

# carolinasgolf

## HOME SWEET HOME

CAROLINAS GOLF HOUSE  
OPENS FOR BUSINESS



SCOTT HARVEY  
WINS THE  
U.S. MID-AM!

› MOTHER FIGURES  
MATRIARCHS RULE IN CLUBS  
ACROSS THE CAROLINAS



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The new Carolinas Golf House in Southern Pines, North Carolina. Inset: Scott Harvey wins the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship. *Photos from the CGA and USGA.*

# 20 Fulfilling a Dream

Scott Harvey achieved his top goal **when he won the U.S.**

**Mid-Amateur Championship** in September. Next up: An invitation to the Masters.

> Scott Harvey competes in the U.S. Mid-Am at Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.





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**PRESIDENT'S NOTE**

## Oh, My Sweet Carolinas

/ by G. JACKSON HUGHES, President, Carolinas Golf Association

**When I think of golf in the Carolinas, the word exceptionalism comes to mind. That was never more evident than in the success Carolinas golfers had in national competitions this year.**

Between their on-course accomplishments and Pinehurst No. 2 hosting back-to-back U.S. Opens, it has been a year of golf to remember in the Carolinas. *(For a complete listing of Carolinas golfers who competed in 2014 USGA competitions, turn to Page 10.)*

During the U.S. Junior Amateur in July, eight Carolinians qualified for match play. Doc Redman of Raleigh, N.C., advanced to the round of 16. Another Raleigh native, Bo Andrews, fired a course-record 7-under par 63 in the second round of the U.S. Amateur Championship in August. Andrews and Trevor Phillips of Inman, S.C., made it to the match-play round of 32. In the U.S. Women's Amateur Championship, Lauren Stephensen of Lexington, S.C., also advanced to the match-play round of 32.

Also in August, pro golfer Austin Ernst, 22, a four-time CGA champion, claimed her first LPGA tournament title at the Portland Classic. The Seneca, S.C., native won on the first playoff hole.

In September, Carolinas golfers produced a lot of excitement in USGA events. Scott Harvey of Greensboro, N.C., started his week at the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship with a stroke-play co-medalist performance and capped it off by raising the Robert T. Jones Jr. Memorial trophy as champion. As a result, he was named the Southern Golf Association's National Amateur of the Month. Now he hopes to be invited to the 2015 Masters Tournament. *(See more on Page 20.)*

While the Mid-Amateur men were competing in Pennsylvania, the Women's Mid-Amateur Championship teed it up in Indiana. Five Carolinas women qualified for the match play portion, with Debbie Adams of Asheville, N.C., advancing to the quarterfinals.

All six Carolinas women who were entered in the U.S. Senior Women's Amateur advanced to match play. Four-time Carolinas Women's Senior champion Pat Brogden of Garner, N.C., made it the furthest, to the round of 16. Three Carolinas men qualified for the match-play portion of the U.S. Senior Amateur. Rick Cloninger of Fort Mill, S.C., got to the semifinals before losing to eventual champion Pat Tallent of Virginia. In October, Cloninger got some redemption during the annual Captain's Putter team matches between the Carolinas and the Virginias. He beat Tallent in their singles match 6 and 5.

During the same October weekend, Carolinians Jay Haas and Ben Martin both won on their respective tours. What is exciting for me personally is that both Jay and Ben are from my hometown of Greenville, S.C. Jay closed with a 5-under par 66 for a two-stroke victory in the Greater Hickory Kia Classic. Ben, who grew up in Greenwood, S.C., played his last four holes in 4-under par to capture his first PGA Tour win at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in Las Vegas.

In addition, five Carolinas men and four women qualified for the inaugural U.S. Four-Ball Championships, which will be held next May at The Olympic Club and Bandon Dunes Resort, respectively.

It was quite the year for on-course success. I look forward to watching our Carolinas golfers compete in 2015.

# carolinasgolf

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## LOCAL KNOWLEDGE



### › Mrs. South Carolina makes 'Best Young Teachers' list

Meredith Kirk, 36, an LPGA teaching pro based out of Blackmoor Golf Club in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, is one of 40 instructors under the age of 40 named by *Golf Digest* as the "Best Young Teachers in America 2014-15" in its November issue. Kirk is a National Golf Management spokeswoman and the reigning Mrs. South Carolina. Three others from South Carolina made the list: Abby Welch, 35, of Kiawah Island Golf Resort; Tim Cooke, 39, of The Golf Learning Center at Sea Pines Resort in Hilton Head Island; and Megan Padua, 29, of Belfair Plantation, Bluffton.

### › Palmetto Dunes Claims 2014 Honors

The George Fazio Course at Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort on Hilton Head Island has been named 2014 South Carolina Golf Course of the Year.

The honor comes on the heels of the course receiving the Chapter Course of the Year award from the Lowcountry Golf Course Owners Association. It completes a trifecta for Palmetto Dunes; now all three of the resort's golf courses have been named South Carolina's Course of the Year.

## MILESTONES



### › Retirements at CGA

Two Carolinas Golf Association staff members are retiring at the end of the year. Dr. Leon Lucas served as agronomist for 17 years (see *Final Word* on Page 28). Johnnie Gebhardt kept the CGA running as its office manager for nine years. She is pictured here with her successor, Kim Jett, left.





► Teeth of the Dog, Hole No. 15

# Destination: Dominican Republic

## IN ITS 20TH YEAR: JOIN THE CGA FOR GETAWAY AND GOLF

There's still time to register for the 20th annual Carolinas Golf Association Island Four-Ball Getaway Tournament set for **Feb. 24-28, 2015, at Casa de Campo Resort in La Romana, Dominican Republic.**

The CGA has assembled a trip that mixes light competition with a welcome escape to a warmer climate in February. Casa de Campo offers three distinct Pete Dye-designed golf courses. Other activities include horseback riding, skeet shooting, tennis, deep-sea fishing, and beach access.

The breathtaking Teeth of the Dog, Dye Fore, and Links courses will each host one round of the tournament. The format is 54 holes of four-ball stroke play, with gross and net prizes to be awarded in each flight. A player's course handicap is limited to a maximum of 40 strokes prior to the 90 percent reduction using the Feb. 15, 2015, handicap revision.

The trip is open to anyone who belongs to a CGA member club and to non-CGA members with a member. Cost is \$1,999 per person double occupancy with two players sharing the same room. Non-golfing guest rates for those sharing a room with a tournament player are \$1,649. Pricing for extra nights is available; non-package golf is \$105 per player plus 18 percent tax.

Packages include the tournament entry fee; lodging in a golf lodge room; resort golf

cart; three meals a day; unlimited drinks at hotel restaurants and bars; three tournament rounds; unlimited green fees; carts; range balls; club storage; transfers to and from La Romana/Santo Domingo/Punta Cana airports; and golf staff gratuities, taxes, and service charges. Caddies are available for \$15 to \$25 per day plus gratuities; caddie use on Teeth of the Dog is required, though only one is needed per group. Rates do not include airfare.

