LEGACY CELEBRATION
AND CHARITY SCRAMBLE

By Pat Shelton, Publicity Director

SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY, 05-19-14

Don’t miss out on what should be a fantastic day --- sign up today to play in the MWGA Legacy Celebration 4-person scramble at Travis Pointe Country Club on Monday, May 19. In addition to golf, the $150 entry fee will include range balls, entry into games, prizes, lunch at an outdoor grill, dinner following golf and the awards program. There will be silent and Chinese auctions and raffles to participate in. A portion of your entry fee will be tax deductible. The day’s festivities will begin at 10am. A noon shotgun start is planned with cocktails and dinner following golf at approximately 5:30pm. If you can’t golf, consider attending the dinner to honor the three legendary women being recognized --- Shirley Spork, Mary Fossum and Betty Richart. Dinner only is $60.

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Membership Snippets

Hello again Golfers, membership registration is in full force. Spring is in the air. It is not too late to register for MWGA Membership for the 2014 season. Dust off your bag, clean last year’s dirt from your clubs and register to become a member of this Great Golf Organization.

Membership fee for regular members, seniors and associate members is: $55.00

Membership fee for new, super seniors, juniors, and sponsored males is: $35.00

To register for membership, you can go to our website www.mwgolf.org or you can print an application from the web site and send your check or money order payable to MWGA to me at the address on the application. See you on the links this spring and summer as an MWGA member.

Hot off the presses – Rules Changes for 2014

There are 87 changes to the Rules of Golf and Decisions on the Rules of Golf effective January 1, 2014. Below are 4 changes to be aware of:

1. New Decision 14-3/18 A player can access weather reports on a smart phone during a round.

2. New Decision 18/4 Where enhanced technological evidence shows a ball left its position and came to rest in a different location, the ball will not be deemed to have moved if that movement was not reasonably discernible to the naked eye at the time.

3. Revised Decision 25-2/0.5 Added illustrations to clarify when a ball is considered embedded in the ground.

4. Revised Decision 27-2a/1.5 A player may go forward approximately 50 yards without forfeiting his right to go back and play a provisional ball.
Girls Golf Program
By Francine Pegues, Girls Golf Director

This year's junior golf program promises to be our most expansive program as we again run the MWGA Girls Golf Program in concert with the LPGA and the USGA, extend invitations to 25 collegiate women’s golf teams to participate in our State Championship and feature the women's golf teams from Eastern Michigan University, Michigan State University, University of Detroit and the University of Michigan at our MWGA Legacy Celebration. MWGA is committed to growing the game of golf with women and girls. And we hope you’ll be a part of this effort.

The Girls Golf Program, under the direction of Barb Porter, has many opportunities for you or a junior golf you know to get involved. Our Beginner’s Program will again be held at Rouge Park Golf Course on Tuesdays from 12:30-2:30pm, beginning June 24. Debbie Hoak-Williams, LPGA teaching pro and Saline High School golf coach, will lead our program. We need YOUR help as the kids practice what they’re taught at the driving range. Barb plans for some of the more experienced junior golfers to play a few holes each week on the Rouge Park golf course and we need adults riding in carts to help move the kids along and re enforce the rules of the game.

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2014 EVENT SCHEDULE

Apr 2014

2014 Match Play League Meeting – 04/27/2014 Time: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Whispering Willows GC – Tin Cup Restaurant 20500 Newburg Rd Livonia, 48152

May 2014

2014 Annual Meeting & 4-Woman Scramble – 05/03/2014 Time: 11:00 am - 1:30 pm
Hickory Creek GC 3625 Napier Rd Ypsilanti, 48198

2014 Legacy Celebration Charity Scramble – 06/19/2014 Time: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Travis Pointe CC 2829 Travis Pointe Rd Ann Arbor, 48108

2014 Skills Clinic – 05/31/2014 Time: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Miles of Golf 3113 Carpenter Rd Ypsilanti, 48197

