your PGA Professional network and your industry contacts inquiring about the opportunity.

Also, go to LinkedIn and review the background of the person conducting the interview. Check if the manager you will be reporting to participates in LinkedIn groups and discussions, and see if you have anything in common. If given the opportunity, always try to bring out the common ground in the phone interview with one of the search committee members by including their success with the duties of the job you are applying. For example, "Mr. Smith, when you were the CEO for IBM, I am certain that you were successful with leading your team because you had excellent communication with your managers and you expected high expectations."

3. Project Energy and Interest

The words you use account for only a fraction of the effectiveness of your communications. Tone and body language are most important, and since you are on the

phone, success depends on your intonation.

Put energy in your voice and demonstrate a high level of interest. An old telemarketing trick is to have a mirror in front of you and smile when you speak since that automatically affects your tone in a positive way.

## 4. Ask Questions and Build Rapport

People hire people they like, so it is important to turn the interview into a conversation by asking intelligent questions. Show off your expertise by following up their question with an insightful question of your own. Those who just answer questions and wait for the next question can be at a disadvantage.

Use a conversational tone, as if you are having lunch with a friend, telling a story, instead of just responding to questions.

## 5. Ask the Most Important Question

Clubs have a reason they are looking for a new talented golf professional and it is your job to find out what their chief source of "pain" is. Clubs do not want to hire status quo, they want to be better than before. Do this by asking:

"What is the biggest challenge someone will face in this job in the next six months?"

This lets you target your responses and demonstrate how you have successfully handled these challenges before.

## 6. See If They Have Any Concerns

Don't just end the call wondering how you did, ask them. For example:

"Based on what we discussed today, do you think I am a good candidate for this position?"

Now, when they respond, you should be able to handle any concerns they may have.

Michael Packard, PGA Employment Consultant serving: Central New York, Connecticut, Metropolitan, New England, New Jersey & Northeastern NY Sections <u>mpackard@pgahq.com</u> 860.851.9008

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# WeatherBug<sup>®</sup> Club Safety



Though the weather outside may be frightful, it's time to plan for 2016. Our industry leading lightning detection and alerting capabilities help you keep golfers and staff safe from severe weather events in the New England region throughout the golf season.

# WeatherBug Club Safety Offers:



On-site real-time weather monitoring



Outdoor Alerting System



Lightning detection via our Total Lightning Network

Lightning and severe weather alerts delivered to mobile devices

Go to <u>business.weatherbug.com/clubsafetyne</u> to learn how WeatherBug Club Safety can make sure you're ready for summer severe weather today!

## **SECTION NEWS**



# **NEPGA Through the Years**

In anticipation of the publishing of "The First 100 Years of the New England PGA, 1916-2016," we will feature a series of short vignettes looking back on the Section's unique history in our monthly news magazine.

# Tom Mahan, Sr. and Eugene "Skip" Wogan: The NEPGA's First Dynamic Duo

The Section was pretty much run out of the pro shop of the president from its founding in 1916 until 1970, but the first significant change in operation came with the election of Tom Mahan, Sr., of United Shoe Country Club in Beverly, Mass. as president in 1944. Although it was a singular election, the result was a two-man reward.

When Mahan took the gavel from predecessor Scotty Law, he made recent president Eugene "Skip" Wogan (1940-41) of Essex County Club his right hand man and secretary-treasurer, a position he held until his death in 1957. Wogan previously had served as president of what was then known as the New England Professional Golfers Organization (NEPGO) in 1926 and 1927. Between the two, they ran the Section with a firm, authoritative approach that benefited everyone involved with the NEPGA. In Wogan's second year as president, the NEPGO formally dissolved the name "New England Professional Golfers' Organization (NEPGO) and renamed itself the New England Professional Golfers' Association (NEPGA). The action took place on March 28, 1941 in an official filing in the Supreme Judicial Court of Suffolk County.

They most importantly brought along many young men as future members of the Section.