► *For more information and an application, call (910) 673-1000, email Tiffany Priest at [tiffany.priest@carolinasgolf.org](mailto:tiffany.priest@carolinasgolf.org), or visit [carolinasgolf.org](http://carolinasgolf.org). Deadline to register is Dec. 12, or when trip reaches full capacity. A \$200 deposit is required with registration. Final payment is due Jan. 20.*

*For more on the resort, visit [casadecampo.com.do](http://casadecampo.com.do)*

### 2015 ISLAND GETAWAY RATES/per person

	Golf Lodge	Extra Nights	Elite Room	Extra Nights*
4-night single	\$2,499	\$499	\$2,799	\$579
4-night double	\$1,999	\$379	\$2,199	\$429
4-night non-golfer double	\$1,649	\$379	\$1,849	\$429

\*Extra night is all-inclusive except for golf; non-package golf is available for \$105 per player plus 18 percent tax.



### ► TYGA Rolls Out Tots Tournament Program

The Tarheel Youth Golf Association (TYGA), a division of the Carolinas Golf Association (CGA), has expanded its junior golf tournament program.

TYGA created a new series of one-day events for junior girls and boys between the ages of 6 and 11 called TYGA Tots. Conducted in North Carolina, they consist of nine-hole tournaments played under a modified Stableford scoring system enabling juniors to learn how to play the game within the *Rules of Golf* but still in a timely manner.

"Our one-day tournament series has been a huge success for the older divisions, but we believe the younger ages

need their own event so we can develop those ages and try and get more juniors on the golf course," says CGA Director of Junior Golf Jason Cox. "The younger ages need more education on the rules of the game, and we feel this new series will help us educate those juniors."

Two TYGA Tots events were held in October, with more to come next year.



► The second TYGA Tots event was held Oct. 25.

### ► Myrtle Beach gets Big Break

Six men and six women participated in a series of head-to-head challenges to win a chance to play with the very best on the PGA or LPGA tour on the Golf Channel's *Big Break Myrtle Beach*.

In its 22nd season, the show moved to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, filming over two weeks at Barefoot Resort in North Myrtle Beach, Marina Inn at Grande Dunes in Myrtle Beach, and Pawleys Plantation in Pawleys Island.

Produced in partnership with the Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday marketing cooperative and South Carolina Tourism, the program features a cast of 12 aspiring professional golfers from nine states and Canada. They were competing to win more than \$180,000 in cash and prizes, along with the chance to play in a PGA or LPGA tour event.

The show airs at 9 p.m. Tuesdays on the Golf Channel. New this season is a *Big Breakdown* online show following the 10 p.m. regular broadcast recapping each episode. The series runs through Dec. 16.



### ► Shimp receives 2014 Parrott Award

Henry Shimp of Charlotte, North Carolina, is the 2014 recipient of the CGA's David Parrott Award.

The 2014 Carolinas Junior Boys' champion, Shimp was selected from the eight team members who represented the CGA in the Carolinas-Virginias Junior Team Matches at River Landing CC in Wallace, North Carolina.



Henry Shimp

The David Parrott Award is given annually to the Carolinas Team player who displays excellence in sportsmanship, ability, and academic excellence. It's presented by Dr. Larry and Joy Parrott of Camden, South Carolina. The award honors their son, David, who was diagnosed with leukemia in the spring of 1982. During his brief illness, he participated in golf camp at Duke University and competed in the SCGA South Carolina Junior Championship, finishing third in his flight. David died July 29, 1982, at the age of 16.

### Correction

► An article about Payne Stewart in the Fall 2014 issue of *Carolinas Golf* omitted a word in reference to sports psychologist Richard Coop counseling Stewart on his practice regimen prior to the 1999 U.S. Open. It should have said that Coop "scolded him (Stewart) for *not* adhering to a pre-shot routine and playing to an intermediate target just a few feet in front of his ball."





### Pair of Wins for Chad and Kadi Meldrum in Aiken

Chad and Kadi Meldrum were the "dynamic duo" of the fifth annual City of Aiken Amateur Golf Championship held at The Aiken Golf Club in September, the *Aiken Standard* newspaper reported. Chad, 38, took the elite Regular Division while his wife, Kadi, 35, won the Ladies Division. The couple also came in first at the Inglis Cup competition, representing Palmetto Golf Club.

Chad Meldrum, left, and his wife, Kadi, with Kenny Evenson, the golf pro at The Aiken Golf Club, following their wins.

### Fabrizio receives CGCSA honor

Mike Fabrizio, certified golf course superintendent at Daniel Island Club in Charleston, South Carolina, has been given the Distinguished Service Award by the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Fabrizio has served twice on the Carolinas GCSA board and was president in 1994, when the board committed to a long-range plan to move its Conference and Trade Show to the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. Today, it's the largest regional event for golf course superintendents in the nation.

Over the years, Fabrizio has worked with Tom Fazio and Jack Nicklaus. He is currently treasurer of the East Cooper Knights of Columbus and a member of the Patriot Guard Riders providing motorcycle honor guards for fallen servicemen and women.



Mike Fabrizio

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# EtcEtcEtc.

➤ PGA Tour standout and 1999 Carolinas Junior Champion **Bill Haas** has agreed to a three-year sponsorship with SYNnex Corporation.



➤ **Bill Haas**

➤ In October, Greenville, South Carolina, golfer **Jay Haas** recorded his 38th consecutive round of par or better, breaking the Champions Tour record of 37 set by Loren Roberts in 2006 and 2007.

➤ **Scott Harvey** accepted the USGA's invitation to a 2015 Walker Cup practice session. The 16-player session is Dec. 17-20 at Frederica Golf Club in St. Simons Island, Georgia. A 10-man USA team will compete against Great Britain and Ireland in the 45th Walker Cup Match Sept. 12-13, 2015, at Royal Lytham and St. Annes Golf Club in Lancashire, England. *(For more coverage on Harvey, see Page 20.)*

➤ **Hoke Carlton** of Charlotte, **Noah Edmondson** of Davidson, and **Gerard Reilly Erhardt** of Greensboro, all in North Carolina, have made the 2014 HP Scholastic Junior All-America Team.

➤ **Fred Sprouse**, 76, collected two holes-in-one in the same round at Rolling S Golf Course in Waterloo, South Carolina, Sept. 19.

➤ Three golfers made a hole-in-one on the eighth hole from the blue tees Oct. 19 at **Palmetto Hall Plantation's Robert Cupp Course** on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

➤ Members at **Old Chatham Golf Club** in Durham raised more than \$8,000 as part of a fundraiser benefiting animal rescue organizations.

➤ **Scot Sherman** of Furman University has been recognized for Design Excellence by the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

➤ **Bill Sampson**, director of golf at the Old Tabby Links Golf Course on Spring Island, South Carolina, played a 202-hole marathon in 12 hours to raise more than \$40,000 for charity.

## » CAROLINAS AMATEURS IN 2014 USGA COMPETITIONS

### U.S. WOMEN'S AMATEUR PUBLIC LINKS (July 14-19)

**Sarah Bae** Pinehurst, N.C. (Round of 64)  
**Emily Brooks** Chapel Hill, N.C.  
**Blaise Carabello** Charleston, S.C.  
**Torey Johnson** Conway, S.C.  
**Kayla Sciupider** Etowah, N.C.

### U.S. AMATEUR PUBLIC LINKS (July 14-19)

**Nick Eberhardt** Fort Mill, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Zachary Bishop** Travelers Rest, S.C.  
**David Germann** Clayton, N.C.