Jun 2014

2014 2-Person Four-Ball Stroke Play – 06/07/2014 Time: 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sycamore Hills GC 48787 North Ave Macomb, 48042

2014 President's Stroke Play – 06/21/2014 Time: 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Fox Creek GC 36000 Seven Mile Livonia, 48152

Jul 2014

GAM Women’s Championship – 07/07/2014 - 07/08/2014 Time: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

2014 2-Woman Four-Ball – 07/12/2014 Time: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Selfridge ANGB GC S Perimeter Harrison Twp, 48045

2014 LPGA Marathon Classic – 07/19/2014 Time: 9:00 am
Highland Meadows Golf Club 7455 Erie St Sylvania, 43560

2014 MWGA State Championship – 07/26/2014 - 07/27/2014 Time: 10:00 am
Lake Forest GC 3110 W. Ellsworth Ann Arbor, 48103

Aug 2014

2014 2-Woman Scramble – 08/09/2014 Time: 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Hunters Ridge GC 8101 Byron Rd Howell, 48855

2014 Junior/Adult 9-Hole Scramble – 08/16/2014 Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Warren Valley GC 26116 Warren Dearborn Heights, 48127

2014 4-Woman Cha-Cha-Cha – 08/18/2014 Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Atlas Valley CC 83113 Perry Rd Grand Blanc, 48439

Sep 2014

2014 2-Day/2-Person Eraser – 09/13/2014 - 09/14/2014 Time: All Day
Manistee National – Canthook Valley Course 4797 US 31 S Manistee, 49660

2014 Match Play Finale – 09/20/2014 Time: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

2014 2-Woman TBA – 09/27/2014 Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Heather Highlands GC 11450 E. Holly Rd Holly, 48442
2014 – Final WAPL Tournament

BE A PART OF IT…. Enter the 2014 Final US Women’s Amateur Public Links Championship

The USGA will retire the US Women’s Amateur Public Links Championship (WAPL) after 2014, which means a public course golfer will have only this year to play in this prestigious event. The MWGA was founded by the Michigan WAPL Committee in 1986 and the MWGA has supported the WAPL by sponsoring the Sectional Qualifying Round every year since. Over 150 Michigan public links players have competed in the national championship. One year Michigan had 200 players at 3 sites and 20 players qualified for the Championship. We have had 2 players in the final 36 hole match and were runners-up - Lauri Berles and Stephanie Fleet. Many WAPL Champions have played in the LPGA such as Michelle Wie and Yani Tseng.

The Championship this year will be played at The Home Course in Dupont, Washington July 14 - 19. Practice Rounds are July 12 and 13. Two rounds of Stroke Play on July 14 and 15 will determine the 64 players who will go to Match Play July 16 – 19, with the Final Match being 36 holes.

There are 33 qualifying sites from Alaska and Hawaii to Wyoming. The 18 hole Michigan Sectional Qualifying Round will be held at Warwick Hills G & CC, former host of the Buick Open, in Grand Blanc on Wed., May 28. Warwick Hills has generously waived the green fees for the qualifier. To enter, a player must enter on line at www.usga.org/champs/apply before 5 PM on Wed., May 14, 2014. No late entries are accepted. The entry fee is $50. There will be a special luncheon and gifts for the competitors following play at the qualifier and at the championship itself.

To be eligible, you must have an active handicap of 18.4 or less and be a bona fide public course player. The website will ask you pertinent questions to determine public course eligibility and provide interpretations of the eligibility rule. You must walk the course but may use a caddie or pull cart. This year distance measuring devices may be used at the qualifier and the championship.

It would be terrific to have a large field and send a half dozen or more Michigan players to the championship. US Championships are very special and we would encourage anyone who is eligible to enter. Please contact either Sara Wold at wold@mwgolf.org or Nancy Serra at serra@mwgolf.org for more information.
Junior Golf continued from page 3

Our Advanced Program meets at Chandler Park Golf Course on Fridays from 12noon – 2:30pm, where the kids will play 9 holes under the direction of PGA pro Craig Piscopink. We need YOU to accompany the kids in a golf cart while you remind them of the rules and etiquette of game and even hit a shot during their scramble game. This begins Friday, June 27.

