

GOLFChicago

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

May/June 2014, Vol. 18 No. 3



Palm Springs Mecca

The RTJ Bucket List

Encompass at North Shore CC

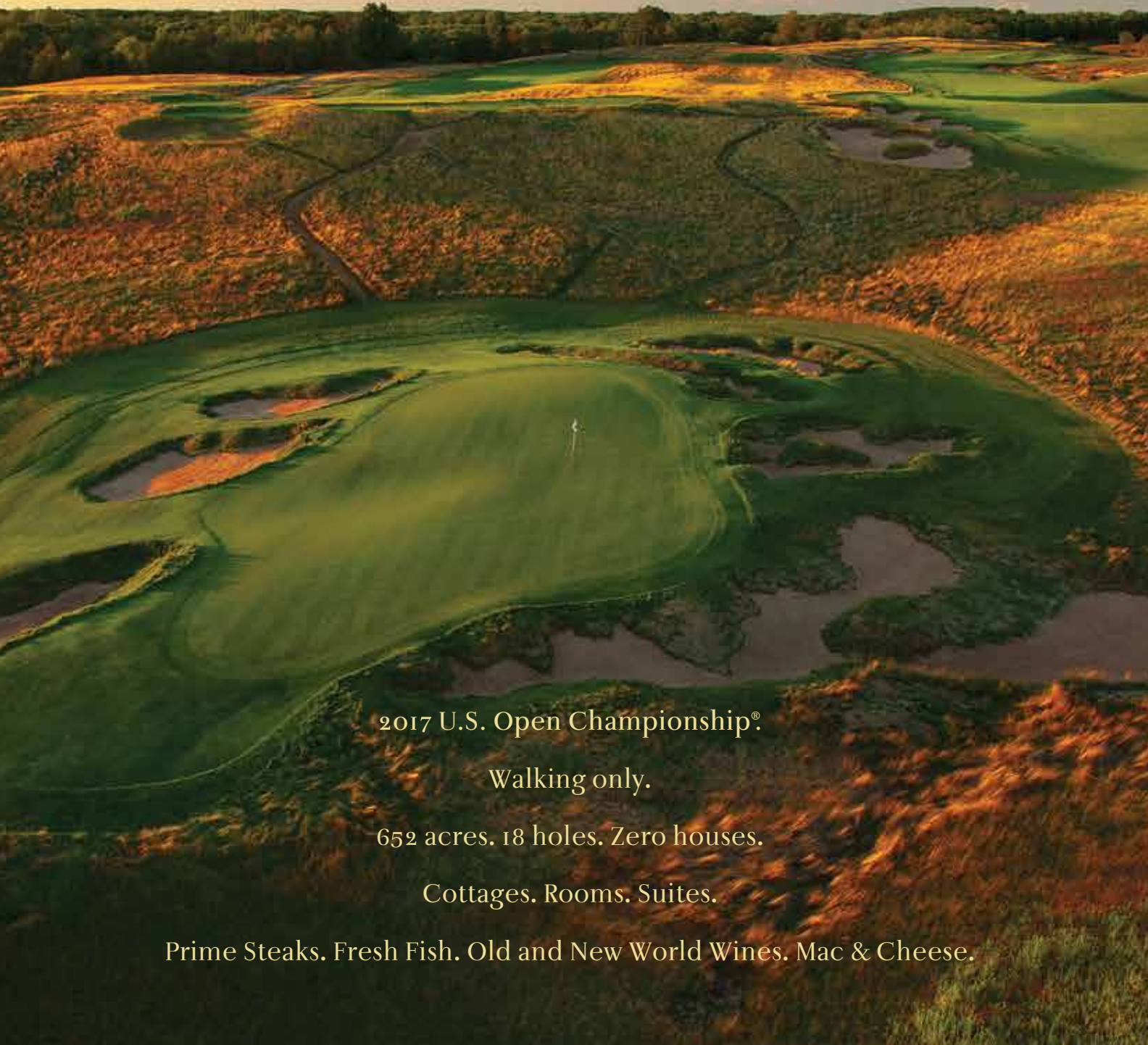
Dad's Day Gift Guide

Dave Pelz: Short Game Advisor

Swing Tips from Carl Rabito

GOLFChicagoMagazine.com

COME FOR THE GOLF.
STAY FOR THE EVENING.



2017 U.S. Open Championship®
Walking only.
652 acres. 18 holes. Zero houses.
Cottages. Rooms. Suites.

Prime Steaks. Fresh Fish. Old and New World Wines. Mac & Cheese.



Golf Digest Top 10 Public Courses in the United States.

866-772-4769 • ERIN, WISCONSIN • WWW.ERINHILLS.COM



STAY AND PLAY GOLF PACKAGES

They're as inspiring as they are demanding. Three signature courses sculpted by Mother Nature and designed by golf legends Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player. Both Golf Magazine and Golf Digest have called us one of the best golf destinations in the country. See for yourself. Our two-night midweek golf package includes: a two-night stay, unlimited golf and breakfast each day. Visit our website or call for current pricing.

800-748-0303 | grandtraverseresort.com/golf

Owned & Operated by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians



Features

16 **Dad's Day Gift Guide**

20 **Palm Springs**

World's Golf Capital

By Dave Weretka with Neal Kotlarek

30 **Alabama's Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail**

By Jim Owczarski



Backbreaker Hole 9 Photo: Michael Clemmer

Media sponsor of



Departments

- 5** **Notes from Greg and Dave**
- 6** **The Good Stuff**
New Products
- 8** **Dave Pelz**
Short Game Advisor
- 10** **The Full Swing**
With Carl Rabito
- 12** **In the Game**
With Billy Klemz
- 14** **The Fitness Edge**
Training for Better Golf
- 18** **Profiles**
Village Links of Glen Ellyn
- 26** **She Got Game**
Girls in the Game
- 28** **Tour Stop**
The Pro's in Chicago
- 34** **Sweet Home Chicago**
News from the City and 'Burbs
- 38** **Destinations**
Golf Travel
- 39** **GOLFChicago Map and Directory**
- 44** **On the Shelf**
Golf Between the Covers
- 45** **On the Corkscrews**
Notes from the World of Wine
- 46** **From the Fringe**
Jim Owczarski on the PGA Tour

NOTES FROM GREG AND DAVE

There are "tide tables" by which we measure the calendar year. For golfers, spring doesn't necessarily mean greener pastures. Spring is an opportunity to swing a club while wearing layers of performance fabrics; however, it is the month of May that brings all things green into our panoramic view. Let's face it; we are all tree-huggers in May. April's showers cleanse and hydrate the landscape, and they set the table for our visions which turn northern Illinois into an Augusta-like experience. Magnolia Lane is whatever roadway or highway that leads you toward a golf course. It is the month of May that promises rolling hills covered with lush turf that was mowed by someone not trying to find a few precious hours to go hit golf balls.

This month, we notice the birds chirping as our morning java brews, the sunset holding off until nine holes can be negotiated after work, and the weather



"Your attitude is a bogey, and your job performance is a double bogey. In regards to your job, you won't be making the cut."

forecast dictating if it is time for our golf bags to assume residency in the trunk. If you have parked your sticks and cleats in your trunk, then golf has beckoned your attention until the first flakes dust Chicagoland. Trust me, in less time than your driver is in vogue, you will have forgotten the romance of freshly cut greens, flowering crab apple trees, and a walk that isn't spoiled by 3-putts and snap hooks. This is the month where we simply enjoy Mother Nature in full bloom. In May, your golf swing is promising; chunks and skulls are simply the rust crinkling off a prolonged period of inactive movement.

In May, we have hope. Hope isn't a bad paint job when you cannot shut the face of your driver. Hope is a DIY project that will require time pounding practice balls. Golf is a DIY project where, unlike your son's little league game, you are all-time batter. This month, we do not care who is in our foursome, or even how they play, because we are born again on the links. We are fresh. We are young. We play a game called golf.

forecast dictating if it is time for our golf bags to assume residency in the trunk. If you have parked your sticks and cleats in your trunk, then golf has beckoned your attention until the first flakes dust Chicagoland. Trust me, in less time than your driver is in vogue, you will have forgotten the romance of freshly cut

Follow

GOLFChicago

on



twitter.com/GolfChiMag



SUBSCRIBE TO GOLFCHICAGO

Free Golf* with Your Paid Subscription

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority Delivered To Your Door Seven Times A Year

Visit www.GolfChicagoMagazine.com for details

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to be added to our e-newsletter!



*At participating golf courses

GOLFChicago

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

Founder: Bill Daniels

Publisher: Dave Weretka

Editor: Greg Jourdan

Art Director: Stephen Hawk

Anderson Young & Associates

Senior Writers: Neal Kotlarek and Jim Owczarski

Instructional Staff: Billy Klemz, Dave Pelz, and Carl Rabito

Editorial Contributors: Tim Cronin, Stephen Hawk, Rory Hughes, Brad Jourdan, Jerry King, Greg Martin, John Morrissett, Todd Mrowice, and Sheri Warren

Photography: Greg Jourdan and Group 27

Advertising and Marketing inquiries should be directed to:

Dave Weretka
815-741-8005
dweretka@golfchicagomagazine.com

Editorial inquiries should be directed to:
Greg Jourdan
gjourdan@golfchicagomagazine.com

Business Offices
3701 Juniper Avenue
Joliet, IL 60431
815-741-8005
Fax: 815-741-8112
dweretka@golfchicagomagazine.com

Editorial Offices
490 Meadow Lane
Hinckley, IL 60520
gjourdan@golfchicagomagazine.com

© Copyright 2014

No part of this publication may be reproduced without express written permission of the publisher. No part may be transmitted in any form by any means, including electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission from the publisher. Publisher accepts no liability for solicited or unsolicited materials that are lost or damaged. Opinions expressed by editorial contributors do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publisher.



Straight Jacket

If you live in the Midwest and you're a golfer, then you are going to get rained on. These are the facts of life. Fila is stepping up its golf apparel line with their addition of the Auckland and Rockingham jackets. Perfect for chilly mornings or when you get stuck in the rain on the farthest hole from the clubhouse. With a soft-shell, these jackets are wind and waterproof to stand up to Mother Nature. A detachable hood helps make the jackets go from something you can wear on the course to something you can wear away from it.

\$110
www.shopfilagolf.com



Check Yer Head

Seamus, an Oregon-based headcover manufacturer, offers an upscale accessory to protect your turbo-charged drivers and fairway woods. Seamus covers are 100% tartan wool and are a retro, Euro inspired accessory that are easily removed and will accommodate the biggest heads on the market. Each headcover is designed to withstand the elements and promises not to fray.

\$65 www.seamusgolf.com



Speed and Distance

Bushnell Golf continues to redefine the rangefinder and GPS market. New for 2014 is the Tour Z6 JOLT which provides users with short vibrations to ensure that you've locked on the pin. Enhanced optics gives 6x magnification for superior clarity. The Tour Z6 JOLT is also Bushnell's most accurate rangefinder and provides yardages five times faster and more accurately than previous models. Now all that's left is to keep your head down, don't sway, check your grip, and tempo.

\$399 www.bushnellgolf.com



Made in the Shades

Just for her, Maui Jim's Nalani sunglasses are en vogue on the beach, at the club, or handing the keys to your convertible to the valet at a red carpet gala. The large, rectangular frames are windbreakers to keep the sand out of your eyes—just in case you meet the beach on the course. Maui Jim's PolarizedPlus 2 lens technology, which puts your vision in HD, will make Nalani sunglasses your go to shades for any occasion. With a Hollywood "A" list frame, crisp colors, and an overall weight on par with performance eyewear, you'll need to remind yourself that you can look this good and see even better.

\$259 www.mauijim.com



Enter New Balance

With the NBG2002, New Balance enters the golf market with a huge splash. Weighing just over 11 ounces, this modern cleat offers the comfort and performance that the Massachusetts-based manufacturer delivers with its running products. The comfort is the result of the REVlite midsole, which is designed with 26-mile marathon cushioning, so 18 holes is a walk in the park with a pair of NBG2002 on your feet. Lightweight and stable with Champ ONE-Lok cleats, the NBG2002 is low profile and sets a formable platform at the launch pad. Houston, we have lift off with New Balance's entry into golf.