Most memorably, they organized a news-making dinner every April, usually on the day after the Masters, and often attracted a big name player as the guest speaker. Ever heard of Ben Hogan, Sam Snead, Jimmy Demaret, Jack Burke and Tony Lema? They made it to Boston the day after the Masters and gave the usual sellout crowd at the Statler Hilton (or elsewhere) a stirring speech.

Initiated in 1934 by Section president Lewis Myers and Eugene Wogan, the annual season-kickoff "Get-Together" dinner was part of an all-day and evening NEPGA affair.

# Pack Your Bags! Upcoming Winter Events



Register Here

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Available on the iPhone App Store

App Store

# 2016 NEPGA Tentative Tournament Schedule

The 2016 New England PGA tentative tournament schedule is now available. <u>Click here</u> to view the schedule and start marking your calendar for 2016! As the schedule is updated, visit the homepage of NEPGA.com to see the new version. It is located under Quick Links in the sidebar.

# PAT Sites Needed for 2016

The New England PGA is looking for a few sites for our 2016 PAT Schedule. We would like to have at least one PAT in each state. At this time we are reaching out to facilities in New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont during the months of June, July, and August. The most important requirements are listed below:

1. The golf course must be set at least 6,000 yards for men and the women's yardage must be set at least 78%, but not more than 85%, of the men's yardage.

2. The course must have a minimum USGA course rating of 68.0 for both men and women.

3. Use of a the driving range to warm up before the 36 hole competition

The facility determines the maximum size of the field, the tee times (players are sent out in threesomes), and also the onsite fees to cover the range and golf carts (and some also include lunch between rounds).

If you have an interest, please contact Joan Stuart at **jstuart@pgahq.com** or call the NEPGA Section Office at 508.869.0000.

# 2015 NEPGA Partners

The 2015 Season was a successful one for the New England Section, and we could not have accomplished all that we did without the support of our outstanding New England PGA Partners! Whether you played in 20 tournaments or one, or took part in any New England PGA programs throughout the year, we ask that you take a few minutes to thank our partners for supporting the NEPGA and its Professionals during the season. Click the below image for a full list of our Partners and their representatives contact information.

# Thank You!



# NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR TOUR: Jacy Settles





Christmas is a time of giving and being with family. On behalf of the NEPGA Jr Golf Department, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 2016 will be an exciting year as the Junior PGA Championship (Wannamoisett CC) will be visiting the Section!

## **NEWS FROM THE PGA OF AMERICA**



## 2016 PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Application

The 2016 PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program application is now available online. Graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of PGA members in good standing can apply on PGA.org to be considered for financial support for college.

### New this year!

The deadline date for submitting the online application is March 1, 2016. The applicant will have until March 18, 2016 to submit their transcript, scores and supporting documents.

The program is an academic based scholarship program that takes into account the specific criteria depending on the class level of the student.

In addition, financial need will be taken into consideration. If applying for financial need, the applicant must also submit the Expected Family Contribution score from your Student Aid Report, along with his/her transcript and application.

### **High School Graduating Senior:**

- High School cumulative grade point average (GPA) must be at least 3.4 on a 4.0 scale

- ACT and/or SAT test scores
- Extracurricular activities

Current College Student (has not reached senior year):

- College cumulative GPA must be at least a 3.4 on a 4.0 scale

- Most recently completed college semester or quarter GPA

- Extracurricular activities

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The number of scholarships earned will be limited to two scholarships over four years of undergraduate college attendance.

# Apply Here

# District 1 Director Report: Donnie Lyons, PGA



<u>Click here</u> to view the PGA of America Highlight Summary for the month of November including Annual Meeting highlights, the PGA LEAD program and the recap from the PGA Junior League Golf Championship.