New this year will be the PGA sponsored Drive, Chip and Putt competition local qualifier Saturday, June 28 at Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia. The finals for this event will be at the Masters Tournament at Augusta National GC in 2015. This year’s 7-9 year old girl champion was a Girls Golf participant from Santa Monica, Kelly Xu. We have some girls who can get through the local qualifier!

Other exciting activities for you to help support our program is the bus trip to the LPGA Marathon Classic tournament in Toledo, Saturday, July 19 and the Junior/Adult 9 hole Scramble Tournament at Warren Valley GC Saturday, August 19.

All the information and registration materials about our Girls Golf Program is on our website and you’ll find the Marathon Classic and Junior/Adult Scramble details listed under our events schedule. Our Girls Golf Program is open to ALL girls and boys 6-17 years of age. Please consider helping grow the wonderful world of golf by supporting our girls golf program. You will earn volunteer points towards winning the MWGA Volunteer of the Year award given at the 2015 annual meeting.

For more information contact Barba Porter at porter@mwgolf.org or call 248-634-2835

Match Play League 2014

The 48 members of the MWGA Match Play League will begin the 2014 season at The Tin Cup and Whispering Willows GC on Sunday, April 27. There will be 8 league play dates open to all MWGA members, including league members and their guests. Even if you are not on the league, you are welcome to join us on these play dates to experience the strategy and gamesmanship of match play. For information on the Match Play League and Match Play Play Dates go to http://mwgolf.org/events/mwga-match-play-league/
Sympathies

Thoughts of sympathy go out to the families of three Michigan legends from different spectrums of our golf world.

Bruce Fossum passed away in March and was the coach of the MSU Men's Golf Team for many years and continued teaching golf after his retirement. He and his wife Mary, coach of the MSU Women's Golf Team, are in the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame.

Mary Bull passed away March 1st and was the consummate volunteer. She is a past president of the Women's Michigan Amateur Championship and the WDGA. Mary and Betty Richart were the first GAM course raters for the ladies tees and rated every private course in southern Michigan.

Roger Duncan passed away in February at age 79 and was an active member of the Michigan Publinx Board of Directors. He was instrumental in developing the Championship Tournament series and heavily involved with the Michigan State Match play. Roger was also a large part of the Lee Goh's Tournament every spring.

Sincere condolences to MWGA member Yvette Gagnon on the April 6th death of her brother Paul Gagnon who succumbed to cancer after a four-year illness.

(Continued from page 1)

You may also wish to become an event sponsor or place an ad or congratulatory message in the Tribute Program Book. The deadline for sponsorships and advertising is Friday, April 18.

All the information you need to participate in this wonderful event is on our website, www.mwgolf.org.

Proceeds from the Celebration will benefit the MWGA Girls Golf Program and the women’s collegiate golf teams at EMU, Michigan State University and the University of Michigan.

Recently confirmed by EMU is a planned Meet and Greet Luncheon to honor the three awardees on Sunday, May 18, at 1pm at Eagle Crest resort in Ypsilanti. Watch for additional information on this and the Celebration in updates on our website and in future eBlasts.
Michigan Golf Hall of Fame finds a home at Ferris State University