\$149.99
www.newbalance.com

Self Help on the Links

Take what you know about analyzing your golf game; now forget it. Game Golf has reinvented self-diagnosis with an easy-to-use system that provides instant feedback. One of the hottest products for 2014, Game Golf informs you of all statistical elements of your game by utilizing tags you install on your clubs (the system comes with 18 tags) and tapping those against a wearable device before each shot. What you're left with is a factual overview of your round with all shots and distances included. Smart technology puts the data at your fingertips with Web and mobile interfaces.

\$249 www.gamegolf.com



Lag Your Way to Better Scores

Three-putting is an absolute waste of strokes, and it is so discouraging that it can ruin not only your scores but also your attitude. Ever meet a happy three-putter? While three-putting is nearly impossible to avoid completely, especially on today's faster greens, most amateurs do it far more often than they should. With the help of the PGA Tour's ShotLink tracking system, the Pelz Golf Institute has found that weekend players drop a stroke by three-putting up to six times as often as professionals do.

Even scratch amateurs three-putt more than once every 10 holes and, as you can guess, the frequency of three-putting increases with handicap. If you're a 30-handicapper, you're literally throwing away three or four strokes every round you play.

It's interesting to compare your three-putt percentage to that of the best players in the world. The difference is crazy! ShotLink data from 2013 tells us that PGA Tour pros three-putt an average of 2.4 times—per event! And so far this year there have been eight tournament winners who didn't three-putt *once* en route to victory.

If pros can avoid three-putting, so can you, because you don't need a ton of athletic ability to get down in two. Avoiding three-putting doesn't even require a ton of practice. You just have to get your first putts to stop a little closer to the hole than they have in the past.

My advice is to change your approach on long lags, which amateurs typically leave too short, for an easy two-putt. Try the following two changes:

INSTRUCTION

SHORT
GAME
ADVISOR



Dave Pelz



1. Stand closer to the ball and with an open stance. This allows you to look out at the putt with binocular vision, which helps with depth perception. Looking at the putt like this also frees up your motion to provide more power to the ball.

2. Putt with a chipping stroke, not a putting stroke. Add a little wrist hinge both back and through. Again, this will help you avoid hitting the ball too softly and coming up short.

Next time you play, give these two lag-putt keys a try. They'll help you reduce the number of times you three-putt during a round. Obviously, strokes are precious, and avoiding three-putting is an easy way to save them.



ANYTHING FOR GOLF

TaylorMade Callaway PING Titleist

FIRST: Tiger-Jack-Chi-Chi
LAST: Emmett
DOB: 06-15-2014
TIME: 6:53AM

Golfsmith
golfsmith.com



Stop Swinging on a Single Axis

If you're having trouble making solid contact with the ball, you might be swinging around the wrong axis. One of the biggest, and most prevalent, myths in the history of golf is the concept of swinging around a single axis, your spine.

This is the imaginary line that starts from the top of your head and extends through the center of your body (your spine) to the ground. If you can picture a tether pole and ball, the ball is attached

to the pole via the rope. This is a good example of something swinging around a single axis. This may make sense at first glance, but it is littered with serious biomechanical impossibilities and swing flaws.

What you really want to turn around on is your legs, the only thing actually in contact with the ground. There are actually two axes you need to turn on in the golf swing. In order to get your upper body

behind the ball without swaying on the backswing, you simply move your upper body around your right leg. To get the weight "transferring" towards the target your weight needs to shift to the left leg so the right hip can finish the swing.

This dual-axis principle is inherent in every athletic motion and in every sport. In order to maximize your distance and accuracy, try swinging around an axis that actually exists.

INSTRUCTION

THE FULL SWING



Carl Rabito



Incorrect backswing, turning around single axis



Incorrect setup, no spine angle



Correct backswing, turning around right leg



Correct setup

ANYTHING FOR ~~GOLF~~ ^{Dad}

THE GOLFSMITH FAIR-WAY



GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE

Don't shop around when you could be playing a round.

TRY IT BEFORE YOU BUY IT

Hit in our bays, putt on our greens, try on our pants.

CUSTOM FIT JUST FOR YOU

It's not you, it's your clubs. See our expert club fitters for a better game.

PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

You can't change your swing, but you can change your stick—even if you've played it.*

*Some restrictions apply. See store for details.

Golfsmith[®]
golfsmith.com



A Hero Complex and the Buried Lie

You are about to make an 8 during a great round of golf. There is a feeling of dread as you prepare to taint an otherwise pretty scorecard. After this winter, we have all had enough snow, so let's talk about avoiding snowmen.

Picture this: you just hit a shot off to the side of a green and you find yourself in the kind of lie that looks like one of your friends has stepped on it and given the surrounding turf a fluff. You sigh as you face an egg of a lie in an undesirable Easter basket. Upon your desperate efforts to stay positive in this situation, you realize that the pin is close to your side of the green. Let's keep going. The shot must carry a bunker and there is water on the other side of the green. The

green is also sloping away from you. You are about to make 8!

There are a couple of things to consider when you are presented with a situation that can blow-up a scorecard. First, you have a decision to make. Do you take your medicine, or try to be the hero? Think about the likelihood of saving this par. Also consider the possibility of ruining an otherwise good round if you fail to execute. Sometimes, hard as it is to swallow, you have to take your medicine.

Try to figure out if you can just get the ball somewhere on the putting surface, even if you have to aim away from the pin. A two-putt from here avoids the big score. If you have to hit it high, trying to be a hero

INSTRUCTION

IN THE GAME



Billy Klemz

or not, the common fault I see is golfers falling onto their back foot while hitting this shot. It is a common fault whenever recreational players are trying to hit the ball high. Instinctively, it would seem that if you lean back, the ball should go higher. The problem is that this makes your front shoulder higher than your back shoulder, which is excellent for driving from a tee, yet yields terrible results when you are trying to get under a ball that is at ground level. When the club swings upward and follows your shoulder line, then you are likely to take out any fellow competitors in its path with an unintentional low flying missile.

Use this approach when you face this difficult situation: pick a line of play that

doesn't require such a high risk shot, even if it is away from the pin. Make sure you finish the shot with your weight on your front foot, and finish with your back foot on the tip of the toe. This will make your shoulders turn more level with the ground and make it possible for the club to get under the ball. Remember, the loft of your club will get the ball in the air and your snowman will melt right in front of your eyes! Remember, if you find yourself in a situation that could make your scorecard "sick," then take your medicine and let the healing begin. Sometimes a course-management remedy is less painful than heroics.

Billy Klemz is the head golf professional at Arrowhead GC in Wheaton.



hamilton
county
indiana
golf



An affordable course
you can't afford to miss.

With our Stay & Play packages starting at just \$160, you can play Bear Slide Golf Club and choose between seven other lavishly designed courses.

[Learn more at IndianasPremierGolf.com](http://IndianasPremierGolf.com)



BEAR SLIDE GOLF CLUB - CICERO, INDIANA
JUST NORTH OF INDY



Dr. David S. Zuelke
Health Source of Lombard
244 E. Roosevelt Rd. Lombard
(630) 261-0001

Chiropractic & Medical Physicians
Physical Therapy and Rehab
Integrated Pain Management
Insurance accepted
Call For an Introductory Consultation

GOLF CHECK UP

\$49

INCLUDES:
CONSULTATION
AND
X-RAYS (IF NEEDED)



Resist Your Exercise Program

What is flexible, inexpensive, convenient, adaptable, and only gives you resistance how you want it and when you want it? For some, it might be the perfect pet, but for our purposes it is resistive tubing. Resistive tubing translates well to a golfers' fitness program by developing strength, flexibility, stability, and tempo to optimize your golf swing.

Golfers tend to get lazy with their legs and lead with the shoulders and hands, creating inconsistent ball contact and direction. This is partially due to timing and tempo, but also due to weakness in the trunk, shoulders, and hips. An example of this is young golfers that tend to have big looping swings, but very little body control because their trunk muscles have not fully developed. The following exercises focus on strengthening your hip, shoulder, and trunk rotators through a controlled range of movement. As you are doing the exercises

focus on these muscle groups along with the timing of your swing.

For the first exercise, attach the band to an object that will not move and stand a distance far enough away to put a moderate stretch on the band. The starting position is with your weight shifted towards the back leg and shoulders rotated as you would for a ¼-strength swing. Then drive forward, with your focus on tightening the buttock muscles of the back leg and the abdominal muscles. When you start to rotate your trunk as you would during your swing, the band will wrap around your body adding resistance. (left-hand picture). Try this with extended arms if you want to increase focus to the shoulder and upper back muscles.

The second exercise, an essential for any strengthening program, is a standing row. The exercise will strengthen the upper back and shoulder muscles, giving you the ability

THE FITNESS EDGE

Brad Jourdan PT, DPT

to stabilize your trunk and shoulders for all swings and putts. Attach the band to a stable object as in the first exercise. Stand facing the band with your feet shoulder-width apart and arm extended. Then pull the band back with both hands to your belt line above your hips while squeezing the shoulder blades together (right-hand picture). Be careful to pull your shoulders in a back and downward motion. Try to avoid an upward shrug motion. For a challenge, add a backward lunge while you do the exercise to address the leg muscles.

Resistive bands are a great option to add to your exercise program because they are convenient, affordable, versatile, and can be found in any sporting goods store. If you don't already have an exercise program, they are a good place to start. Now that the golf season is starting, be sure to grab a set of resistance bands and prepare your body for a great golf season.



STUDIO B BETTINARDI
OFFICIAL PUTTING STUDIO OF MATT KUCHAR

Located in Tinley Park IL, Studio B is the culmination of over 20 years of golf industry experience. Nestled above the Bettinardi Manufacturing Facility, Studio B offers a Tour level fitting environment. Utilizing state of the art equipment, the V1 Pro fitting, 4 camera and laser alignment system we will help maximize your golf game.

Call today (708-802-7400) for an appointment to experience Studio B customized putter fitting.

BETTINARDI GOLF | 708.802.7400 | WWW.BETTINARDI.COM

BETTINARDI
Precision Milled Putter

CENTRAL MISSOURI'S
LAKE OF THE OZARKS
GOLF TRAIL

With breathtaking views...all the golf you could dream of on 14 beautiful and challenging courses...and comfortable and convenient accommodations set against the background of our shimmering Lake and rolling Ozark hills... don't you think it's time *YOU* hit the TRAIL?

just play it!

MISSOURI
enjoy the show

TO BOOK YOUR GOLF TRAIL GETAWAY
 VISIT GOLFATLAKEOFTHEOZARKS.COM
 FIND US ON FACEBOOK.



Telic footwear is all about recovery. Pops can walk to the 19th hole in total comfort while his feet enjoy the cushion and rejuvenation of Telic's comfort-driven design. Each sandal has a deep heel cup and elasto-polymers to set him floating. Whether he slips into the Slides with socks or not, his feet will experience their greatest comfort of the day. Telic sandals are that good—pick up a pair for yourself, too.

\$39.95 www.telicfootwear.com



As with socks, holes in your golf glove just don't feel right. So when Cutters Gloves jumped into the golf market they declared war on those pesky rips. Cutters merged their C-Tack™ Performance Grip material you see on the football field and Cabretta leather to make a long-lasting glove with premium grip and performance. The 019X Pro Fit model is available in black, orange, and gray, and an array of sizes.

\$29.99 www.cuttersgloves.com



Long gone are the days of keeping a boom box in the basket of your golf cart for those "casual rounds." Beats By Dre brings you the Beat Pill, the lightweight wireless speaker that can go anywhere...including a cup holder! Its premium sound rivals the big expensive sound systems, plus it can be used with any Bluetooth-enabled device

\$199.95 www.radioshack.com

Dad's Day Gift Guide



In November 2011, recently-retired NBA star Yao Ming established his new wine company, Yao Family Wines.

Grapes are sourced from prestigious Napa Valley vineyards with a reputation for top-quality fruit. Fermentation is done using artisanal winemaking techniques, and ageing is up to 18 months in 100% French oak barrels.

This papa-pleasin' potion features flavors of cherry, blackberry, and cassis. The wine has plenty of depth and concentration, with supple tannins and balanced acidity. It should age nicely, but why wait?

\$150 www.yaofamilywines.com



Nothing but the best for pops! Titleist Vokey TVD wedges are sure to show dad that he is worthy of the best wedges when he is in the scoring zone. With new Spin Milled TX3 grooves and a "Tour Van Design," these sticks are the result of intense collaboration with the best players in the world.

Available in two finishes (California chrome and black ion), the TVD will look great in his bag, and they will give him a little zip on the green. Personalized stamping is available!