### U.S. JUNIOR AMATEUR (July 21-26)

**Doc Redman** Raleigh, N.C. (Round of 16)  
**Eric Bae** Cary, N.C. (Round of 32)  
**Dwight Cauthen** Columbia, S.C. (Round of 32)  
**Bryce Hendrix** Greenville, N.C. (Round of 32)  
**Keenan Huskey** Greenville, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Bryson Nimmer** Bluffton, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Caleb Proveaux** Lexington, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Alex Smalley** Wake Forest, N.C. (Round of 64)  
**Preston Ball** Raleigh, N.C.  
**Cole Patterson** Greenville, S.C.  
**Ashton Poole** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Christian Salzer** Sumter, S.C.  
**Wil Sheppard** Mount Pleasant, S.C.  
**Logan Sowell** Kershaw, S.C.

### U.S. GIRLS' JUNIOR (July 21-26)

**Gina Kim** Chapel Hill, N.C.  
**Holly McCann** Raleigh, N.C.  
**Anna Redding** Concord, N.C.  
**Anna Uwadia** Hilton Head Island, S.C.  
**Grace Yatawara** Salisbury, N.C.

### U.S. WOMEN'S AMATEUR (Aug. 4-10)

**Lauren Stephensen** Lexington, S.C. (Round of 32)  
**Emily Brooks** Chapel Hill, N.C.  
**Mary Chandler Bryan** Chapin, S.C.  
**Katie Kirk** Davidson, N.C.

**Natalie Srinivasan** Spartanburg, S.C.

### U.S. AMATEUR (Aug. 11-17)

**Bo Andrews** Raleigh, N.C. (Round of 32)  
**Trevor Phillips** Inman, S.C. (Round of 32)  
**Matt Nesmith** North Augusta, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Todd White** Spartanburg, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Thomas Bradshaw** Columbia, S.C.

**Preston Cole** Greer, S.C.  
**Patrick Cover** Huntersville, N.C.  
**John Eades** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Ben Fogler** Elgin, S.C.  
**David Gies, II** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Blake Kennedy** Clemson, S.C.  
**J.D. Lehman** Bluffton, S.C.  
**Joshua Martin** Pinehurst, N.C.  
**Zach Munroe** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Will Murphy** Columbia, S.C.  
**Danny Pizetoski** Davidson, N.C.  
**Harrison Rhoades** Raleigh, N.C.  
**Zach Seabolt** Raleigh, N.C.  
**Henry Shimp** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Patrick Stephenson** Four Oaks, N.C.  
**Caleb Sturgeon** Lawrence, S.C.  
**Andrew Ward** York, S.C.  
**Davis Womble** High Point, N.C.

### U.S. MID-AMATEUR (Sept. 6-11)

**Scott Harvey** Greensboro, N.C. (Champion)  
**Todd White** Spartanburg, S.C. (Quarterfinals)  
**Erik Ehlert** Raleigh, N.C. (Round of 64)  
**Chris Cassetta** Winston-Salem, N.C.  
**Brad Clark** Chapel Hill, N.C.  
**John Eades** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Matthew Kilgo** Charlotte, N.C.  
**Gunn Murphy III** Greenville, S.C.  
**Tom Nolan** Greensboro, N.C.  
**John Patterson** Bluffton, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**John Pitt** Raleigh, N.C.  
**Matthew Salane** Columbia, S.C.  
**Walter Todd** Laurens, S.C.

### U.S. WOMEN'S MID-AMATEUR (Sept. 6-11)

**Debbie Adams** Asheville, N.C. (Quarterfinals)  
**Mallory Hetzel** Waynesville, N.C. (Round of 64)  
**Patty Moore** Charlotte, N.C. (Round of 64)  
**Lea Venable** Simpsonville, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Dawn Woodard** Greer, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Cecilia Fournil** Columbia, S.C.  
**Julie Streng** Greensboro, N.C.

### U.S. SENIOR WOMEN'S AMATEUR (Sept. 13-18)

**Patricia Brogden** Garner, N.C. (Round of 16)  
**Angela Stewart** Greenville, N.C. (Round of 32)  
**Kimberly Briele** New Bern, N.C. (Round of 64)  
**Lea Anne Brown** Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Leigh Coulter**, Hopkins, S.C. (Round of 64)  
**Patty Moore**, Charlotte, N.C. (Round of 64)

### U.S. SENIOR AMATEUR (Sept. 13-18)

**Rick Cloninger** Fort Mill, S.C. (Semifinals)  
**Todd Hendley** Greer, S.C. (Round of 16)  
**Kelly Miller** Southern Pines, N.C. (Round of 32)  
**Trip Boinest** Shelby, N.C.  
**Duke Delcher** Bluffton, S.C.  
**Sean McAvoy** Johns Island, S.C.  
**Gary Robinson** Fayetteville, N.C.  
**Spike Smith** Pinehurst, N.C.  
**Gus Sylvan** Columbia, S.C.

### USGA MEN'S STATE TEAM (Sept. 30 – Oct. 2)

**TEAM N.C. (T12)**  
**Bo Andrews** Raleigh, N.C.  
**Matthew Crenshaw** Burlington, N.C.  
**Scott Harvey** Greensboro, N.C.

### TEAM S.C. (T17)

**Rick Cloninger** Fort Mill, S.C.  
**Lee Palms** Greenville, S.C.  
**Todd White** Spartanburg, S.C.



# TEST YOUR *RULES OF GOLF* IQ

**THERE ARE PLENTY OF RULES TO KNOW.  
ARE YOU PREPARED COME TOURNAMENT DAY?**

**1)** Player A is unable to find his ball because Player B played it. Even if his search has lasted more than five minutes, Player A does *not* have a lost ball.

- a. True
- b. False

**2)** In stroke play, prior to taking his stance, a player removes a stake defining out of bounds that interferes with his line of play. What is the ruling?

- a. There is no penalty.
- b. There is a one-stroke penalty.
- c. There is a two-stroke penalty.

**3)** If a competitor knowingly claims a higher handicap than he/she is entitled to, which affects the number of strokes received, he/she must be disqualified even after the competition closes.

- a. True
- b. False

**4)** Which is correct regarding ground under repair?

- a. Exposed tree roots are always ground under repair.
- b. Grass clippings are ground under repair only if they have been piled for removal.
- c. A tree stump is always ground under repair.

**5)** If a player starts a round with 14 clubs and loses a club during the round, he may add one club to his total.

- a. True
- b. False

**6)** In stroke play, a player takes his stance in a bunker. He changes his mind regarding club selection, leaves the bunker, and returns with a different club. Before playing the stroke, he smooths out the footprints he made in the bunker and takes a different stance. What is the ruling?

- a. There is no penalty.
- b. There is a one-stroke penalty.
- c. There is a two-stroke penalty.



**7)** In the rain, a player holds an umbrella over his head with one hand while holing a short putt with his putter held in the other hand; there is no penalty.

- a. True
- b. False

**8)** Even when it is obvious that a dropped ball will roll into a hazard or out of bounds, the player may *not* place the ball instead of dropping it.

- a. True
- b. False

**9)** A marker signs a score card with an incorrect score for a hole and gives it to the player. Before returning the card to the Committee, the player notices the mistake and corrects it without consulting the marker or informing the Committee. Then, he returns the corrected card. What is the ruling?

