

ILLINOIS WOMEN'S GOLF

NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE ILLINOIS WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2007

INSIDE THIS

President's 2

Message

2006 Sites

Board News 3

Victory 4 Tournament

Top Ten Reasons to Host a Victory Tournament

Illinois Women's **6**Amateur
Championship

Illinois Junior **7**Girls
Championship

Illinois Women's 8 Senior Amateur Championship

Seniors Remember 9

Two Who Excel 10
Marlene Miller
Salley Wessels

Golfing Through the Ages

Women who have played in IWGA Tournaments 25 years or

more

Shirley Dommers

Ruth Femali

Marlene Miller

Salley Wessels

29 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

25 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

28 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

27 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

Women who have played in IWGA Tournaments from 20-24 years

Lorraine Cass
Evelyn Davis
23 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
23 years in State Amateurs and seniors
Marilyn Dechert
22 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Gail Hannam
22 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Doris Higgins
22 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Carol Laws
22 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Ruth Sciutto
24 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

Women who have played in IWGA Tournaments from 15-19 years

Joyce Aller

Diane Corcoran

Margie Delgado

Jo Ann Kettman

17 consecutive years in Seniors

18 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

17 years in Seniors

18 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

Fayne Kniep 17 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Gwen Lempke 18 years in Seniors
Sandi Schaefer 15 years in Seniors

Amy St. John

16 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Norma Tollenear

18 years in State Amateurs and Seniors
Sue Young

18 years in State Amateurs and Seniors

Look for related articles on pages 9 and 10



Ellen Boeye IWGA President

2007 SITES

AMATEUR Red Tail Run Golf Club Decatur June 18 - 22

Contact: Lynne Frary 815-394-1985

JUNIOR
U. of I. Course
Savoy
July 31, August I
Contact: Marlene Miller
847-234-2154

SENIOR
Rock Island Arsenal
Golf Club
Rock Island
September 10-13
Contact: Pam Henning

309-762-3122

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

2006 was a great year for the IWGA. Our tournaments were well attended with strong fields in each of three events. The State Amateur was won by Megan Godfrey with Lauren May the Runner-up. They prevailed over a field of 76 players which had 48 women with handicap indexes under 10.0.

The junior tournament keeps growing every year and the strength of the field grows as well. This year there were 91 girls entered and Brooke Beeler won in a playoff with Gianna DiGrazia. Both girls finished regulation play with a total score of 151. It's so much fun to see girls coming back year after year and bringing their younger sisters with them.

The Senior Tournament was won by Char McClear for the second year in a row. We had a full field of 120 women, 18 of whom had handicaps of 10 and under, and 86 had handicaps of 20 or under. We also had a waiting list of 10 or 11 players.

In 2007 we'll be going to Decatur for the State Amateur. There we'll play a Raymond Floyd designed course named Red Tail Run. It is a new course which gets it's name from the red tail hawk, many of which can be seen soaring over the course. The web site states that it is a course which can be played by anyone from a novice to an expert depending on which of the five tee areas is used.

I'm excited about 2007 because the State Senior Tournament will be played at my home course, the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club in Rock Island. Some of you have played here before and will remember that it is fairly long and mostly flat with lots of big old trees lining the fairways. Several fairways run along the Mississippi River, and the course is particularly beautiful in the Fall when the leaves have turned. There are many large homes along the fairways which were built in the 1800's and are occupied by army officers who are stationed at the Arsenal.

I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to play these courses. We're looking forward to seeing you and we know that 2007 will be a great year.

Ellen Boeye, IWGA President

IWGA BOARD NEWS

2006 was a sad year for the IWGA. We lost two good friends and wonderful board members. **Bernie Mulliken** from Bloomington joined the IWGA Board of Directors in 1957 and currently was an honorary member. **Linda Mills** from Champaign joined the Board in 1979 and was a current member of the Board of Directors. These two women were enthusiastic and hard working members who gave many years of service to the women golfers of Illinois They will both be missed by everyone who knew them. Ellen Boeye

Bernie Mulliken was born on March 29, 1917. She showed a natural ability to hit a golf ball at a very early age, and at the age of 8, became a member of her father's regular foursome. She graduated from Bloomington High School, National Park Seminary, and Illinois Wesleyan University.