\$160 www.vokey.com

Devereux, an upstart, upscale apparel company, combines hip with performance. Hip should not be confused with hip-hop: think of the retro shirts your grandfather, or the rat pack, wore in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. Made with cotton/polyester blends, Devereux shirts are more durable than the synthetic fabrics that dominate the golf apparel market. Dad will love these shirts!

www.dvrxf.com



Show him that he is still the Top Pop

Renovation Completed at Village Links

PROFILES

Todd Mrowice

The common saying; “an oldie but a goodie” can mean different things to different people. When you apply that saying to The Village Links of Glen Ellyn it should be re-tooled to say, “an oldie, but the oldie can still take me to town.”

Since 1967, The Village Links has been a staple in the Chicagoland golf scene. The course held over 25 Western Open General Qualifiers from the 80s to the early 2000s. In addition, Village Links has hosted U.S. Open Sectional Qualifiers five times (as recently as 2012) and remains a standard of championship golf in the Midwest. When you have an 18-hole course that stretches over 7,000 yards, it allows you accomplish some great things.

In order to continue providing a great overall experience for patrons, Village Links

underwent a \$6.2 million renovation that has its regulars ecstatic and new business flocking. Included in the renovation was a complete overhaul of the clubhouse, new parking lot, two new practice tees, and improvements to the driving range.

“We always wanted to work on the clubhouse and driving range,” said general manager Matt Pekarek. “When the financial crash hit and the industry changed we weren’t able to do it. So what we’ve done now is combine a lot of projects in one shot, and what we’ve ended up with are some great changes to the facilities.”

Pekarek knows a thing or two about change around Village Links. He has been with the course since it opened (actually, the week before) and has been the general manager

since 1984. Pekarek also oversaw the golf course’s renovations in 2004.

“On the golf side, we made a much larger tee for the driving range, expanding it on both ends,” said Pekarek. “We added an artificial turf tee line which will allow for better conditions in the spring and during inclement weather. Adding that to an 18-hole and a 9-hole golf course I feel really makes us a golfer’s community.”

Financially speaking, it’s also what’s on the inside that counts. Village Links’ clubhouse renovation included a modern banquet facility and restaurant under the name Reserve 22. The banquet side can now hold up to 150 people for a golf outing or wedding. The restaurant side provides enough tap beers

and flat screens you’ll quickly forget that three-putt you had on the 18th.

As previously mentioned, the course is no stranger to the top golfers in the Midwest. 2014 will be no exception when Village Links hosts the U.S. Senior Open Qualifying on June 23rd. Pekarek foresees a CDGA setup that will mirror that of what the players will see at Oak Tree National come July.

“We’re expecting around 60 to 90 golfers with only two or three spots being available,” said Pekarek. “The one thing I’m most proud of is how our grounds staff got us through such a harsh winter. The course is in great shape and we’re looking forward to some great competition in June.”





The Golf Academy at Bolingbrook Golf Club

A state-of-the-art golf practice center:

- 70 grass hitting stations with 12 bent grass target greens
- 14,500 square foot putting green
- Two practice holes
- Large short-game practice area
- Annual Memberships available
- Open Daily Until 9:00 p.m.



The Home of Rabito Golf

- Individual, Group and Junior Lessons
- Weekly Beginner and Short-Game Clinics
- Complimentary Video Analysis


**1001 Kings Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60490**

www.bolingbrookgolfclub.com
630.771.9400

Developed by
The Village of
Bolingbrook,
Roger C. Claar,
Mayor



Even the most beautiful
flowers fade... only to
bloom again.



SENTRYWORLD®

Visit sentryworld.com for updates.

601 N. Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Palm Springs Celebrated As World's Golf Capital

By Dave Weretka with Neal Kotlarek

Let's face facts. Palm Springs is to golf what Las Vegas is to gambling and what New Orleans is to Cajun cuisine. While praise is rightly heaped on the Grand Strand in Myrtle Beach and the Golf Gulf Coast in Mississippi, and the desert delights of Scottsdale, Arizona, there is, was and will always be only one "Golf Capital of the World." Drive virtually anywhere across the highways and byways of the Coachella Valley and you'll encounter one of over 130 golf courses that dot this sun-kissed desert landscape. Quality goes hand in hand with quantity here with designs by some of the game's premier names, including Pete Dye, Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Nick Faldo, and Arnold Palmer. Combine the great golf courses with a mean average temperature of 74.6°F and over 300 days of sunshine per year, and you acquire a keen understanding of why over three million people visit Palm Springs annually.

Humana Challenge



While some of these visitors come for the luxury resort accommodations, the swimming pools, the horseback riding and the celebrity sightings, golf has been a major area attraction since back in the days when Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bob Hope, and Elizabeth Taylor cemented the reputation of

Palm Springs as an A-list desert hideaway. As the story goes, many actors under Hollywood contract had to be available within two hours of the studio as a precaution for last minute film or photo shoots. This community is a little over 100 miles from the hustle and bustle of Los Angeles.

While many of the classic golf courses for the celebrated past remain, new layouts were added at a breakneck pace during the golf boom years. The major golf resorts that lure players to the Great Palm Springs area include PGA West, Westin Mission Hills Resort, La Quinta Resort and Club, and Indian Wells Golf Resort.



Agave Sunset Bar



Humana Challenge

Desert Willow Golf Resort

While first-time guests might not be familiar with this 36-hole property, Desert Willow epitomizes all that's great about Palm Springs golf. Perfectly manicured fairways and bunkers are interspersed with desert vegetation and lakes at the base of the majestic Santa Rosa mountain range. There's even a Chicago connection to the golf offerings, which are managed by Kemper Sports. The Firecliff course opened in 1997 and was. Designed by the team of Dr. Michael Hurdzan, Dana Fry, and PGA Tour champion John Cook, the 7,056-yard course features extensive natural areas and over 100 sand bunkers and waste areas. Voted the area's best public-access golf course for three years in a row by *Desert Golf* magazine, the course is not for the faint of heart nor the errant-off-the-tee. Trouble in the form of the aforementioned sand and waste areas lurks on most every hole. The 410-yard No. 2 features vegetated desert on both sides of a wide fairway, along with a large clover-shaped sand bunker on the right side of the tee shot landing area. From the fairway, the approach shot must avoid a greenside bunker protecting the right of the hole and more desert landscape to the left and beyond the flagstick.

Those looking for a slightly less intimidating challenge will enjoy the 6,913-yard Mountain View course which plays to a down right polite 6,470 yards from the blue tees. Sharing the Firecliff course's design team, this classically-styled track features ample amounts of sand bunkers and water, but most green sites allow for bump-and-run play. An exception to that rule is the 6th hole, a par 5 that calls for a driver and lay-



Aqua Serena Spa

up short of a rock-lined creek that circles around the front and left side of the green. A good second shot here leads to a short-iron approach and a chance at a birdie.

Need some help with those short-iron approach shots? The Desert Willow- Golf Academy maintains a full staff to help

sharpen even rusty games. Director of Instruction Paul Bucy stresses golf fitness along with computer swing analysis and innovative swing drills.

PGA West

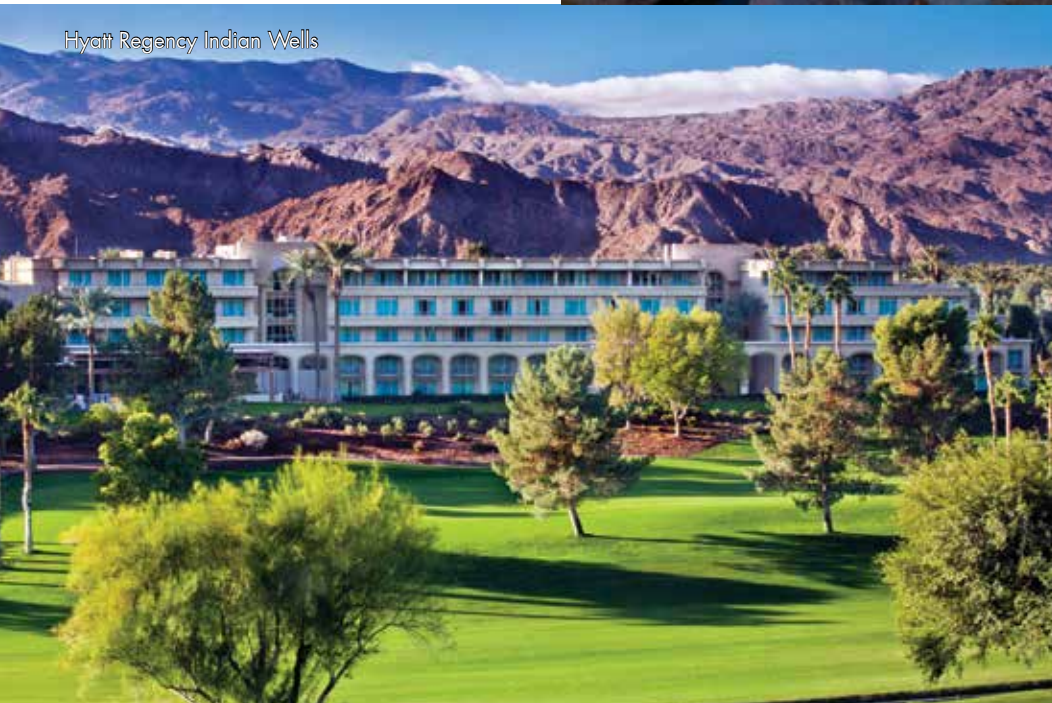
Many golf fans were introduced to PGA West when the resort's TPC Stadium course

hosted the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic back in 1987, when then Speaker of the House Tip O'Neill needed a handful of swings to extract his ball from the course's 19-foot deep 16th hole sand bunker. *Chicago Tribune* golf writer Bob Verdi described the course a year later as "a brute of 7,271 yards with water





Villa Lagoon



Hyatt Regency Indian Wells



Paula Creamer



Saguaro Hotel

hazards big enough to require lifeguards and traps containing more sand than Egypt. You don't hire a caddy there, you hire a camel." Course architect Pete Dye seems to welcome the criticism. "Golf is not a fair game, so why build a course fair?" The course has today been stretched to 7,300 yards and has the highest stroke rating (76.1) of all the courses at PGA West. The layout is annual host to the PGA Tour's qualifying school finals and is rated among the "Top 100 Courses in the World" by *Golf* magazine.

The elegant PGA West Resort is home to six golf courses in total, including three that are only accessible to members. The PGA Tour's Humana Challenge is played over two of these—the Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer private courses. Along with the aforementioned TPC Stadium Course, the resort's other public offerings are the Nicklaus Tournament Course and the Greg Norman Resort Course. Both are outstanding.

Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa

Golfers looking for extra pampering should consider booking their stay at this elegant property. Along with 530 deluxe rooms with garden, mountain, golf or pool views, the resort offers a spa and salon, seven swimming pools (including an adult pool with cabanas), tennis, biking, badminton and table tennis courts, along with multiple dining options. The Hyatt's two golf courses are perennially ranked by national golf magazines among the top 20 courses to play in California, Indian Wells serves up two great 18-hole championship courses. The Players Course was designed by John Fought and stretches to 7,300 yards. The resort touts the course, which was host to the 2008 LG Skins Game, as a "core golf" layout with no roads or homes intruding anywhere in the vicinity of the player.

The Celebrity Course was opened in 2006 to rave reviews and features water in all forms—brooks, streams, split-level lakes and even waterfalls.

Guests staying at the resort also enjoy exclusive privileges to schedule tee times at the private Indian Wells Country Club. The

course was the original home to the PGA's Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

Indian Wells is also renowned as one of the world's premier tennis destinations. The Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa is the former home of the Newsweek Champions Cup. Tennis offerings include three hard-surface courts, tennis instruction and a pro shop.

Desert Springs

This outstanding property serves up 36 holes of championship golf. Both the Palm and Valley courses are family-friendly, as holes provide open tee shot landing areas and open routes to greens. Most every hole provides panoramic views of the Santa Rosa mountain range. Both courses are certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, which means that there's plenty of flora and fauna to enjoy but, alas, also that certain areas of the property don't allow for ball retrieval. So take extra ammunition!

The Palm course recently received \$1.5 million in renovations, including spectacular white sand bunkers. A mixture of lengthy

par 3s and short par 4s create a shotmaker's paradise. Greens slope from back to front and include several plateau options to navigate.