As the birthplace of the Professional Golf Management academic program, Ferris State University is already well respected in the golf industry. That well-earned reputation was just one of the reasons it was selected as the future home of the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame. For more than a year, hall of fame staff searched for a permanent location to display its collection of plaques, portraits and memorabilia commemorating its 101 members, a roster that includes such notables as Elaine Crosby, Walter Hagen, Dave and Mike Hill, Chuck Kocsis, Meg Mallon, Horton Smith, Rick Smith and Al Watrous. As part of that search, the state’s golf community responded with proposals to partner with the Michigan Golf Foundation, a nonprofit corporation with a mission to preserve the legacy of the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame. “This is a wonderful opportunity for both organizations,” said Fritz Balmer, president of the Michigan Golf Foundation and chair of the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Committee. “What better place to exhibit the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame portraits, plaques and memorabilia, in an interactive manner, than at Ferris State University, the birthplace of the Professional Golf Management curriculum. Putting the students in touch with golf history and the people who made that history is a perfect fit. We are extremely fortunate.” Praise for the new partnership was echoed by university officials. Fritz Erickson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs “We are delighted to host the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame at Ferris State University,” Erickson said. “The Michigan Golf Hall of Fame will provide an exceptional teaching and learning opportunity for our PGM students and visitors to our campus.

Handicap News

By Mary Warnick, Handicap Director

Welcome back golfers!
With the 2014 Active Season soon to start up in Michigan. Please remember if you enjoyed the winter in the Sun please post your scores. Upcoming season reminder to post all your rounds of golf as soon as possible once the round is complete. As a friendly reminder please make sure you use the Equitable stroke Control listed on the GAM site under the heading Handicap. Enjoy the Season
President’s Perspective
By Francine Pegues, MWGA President

It is my honor to serve as your President for this year. I have been a member of MWGA for close to 20 years and have reaped the rewards and the benefits from being associated with such a fine group of women. So I felt it was time to give back to this organization by committing the time to lead our organization to its next level.

For those who ask what is the next level; it is what YOU want MWGA to be. We were approached by Susan Bairley with the Michigan Golf Summit to honor 3 outstanding women who have devoted their lives to educating, promoting and advancing women in golf “for the good of the game”. And out of this request was born the " MWGA Legacy Celebration - 2014 Lifetime Achievement Awards”. It positions us to be the premier organization in Michigan for women who play golf.

Sara Wold is leading our effort to attract younger members who play or played college golf by pricing our State Championship tournament at an affordable rate for the students. Under Barb Porters leadership, the Girls Golf Program will enter some of our junior players in the PGA “drive, chip and putt” qualifier event at Whispering Willows. Maybe we'll have a junior who qualifies to play in the finals at Augusta National GC next year.

Shirley McClain’s membership committee is working with GAM to identify opportunities to bring more women into the game. At the same time I’m asking “what should MWGA be doing to get more of our members playing golf”? You’re invited to call or email me with what you want MWGA to be during the year. My contact information is at the bottom of this article.

Your board realizes communications is key to moving forward. To that end, please thank Cynthia Pinkard and Bonnie Teegen for managing the IT process that resulted in a “state of the art” website. We received positive comments from women’s golf organization around the county! You’ve received frequent “eblast” from Pam Pritzl and this new look NEWSLINX. As your Communications Director she is also responsible for our Facebook postings and our Twitter tweets.

And Pat Shelton has worked fulltime to get our media releases about the Legacy Celebration out to all media sources. This has resulted in priceless support from GAM and the Great Lakes Sports Publications.

We are on the move on your behalf. How may we serve you?

Francine Pegues- pegues@mwgolf.org – 313.969.0523
The Positive Golfer
By Janina Parrott Jacobs, MWGA Advisor

THE GREAT GOLF ESCAPE

If ever there was a winter to escape somewhere warm, this was it. And that’s what four of our adventure-seeking MWGA members, along with 20 other people, did in early February when they signed up for the University of Detroit women’s golf team’s Great Golf Escape. Held at the Robert Trent Jones-designed Reef Course of the beautiful Grand Lucayan Resort in Freeport, Bahamas, this event was a fundraiser for the team but was also so much more, including on-course mentoring, lessons, and playing one-on-one with the talented members of the 2013 Horizon League national championship team. Most people never play golf with skilled women amateurs or professionals and don’t realize they can learn more from watching them rather than men professionals.