She met Weldon "Lefty" W. Mulliken on the Bloomington Country Club golf course. They were married in 1942 while he was on leave from the Army. During World War II, she volunteered for the Baby Fold and Brokaw Hospital Service League.

She joined the Illinois Women's Golf Association as a board member in 1957 and served as its president from 1963-1965. In 1987 she headed up the Rules Committee, a job she kept for several years until she changed to Emeritus and finally Honorary status.

Bernie played golf all her life. She joined the ranks of the Hole-in-One Club in 1963. She was runner up in the Bloomington Country Club championship tournament in 1938, then went on to win the club championship in 1963, 1968 and 1986. She was a member of the Country Club of Florida and won its club championship in 1975. She was the first female member of the board of governors for the club from 1986 to 1992. She and Lefty were invited to join the 200 Club and enjoyed playing the many wonderful golf courses all over the country until his death in 1977. Bernie passed away September 27, 2006. She is survived by one daughter, two grandsons and one great-grandson. She will be remembered by all who knew her as a gracious and giving person.

Linda Mills was born on November 9, 1940. She grew up in Galesburg and attended Galesburg High School where she was a cheerleader and valedictorian of her 1958 graduating class. In Galesburg, she met and later married Douglas C. Mills in 1964. She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1962, was a Bronze Tablet recipient and recognized as the outstanding senior in Education. Linda also received her MBA from Illinois in 1978.

Linda worked as a systems engineer for IBM until she and Doug bought a controlling interest in Busey First National Bank and moved to Champaign. In 1985 she became president of Busey Travel. She was an active member of the Champaign-Urbana community for more than 35 years with major involvement in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. She served on various U of I boards and as a member of the President's Council. In the community she served as president of the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club, the Junior League and the Champaign-Urbana Community Schools Foundation. She also was involved with the United Way, and numerous other community organizations. In 1994 she received the Athena Award from the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce, an award which recognizes the achievements of outstanding professional women. In 1995, she was honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Green Meadow Girl Scout Council.

Linda was an avid golfer, an enthusiastic tennis player, a prolific gardener and a knowledgeable world traveler. She joined the IWGA board of directors in 1979 and served as president from 1990-1992 and its finance chairman until her untimely death.

Recently, ground was broken on the Mills Breast Cancer Institute in Urbana, following a \$10 million gift from the Mills family. This institute will provide comprehensive services for patients with breast cancer and collaborate with University of Illinois on breast cancer research.

Linda is survived by her mother, sister, husband, two sons and two grandsons. They and all who knew her will miss her

A NEW LOOK

The theme for the 2007 Victory Tournament prizes has been selected.

Prizes to be sent to contributing clubs will all be engraved with the IWGA logo. We have selected 5 different items which are fun and useful.

Please check the Victory Tournament brochure for details. Look for prizes to reach your club in early May.

The IWGA Victory
Endowment Fund
welcomes
individual
donations and
memorials

VICTORY TOURNAMENT

The IWGA Victory Tournament began during World War II to support the "Swing Club", a program to introduce golf to disabled veterans. Thanks to the contributions from Victory Tournament participants our charitable giving has grown to include grants to the women's golf teams at all of our public Illinois universities. Additionally we are able to honor qualified young women with golf scholarships and junior golf leadership awards. We support breast cancer research and treatment in Illinois through the Mills Breast Cancer Institute in Champaign and nationally through the Susan G. Komen Foundation. We are also faithful to our original charity as we still support the UVS Swing Club offered at the Veteran's Hospitals, as well as other important charitable programs throughout the state.



Doug Mills thanked the Urbana Golf and Country Club for choosing the Mills Breast Cancer Institute as their charitable recipient.