The Valley course serves up several intriguing challenges, including blind shots to some greens and several downhill approach shots. Leave the driver in the bag when in doubt and avoid the railroad-tie-lined bunkers. One word of advice given from personal experience: Don't send any love to the heart-shaped bunkers on the back of the green on No. 17.

While every golf resort across Palm Springs offers outstanding dining, I made special provisions to sneak away to Rancho Mirage's epic Wally's Desert Turtle during my stay. Executive Chef Richard Pelz serves up a diverse menu that includes a spectacular poached lobster, pan-roasted pork tenderloin and seared duck breast. Desserts in the desert include macadamia nut bread pudding and Baked Alaska.

For information on any of these properties or the Palm Springs area, go to the Palm Springs Convention & Visitors Bureau website: www.visitgreaterpalmsprings.com.

The Cantigny Experience



Celebrating 25 years of golf and hospitality excellence!

- 27 beautiful holes
- Full-service Cantigny Golf Academy, open year-round
- Cantigny Youth Links – 9 holes just for kids!
- Instruction clinics for all ages and skill levels
- Courteous, well-trained caddies
- Couples and family golf programs
- Banquets and golf outings

See more and book a tee time at **CantignyGolf.com**.



Cantigny Golf
27W270 Mack Road
Wheaton, IL 60189
630.668.8463



Cantigny Golf is part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundations

Chip it Closer - Sink More Putts - Improve Your Sand & Wedge Play



Ready to Play Your Best Golf?

Join the Pelz staff at Cog Hill to learn the skills and confidence you need to take your game to next level. Change the way you look at *Up and Down*.

pelzgolf.com

800-735-9868

Girls in the Game at Lake Bluff GC

In mid-April I had the great pleasure of hosting 26 young aspiring golfers from Girls in the Game of Chicago at my home golf course, Lake Bluff Golf Club. Girls in the Game organized this day of productive and safe spring-break programming. I was assisted by three wonderful ladies from the LPGA's Girls Golf Program, Valerie Flora, Kate Tempesta, and Marlene Davis, who came in together from New York. These talented ladies worked with the Girls in the Game girls the two days before our clinic, teaching the neophytes the fundamentals of the game. And although working indoors with SNAG golf equipment (junior learning equipment) is a great way to learn the ABCs of golf, there is nothing like being on a real golf course, which was the main event the next day.

Clinic day arrived with a busload of very excited and curious young ladies, most of whom had never set foot on a golf course before entering the program. Let's just say that the decibel level went up about 10 notches when we went inside the clubhouse. I called it a joyful noise because the girls just couldn't wait to get out and start swinging actual golf clubs on a real golf course. We split the girls up into four groups and headed out to our respective areas among the driving range, practice bunker area, and practice putting green. Two of us worked the driving range. As you can imagine, when you teach golf to juniors using real clubs, this

is where most accidents happen. The kids are so eager to hit balls, they usually aren't paying attention to see if someone is behind them. I am very happy to report that we didn't have one injury or mishap during our two hours together as this wonderful group of girls paid attention to all the instructions we gave them and were extremely well-behaved and respectful to the teaching staff.

Over the course of the session, our girls learned how to putt, chip, hit out of the sand, and hit some full swings on the range. They were quite talented and many of them showed promising skills for the game. It was a rewarding way to spend a day growing the game.

The girls were funny, inquisitive, polite, and respectful. Thanks to Lake Bluff GC Head Professional/GM Ed Heiser, for getting the girls into the game at an excellent practice facility and golf course. Kudos to Amy Skeen (Executive Director of Girls in the Game), her staff, and the LPGA pros for making this day happen. From the comments I heard from the girls, they had a very fun day. Several told me they were going to hurry home to tell their parents and siblings that, "I am a golfer!" It was a most rewarding day.

It reminded me why I love golf so much. It is a game that brings people together, all ages, all backgrounds, all shapes, all sizes, and on this particular day in mid-April, the game of golf brought together some great LPGA pros,

SHE GOT GAME

Sheri Warren

one humble local golf pro/golf writer, and 26 beautiful, talented, and adorable young girls from Chicago who, in all likelihood, would never have crossed paths in life except for this great game and the exceptional Girls in the Game organization.

You are invited to join Girls in the Game at their 15th annual Chip in for Girls golf outing on Monday, June 23, at Traditions at Chevy Chase Golf Club in Wheeling. It is a great day of golf, networking, lots of great raffle prizes, and silent auction items. You will be supporting this special organization which provides year-round sports and fitness opportunities, nutrition and health education, and leadership development to enhance the overall health and well-being of all girls.

Since 1995, when the organization was founded, Girls in the Game has empowered literally thousands of girls to make healthier choices and develop the confidence and leadership skills they need to succeed on and off the course. I've been involved with and supported Girls in the Game since its first season, and I have seen first-hand the wonderful impact they have had on thousands of young girls from Chicago—many of whom would have not otherwise been afforded the opportunities that Girls in the Game provides for them.

For more information about Girls in the Game, visit www.girlsinthegame.org.

mistwood golf club



GOLF Magazine's "Renovation of the Year"

At Mistwood Golf Club, owner Jim McWethy wanted to develop a new standard of excellence, excitement, and entertainment for Chicagoland golf. After a two year, multi-million dollar renovation, that standard has been realized, and the national golf media has taken notice!

Come experience one of the most talked about courses in the Chicagoland area, and see why Mistwood was selected as *GOLF Magazine's "Renovation of the Year"*, one of *Golf Digest's "Best New Courses"*, and one of *Golf Range Magazine's "Top 50 Public Ranges"*!

Reserve your Tee Time online at MistwoodGC.com!

1700 W. Renwick Road | Romeoville, IL 60446 | 815.254.3333 | www.MistwoodGC.com

STAY & PLAY

IN GREATER LANSING MICHIGAN

More to Go A Round!

Capitalize on championship golf paired with comfortable lodging at one affordable price. Make Greater Lansing your golfing destination.

Call today to book your golf package!
(517) 258-0472
www.lansing.org/golf



PACKAGES STARTING AT \$66.50 PER PERSON PLUS TAXES & FEES



Legends Take On North Shore C.C. at Encompass Championship

TOUR STOP

Neal Kotlarek

The scoreboard over the four days of April's Masters tournament was surely enough to make every card-carrying AARP member smile. Fifty-seven-year old Larry Mize, winner of the green jacket a couple years before Rickie Fowler's birth, made the cut while young lads Luke Donald, Phil Michelson, and Sergio Garcia were sent home packing. Following his eagle on No. 2 of the final round, 57-year-old Bernhard Langer—who won the Masters two years before Sang-Moon Bae's birth—was a few scant shots off the lead.

Stalking Bubba Watson throughout the tournament was 50-year-old Miguel Angel Jimenez, clearly the second most interesting man in the world.

And, as inevitable as taxes and overbilling lawyers, Fred "Boom Boom" Couples, age 54, maintained his name on the leaderboard throughout all four days of the tournament to eventually card his fifth top-20 Masters finish in a row.

Is 50 the new 30?

Chicago area golf fans seeking personal rejuvenation following a brutal winter should mark their calendars for June 16-22 to see the stars of the Champions Tour challenge the pristine grounds of North Shore C.C. at the Encompass Championship. Already committed to the tournament field as of early May was the aforementioned ageless wonder Langer along with other fellow Masters champions Mark O'Meara, Ben Crenshaw, Mize, Sandy Lyle, and 2013 Encompass champion Craig Stadler. Two Champions Tour luminaries whose schedules were still undetermined at press time were Jimenez and last year's Encompass Championship runner-up Couples.

Clearly the fan favorite at the 2013 Encompass Championship, Couples has fended off chronic back issues to excel in Champions Tour events. After finishing second in January's Mitsubishi Electric Championship in Hawaii, he won the Toshiba Classic at Newport Beach C.C. in California with a 15-under par. He followed that win with two top 10 finishes at the Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic and the Greater Gwinnett Championship. He also competed in the PGA Tour's Northern Trust Open at Riviera Country Club in California in February, missing the cut by a stroke. Entering May, he was in 2nd place in

the Charles Swab Cup rankings and had an impressive 67.58 scoring average

While renowned for his laid-back persona, Couples displayed his competitive fire in the interview room following his victory in the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship. "On this Tour," he said, "if

here and win. That's my goal." Entering this season, Couples laid out his game plan. "2014 is a big year," he said. "I'm going to practice; I'm going to be ready."

With a final round of 66 in last year's Encompass Championship also played at North Shore, Couples fell just one stroke

was really a bad swing on as easy a shot as you'll ever have."

Couples waited until June 5th last year before committing to compete in the tournament. He juggled health concerns with his duties as captain of the 2013 Presidents' Cup team. The World Golf Hall of Fame member

European and World points to earn a slot on the 2014 Ryder Cup team. Entering May, the Spaniard was 10th on the World Points list with 99.66, just slightly ahead of Stephen Gallacher. A total of 12 players represent each side of the prestigious Ryder Cup matches with nine Europeans earning their selection through point totals and the remaining three slots chosen by team captain Paul McGinley.

While Stadler and Couples put on an exciting show at the 2013 Encompass Championship, all entrants seemed to agree that the real star of the event was the historic North Shore C.C. layout in Glenview. Designed by the prestigious British firm of Colt & Alison with renovation work by local architect Rick Jacobson, the 7,031-yard course previously hosted the 1933 U.S. Open, the 1939 and 1983 U.S. Amateur Championships and the 2011 WGA Western Amateur Championship. Encompass Championship tournament director Mike Galeski stated that praise for the course during last year's tournament was universal. "The players raved about it for its classic style and its impeccable conditioning," he said in an April interview. "And the gallery loved it, as it's a fan-friendly property with outstanding sightlines on most every hole."

Galeski had previously worked as tournament director of the LPGA Tour's RJR Nabisco Championship and made a comparison between both tours. "The LPGA works very hard at being a fan-friendly tour," he said. "I see Champions Tour players embracing that same ethic. The Champions have come to really enjoy the pro-am experience. They are well aware that fans and sponsors are responsible for the tour's success."

The tournament director noted that Hall of Fame players like Crenshaw, Langer, and Couples help drive ticket sales. Galeski added, "The best players on the tour all want to come to Chicago. They know this is a huge market with great fans and an outstanding golf course. I guarantee that everyone who comes to North Shore will enjoy their experience."

Former European Tour and Ryder Cup star Montgomerie has already committed to playing at the Encompass Championship. Other notable field entrants are Steve Elkington, John

Cook, Chicagoan Chip Beck, John Huston, Rocco Mediate, Jeff Sluman, and 1995 U.S. Open champion Corey Pavin.

In light of the Masters resurgence of so many Champions Tour players, it seems appropriate that the focus of this year's Encompass event will be young people. For 2014, the tournament has earmarked charitable contributions to four area youth-oriented organizations: The First Tee of Greater Chicago, Junior Achievement of Chicago, the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund, and JDRF (formerly the Junior Diabetes Research Foundation). Says Encompass Insurance president Tom Ealy: "In their own unique ways, each of these charities is focused on

The best players on the Tour all want to come to Chicago. They know this a huge market with great fans and an outstanding golf course.

improving the lives of young people and, by extension, the future of our community and our country."

The cold has ended. The ice has melted. The brown fairways of March have finally been spray-painted emerald green by Mother Nature. Come June 16th, the spry and ageless wonders of the Champions Tour will tee off at North Shore C.C. at the Encompass Championship. Rest assured that 850 miles away, a field of flat-bellied youngsters will tee off at the Travelers Championship in Connecticut relieved by the fact that Langer, Mize, and company have their eyes on a different prize that week.