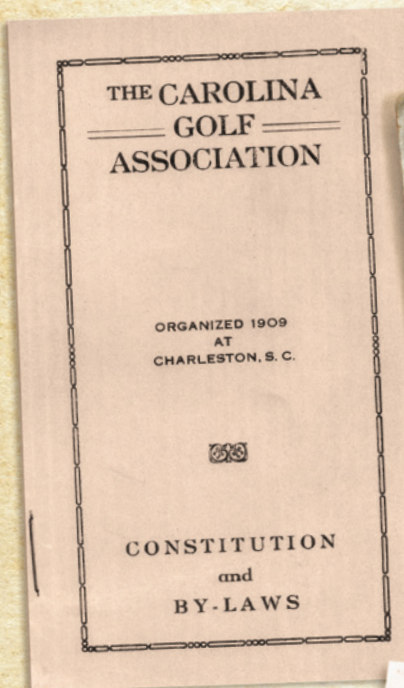
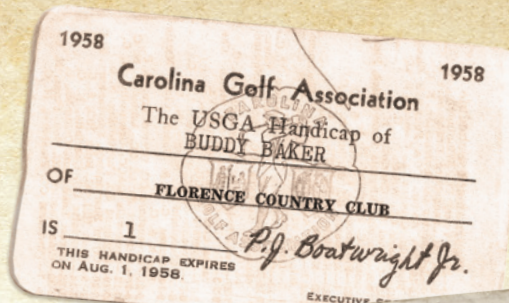
- a. There is no penalty.
- b. There is a two-stroke penalty.
- c. He is disqualified.

**10)** To identify a ball in the rough without lifting it, a player may *not* rotate the ball in place without first marking its position and announcing his intention to his fellow-competitor; otherwise, there would be a penalty.

- a. True
- b. False

Answers can be found at [carolinagolf.org/RulesIQ](http://carolinagolf.org/RulesIQ).





Carolina-Virginia Team Match Pinehurst Country Club April 20-21, 1957																				
NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN
Thomas Miller	4	5	4	4	5	3	4	5	4	38	6	5	5	5	3	5	3	5	4	28
R. E. Loving	4	5	4	5	4	3	4	5	3	37	7	5	4	4	5	2	5	4	5	41
John McCas	4	4	4	5	5	3	6	5	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	5	4	5	39
Russell Leitz	4	4	4	4	3	5	3	4	2	5	4	4	5	4	3	5	3	5	38	80
Fred Reathing	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	3	3	35	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Fred Davis	5	4	5	5	4	3	5	3	3	39	6	3	4	5	4	2	5	3	4	36
Frank Edwards	5	5	5	4	5	4	3	5	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Ross Puette	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	3	3	35	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Phil Kinsey	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	3	3	35	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Frank Sutton	5	4	5	5	4	3	5	3	3	39	6	3	4	5	4	2	5	3	4	36
Elmer Graves	5	5	4	4	5	4	3	3	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Jack Berkley	5	4	5	5	4	3	5	3	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Harry McCreedy	5	5	4	4	5	4	3	3	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Wm. T. Wood	5	5	4	4	5	4	3	3	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Ed Barnes	4	4	4	6	3	5	6	3	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
Clarence Klutz	4	4	4	6	3	5	6	3	3	39	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	36
W. B. Tomlinson, Jr.	4	4	5	5	4	4	5	3	39	4	5	4	5	3	4	4	3	4	38	77
John S. Battle, Jr.	4	4	5	5	4	4	5	3	39	4	5	4	5	3	4	4	3	4	38	77
Larry Dempsey	4	4	4	5	3	4	6	4	38	5	4	4	5	3	5	3	4	37	75	
P. D. Dargatz, Jr.	4	4	4	5	3	4	6	4	38	5	4	4	5	3	5	3	4	37	75	
J. B. Hall	4	5	5	6	4	5	4	3	41	5	4	4	4	3	5	3	3	35	76	
George Govey, Jr.	4	4	4	5	3	4	4	3	36	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	34	70	
P. J. Boatwright	5	4	5	4	3	4	2	36	6	5	4	4	4	4	5	3	4	39	75	
Aubrey Rothrock	4	3	4	4	5	4	3	36	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	3	4	36	72	
Jimmy Deemer	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	36	72	
Neel Baber	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Ben Gables	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
P. D. Trentline	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Wm. C. Battle	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Tom Strange	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Key Taylor	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Key Price	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
James O. Watts, Jr.	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Phelick Burke	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Bobby Chapman	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Bill Williamson	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
George Furrer, Jr.	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Harry Eastley	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Bill Joe Parker	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	35	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	71	
Lawrence Cook	4	3	4	4	3	4	2	33	5	4	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	35	68	

Carolina Team- Black Ink  
Virginia Team- Red Ink

COCKTAIL PARTY and DINNER  
7:00  
at CAROLINA HOTEL

A passage written by Pinehurst's Richard Tufts and appearing in a CGA yearbook decades later recounted the first CGA championship:

"Many of the contestants stayed at the Sans Souci Country Club and, with a generously stocked bar-room, there is little doubt but what the occasion quickly acquired that atmosphere of congeniality which is characteristic of fondly remembered gatherings. Fred Tyler reports that a 'ghost' disturbed the occupants of the clubhouse one night and recalls Col. Bond's sudden appearance in his room, white-faced and clad in his night shirt. On the final night, two hardy contestants commenced their next day's contest in the bar-room and left there for the first tee in the morning. One is reported to have broken five clubs in the first nine holes."

➤ Top right, players gather at Sans Souci in 1910. Above, Pinehurst's Richard Tufts was a giant in regional golf circles.





# In the Middle of It All

/ written by BY LEE PACE

## NEW CGA HEADQUARTERS MARKS EVOLUTION OF CAROLINAS' RICH GOLF HISTORY

The year 1909 saw the founding of the Hudson Motor Car Company in Detroit and the construction of a new naval base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Theodore Roosevelt vacated the White House in March and was succeeded by William Howard Taft.

It was also the year golfers representing five neophyte clubs in the Carolinas met for a friendly competition and formed an association to conduct championships and administer the game of golf.

"At that time, there were very few active golf clubs," Fred Tyler of Charleston is quoted as saying. "Pinehurst, Summerville, and Aiken were then only run in the winter-time as tourists' courses. A golf club was being organized in Spartanburg, but those in Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville were the only active all-the-year-around clubs in South Carolina.

"In North Carolina, at that time, the only active clubs were at Wilmington, Raleigh, Charlotte, Kanuga Lake, and Asheville."

### **Inaugural Tournament**

In the spring of 1909, Tyler wrote to the clubs, inviting them to Charleston for a tournament in October. He sought

donations for trophies. The tournament was held on Oct. 26-28, 1909, with golfers from Sans Souci in Greenville, Ridgewood in Columbia, Cape Fear in Wilmington, Georgetown, and Charleston participating. Following play, a meeting was held at the Carolina Yacht Club to organize what would be named the Carolina Golf Association (it would later become the Carolinas Golf Association).

The golfers discussed a site for a meeting the following year, and an invitation from the Sans Souci contingent to come upstate was accepted. Nine months later, the CGA had seven member clubs — the original five, plus Mecklenburg Country Club in Charlotte and Kanuga Lake Club just southwest of Hendersonville.