The IWGA Victory Fund donates \$1500 to the tournament host clubs to give to a charity of their choice

The largest contributor to the Victory Tournament for 2006 was **Wilmette Golf Club** raising \$1730. Thanks to **Mickey Poulos** and the **Suburban Women Golfers** for their extraordinary efforts. Other Victory Tournament Stars include **Oak Park Country Club**-\$1630, **Rockford Country Club**-\$1485, and **Kishwaukee Country Club**-\$1434. Thanks to Victory Tournament participants from across the state we were able to make over \$24,000 in charitable contributions in 2006. Look for a complete list of our Victory Tournament participants and contribution recipients in our *map of fame* sent with the IWGA events mailing in the spring of 2007.



Julie Grupe and Jamie
Hackspacher thanked the IWGA
Victory Fund and the Soangetaha C.C. LGA local committee
for the \$1500 donation to support the Safe Harbor Family
Crisis Center.

TOP TEN REASONS to Host an IWGA Victory Tournament at your Club

- I. You'll help to support the women's golf teams at all seven Illinois public universities.
- 2. You'll have a great time with our favorite game.
- 3. You'll help promote the future of golf by giving aid to Illinois representives to the USGA national and junior national championships.
- 4. You'll participate in honoring one exemplary Illinois high school senior with the Julia Dodds scholarship award.
- 5. You'll get to spend quality time with your friends in the out-of-doors.
- 6. You'll support breast cancer research and treatment in Illinois through the Mills Breast Cancer Institute and nationally through the Susan G. Komen Foundation.
- 7. You'll support a variety of other fine causes statewide such as the Evan's Scholar program, The Chicago Swing Club, and others you'll find detailed on our website www.iwga.org.
- 8. It's easy you decide the format we send the prizes.
- 9. You might get a hole-in-one.
- 10. You'll help us pass the \$1,000,000 mark in charitable giving through the IWGA Victory Tournaments

IWGA Victory Tournament Co-chairpersons:

 Pam Keeling
 Pam Henning

 4414 Alpine Oaks
 3447 49th Street

 Rockford, IL 61114
 Moline IL 61265

 815-877-6703
 309-762-3122

 (Chicago Area)
 (Statewide Area)

Two cities well represented at Seniors







Rockford

ILLINOIS WOMEN'S AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

FLIGHT RESULTS

CHAMPION Megan Godfrey Runner-up Lauren May

FIRST FLIGHT
Lisa Bailey
Runner-up
Laura Carson

2ND FLIGHT Katie O'Donnell Runner-up Trisha Blake

3RD FLIGHT Jaleesa Burton Runner-up Pam Sherry

4TH FLIGHT Lisa Rastede Runner-up Marlene Miller

5TH FLIGHT Janice Keerns Runner-up Marcia Seaton

6TH FLIGHT Lisa Schad Runner-up Christine King

7TH FLIGHT Allison Oakley Runner-up Jeanette Stolte Southern Illinois University junior **Lauren May** from St Charles faced off against University of Illinois senior **Megan Godfrey**, Homewood, in the final match of the 73rd Illinois Women's Amateur Championship held at Soangetaha Country Club in Galesburg. Godfrey, at the top of her game, was 6-up after 9 holes. May won the 10th hole. Godfrey won the 11th hole and closed the match and won the championship on the 12th hole.

Other winners included Defending Amateur Champion, Marisa Milligan, Normal, who won Medalist honors on qualifying day with a two-under par 70; Jessica Parmeter, Peoria, won Junior Medalist for the lowest qualifying score (82) for contenders under 18 years of age. Competing against players over 50 years of age, Beth Empson, Galesburg, won the Young at Heart Trophy with a net score of 69. The Team Play competition was won by Eastern Illinois University team mates Carrie Riordan and Michelle Anderson. Longest Drive honors and the Nancy Perisho



2006 IWGA Amateur Champion Megan Godfrey

Award went to Lisa Bailey, Gibson City, with a 230 yard drive on the 16th hole.