Fred Couples

you're a really good player and you come out and play, you're going to win your share of events, in my opinion. If you played on the PGA Tour and won, you're going to come out

short of tying Stadler for a playoff. A poorly executed wedge shot on No. 18 by Couples resulted in a bogey. "I just kind of shanked it," he said in the clubhouse afterwards. "It

may delay making his commitment decision to this year's tournament. Similarly, Jimenez may continue to play in European Tour events throughout the summer to accumulate

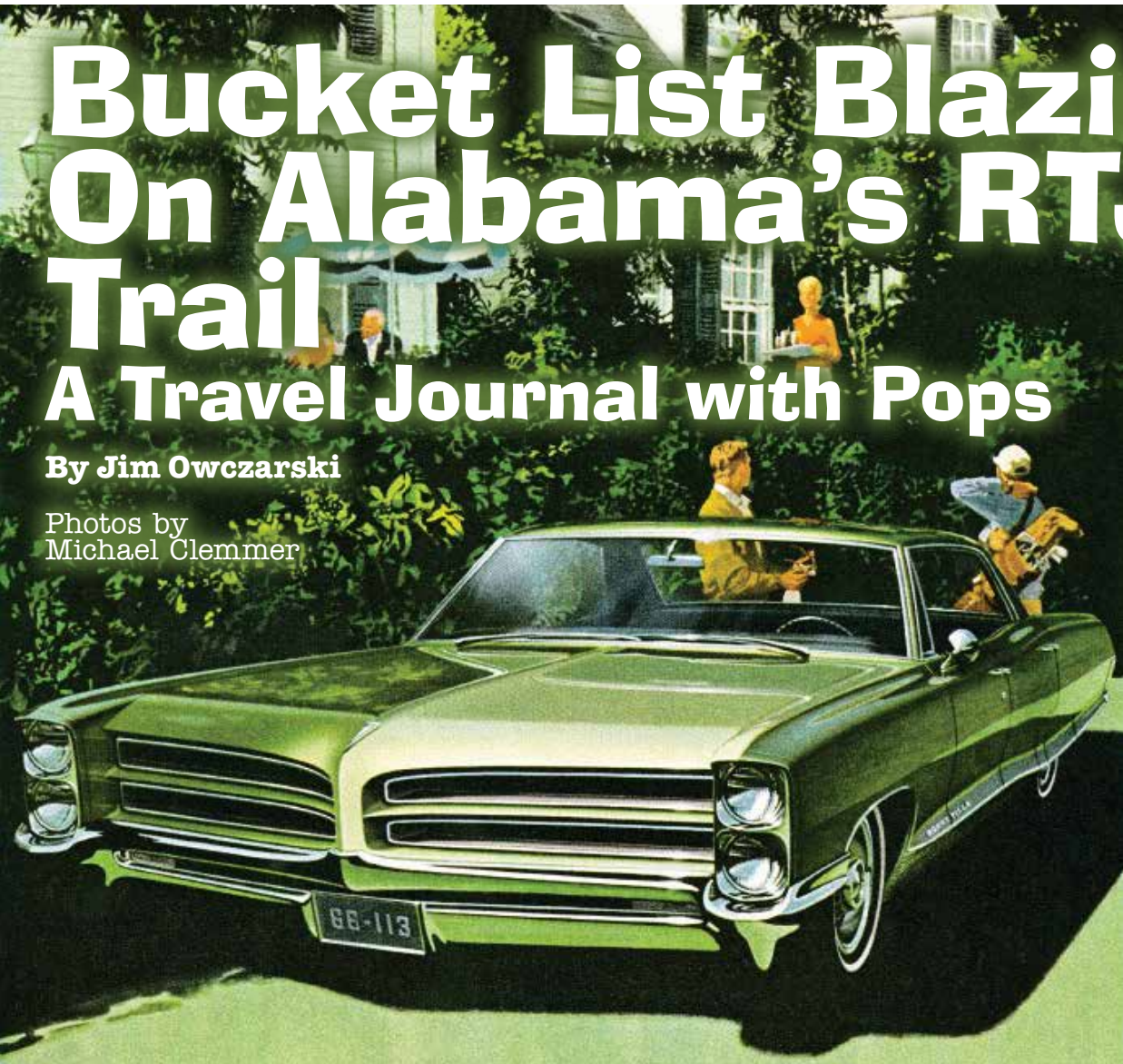


Bucket List Blazing On Alabama's RTJ Trail

A Travel Journal with Pops

By Jim Owczarski

Photos by
Michael Clemmer



Let's do this." It's how we started every morning, on every first tee, followed with a fist bump. I'm not sure why my dad decided to make that the mantra of our trip through the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail in Alabama, but it fit. After all, when two guys on two sets of surgically repaired knees set out to play eight golf courses and 153 holes over five days, it made sense to adopt a rally cry of sorts.

This bucket list trip with my pops requires a short backstory. My dad, also named Jim, tried to bring me into golf as a kid, but I'm an '80s baby from the south suburbs of Chicago. I grew up with Michael Jordan and Frank Thomas. What golf? I eventually got hooked on the game in my 20s and it's been a great way to bond with pops. Over the years, I've married, moved away, and we don't play as often. I miss it. So, I had been thinking about a father-son golf trip. But where to go? It had to be ... different. Epic. The "RTJ Trail" was it.

The Trail and its layout is built for just this sort of thing. It consists of 11 complexes (468 holes) in 13 cities stretching from the northern tip of Alabama to the Gulf Coast, all designed by Robert Trent Jones, Sr. himself or his design firm. The trail is easily navigated and it has a plethora of partner hotels on the route. If you build the time into your journey, then there are plenty of sights to see along the way. The courses are a wonderful mix, from short par-3 courses to tour-quality routings set uniquely in foothills, alongside lakes and rivers, and within swampland. The elevation changes make your heart race as you stand on a tee box, or pull a wedge to a false-fronted green a hundred yards away, but 30 yards above you. For two native Chicagoans, there was nothing like it.



Fighting Joe Hole 12

Fighting Joe Hole 18

March 9

Into Alabama, we got to know everyone's name—literally. Places like Rick's, Parker's, and Dot's welcome you. We arrived to a waterfall and aquarium at the Marriott Shoals in Florence in nine hours on the nose, along with the Tennessee River and the Wilson Dam beneath our window. We visited Swampers Bar, which chronicled the history of music in Muscle Shoals. After a long day on the road, it was a great way to end the night.

March 10

Golf began at the **Fighting Joe** in Muscle Shoals. With an unseasonably cool winter, the rough was still dormant, but the green fairways and putting surfaces provided a striking contrast. There aren't too many trees to worry about, but there is water on 13 of 18 holes. The wind is definitely a factor here. The 18th hole was a memorable par 3 that required an uphill tee shot at the clubhouse with the Tennessee River looming to the right.

Though it was our first round together since last summer, we found our chemistry on the third hole. I left my ball on the green, and dad putted down a ridge. It nicked my ball.

"That's two shots for not marking your ball," he said. "That's six shots for sucking."

We laughed.

Afterward, we left for Prattville and discovered that roller rinks remain popular and peaches are a fruit of choice. Churches and shuttered full-service gas stations dotted the roadway. We pulled into the Prattville/Montgomery Marriott in time for dinner at the Oak Tavern, and the cozy room had a modern look. We were ready for four days of 36 holes!

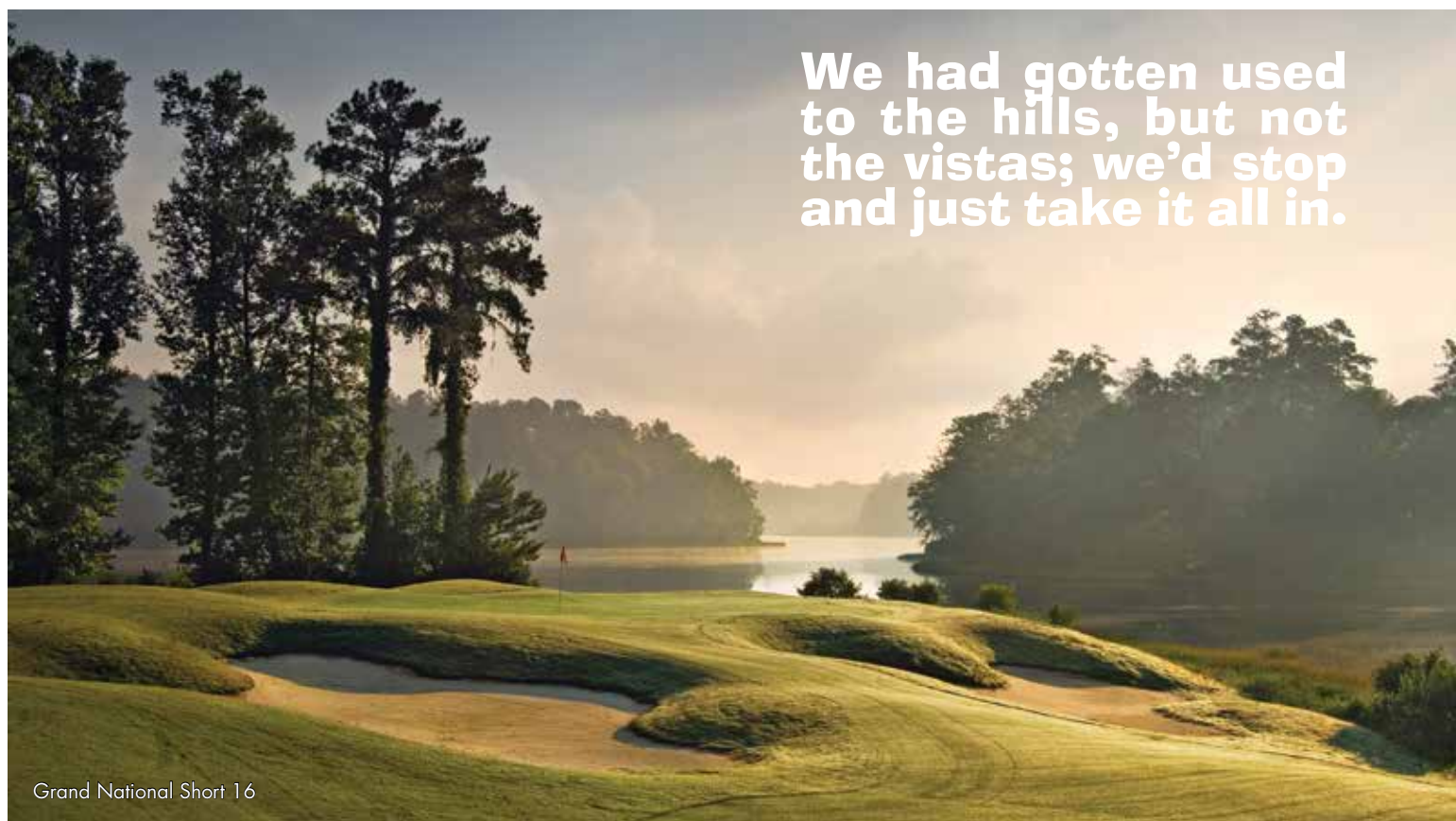
March 11

The opening tee shot at **The Judge** at Capitol Hill, 200 feet above a fairway pinched by the Alabama River with a warm fog beneath us, was jaw dropping. Even the old man paused.

"Whoa."

The cart path restriction was tough, but the course was fair—though you had to think about shot placement and deceptive hazards. The greens were some of the best I've ever putted on. Water levels were low, but it was still unique, allowing us to see scores of turtles and the red clay of the swamp beds.

We then headed to **The Senator** and couldn't ask for a course that was a greater contrast to The Judge. No trees were in play and it allowed you to take on doglegs and the mounding with the potential for big



reward. The large greens required more precision and patience.

Following dinner, I learned the "to go" cup—a fresh refill of your coffee or sweet tea—is standard practice. Awesome.

March 12

The **Cambrrian Ridge** in Greenville is set on the edge of the Appalachian chain. The elevation on the Sherling-Canyon combination was unforgettable. The natural funnels add dozens of yards require a precise approach.

We then headed to the Marriott Auburn/Opelika Hotel and Convention Center at Grand National. What a treat, as the two-room suite overlooked a pool, patio, tennis courts and Lake Saugahatchee. Weary joints welcomed the indoor hot tub and food and service from the Lake View restaurant, and the Fairways Lounge was top notch.

March 13

Grand National awaited us, beginning with the firm greens of The Lakes course, which were routed between mature trees and around the lake. The Links course was also a pleasant surprise in that it featured beautiful tree lines and spectacular bunkering, along with the challenge of more water and impressive elevation changes.

After golf, we headed to Hoover, and it was time for some hard questions from the golf writer.

Do you think it'd be better to play 18 a day and see the sights?

"That's fine, but we came to play golf."

How does this compare to your other golf getaways?

"For public courses, they're in good shape. Some of the ones in Myrtle Beach are kinda ratty."

There are some weird town names in this state, huh?

"Yeah. That one looks like it should be in Wisconsin."

We then arrived at the stunning Ross Bridges Renaissance; a castle against the night sky welcomed our tired bones. Our two-room suite included a kitchenette and living area that led out to a balcony overlooking the golf course and pool. The bedroom was large and modern, and it was definitely a great way to rest up for our final day of golf.

March 14

"Last day, Dad."