# 2016 PGA Show Week

## Youth & Family Golf Summit

Sunday-Monday, January 24-25, 2016 Chapin Theater - Orange County Convention Center *Early bird pricing available before Dec. 31st* 

View Details & Register

**PGA Show Demo Day & Workshops** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 Orange County National Golf Center

**PGA Show Days & Education Conference** 

Wednesday-Friday, January 27-29, 2016 Orange County Convention Center

View Details & Register

Visit **PGAShow.com** for all event details including:

 <u>PGA Member page</u> featuring PGA Perks Discounts, PGA Education Conference Discounts, MSR Credit Breakdown & Town Hall Meeting

Available on the iPhone App Store

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- <u>Education page</u> featuring an overview of all available education opportunities
- Hotel & Travel Information
- Downloading the Mobile App

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# 2<sup>ND</sup> YOUTH & FAMILY GOLF SUMMIT presented by OMEGA

SUNDAY + MONDAY, JANUARY 24-25, 2016 ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER | ORLANDO, FL

# **CREATE LIFELONG CUSTOMERS, TODAY:**

- Increase family golf activity at your facility
- Drive rounds and revenue from youth and family golfers
- Latest insights on programming for all abilities
- Youth development strategies from around the globe
- New research at the forefront of youth athletic development
- Discover which youth results employers value most

PGA/LPGA members, PGA Students and PGA Apprentices **\$275** | Non-Members **\$299** Discounted price of **\$225** for PGA/LPGA Members and Apprentices available NOW through December 31st, 2015!







Youth & Family Golf Summit

Register on PGA.ORG

# DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP NOTES: Joan Stuart

The above picture is not your view from the fairway with this mild weather that we have experienced so far this December but in the spirit of the season, we can dream of pristine snow covering our golf courses!

### **Annual Holiday Scholarship Appeal**

Your View From

The Fairway

Now that the holidays are here, the NEPGA 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 2016 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, 2015. Any amount you can



CONNEC

contribute will be most welcomed and appreciated. Please <u>click</u> <u>here</u> to submit your donation online or <u>click here</u> 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. Last year we surpassed our goal of \$5,000! Please help us do the same this year with a goal of \$10,000 with a very generous donation to start us off from Avidia Bank.

### **PGA Merchandise Show**

All information regarding the 2016 PGA Merchandise Show can be found on their website <u>www.pgashow.com</u>. The Show begins with Demo Day on Tuesday, January 26th and continues on January 27 through January 29 with the Show and educational opportunities. This year there is even a free mobile app that you can download, PGAShow2Go, which will be available after the holidays.

### Looking for an Assistant for 2016?

All NEPGA Professionals who would like to list an Assistant Professional or Teaching Professional opening for 2016 on <u>www.nepga.com</u> can email the information on those openings to Joan Stuart at <u>jstuart@pgahq.com</u> and it will posted under our website's Employment Tab until that position is filled. Please <u>click here</u> to download the job opportunity form. It is always recommended that these positions are also posted on <u>www.pga.org</u>. Also, if you need help for outside operations or are looking for a position for yourself, we can also list those for you. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the NEPGA office at 508.869.0000.

Also, if you are interested in obtaining a position or a new position, we do also offer this service on our website. Please email Joan Stuart at <u>jstuart@pgahq.com</u> if you would like to use this service.

#### Worth Repeating!

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From the October and November issue s of "Full Swing" please take a minute to review the article about ACH payments for tournament prize money. Just this past month I have had calls from a number of NEPGA Professionals about lost checks. Beginning in 2016, the section will no longer incur the stop payment fee from our bank and will have to deduct this fee (at present \$20) from your re-issued check. <u>Click here</u> to download the direct deposit form.

Available on the iPhone App Store

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"@newenglandpga: 2015 was another great one for the NEPGA, and we couldn't do it without our outstanding partners! As we approach our Centennial season in 2016, we're thanking our partners and getting started on making the next 100 years even sweeter! #wickedgoodcookies #yum"





"Happy Holidays from the New England PGA!"

"nepga.com: Give to the NEPGA Scholarship Fund this Holiday Season and help Us Reach our Goal of \$10,000 & Light the NEPGA Scholarship Fund Candle!"



# **CAPE COD & RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS**

Submitted by Mickey Herron, PGA, Cape Cod & Rhode Island Chapter Tournament Manager

# Holiday Cheer from Rhode Island & Cape Cod!

Wishing You a Great Christmas, Hanukah...& no snow this winter!