Runner-up Lauren May

2008
IWGA
WOMEN'S
AMATEUR
TOURNAMENT
AT
PANTHER
CREEK
C.C.
SPRINGFIELD
June 10-13



Jackie Schwarz and Jan Bower

MEGAN GODFREY JOINS THE PROS

At age 22, Megan Godfrey turned professional last July, just before the Illinois Women's Open at Mistwood Golf Club in Romeoville, where she finished with a respectable ninth place tie. After her June win of the Illinois Women's Amateur Tournament she felt she had accomplished nearly everything she needed as an amateur. A graduate of the University of Illinois, she lettered all four years. Godfrey was a two-time Academic All-Big Ten, a National Golf Coaches Association All-Scholar Team selection and a repeat George Huff Award winner given to the U of I student-athletes who earn a varsity letter and maintain a GPA better than 3.0.

Godfrey says she's wanted to pursue a career in golf since the summer after her sophomore year in college. She credits her father, Pete Godfrey, as being a major influence on her. "He 's been my caddie and he works with me (and my brother) and he would do anything for us. I am very grateful." "She's a tough competitor," says her dad who has been a teaching pro at Hidden Meadows Golf Club in Park Forest for eighteen years.

Godfrey plans to play in the Future Tour in 2007 and do well enough to enter the LPGA Tour the following year. Her fallback is sports marketing if golf doesn't work out. "It will be a hard journey," Godfrey says of the process of securing a tour card and keeping it. "It's not an easy job. It will require patience. I can't give up.

From an article by Gordon Wells, Megan Godfrey: Her Time is Now

FLIGHT WINNERS

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CHAMPIONSHIP Brooke Beeler Butler

RUNNER-UP Gianna DiGrazia Addison

FIRST FLIGHT Stacey Miller Bloomington

SECOND FLIGHT Melissa Miller Highland Park

THIRD FLIGHT
Sheena Collins
Edwardsville

FOURTH FLIGHT Brittany Puls Aurora

\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$

JUNIOR GIRLS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Brooke Beeler of Butler outlasted Gianna DiGrazia of Addison in a two-hole play-off to win the 27th Illinois Junior Girls Golf Championship on the University of Illinois Orange Course, Beeler and DiGrazia were tied at 151 after 36 holes on the par 76 course. Sixteen year old Beeler shot 73 and 78 for a two day total of 151, while fifteen year old DiGrazia posted 77 and 74 on the 5,652 yard course. Beeler was the Medalist for the tournament based on her first day score and also was on the team that won the low gross event played on the first day of the tournament. Beeler's medalist's round consisted of ten birdies...nine of them in a row.

A strong field of 93 players of whom sixty percent held handicaps of 10 or less played under very warm conditions. Two special team events were held during the first round of play on Tuesday. Low gross team winners were

- C. C.

Brooke Beeler 2006 Illinois Junior Girls

Brooke Beeler and **Katie Homa** of Hillsboro High School with a combined score of 156. Low net team winners were **Jaclyn Jansen** and **Emily Calhoon** of Effingham High School with a combined net score of 141. To honor a special board member the team events will be named the Bernie Mulliken Team Event in 2007 (see page 3). The Nancy Perisho Long Drive Award went to **Stacey Miller** of Bloomington with a drive of 241 yards, I foot, 7 inches.



Mellisa Miller, Alexander Anderson, Aubergine Orr and Lindsey Haines



Back row: Brooke Beeler, Jessica Parmeter. Front row: Samantha Sloan, Angela Dehning



Runner-up Gianna DiGrazia with Marlene Miller

Past Champions Honored at Illinois Women's Amateur Dinner



Left to right:

Mary Ellen Jacobs, 2000 Junior Champion Char McCear, 2005,2006 Senior Champion Marisa Milligan, 2005 Amateur Champion Marlene Miller, 1986,1987 Senior Champion Jackie Schwarz, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001 Senior Champion

Salley Wessels, 1977 Amateur Champion 1991,1994, 1995, 2000, 2002, 2004 Senior

Senior Women's Amateur Championship

2006 champion, **Char McLear** of McHenry, was able to successfully defend her title at the 37th Illinois Senior Women's Championship at Urbana Golf and Country Club. The three day 54 hole stroke play tournament hosted a full field of 120 and was played on the beautiful 1922 Tom Bendelow designed course that played at a demanding 5571 yards.