Seventy players gathered at Sans Souci on June 16-18, 1910, for one round of qualifying and four rounds of match play in four flights. A photograph taken during the festivities displays 23 men congregated around the steps of the clubhouse. Some heads are covered with bowler, bucket, and Gatsby hats. Seven golfers are wearing neckties, three are sporting bow ties, and most have either jackets or long-sleeve shirts. Nearly half are holding cigars and four have wooden-shafted golf clubs.

The image radiates the esprit de corps and fellowship





*“This is the ideal location for the CGA — it’s got a great golf heritage and tradition and there’s not another spot in the Carolinas where you’ve had so many major national events in recent years.” — Jack Nance*

exemplified in a quote from well-decorated amateur golf champion William C. Campbell: “In golf, there are no strangers, only friends we have not yet met.”

Pinehurst’s Richard Tufts, another giant in regional golf administrative circles, observed, “Everybody can play golf — some excellently, others indifferently, still others very badly, but all enjoyably. It keeps the player out in the open air; it keeps him moving over wide spaces; it exercises all his muscles and all his wits.”

The *Greenville Daily News* offered this observation on June 17, 1910: “The annual meeting of the Carolina Golf Association was held last night at the Country Club, with a large attendance. The affairs of the association were discussed, and the members were enthusiastic over the outlook. While the Association has been in existence for less than a year, it is certain that it will be permanent and will rapidly grow.”

Indeed it did.

### A New Era

More than a century later, the CGA has grown into the second-largest regional golf association in the United States. Its staff of 15 and several summer interns administer to more than 700 member clubs with nearly 150,000 individual members with handicaps. It conducts 40 championships, five team match competitions, and has more than 190 one-day tournaments for men, women, and juniors annually.

The CGA also provides rulings when questions on *The Rules of Golf* arise during competitions. In addition, the organization conducts rules seminars, rates courses, and provides advice and information for green superintendents.

Now the CGA has moved into a new era, relocating from its home of 22 years in West End, eight miles west of Pinehurst, to a new building in Southern Pines. Prior to that, the CGA was based in Tanglewood, outside Winston-Salem, for 25 years, after it was operated out of an office in Pinehurst from 1955-65.

The CGA purchased just under a half acre on the Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club campus in Southern Pines. Its new building is called Carolinas Golf House, similar to the Golf House headquarters of the USGA in Far Hills, New Jersey. With 13,000 square feet on two floors, it includes a conference room that will have multiple uses, including for Executive Committee meetings and rules seminars; a museum display area (*see related article on this page*); and a storage/loading room that enables staff to back their vehicles into the building and load before tournaments. The building also houses the 35-year-old Carolinas Golf Foundation, which has provided more than \$1.5 million for Carolinas-based golf initiatives and grow-the-game programs.

The CGA had outgrown its space in West End and needed to use rental storage space to house all the accouterments of conducting golf tournaments — cans of spray paint for course marking, paint guns, wooden stakes, tables, table covers, tee markers, hole flags and signs, tents, rope, banners, radio, laptop computer and printer, and trophies among them.

“We’ve been talking about a new building for 15 years or more,” says CGA Executive Director Jack Nance. “This was much needed. We started with four staffers in 1991 and as we grew, we were all on top of one another in the old building. The new building is far more functional.”

It’s also a plus to have as its next-door neighbor the venerable Pine Needles, which opened in 1929. Mid Pines Inn & Golf Club opened in 1921, across Midland Road. Four miles to the west is the Village of Pinehurst, which has a special CGA connection.

“This is the ideal location for the CGA — it’s got a great golf heritage and tradition and there’s not another spot in the Carolinas where you’ve had so many major national events in recent years,” Nance says. “Now we’re perfectly situated in the middle of it all for our next century.”

### Next Up: Carolinas Golf Museum

In 2015, the CGA plans to take an elongated room on the east side of its new headquarters and transform it into a mini museum to share the rich history of Carolinas golf.

“There is really no one place in the Carolinas that showcases the game of Carolinas golf,” says CGA Executive Director Jack Nance. “The Tufts Archives is a great repository of Pinehurst history and Donald Ross material, and I tell people all the time if they have a rainy afternoon on a golf trip, that’s a great place to spend some time. We want to create something covering all of the Carolinas.”

The CGA is seeking photos, clubs, trophies, balls, and memorabilia connected to top Carolinas golfers, architects, teachers, and venues. Nance envisions a showcase that includes players such as Billy Joe Patton and Harvie Ward on the amateur level, and pros ranging from Arnold Palmer and Henry Picard to Webb Simpson and Bill Haas.

If you have suggestions or items to share, contact Jack Nance at [admin@carolinascgolf.org](mailto:admin@carolinascgolf.org).

➤ Freelance writer **Lee Pace** lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The quotes from Richard Tufts, Fred Tyler, and William C. Campbell are from his book, *Golf In The Carolinas*, published in 2009 to commemorate CGA’s centennial.



# From Avocation to Vocation

MCCONNELL TURNS LOVE OF GOLF INTO  
ADVOCACY FOR INDUSTRY / written by LEE PACE

**J**ohn McConnell was introduced to golf by watching *Shell's Wonderful World of Golf* as a kid growing up in rural Virginia in the 1960s, fashioning homemade clubs with his two brothers and burying cans in the backyard. An uncle later gave him a set of used clubs. He joined the high school golf team in Abingdon. Golf has been a bedrock in his life ever since.

"I've never figured out why more people don't play golf," McConnell says. "Hitting a great shot and making a putt — well, I haven't found anything more exhilarating than that."

McConnell was born in 1950, graduated from Virginia Tech in 1972, and went into the medical records and software business. He started two companies in Raleigh, North Carolina, selling one in the late 1990s and the second in 2006. So when he learned in 2003 that Raleigh Country Club, home of a 1948 Donald Ross-designed course, was in financial distress and going to be demolished for a housing complex, McConnell decided to buy, save, and turn it into a historic gem.

"I had just been to Oakmont that summer when I was invited to play at Raleigh," McConnell says. "I remember you couldn't buy golf balls in the golf shop because no one would give them credit. I thought, 'This can be a mini-Oakmont. This is worth saving.'"

Turns out McConnell's love, respect, and knowledge of the game as well as his excellent business sense were a good combination in the club ownership and management arena. He formed a company called McConnell Golf and over the last decade has bought eight more clubs, including historic Sedgfield Country Club in Greensboro, North Carolina, host of the

Wyndham Championship on the PGA Tour; Old North State Club along Badin Lake in New London, North Carolina, one of architect Tom Fazio's jewels from the 1990s golf boom; and the Reserve Golf Club in Pawleys Island, South Carolina.

The most recent deal was consummated in early October when McConnell Golf purchased Brook Valley Country Club in Greenville, North Carolina, a 1966 design by famed golf architect Ellis Maples.

"I bought Raleigh Country Club to help the club, help the community, and next thing I know I'm in it big time," says McConnell.

"It wasn't a planned business, that's for sure. My background has always been to try to take advantage of opportunities. That's what I've tried to do in the golf business."

Part of McConnell's mission in owning nine courses and managing a 10th facility (Grande Dunes Resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina) is not only to provide quality venues and services to those already hooked on golf, but to expand the game to newcomers — particularly youngsters.