"Let's do this."

Ross Bridge was immaculate. Flowers bloomed, and it felt like sticking a tee in astroturf. The greens

continued on page 37

SWEET HOME CHICAGO

Chicago Spotlight

Support For Wounded Warrior Project

Military ties run deep in Bob and Kathleen Duffy's family. Bob is a former Army captain; his son, Brad, served in Iraq and Afghanistan; son-in-law, Matt, served in Afghanistan; and Kathleen's father and uncle both fought in the battle of Iwo Jima.

So when the Elgin couple decided they wanted to create a charity golf outing, selecting a beneficiary was a no brainer.

Enter the City of Elgin, which is no stranger when it comes to altruistic golf, having forged a landmark partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin and taught more than 50 teens how to play the game during the summer of 2013.

Thanks to the fortitude of the Duffys, the City of Elgin announced this past February that it will host a charity golf outing to benefit injured military veterans.

"The Warrior Scramble" will take place on Monday, June 2, at Bowes Creek Country Club.

Bob's employer, Air One Equipment and Police One Equipment, a family-owned, Elgin-based company that provides equipment to police and fire departments throughout Illinois, is the tournament's presenting sponsor.

"Helping heroes is what our company is all about and is what we do on a daily basis," says Dave Frey, Air

One Equipment founder. "We're thrilled to be a part of what will be a tremendous event. When sales representative Bob Duffy asked if this was an event we would support, we never hesitated in our answer."

For \$150, golfers will get driving range access, a round of golf, lunch, and dinner, and will be eligible to win a wide selection of raffle prizes. Every dollar raised by this event will go directly to Wounded Warrior Project, a national non-profit organization that helps soldiers who have been injured in post-9/11 combat.

"The goal is to raise \$30,000 for Wounded Warrior

Project," adds Frey. "We are proud to say that 100 percent of the money raised will go directly to charity."

For the past decade, Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) has helped tens of thousands of wounded service members and their families successfully return to civilian life. With the mission to honor and empower wounded warriors, WWP programs are specifically structured to engage warriors, nurture their minds and bodies, and encourage their economic empowerment. Warrior families and caregivers are provided comfort, care, and

education to help support the recovery of their warrior.

Tournament host Bowes Creek Country Club is a 6,900-yard track designed by award-winning architect Rick Jacobson. The environmentally planned golf course integrates all the natural elements the native landscape has to offer, including Bowes Creek, improved woodland and wetland areas, a lake, rolling farmland, stands of mature trees, and scenic bluff slopes, to create an aesthetically pleasing, playable and challenging course.

"Elgin is very proud to support such a noble and

worthy cause," says Director of Golf Mike Lehman. "It's the least we could do to thank our veterans for their incredible sacrifices."

For more information or to register, call 847-488-0265 or visit www.bowescreekcc.com.

White Deer Run Wounded Warrior Scramble June 27

Longtime friends Bob Pieper and Craig Schumacher will host their 2nd annual Wounded Warrior Scramble June 27 at White Deer Run Golf Club in north suburban Vernon Hills. The 2013 event was a quick sellout but Pieper reports that space is still available for this summer's fundraiser.

"We have to thank our country's veterans every chance we have," said Pieper, who serves as Athletic Director at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook. "Both Craig and I have relatives who have proudly served our country and supporting the Wounded Warrior Project through the creation of a tournament in our hometown was a no brainer."

Entry is \$150 per player and includes golf, cart, range ball's, T-Shirt, dinner. A two hour open bar will follow the completion of play.

For more information or to register, call Pieper at 847-668-6452 or Schumacher at 312-543-6451.

—Dave Silbar



GOLFChicago Wire

Chicagoland Juniors Take Top Honors in AJGA Event

Morton Grove's Skylar Le Vine and Western Springs' Ciara Rattana represented the Chicago area well in winning the Preseason Junior at Winnetka Golf Club April 25-27th. Le Vine fired rounds of 71/76=147 to best Trip Kinney of West Des Moines, Iowa by a stroke. Rattana's score of 85/77=161 bested Alysa Akiyama of Terrace Park, Ohio by three strokes, and Naomi Lee and Francesca Saban of Orland Park by six strokes.

Conducted by the American Junior Golf Association, the 36-hole event featured 63 boys and 21 girls, ages 12 to 18, from 11 states and four countries. The tournament was one of 13 events held as part of a preseason series designed specifically for AJGA members who have had limited acceptances into multi-day AJGA events.

Bliss Creek GC Hosts Animal Care Outing

The First Annual Swinging Dog Gone Golf Outing benefiting Casey's Safe Haven of Elburn will be held on July 17th at Bliss Creek



G.C. in Sugar Grove. Registration for the event starts at 11:30 with a noon shotgun start. The outing includes 18 holes with cart, a steak dinner, raffles, and prizes. Casey's Safe Haven is a holistic horse rescue and a foster-based dog rescue operation that rescues dogs from distressed shelters in Alabama, Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas, and elsewhere.

For more information on the outing or on Casey's Safe Haven, visit the organization's website at www.caseysil.org. To sign up go to www.caseysgolf.eventbrite.com.

Fashion Show Supporting The First Tee A Huge Success

Over 300 patrons attended the Second Annual Golf Fashion Show and Masters Viewing Party at John Barleycorn—River North. Thirty-four models, including WGN sports broadcaster

Dan Roan and Medinah C.C. head professional Kyle Stefek, showcased some of this year's hottest golf fashions at the event. Proceeds from the show are earmarked for The First Tee of Greater Chicago which, using golf as a platform, provides young people with character-building and life skills lessons.

Ruffled Feathers To Host CASA Event

A golf event geared toward raising funds to support abused and neglected children will be held on Friday, June 27th, at Ruffled Feathers Golf Club in Lemont. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Will County is a not-for-profit which trains volunteer advocates to act as the voice of children involved in court cases through no fault of their own.

The 18-hole scramble event begins with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Registration is \$150 per golfer which includes continental breakfast, use of the practice range, on-course prizes and contests, post-golf cocktail reception, and full luncheon buffet.

Cantigny Golf Celebrates 25th Year

It seems like just yesterday that Cantigny Golf in Wheaton opened to wide national acclaim.

By the end of 1989, the 27-hole complex was recognized by *Golf Digest* as "Best New Public Course in America." Twenty-five years later, Cantigny (pronounced "Can-tee-nee") continues to earn honors. This July, the course will host the Illinois State Amateur Championship. In October, it welcomes back the Chicago Open, which benefits the Illinois Junior Golf Association.

Area players are invited to join Cantigny's Anniversary Club which is loyalty program that rewards cardholders with valuable benefits up-front and throughout the 2014 season. Details about the club are posted on the course's website: www.CantignyGolf.com

The three 9-hole courses at Cantigny Golf were designed by Roger Packard and built by Wadsworth Construction. The complex today includes a 9-hole Youth Links along with a popular Cantigny Golf Academy and a

GOLFChicago Wire

distinguished caddie program. Over the years, 11 of those caddies have earned Chick Evans Foundation Scholarships.

Volunteer At Whistling Straits for '15 PGA Championship

Applications are being accepted by the PGA of America and Kohler Company for more than 3,000 volunteer roles needed to be filled at the PGA Championship at Whistling Straits to be held Aug. 10 – 16, 2015. "These volunteers play a major role in making the event a success," said Jason Mengel, championship director. "We often hear from our volunteers that their experience is extremely rewarding and memorable."

Interested registrants should apply on-line at www.PGACHampionship.com.

Encompass Championship to Host First Executive Women's Day

In conjunction with the Encompass Championship at North Shore C.C., tournament organizers will host the First Executive Women's Day at the Glenview Club at 8:30 a.m. on June 17th. The day-long forum will focus on topics vital to all professional women, including corporate leadership, career development, economic advancement and network expansion. Some 120 women are expected to attend the event which begins at 8:30 a.m. and runs until 4:30 p.m. Keynote speaker is former sports agent Molly Fletcher. For more information on First Executive Women's Day, visit www.encompasschampionship.com or call 847-901-9228.

My Father's Hands at Orchard Valley GC

My Father's Hands is an Aurora-based not-for-profit serving the Fox Valley Area that specializes in performing general contracting work for members of the community unable to complete the work themselves. On Friday, May 23, the organization will hold a fundraiser at Orchard Valley Golf Course in Aurora that begins with a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start and includes dinner, awards and silent auction. Registration fee for the event is \$125.00. To sign-up for the

event, visit <http://bit.ly/fathershands>.

International Crown Event Coming to Rich Harvest Farms in 2015

The inaugural LPGA International Crown event, which will be played at Eves Valley G.C. in Maryland on July 24-27, will be hosted by Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove in 2016. This is not the first international event hosted by this exclusive venue. In 2009, Rich Harvest Farms welcomed the world for the Solheim Cup, and received rave reviews from fans and players alike.

The LPGA International Crown, a first-of-its-kind event, is a team match-play competition featuring the best female golfers from the top eight golf countries across the globe. Each country's team is based on the combined Rolex world rankings of their top four female touring pros. The countries that have qualified this year are Australia, China, Taipei, Japan, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, the United States, and Thailand. Sponsors of the event are Hana Financial Group, Pandora, and Rolex.

Westmoreland C.C. To Host Lynn Sage Outing June 16th

The Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation will host the 23rd Annual "Play for the Cure" golf outing at Wilmette's Westmoreland Country Club on Monday, June 16. The \$900 per-person registration fee provides for golf, lunch, an evening cocktail reception, and hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from the event will be directed toward breast cancer research.

The Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation was founded in 1985 in memory of Sage, who died of breast cancer at 39. Her six-year fight against the disease inspired 18 family members and close friends to establish a foundation to help others battling breast cancer. Over the past 29 years, the Foundation has raised more than \$29 million.

For more information on the golf outing, visit www.lynnsage.org or call 312-926-7133.

Down Memory Lane

Losing a U.S. Open, But Wnning for Scholars

A turned right ankle may have cost Chick Evans a U.S. Open title. But it paid off in another way a generation later. Evans was one of the favorites for the U.S. Open title at Midlothian Country Club in 1914. That Open also marked the national debut of a talented assistant pro from Rochester, New York., a semi-pro baseball player who had postponed a tryout with the Philadelphia Phillies. His name was misspelled in some of the first stories about him and his first-round U.S. Open record 68.

"Hagin," they read. Everyone got 21-year-old Walter Hagen's name correct when he remained in contention. And it would be Evans and Hagen battling for the title when the final strokes of the Open were played on August 21. Chick had played himself into contention after an

"This pretty girl left \$65,000 to the Evans Scholars Foundation because she said I would have won the Open that year if I hadn't run her that race," Evans recalled.

opening 76. He'd scored 74 in the second round and 71 in the third. Hagen still led him by four, but Chick was charging while Tom McNamara and defending champion Francis Ouimet were fading.

But Evans might have run away from the field if not for a mishap on the eve of the Open. He was staying in a home owned by the Ellis family adjacent to the course, which then, aside from the mansions on the entrance drive, was located in the middle of farmland. "There was a very pretty girl named Dorothy Ellis," Evans remembered years later. "I asked her to run me a race out in front of the house in the rough at the 10th hole. We ran the race and I hit a hole and had a very badly sprained ankle. So I was eight shots back after 36 holes."

Evans and Hagen battled dramatically in the final round, the second round of the day. Contemporary

reports suggested the ankle bothered Evans while putting more than when he was driving or hitting crisp approach shots, but he was just a stroke back with nine holes to play. Hagen, afflicted by stomach flu before the Open, would come in with a back nine of 35. The final flourish, an eight-foot birdie after an errant drive that landed in front of the ninth green, was made up for by remarkable pitch. Evans' play was more erratic down the stretch. He'd three-putted the 12th green, but scrambled for pars on the 16th and 17th.

The only way for Evans to tie Hagen would be to eagle the par-4 18th, then 277 yards (and today the ninth hole). Chick hammered a drive that bounded onto the front edge of the green. He had an uphill putt of from 30 to 45 feet, and ran it some eight inches left of the cup. Walter Hagen was the U.S. Open champion.

The Phillies never heard from him again. Instead, his dramatic style and personality lifted the profile of all professionals. Once consigned to the back of the clubhouse, they were allowed in the front door.

Meanwhile, low-amateur Evans had to be consoled by his many friends, including young Dorothy Ellis. She never forgot Chick and his run to within a stroke of the U.S. Open title outside her front door, and that became evident when she died in 1961.