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# **NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS**



Submitted by Frank Swierz, New Hampshire Chapter Tournament Manager

Three New Hampshire professionals are participating in the popular winter PGA Tournament Series. Playing in the field are Rich Berberian, Jr. of Windham CC, Matt Arvanitis of Southern NH University and Danny Kish of Eastman GL. The Tournament Series features six 36-hole events at the PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

The NHC 2016 Tournament schedule is complete and kicks off with the Spring Meeting on April 7, 2016. The first Pro-Am of the year will be held at The Oaks on April

18, 2016. The schedule includes 25 events highlighted by the chapter championship at North Conway CC on August 8 and 9, 2016.

The NHC is pleased to announce that Frank Swierz will be returning for his 13th year as tournament manager. The New Hampshire Chapter professionals wish the members of the NEPGA Board of Directors as well as the section staff and their families, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



# VERMONT CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Dave Christy, PGA, Vermont Chapter Tournament Manager

The Vermont BOD and Chapter Members would like to wish Happy Holidays to the Professionals and their families in the New England Section. Our Chapter professionals send along a safe and healthy holidays wish to 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 and Tournament Committee has

finalized our 2016 playing schedule and budgets for the coming year. Our Tournament Committee has introduced some new venues as well as having incorporated a few new formats. Our new venues for 2016 include Stowe CC as host for our Pro Lady Championship in early July. Burlington CC and Vermont National CC will host our Stroke Play Championship later in July. The Vermont Chapter looks forward to once again hosting the New England Open at the Quechee Club.



Wishing You Happy Holidays and a NewYear filled with all that brings you joy!



Wishing you the joy of family and friends and the happiness of the holiday season!



# Tees the Season!

The Seniors' Association wishes everyone a wonderful holiday season and best of luck in the new year!



May peace, happiness & prosperity be yours during this Holiday Season & throughout the NewYear!

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Changes reported between 11/21/2015-12/16/2015

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Name	Class	Facility
Sean D. Fellows, PGA	A-8	New Seabury Cape Cod
Steven M. Field, PGA	A-8	Thorny Lea Golf Club
Jo-Anna R. Krupa, PGA		Charles River CC

## **NEW APPRENTICES**

Name **Class Facility** Alexander F. Robbins B-6 **GolfTEC** - Burlington

LM

## **NEW HALF CENTURY MEMBERS**

Name Allan L. Stewart, PGA **Class Award Date** 11/30/2015

## **CLASSIFICATION CHANGES**

Name Mike Pry, PGA **Class Facility** A-1 **Dennis Pines**/ **Dennis Highlands** 

### FIRST TIME TRANSFERS INTO SECTION

Name Jason L. Murray, PGA

Class **Previous Section** A-1 North Florida

## What's Coming Up in our next issue...

Spring Education & Volunteer **Opportunities** 

Spring Meeting Schedule

# NEPGA SECTION STAFF

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App Store

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Available on the iPhone App Store

CONNECT---



<u>Click here</u> to purchase a hard copy of the 2015 NEPGA Member Directory.

\*There is a \$15 shipping and handling charge for each Directory ordered.

NEPGA Professionals can earn \$1,000 commissions with Golf Simulator Sales Lead <u>Click here for details</u> The NEPGA Section office will be closed for the holidays beginning on Thurs., Dec. 24th. We will resume normal business hours on Mon., Jan. 4th.

## MARKETPLACE

For Sale: - Custom Club Rack - 6 RIksha rental pull carts - Pro Shop Counter - Junior Explanar - Titleist NXT Practice Balls - Set of 6 Shop Fixtures Looking to Buy:

- Range Ball Washer

<u>Click here to see details</u> <u>on all items!</u>

Ed Banks/Custom Golf Shop Closing: All Shop Equipment for Sale <u>Click here for details</u> \*Sample Ad Space\* SELL YOUR INVENTORY STOCK HERE