Martha MacIntosh, Elaine Taylor, Pat Shelton and Sara Wold enjoyed perfect weather, good golf, great food, nightly cocktail gatherings, stellar camaraderie, and best of all, dinner with the sharks. Huh? The optional all-inclusive package provided for all meals for the week, but we did head out to enjoy other options in the area. One night we taxied over to the cruise docks, overlooking the shipping channel. On the hour, an employee would come out and throw fish parts into the water and the feeding frenzy would begin as several ‘healthy’ sharks enjoyed their dinner as much as we did! On the last night, a chartered tour boat took us out into the Caribbean waters for what was supposed to be a sunset cruise; instead, the boat was late in getting us out (it’s da Bahamas man!, I’d guess…) and so we enjoyed an evening cruise. We sailed to Red Beard’s, across the bay, where al fresco dining took place and awards were given out. Martha, also known as Scurvy Dog One-Eye, would certainly have won the Best-Dressed Pirate Award….if we’d had one! Our girls did well, with the assistance of U of D’s Christina Thorne, placing 3rd in the two-day tournament scrambles and winning a U of D golf head cover.

With the emphasis on fun and friendship – rather than cutthroat competition (though appropriate in pirate areas like the Bahamas), attendees first played the Poker Game, where little victories, such as making one putts, driving in fairways, and hitting greens were rewarded with playing cards. The best poker hand won, with nary a golf score in sight. A good thing, since golf had been absent from most people’s agenda this winter. The Poker Game teaches you to forget about mistakes and instead, concentrate on improving the next shot since you can redeem yourself by scoring points elsewhere.

The four young ladies from the U of D women’s golf team are not only superb golfers but are also academic All-Americans, a noteworthy and important accomplishment. Lindsay and Christina are seniors and will be graduating; no doubt you will see Lindsay one day on the LPGA Tour. Jess and Olivia will be back in action this year. Because funding for the team is not on par with the men’s program, this event was a way to address the inequity. Future trips will be planned but if you wish to contribute immediately, you may do so by contacting Coach Terri Ann Ryan at 248.217.0081. And just so you know, the girls will be out hitting shots at the MWGA Legacy event on May 19, so you’ll get to meet them. To see what the team is up to, you can follow them online at http://detroittitans.blogspot.com.
The Rules Clinic was well attended with 45 adults and 17 students and the Tin Cup Restaurant provided a very nice continental breakfast. Jeanne Myers did a great job presenting rules that often seem confusing as well as the everyday rules we should all know. Jeanne also went over some of the newer rules and entertained many questions.

MWGA –Skills Clinic

Time for Your Spring Tune-Up By Lu Stockton   Earn 2 POY Points for Attending!

Date:       Saturday, May 31, 2014
Location:   Eagle Crest Golf Resort  1275 S Huron St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Putting & Chipping  – Session 1:
•  Time: 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Pitching, Bunkers & Specialty Woods – Session 2:
•  Time: 11:15 am to 1:15 pm

Full Swing with Irons & Woods – Session 3:
•  Time: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Cost:       $50 per session (Includes 2 hours of instruction).

You can sign up for 1, 2 or all 3.

Deadline:   May 27, 2014 (or sooner if the sessions are full)

For more information, please visit:  http://mwgolf.org/events/2014-skills-clinic/
Hole In One’s

Congratulations to Mary Warnick for her hole in one on the 13th hole at Desert Canyon Golf Club in Fountain Hills AZ

Did you have a hole in one that you’d like published in the next newsletter?

Send the details to: communications@mwgolf.org

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ARIZONA TRIP 2014

As you can see from these pictures, everyone had a great time on the MWGA golf trip to Scottsdale Arizona April 3-8. We played four wonderful golf courses - Rancho Manana, Desert Canyon, TPC Championship Course & Eagle Mountain. Mary Warnick added to the excitement at Desert Canyon with her first hole in one on lucky hole number 13! Condos at Zona Hotel & Suites worked our great and we enjoyed delicious meals at local restaurants such as Tonto’s in Cave Creek, Charleston in Scottsdale and Franco’s in Old Scottsdale. The blooming cactus, desert scenery and mountains provided spectacular views and the weather was absolutely awesome!