"This pretty girl left \$65,000 to the Evans Scholars Foundation because she said I would have won the Open that year if I hadn't run her that race," Evans recalled.

The caddie scholarship concept hadn't been conceived when Hagen beat Evans. It began to emerge two years later, when Evans won the U.S. Open in Minneapolis and was confronted with endorsement offers. Only then did he realize that something beyond posing with a trophy could come of his success. The first scholars were admitted to Northwestern in 1930. By 1961, there were hundreds of caddie scholars in schools across the Midwest and beyond. Dorothy Ellis' gift was the largest in the program's history to that time.

—Tim Cronin

Bucket List

continued from page 33

were carpet. We had gotten used to the hills, but not the vistas: we'd stop and just take it all in. After that, we headed down the road to Oxmoor Valley and the Ridge Course.

As we waited on lunch, dad pointed to a framed picture. It was "The Duffer," a player leaning on his back leg, his front leg way out in the air.

"That's what you look like when you duff," I said.

Dad laughed.

We teed off, and it amazed us that even after a week of rolling hills, nothing repeated. I repeat, nothing repeated! Each hole was its own beast, with its own beauty. On the 18th, dad hit his final fairway of the week and I tapped in for par. We arrived back at Ross Bridge, exhausted, to the tune of the bagpiper signaling the end of daylight. We topped it all off in The Clubhouse with sweet tea and Alabama craft beer.

March 15

The odometer rested on 1,819.6 in Tinley Park. We took nearly that many shots (1,685) and dad's pedometer overheated with over 100,000 steps. The trip was full of laughter, a few curses and birdies, but all new memories for a father and a son together. Some of our favorites were the people, who were legitimately happy we were there, proud of the Trail and what it meant to the state.

But I had one last question.

"Would you do this again?"

"Oh yeah."



Surrounded by Forest Preserves

All course enhancements complete and open!

– Tees, greens and fairways are bentgrass.

– Water comes into play on 17 of the 27 holes.

– Lighted driving range, putting green, chipping green and bunkers.



26W151 Butterfield Road
Wheaton, IL 60189 | 630.653.5800
www.arrowheadgolfclub.org



Golf, Burgers, and The Inn at Benton Harbor

They are coming back, and so will you. On May 20th, The 75th Senior PGA Championship returns to Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Michigan. The event is round two, after the club hosted the 73rd Senior PGA Championship. The return of a major championship is an amazing backstory for a course that opened in 2010.

In the late 1970s, Benton Harbor's once-stable industrial roots crumbled and left few opportunities for area families who depended on manufacturing jobs. By the 1980s, decent jobs were scarce and the outlook was bleak. In 2000, a revitalizing effort was spearheaded by a non-profit initiative that awakened the community. A co-op of organizations, businesses, and the local government pumped a \$60 million investment into Benton Harbor. The 73rd Senior PGA Championship sparked a revitalized community and gained national attention for a city that was reborn. This year's championship promises to be a celebration of an idea that reinvented an entire community.

This spring, Harbor Shores, the golf club that spearheaded the initiative, has opened The Inn at Harbor Shores. With dramatic golf course views, The Inn completes the necessary amenities that were needed to make Harbor Shores a destination for golfers. With a marina and a four-star rating, The Inn offers ninety-two rooms, luxury suites, and executive-level penthouses with Lake Michigan views. Plank's Tavern on the Water, with river-front seating, is sure to keep foursomes satisfied with traditional American cuisine. The nine-story, upscale retreat also

has a roof-top deck which provides golf course views that are only exceeded by the stunning Lake Michigan backdrop. The Inn is serving local golfers and keeping their heads in beds on the Benton Harbor side of the river.

The Jack Nicklaus signature course at Harbor Shores is a testament to the community's vision. What was once an industrial graveyard is now a major championship venue. The course's layout cannot be tied down to a classification of links or parkland. "You can't put a label on the style of this course. The first six hole stretch shows what Jack can do with a blank slate. The next three holes are in and out of the dunes," describes Ross Smith, General Manager at the club. "Holes 10 through 13 are like playing in Northern Michigan. And you finish with the final five holes along wetlands and the Paw Paw River." The eyelashes and rough'd bunker edges cannot be confused with the cookie cutter traps of 1990s golf design; this is a modern gem worthy of a major championship. This is a nationally-ranked course you can play.

While neighboring Point O' Woods is an iconic venue for championship golf and has hosted numerous Western Golf Association events, the private club requires an invitation. Harbor Shores, on the other hand, welcomes all players to challenge the course that humbled the legends of the PGA Tour. Tom Watson, during the 73rd Senior PGA Championship, shared his thoughts about Harbor Shores, "If you give it a 15 or 20 mile an hour wind, the fellows aren't going to be shooting it up very much. We'll be lucky to shoot par or better." The wind and dunes are always present, which surely pleases Tommy.



DESTINATIONS

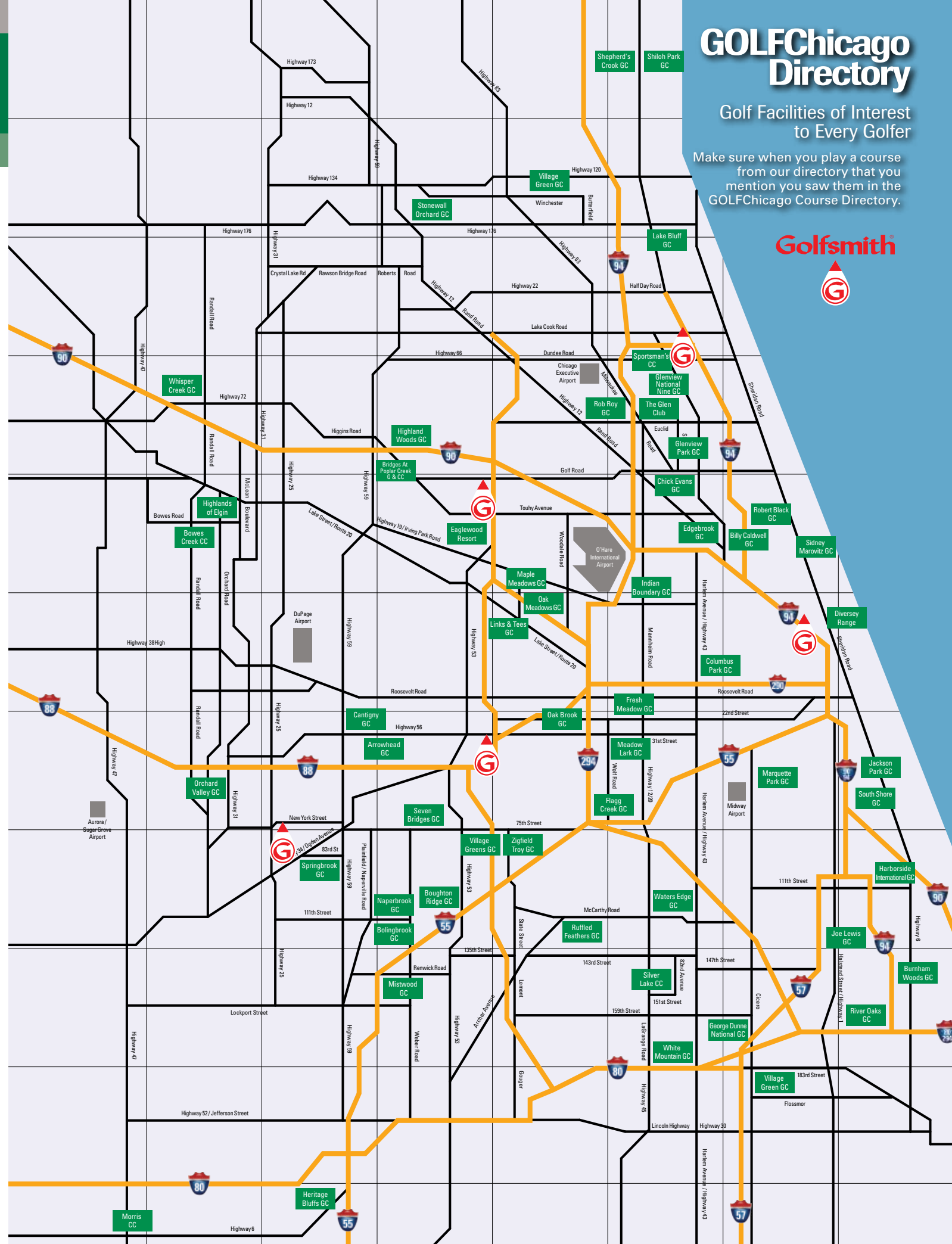
Greg Jourdan

While Harbor Shores will lift your sails on each repeat round, the area has another public course that has been a Chicagoland favorite for years. Lake Michigan Hills Golf Course (www.lakemichiganhills.com) is just minutes north of Harbor Shores, and a couple of miles from the big lake. The Charles Maddox, Sr., design is a mature layout with dramatic vistas. The opening tee sets the tone for a difficult, yet thrilling, round of golf. The elevated tee box is hidden between bushes and presents the first hole through a picture framed by hardwoods. Perhaps my favorite hole at Lake Michigan Hills is the par 3, 17th hole. The uphill, 225-yarder is a stout test of your mettle and a par is a badge of honor if the wind is howling.

With plenty of beef from tee to green, the area's most popular eats are a stark contrast to the pristine golf clubs. North Shore Inn (107 Higman Park Road) is a dive, yet they grill burgers you will talk about as much as the golf shots you hit on the screws. During the last Senior PGA Championship, I sat across the North Shore's bar from Fred Couples, Brad Faxon, and Jeff Sluman. Each of the men two-fisting the gigantic burgers dripping with juice. Our waitress said it wasn't their first time in during tournament week. From the street, you may think the building is abandoned, and truthfully, the interior is not much better. However, North Shore, located just across the street from the back nine of the club, is as much a part of the Harbor Shores course as the Jack Nicklaus signature holes. Just like the golf course, you'll want to hit this tavern twice.

The 75th Senior PGA Championship will be an affirmation that the Harbor Shores project was a success. This championship is the reward for a community that rolled the dice and is beating the odds. Now it is your turn to wander north and tackle a major venue...and maybe a major burger at the North Shore Inn.

For more information about tickets for the 75th Senior PGA Championship Presented by Kitchen Aid, visit www.spga2014.com. If you are ready to book your next trip to experience Benton Harbor's finest courses and cuisine, book a room at www.harborshoreslife.com, then lift your sails.



GOLFChicago Directory

Golf Facilities of Interest to Every Golfer

Make sure when you play a course from our directory that you mention you saw them in the GOLFChicago Course Directory.

Golfsmith





Arrowhead

630-653-5800
26W151 Butterfield Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60189
arrowheadgolfclub.org

Arrowhead Golf Club is recognized for its beautifully maintained course and inviting atmosphere.

Arrowhead is a public course which offers impeccable golfing conditions at affordable rates on three separate par 72 18-hole layouts surrounded by forest preserve. Players are enjoying new bunker renovations and enhancements to the West, East and South Courses. The practice area includes a lighted driving range, putting green and chipping green. Group and individual golf lessons available.



Bolingbrook Golf Club

630-771-9400
2001 Rodeo Drive
Bolingbrook, IL 60490
bolingbrookgolfclub.com

Bolingbrook Golf Club features an Arthur Hills and Steve Forrest designed championship golf course, an exceptional practice facility with a learning academy, state-of-the-art GPS-equipped golf carts, and a 76,000 square foot clubhouse with men's and women's locker rooms, lounges, two full-service restaurants, and full banquet facilities. Memberships are available.

Bolingbrook Golf Club was named #28 in the 2010 *Golf World* Readers' Choice Awards for best public course in the country, named to the 2009 *Golfweek* Best Courses You Can Play list, and received 4½ stars from *Golf Digest*



Bowes Creek Country Club

847-214-5880
1250 Bowes Creek Boulevard
Elgin, Illinois 60124
bowescreekcc.com
bowescreekcountryclub.com

Here at Bowes Creek Country Club, our patrons are not treated like an everyday customer. You can buy a membership for the year or you can pay to be a Member for a Day! Instead of standard green fees, we offer a daily membership. The Member for a Day Fee will allow you to play unlimited golf with cart and allow you full use of the practice facility. There will be no limit to the amount of golf you want to play that day because you are... Member for that Day!