Mother & Daughter Team
Daughter: Deena Hayes, Troy
Mother: Darlene Pillers, Effing-

Five players tied the first day at 75: Char McLear, Laura Carson of Lake Bluff, 2003 champion Rosalie Barnet of Moline, Patti Lee of East Moline and Amy St. John of Peoria. On the second day, McLear took a 6 stroke lead with a par 73. On the final day she captured the win with a total 223 (75-73-75) and widened her 2nd day lead to best runner-up Laura Carson by 7 strokes. Third Low Gross for the field and Low Net Champion was Amy St. John.



2007 Senior Women's Amateur Champion Char McLear



Ki J Pae tees it up on the 10th hole at Urbana Golf and Country Club



2nd Low Gross winner Laura Carson



3rd Low Gross & Low Net winner Amy St. John

New Golf Rules for Seniors

The AARP has negotiated with the USGA to modify the Rules of Golf

Rule 1.a A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed on the fairway at a point equal to he distance it carried or rolled into the rough with no penalty. The senior should not be penalized for tall grass which groundskeepers failed to mow. Rule 2.d.6(b) There shall be no such thing as a lost ball. The missing ball is on or near the course and will eventually be found and pocketed by someone else, making it a stolen ball. The player is not to compound the felony by charging herself with a penalty. Rule 3.b.3 (g) A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed not to have hit the tree. This is simply bad luck and luck has no place in scientific games. The senior player must estimate the distance the ball would have traveled if it had not hit the tree and play the ball from there. Rule 4.c.7(h) If a putt passes over a hole without dropping, it is deemed to have dropped. The law of gravity supersedes the Rules of

Rule 5. Putts that stop close enough to the cup that they could be blown in, may be blown in. This does not apply to balls more than three inches from the hole. No one wants to make a travesty of the game.

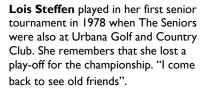
Rule 6.a.9.(k) There is no penalty for so-called "out of bounds". If penny-pinching golf course owners bought sufficient land, this would not occur. The senior golfer deserves and apology not a penalty.

Rule 7.g. 15(z) There is no penalty for a ball in a water hazard, as golf balls should float. Senior golfers should not be penalized for manufacturer's shortcomings.

Rule 8.k.9(s) Advertisements claim that golf scores can be improved by purchasing new golf equipment. Since this is financially impracticable for many senior golfers, one-half stroke per hole may be subtracted for using old equipment.

These Seniors Remember.....







Doris Higgins remembers her first senior tournament at Crestwicke C.C. in Bloomingtonshe led the first day and choked the next two. She played many years in the State Amateur but was thrilled to turn 50 and become eligible for the Seniors. Her husband said: "I can't believe anybody would want to turn 50 so badly just to play in some golf tournament".



Mary Jones, a five-time Senior Champion, started playing in the State Amateur in the 1950's. She played her first senior tournament at Quincy C.C. in 1976. She remembers Rock Island Arsenal with the waiters in white gloves and the awe inspiring Medinah C.C. clubhouse.



Evelyn Davis played her first IWGA tournament in the 1954 State Amateur at Quincy. She continued to play for 23 more years and is a familiar face at tournaments. "At Crestwicke, in 1981, we had to sweep hail off the greens".



Left **K K Green** remembers being tied with Mary Jones on the 18th at Danville C. C. in 1987 and four putting. Center **Helen Spencer** remembers her first senior tournament at Exmoor C.C. in 1975. Everyone wore long dresses to the dinner.

Right Ruth Sciutto played in all five senior classes. Her first was Jacksonville C.C. in 1980.



Ruth Femali played in her first State Amateur in 1948 and her first Seniors at Jacksonville C.C. in 1980. She particularly remembers 1985 at Burbonet where the greens froze and they moved the tournament to Kankakee C.C. "It was cold"!

It's Only a Game, Honey......