"The golf industry is still in a non-growth mode," he says. "The biggest issue is getting the young kids into the game and getting people to stay in the game. I don't think there's any magic formula other than one day people will figure out all this bike riding and skateboarding and marathon running is bad for their health. They'll wish they played golf when they were younger."



Photo: John Giltooly





# GIFT GUIDE

## ON THE PROS' HOLIDAY WISH LISTS

### SUPPORT FOR HOSPICE

Sean Desmond, PGA, head golf professional at Pinewild Country Club of Pinehurst in North Carolina, says his wish isn't directly golf-related. At the same time, he says, it is relevant to the lives of many of us who live and golf in the Carolinas.



Sean Desmond

"My wish to find under my tree would be donations to First Health Hospice for cancer research. I lost both my parents within 17 months of each other to cancer, and not only is research a must, but the wonderful people who care for our aging sick and elderly are some of the most special people in the world. This is my sincerest wish."



### New Clubs

"Titleist has introduced their new line of 915 Drivers, Fairway Metals, and Hybrids just in time for the holidays! Their innovative technology will be three gifts in one — more distance, accuracy, and forgiveness! With 16 different loft/lie settings, you are sure to find the perfect fit for your game. I want it because I can hit the ball further and straighter and be confident the club can fit MY swing!"



**Maggie Simons**, teaching professional and junior golf leader, Carmel Country Club, Charlotte, North Carolina



### Range Finder

"I think a great tool for any golfer is the Bushnell Tour Z6 range distance finder. I recently purchased this model and think it would be a well-received Christmas gift! I like its size and durability, and the lens clarity is awesome."



**Heidi Wright-Tennyson**, PGA, director of golf, Moss Creek Golf Club, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina



### Second That Notion

"The gift I would like to find under the tree this Christmas is the Bushnell Pro X7 Range Finder. I think this is a great gift for golfers. It really helps your game when you know the exact yardages."



**Rodney Russell**, director of golf, The Country Club of Whispering Pines, Whispering Pines, North Carolina



SCOTT HARVEY HOPES TO BE MASTERS-  
BOUND AFTER WINNING THE U.S. MID-  
AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

# Fulfilling a Dream

Scott Harvey slept a few hours the night before his final match in the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship in September, then woke up ready to go. **It was the day he would fulfill his No. 1 goal.** Having never won a USGA event, he was determined to collect a national championship in 2014.



/ written by  
**LEE PACE**

**T**hen he looked at the clock. It was 12:08 a.m. “And I couldn’t go back to sleep,” he says. “I laid there with my eyes closed all night, but I couldn’t sleep. I was so excited and anxious. I kind of expected that, some other guys had told me they had the same problem.”

Harvey’s tee time against Brad Nurski in the championship match at Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, finally came. Despite being mentally drained and sleep deprived, Harvey handily beat Nurski 6 and 5 in the 36-hole match.

With the victory, the 36-year-old Harvey added to a sterling resume that includes winning five major Carolinas Golf Association titles and notching qualifying medalist honors in the U.S. Amateur.

“When you finally reach your No. 1 goal, what a great feeling,” says the Greensboro resident. “I tried

to block everything out during the round and stay in the moment.

“After the trophy presentation, I got to my car, looked at my phone and I had 407 text messages. I thought, ‘Holy cow, I don’t even know 407 people.’ That’s when it hit me, what a big deal this is.”

The Harvey name has been a vaunted one in Carolinas golf circles dating to the 1960s. Harvey’s father, Bill, grew up in Greensboro and played in 18 U.S. Amateurs and four decades’ worth of Eastern Amateurs, Porter Cups, and other top amateur events. Bill rode his razor-sharp iron game and nerves of steel to great advantage and won 10 tournaments in the magical year of 1973. He claimed three Carolinas Amateurs — 1963, ’64, and ’73.

This year marked the first that Scott played without the daily connection to his closest mentor and





> Far left, Scott Harvey plays his tee shot on the 26th hole during the final round of match play at the 2014 U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship. Near top, Harvey reacts to making a 16-foot birdie on the 30th hole of the final; he closed out the match one hole later. Left, he receives a surprise visit from wife, Kim, and son, Cameron.

friend. Bill Harvey died in October 2013 after an extended bout with cancer.

"I know my dad knows what's going on," Scott says. "I take a lot of comfort in that. He would have given me the biggest hug and would have had the biggest smile on his face.

"He always knew I could win a national title."

Harvey worked through the fall and winter of 2013-14 with Greensboro golf instructor Robert Linville on reducing the bowing action in his left wrist at the top of his backswing and thereby taking the screaming hook out of his bag.

"It's made me a lot better driver," he said in March. "I worked hard and for the first time ever, I have a lot of confidence off the tee. That will be a huge benefit for me.

"I still hit a baby draw, but before, I had to use the

entire fairway because there was so much movement in the ball."

Six months later, Harvey noted that those swing changes and his ability to hit more fairways was a key element in winning the Mid-Am and securing the invitation to the 2015 Masters that he hopes and expects to receive in his mailbox in December.

"I hit countless balls over the winter, having some great days and some iffy days," he says. "But as the year went on, I gained more confidence and was able to drive the ball better.

"That's so important in the national events. That's why I made changes — so I could win the Mid-Am and compete in the bigger events."

> **Lee Pace** is a frequent contributor to *Carolinas Golf* magazine.

"When you finally reach your No. 1 goal, what a great feeling."

—Scott Harvey





# Woman's Touch

MATRIARCHS RULE AT CLUBS ACROSS THE CAROLINAS

It's little wonder Jane Covington and Orangeburg Country Club almost always get mentioned together. Both have been around — and around each other — **for nearly a century.**

When the then-Country Club of Orangeburg was founded in 1922, Jane Crum was a newborn (she turns 93 in December). When she was 15, her father, a founding club member, bought her first set of clubs.

"It amazes me how many people remember me," Covington says. "I've been out of competitive golf since the 1980s. It's flattering."

But not surprising. Covington won five Women's South Carolina Golf Association and five Women's Carolinas Golf Association titles, along with other events and more OCC championships than she can recall.

Her golf these days is limited to playing a "circuit" over three holes



*Jane Covington*

near her house. When The Oaks, a retirement home community, built a three-hole course for seniors, Covington got OCC Director of Golf David Lackey to create a scorecard for it. She also was the inspiration for the five-year-old Jane Covington Classic, which raises money for WSCGA junior girls' programs.

"The great thing about her, she's still an ambassador for the game around the state and beyond," Lackey says.

## 41 Years and Counting

Around the Carolinas, more than a few women fill similar roles.

Take Sheila Fender of Biltmore Forest Country Club in Asheville. Call the pro shop, and hers is the voice you hear; show up for a tee time and chances are she's your first contact. Fender has held various jobs at the club over 41 years, through seven pros, three superintendents, 10 managers, and 40 assistant pros.

Now in her early 60s, she had just graduated from dental hygiene school when, while visiting a friend at Biltmore Forest, she met veteran club pro Wade Ruffner. He later offered her a job.

"He said, 'Follow me around for a year and I'll teach you all I know,'" Fender says. She mastered billing, running tournaments, and tee-time bookings, and also helps with members' travel golf. She added the role of club historian about 25 years ago.

Her efforts have produced a treasure trove of memorabilia, including a rare photo of architect Donald Ross playing at Biltmore Forest.

"She's been here about half the history of the club (founded in 1922)," says head pro Jon Rector. "That's her passion, and she's a big part of the preservation of the history, which is a big deal at Biltmore. She's the force behind that. This is her job, but also her hobby. It's grown into a passion."

## Mother Figure

At Forsyth Country Club in Winston-Salem, Mary Ann Shults, now 70, has been the face (and voice) of the club — answering the phone, making tee times, and stocking the pro shop's merchandise racks — for 29 years.

"She knows a lot of our members because, in many cases, she raised them, remembers them as juniors, has seen them grow into young adults," says John Faidley, head professional.

Shults says she didn't know a thing about golf and the golf business when she started, "but I learned along the way."

Shults doesn't play golf. Her off-duty passions are reading, decorating,





and spending time with her two daughters and three granddaughters. But Forsyth “is like a second home to me,” she says. “The members are very caring, will do anything for you.”

#### Golf Team

Kathy Moore came to Aiken’s Palmetto Golf Club 32 years ago for one reason: Her husband, Tom, was hired as the club’s pro in 1982. He finally retired to pro emeritus status in January 2013, but Kathy remains manager of the club’s 19th hole because, she says with a laugh, “I’ve got to get away from him some time.”

The Florence native met her future husband when he worked at the Country Club of South Carolina. A few years later, they relocated to



Aiken and Palmetto GC. Kathy stayed at home until daughter Jennifer started school, then joined Tom at the club.

Palmetto visitors during Masters Week have included Tiger Woods, the Royal & Ancient’s Sir Michael Bonallack, and England’s Prince Andrew. “You couldn’t tell anyone until (the celebrities) left,” she says.

#### Jack of All Trades

Compared to the rest, Barbara Rice is practically a rookie at Keowee Key Golf Club in Salem. Still, in 16 years she has been the club’s “jack of all trades,” says head pro Rion Groomes.

“She can handle the counter, the phones, check people in, or sell a glove,” says Groomes. “She’s able to smile at 7:01 a.m., and has the same smile at 5:29 p.m. when the last player walks in. I’m sure glad we’ve got her.”



In her 60s, Rice moved with her husband, Randy, to Keowee Key, where they owned a lake cabin. Randy had retired from Clemson University, Barbara from Western Carolina. She wanted a part-time job, and, while walking through the pro shop one day, spotted a counter girl watching TV.

“I thought, ‘That’s the job I want,’ ” she says, laughing. “What a mistake. I never have time to turn on the TV.”

Instead, Rice is at the club, either working or playing golf.

“When I got the job, I wasn’t into golf,” she says, “but one day the assistant pro was giving a clinic and said, ‘Come try this.’ That was 13 years ago.

“I’ve loved golf ever since.”

She and Randy play on weekends (her best round is 83), and she works Tuesday-Thursday.

“I know all the golf members, and I’ve developed a personal relationship with all of them,” she says. “It’s not like a work relationship; I feel like we’re friends.”

➤ **Bob Gillespie** writes from Columbia, South Carolina.



# 2014 CGA Championship Fall Results\*

/ CHAMPIONSHIP	/ SITE	/ DATES	/ WINNERS
9th Carolinas Mixed Team	St. James Plantation (Players), Southport, N.C.	8/30-31	Anthony & Debbie Adams
21st NC Mid-Amateur	Old Chatham GC, Durham, N.C.	9/19-21	Joe Jaspers
53rd Carolinas Senior Amateur	Sedgefield CC (Dye), Greensboro, N.C.	9/24-26	Jim Grainger
7th NC Super Senior	Cape Fear CC, Wilmington, N.C.	9/29-30	Ron Carpenter
19th NC Four-Ball	North Ridge CC (Lakes), Raleigh, N.C.	10/3-5	Mark Gauley & Brian Gauley
16th Carolinas Women's Senior Amateur	Governors Club (Lakes-Foothills), Chapel Hill, N.C.	10/7-8	Pat Brogden
69th Captain's Putter Matches (Carolinas-Virginias)	Club at Creighton Farms, Aldie, Va.	10/17-18	Virginias
3rd Carolinas Super Senior Four-Ball	River Hills CC, Lake Wylie, S.C.	10/15-16	Jim Pridgen & Ernie Newton
Carolinas Interclub Finals	Pine Needles/Mid Pines, Southern Pines, N.C.	11/22-23	TBD
4th Carolinas Net Amateur	Pinehurst Resort & CC (No. 3), Pinehurst, N.C.	11/22-23	TBD
7th Carolinas Young Amateur	Pinewild Country Club (Magnolia), Pinehurst, N.C.	12/29-30	TBD

\* CGA championships held since the Summer 2014 issue of *Carolinas Golf* magazine. For more updates, visit [carolinasgolf.org](http://carolinasgolf.org).



## SNAPSHOTS: 2014 CGA Champions



➤ 1. Brian and Mark Gauley; 2. Ron Carpenter; 3. Jim Pridgen and Ernie Newton;  
4. Jim Grainger; 5. Joe Jaspers; and 6. Pat Brogden



# 2015 CGA Championship Schedule (partial\*)

/ CHAMPIONSHIP	/ SITE	/ DATES
21st Tar Heel Cup Matches	River Landing (River), Wallace, N.C.	4/6-7
35th Carolinas Mid-Amateur	North Ridge Country Club (Lakes), Raleigh, N.C.	4/17-19
12th North Carolina Women's Senior Amateur	Starmount Forest Country Club, Greensboro, N.C.	4/21-22
47th Carolinas Senior Four-Ball	The Cliffs at Keowee Springs, Six Mile, S.C.	4/27-29
10th Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls	Pine Island CC, Charlotte, N.C.	5/2-3
64th Carolinas Four-Ball	Camden CC, Camden, S.C.	5/6-10
30th North Carolina Senior Amateur	Champion Hills Club, Hendersonville, N.C.	5/12-14
North Carolina Amateur Championship Sectional Qualifier	Longleaf Country Club, Southern Pines, N.C.	5/16
55th North Carolina Amateur	Country Club of Landfall (Dye), Wilmington, N.C.	6/18-21
Carolinas Amateur Championship Sectional Qualifier	Keith Hills Golf Club (Orange-Black), Buies Creek, N.C.	6/27
49th Twin States Junior Girls Championship	Chapel Hill Country Club, Chapel Hill, N.C.	6/30-7/1
101st Carolinas Amateur	Greensboro Country Club (Farm), Greensboro, N.C.	7/9-12
9th Carolinas Junior Girls 15 & Under	Country Club of Whispering Pines (Pines), Whispering Pines, N.C.	7/13-14
59th Carolinas-Virginias Women's Team Matches	Bay Creek Resort (Nicklaus), Cape Charles, Va.	7/13-15
NC Amateur Match Play Championship Sectional Qualifier	Monroe Country Club, Monroe, N.C.	7/23
66th Carolinas Junior Boys Championship	Forest Oaks Country Club, Greensboro, N.C.	7/28-30
18th Carolinas Parent-Child	Pinewild Country Club (Magnolia), Pinehurst, N.C.	TBA
49th Carolinas Father-Son	Pinehurst, N.C.-area courses	TBA
11th Dogwood State Junior Championship (boys, girls)	Prestonwood Country Club, Cary, N.C.	8/4-6
6th North Carolina Amateur Match Play	High Point Country Club (Willow Creek), High Point, N.C.	8/5-9
15th North Carolina Senior Four-Ball	Pinewood Country Club, Asheboro, N.C.	8/12-14
54th Carolinas Senior Amateur	Dataw Island Club (Cotton Dike), Dataw Island, S.C.	9/13-15
17th Carolinas Women's Senior	Hendersonville Country Club, Hendersonville, N.C.	9/21-22
20th North Carolina Four-Ball Championship	Croasdaile Country Club, Durham, N.C.	10/9-11
4th Carolinas Super-Senior Four-Ball	Hendersonville Country Club, Hendersonville, N.C.	10/14-15

\* Other 2015 CGA championship sites are TBA. Updates on 2015 CGA championships, qualifying sites, schedules for CGA one-day and senior four-ball events, and more are at [carolinascgolf.org](http://carolinascgolf.org).