Helen Delores Verner (known as **Tede**) is a well-known figure in the Abington/Galesburg area and has been a contestant in many IWGA tournaments. A homegrown product of Galesburg, Tede, her parents and four siblings all shared a passion for sports. She partnered with her mother in running a summer sports program for girls in Abington. She passed on the "joy" aspect to her charges, who all remember her with affection.

Teaching English for many years in Rochester and eventually earning a Masters Degree in American Literature and Writing, she has penned many non-fiction vignettes. Establishing the Siwash Sisters Book Club, she also delivers school supplies for special needs children and participates in a variety of volunteer services where needed, keeping her fingers in the "pie of life".

She says of golf: "It is not work when you love it and obviously golf is not a mystery when you treat it as a game to be enjoyed. It is only a game, honey..."





ILLINOIS WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION 1933-2007

> CELEBRATING 74 YEARS

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We're on the Web www.iwga.org

TWO WHO EXCEL

MARLENE MILLER OF Lake Bluff was raised in Minnesota. Her successful career in golf began in 1951 when she won the Minnesota Publinx Championship. While attending the University of Minnesota, she was the 1954 NCAA Women's Medalist and the 1955 Minnesota Amateur Champion which she also won in 1960.

It wasn't until Marlene married and moved to Illinois that her coaching career began. In 1977 she became the head girls golf coach at Lake Forest High School, a job she still holds today. She has taken several teams to the state finals and has won 2 state championships. Aside from the impressive stats as a coach Marlene has done more than her share of serving the women's golf community in Illinois. She has served as president of the Illinois Girls Golf Association and director of the Women's Western Golf Association. She has been a member of the USGA Junior Girls Committee and the Illinois Junior Golf Association Governing Board, the Lake Bluff Park Board where she served as President 1990-95. She joined the IWGA Board of Directors in 1974 and served as President in 1983-85. One of her proudest accomplishments was the creation in 1979 of the IWGA Illinois Junior Girls Championship. She has served as chair of the tournament since its founding to this day.

Marlene kept up with her playing while coaching and has been very successful. She has won 11 club championships, the 1967 Chicago Women's District Championship, the 1983 Illinois Tournament of Champions, the Lake County Championship 2 times and the Illinois Women's Senior Championship twice. She has received three awards to honor her many achievements. In 1994 she received the Chicago District Golf Association Distinguished Service Award. In 1995 she was elected into the Illinois Coaches Hall of Fame and in 2000 the Chicagoland Sports Hall of Fame.

Along with all these great accomplishments, Marlene is proudest of being a mother and grandmother and married to her wonderful husband, Wendell.

SALLEY WESSELS from Mt Morris has been called Rockford's most decorated golfer. She has won the Greater Rockford Women's Golf Classic 13 times and been runner-up 9 times. She is a 20-time Rock River District Champion, has won the Rock River Classic 24 times and the Lincoln Highway Tournament twice. She was the 1977 Illinois Women's Amateur Champion and runner-up twice. She has won 6 Illinois Senior Women's Championships and was runner-up an additional 5 times. On the national level she has been selected to be on the Illinois State Team 4 times, has qualified for and played in the U.S. Public Links Tournament 4 times, the U.S. Women's Senior Tournament 8 times, the Western Women's Senior Championship 7 times plus placed 2nd or 3rd 5 times, and the Western Women's National Amateur Tournament 3 times where she was medalist in 1973. In 2006 she won the Northern Illinois Women's Golf Association Championship after having been runner-up twice.

As a girl, Salley was athletic. Her dream and goal was to play on the Rockford Peaches, a professional women's softball team, but the team folded when she was a freshman in high school so her competitive spirit ended up being channeled in a different direction. Not long after the Peaches faded Salley bought her first set of golf clubs at Sunset Golf Club and began practicing in earnest. "I liked to practice and I was fascinated by the game. I was always fairly athletic, so I guess I was successful from the start".

In 2006 she was elected into the Rockford Area Golf Hall of Fame for all of the above credentials plus 26 club championships. She continues to help further the enjoyment of the game of golf with her teaching of junior golfers at Ingersoll Golf Club.



Their list
of
golf related
activities
and
achievements
would
exhaust
even the
most
energetic
golf
enthusiast.