## NOTE

### CGA Interclub Series Sign-up Opens in February

Sign-up for the 2015 CGA Interclub match series begins in February. First matches are played in May and playoffs start in September. The fee is \$300 per club.

Each club joins a "pod" of four clubs and participates in six matches (three away, three at home) against clubs in its pod. Teams are comprised of 12 players in the regular season but expand to 16 for the finals. Players must be male, at least 21, and have a USGA handicap index of 18.4 or less. One club professional is added to the potential mix. Visit [carolinascgolf.org](http://carolinascgolf.org) and click on Carolinas Interclub Matches for more details.



➤ Greensboro Country Club's Farm Course will host the 101st Carolinas Amateur in 2015. Shown here, Hole No. 14.





# Playing the Course Backward (In Your Mind)

## PUT YOUR FAVORITE CLUB TO WORK FOR YOU

/ written by BRETT HEISLER / illustration by KEVIN FALES

What is your favorite approach club? I'm referring to the one that, **when you hold it, makes your confidence swell.** With this club, it isn't a matter of *if* you will hit the green, but a matter of *how close*.

Grabbing this club is like sitting behind the wheel of your favorite sports car and having the light turn green. It's time to GO! Your goal is to use this club as often as possible, taking confidence from knowing you will hit more greens and be closer to the hole.

The approach shot to the green is one of the most important in your golf game. Hit it high and tight to the pin, and you're set up for an excellent birdie opportunity.

So with your favorite club in hand, we need to know the ideal yardage that is best for using that club. If you had a chance to walk down the middle of the fairway and place a ball anywhere from 150 to 50 yards from the green, where would you place it? (Remember,

we are trying to avoid the yardages that give us that awkward "in-between" shot.) No specific answer on the amount of yardage is correct; it's all personal preference. Being closer to the green isn't necessarily easier for everyone.

Here is where it helps to play the hole backward in your mind. Let's say your favorite club is a pitching wedge and your favorite yardage is 85 yards. You are playing a long 410-yard par 4. You hit an average drive of about 230 yards down the fairway. This is the critical moment. With 180 yards on a well-protected green with bunkers on both sides, you need to make a choice. Pull out your usual hybrid or 5-wood to try to "get the ball somewhere around the green" or play to your favorite yardage.

If you take the option of playing to your favorite yardage, then after your 230-yard drive, you only need 95 yards to get into position for your approach. Given enough practice with your favorite pitching wedge, and the resulting confidence, you now can fly the ball onto the green and know it will stop there. The bunkers have just become decoration for the course — like a nice pair of earrings — hanging on the side of the green. You have a good look at par, but if you miss, it will be a tap in five. Double Bogey wasn't part of the equation and you didn't have to rake any sand!

My advice is to pay attention to your favorite club and try to put yourself in that position most often. When you practice or warm up before a round, hit 90 percent of your shots with your favorite club to hone it in.

Golf is a tough game. It can beat you up mentally. Take some of the control back and build as much confidence as you can to see results where they matter most — your score.

➤ **Brett Heisler**, PGA, is the general manager/director of golf at Bear Creek Golf Club in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. He was recently named "The 2014 Best Golf Professional/Instructor on Hilton Head Island" in the 10th Annual Reader's Choice Award poll conducted by the island's daily newspaper, *The Island Packet*. He can be reached at (843) 681-9510 or [bheisler@bcgc.org](mailto:bheisler@bcgc.org).



# To Retire or Not to Retire?

/ written by JOY LUCAS / illustration by KEVIN FALES

That is no longer the question. At age 72, **it is time for Dr. Leon Lucas, CGA agronomist for the last 17 years, to retire** — once again!

When Jack Nance asked Leon to write a farewell article about his years with the CGA, Leon didn't want to write about himself. Instead, he asked me, his wife of 50 years, to do it. So here I go.

How did a farm boy from Halifax, North Carolina, have the awesome opportunity to retire from two great careers — first as a North Carolina State University professor and second as an agronomist with the Carolinas Golf Association?

Having grown up on a tobacco farm in eastern North Carolina, Leon was used to hard work. Rising early, he often had to milk the cows before going to school. Tending the

cows, hogs, and chickens, as well as working in the fields, he learned to maximize the hours in a day. Studying hard and doing well in school was expected.

Academics were important, but so were sports. Leon played baseball, football, and basketball in high school and was being considered for a football scholarship until he dislocated his shoulder in a game. This was a blessing in disguise, since it caused him to focus on his education. While a student at NC State, his interest in science and plants was fostered by an adviser who allowed him to work part time in the plant pathology lab doing odd jobs like washing petri dishes.

After graduating in 1964, Leon married me and we went to California, where he enrolled in graduate school at the University of California, Davis. While I taught school, he earned his Ph.D. in plant pathology. Graduate school was tough, but he found time to fish, hunt, play softball, bowl, and get to know a new game: golf. He and his friends played on a small course near Davis where the ground was so hard and dry that they often lost balls in the ground cracks. (Not always following the *Rules of Golf*, they would just drop another ball and keep on playing.) His dad never understood how chasing a ball around in the hot sun could be considered fun.

After receiving his doctorate in 1968, we returned with our daughter, Lynn, to Raleigh. Leon took a position on the faculty at NC State, where teaching and research consumed 30 years. Concentrating on turfgrass diseases, he often accompanied Drs. Bill Gilbert and Carl Blake to various courses and was introduced to the Carolinas Golf Association. Upon Carl's retirement as agronomist, Leon was offered the position.

This association has afforded him the opportunity to meet and work with some wonderful people. It was really special to work with former students. He often told superintendents that he learned as much from them as they did from him. Working with the staff at West End, consulting with golf course superintendents and personnel, and helping with golf tournaments have combined to make it a phenomenal experience for him.

During his career, Leon traveled to Australia, Japan, and across the U.S. sharing his expertise. He has also enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing, gardening, managing timberland, and volunteering at the New Hope Valley Railroad Museum. He hopes to continue these activities as well as visiting our son, Brad, in Wisconsin, and watching Lynn and Kevin's two kids, Luke and Callie, in their endeavors.

However, knowing him, he is likely to take another job in the turfgrass industry if one becomes available.



➤ **Joy Lucas** is the wife of Dr. Leon Lucas, who retires as CGA agronomist at the end of 2014.