Cantigny Golf

630-668-8463
27w270 Mack Road
Wheaton, IL 60189
cantignygolf.com

Designed by Roger Packard, Cantigny is both challenging and breathtakingly scenic. As part of its 25th anniversary celebration in 2014, Cantigny will host the Illinois State Amateur Championship for the fourth time.

The Cantigny Golf Academy is a prime practice and learning center. Junior golfers thrive at the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links.

Cantigny's 27 holes are ideal for outings ranging from 16 to 220 golfers. The course employs a full-time golf event coordinator to ensure an exceptional experience for planners and guests.



golfTec

10 Chicagoland Locations
golftec.com
Chicago - Halsted Row
773-755-4653

Chicago - Lincoln Park
773-871-4653

Deerfield 60015
224-330-4020

Des Plaines 60016
847-299-5431

Downers Grove 60515
630-932-4653

Fox Valley 60505
630-723-5215

Naperville 60563
630-579-9390

Oakbrook Terrace 60181
630-396-2020

Schaumburg 60173
847-517-1845

Vernon Hills 60061
847-327-0605



Golfsmith

5 Chicagoland Locations
golfsmith.com
Fox Valley 60504
630-585-0872

Highland Park 60035
847-579-0219

Lincoln Park 60614
773-281-1494

Downers Grove 60515
630-495-4880

Schaumburg 60173
847-969-0347

Buy it. Try it. Keep it. Or return it and get another. If for any reason you are not satisfied within the first 30 days after your club purchase, return your clubs to Golfsmith and receive a credit of up to 90% of the original purchase price toward your next club purchase.



The Highlands of Elgin

847-931-5950
875 Sports Way
Elgin, IL 60123
highlandsofelgin.com

The new quarry nine and the original nine holes flow over beautiful rolling terrain, creating a diverse collection of holes. The new nine holes reclaim an old stone quarry, and are routed to take maximum advantage of the unique and dramatic landforms that were left behind. Four holes hug the top of the bluff thirty to forty feet above the water, providing golfers with incredible views and numerous shot options on each hole.



Harborside International G.C.

312-782-7837
11001 S. Doty Ave. East,
Chicago, IL 60628
harborsidegolf.com

Located just south of the loop in the City of Chicago, Harborside features two championship-style links courses designed by renowned architect Dick Nugent.

Harborside is home to Chicago's largest practice facility, a prairie style clubhouse, and The Pier at Harborside restaurant.

Harborside's Port and Starboard courses rank annually among the Midwest's list of best courses you can play.



Chicago Park District Golf

312.245.0909
cpdgolf.com

Great Golf in the Heart of the City.

With six courses, three driving ranges and two miniature golf courses there's golf enjoyment for the whole family. PLUS... save EVERY DAY, secure early tee time access and more with the CPD Players Advantage Card!

- Robert A. Black – 9 Holes
 - Sydney R. Marovitz – 9 Holes
 - Jackson Park – 18 Holes
 - Columbus Park – 9 Holes
 - Marquette Park - 9 Holes
 - South Shore - 9 Holes
 - Diversey Range
- The only double-deck range in Chicago



Forest Preserve Golf Courses | Cook County

800.460.0010
forestpreservegolf.com

Affordable GOLF. Friendly SERVICE. Fantastic EXPERIENCE.

Forest Preserve Golf offers something for every golfer. PLUS...save EVERY DAY with the FPG Golf and Rewards Card!

- Billy Caldwell: 9 Holes
- Burnham Woods: 18 Holes
- Chick Evans: 18 Holes
- Edgebrook: 18 Holes
- George Dunne National: 18 Holes
- Harry Semrow: Driving Range & Mini Golf
- Highland Woods: 18 Holes
- Indian Boundary: 18 Holes
- Joe Louis: 18 Holes
- Meadowlark: 9 Holes
- River Oaks: 18 Holes



The Glen Club

847-724-7272
2901 West Lake Ave.
Glenview, IL 60026
theglenclub.com

Chicago's finest semi-private golf experience.

The Glen Club is a stunning Tom Fazio designed championship course located on the former site of the historic Glenview Naval Air Station. In the heart of a 195-acre refuge, The Glen Club features rolling terrain, dramatic elevation changes, tranquil lakes, and striking vistas.

Enjoy the grand 48,000 sq. ft. clubhouse, superb dining, 21 overnight guest rooms, a grand ballroom, and the finest in corporate amenities and Membership.



Lake Bluff Golf Club

847-234-6771
355 W Washington Ave
Lake Bluff, IL 60044
lakebluffgolfclub.com

Located on the scenic North Shore of Chicago, Lake Bluff Golf Club offers a beautiful and challenging layout in a traditional parkland setting. Lake Bluff Golf Club takes great pride in the immaculately conditioned bent grass fairways and greens. The club anxiously awaits hosting the 42nd Annual Lake County Amateur this August 27 and 28.



Mistwood Golf Club

815-254-3333
1700 W. Renwick Rd.
Romeoville, IL 60446
mistwoodgolf.net

Mistwood Golf Club, with its recent multi-million dollar renovations and new state of the art golf-learning center, has become one of the premier golf experiences in the Chicagoland area. Mistwood, host of the Illinois Women's Open, features new Scottish style stacked sod-wall bunkers, which are not something seen in traditional American golf. Other amenities include a full-service pro shop, golf instruction, and wonderful dining.



Orchard Valley Golf Course

2411 West Illinois Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506
630-907-0500
orchardvalleygolf.com

6th Best Public Course in Illinois by *GOLF Magazine*.

One of Chicagoland's best public courses, *Golf Digest* ranks Orchard Valley 4½ Stars! A true championship layout featuring wetlands, lakes, roughs, water hazards, waterfalls and more.

PLUS...a program for everyone!

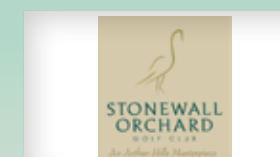
- SAVE on every round with the OV Rewards PLUS program
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the PPP card
- Annual Memberships and MORE!



Rob Roy Golf Course

505 E Camp McDonald Rd
Prospect Heights, IL 60070
847-253-4544
www.robroygc.com

Winding through 51 acres, the beautiful 9-hole Rob Roy Golf Course will challenge golfers at any skill level. The 3,022-yard course is narrow and tree-lined, requiring accuracy with water, sand traps, and other strategically-placed obstacles around the course. Rob Roy also includes a lighted driving range with 52 hitting stations. Bring the whole family for mini golf and grab lunch overlooking the course at the 10th Hole Bar & Grille. There is something for everyone at Rob Roy!



Stonewall Orchard

25675 W Highway 60
Grayslake, IL 60030
847-740-4890
stonewallorchard.com

Cutting through hundred-year old oak and pine trees, Stonewall Orchard Golf Club has quickly become one of Chicago's most prolific public golf courses.

Since opening in 1999, The Arthur Hills-designed gem located in northwest suburban Grayslake has served as Final Stage Qualifying site for the U.S. Open and currently sits on rotation with Olympia Fields and Medinah Country Club as host site for the Illinois PGA Section Championship held every September.

To learn more, visit stonewallorchard.com or call 847-740-4890.





Water's Edge Golf Course

7205 West 115th Street
Worth, IL 60482
708-671-1032
watersedgegolf.com

Best Places To Play By *Golf Digest*.

Water's Edge is Chicago's south side destination course. This championship 18-hole golf course offers bent grass greens and fairways, and a complete day/night practice and range facility, along with The Edge Bar & Grill for great meals and daily specials.

PLUS...a program for everyone!

- SAVE on every round with the Edge PLUS Pass
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the Edge Practice Club



Whisper Creek Golf Course

12840 Del Webb Boulevard
Huntley, IL 60142
847-515-7680
whispercreekgolf.com

Luxury Golf at a Whisper of a Price!

Whisper Creek Golf Club is a fair test for a gamut of golfers. From beginners to scratch golfers, anyone who appreciates a day on the course will come away feeling rewarded by a round at Whisper Creek.

PLUS...a program for everyone!

- SAVE on every round with the Whisper Rewards PLUS program
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the PDP card
- Annual Memberships and MORE!



White Mountain Golf Park

9901 179th Street
Tinley Park, IL 60477
708-478-4653
whitemountaingolfpark.com

Learn. Practice. Play.

- Executive course offering 9 holes of competitive golf
- Practice Range with artificial and grass hitting stations, and heated, covered stalls
- Mini Golf park offering 18 holes
- Professional instruction for all levels and abilities
- Fully stocked golf shop
- Party room perfect for events, fundraisers and more!

PLUS...earn FREE stuff with the Playback Rewards program – join TODAY!



White Pines Golf Club & Banquets

630-766-0304 500 W Jefferson Ave
Bensenville, IL 60106
whitepinesgolf.com

36-hole championship course situated on over 240 acres, has been a favorite among Chicago area golfers since 1928. Ten minutes from O'Hare International Airport, White Pines in Bensenville is a perfect choice for anyone looking for a challenging game of golf any time of the year.

White Pines Golf Club offers a superb setting, sure to make you feel like you are "away from it all."

Arlington Lake Golf Club
847-577-3030
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Blackberry Oaks
630-553-7170
Bristol, IL 60512
blackberryoaks.com

Bonnie Brook GC
847-360-4735
2800 N. Lewis Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087
waukegangolf.org

Boughton Ridge
630-739-4100
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Coyote Run Golf Course
708-957-8700
800 Kedzie
Flossmoor IL 60422
coyoterungolf.com

Par 71
Yardage: 6,478
Weekday: \$50 w/cart
Weekend: \$60 w/cart
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes, \$31 w/ cart, Mon.-Thu. only
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Eaglewood Resort and Spa
630-773-3510
1401 Nordic Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
eaglewoodresort.com

Par 72
Yardage 6,015 - 5,410 yds.
Weekday: \$39.00 w/cart (Spring Rate)
Weekend: \$45.00 w/cart (Spring Rate)
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

The First Tee of Aurora & Fox Valley
630-499-0680
1001 Hill Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505
thefirstteeaurora.org

The First Tee of Greater Chicago
773-885-8258
2901 W. Lake Avenue, Suite A
Glenview, IL 60025
thefirstteegreaterchicago.org

Flagg Creek Golf Course
708-246-3336
6939 S. Wolf Road
Countryside, IL 60525
flaggcreekgolfcourse.org

Par 33
Yardage: 2493 – 1865
Weekday: \$14 (resident)
\$18 (non res.)
Weekend: \$16 (resident)
\$20 (non res.)
Cart Fee: \$16
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Fox Bend Golf Course
630-554-3939
3516 Route 34
Oswego, IL 60543
foxbendgolfcourse.com

Par 72
Yardage: 6,890 – 5,325
Weekday: \$38 walk
\$54 ride
Weekend: \$43 walk
\$59 ride
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes
Resident rates available

Grand Geneva Resort and Spa
262-248-8811
Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Green Meadows Golf Club
630-810-5330
18 W 201 West 63rd Street
Westmont, IL 60559
DuPageGolf.com

Par 30
Yardage: 1,888 - 1,545 yds.
Weekday: \$14 walk
\$22 ride
Weekend: \$16 walk
\$24 ride
*Frequent specials on course website
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: No
Banquets/Outings: No

Hamilton County Golf
Indiana's Premier Golf Destination!
indianapremiergolf.com

Indian Oaks Country Club
815-824-2282
Shabbona, IL 60550
9 Holes
3,379 yards
indianoaksc.com

Kids Golf Foundation of Illinois
Golf Changes Kids' Lives
630-466-0913
P.O. Box 610
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
kidsgolffoundation.org

Links & Tees Golf Facility
630-458-2660
Addison, IL 60101
Recognized in 2011 by *Golf Range* magazine as one of the top 100 learning facilities in North America.
addisonparks.org

All information in this directory is provided by participating courses. GOLFCChicago is not responsible or liable for errors or incorrect information. Map © Copyright 2013 GOLFCChicago Magazine. All rights reserved.

Maple Meadows Golf Club

630-616-8424
272 Addison Rd.
Wood Dale, IL 60191
DuPageGolf.com

West 18 - Par 70
Yardage: 6,438 - 5,339 yds.
Weekday: \$32 walk
\$49 ride
Weekend: \$41 walk
\$58 ride

*Frequent specials on course website

East 9 – Par 34
Yardage: 2,815 - 2,427 yds.
Rate: \$16 walk / \$25 ride
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Martin Design Partnership, Ltd.

Golf Course Architecture and Design
630-482-2532
335 N. River Street
Suite 201
Batavia, IL 60510
mdpltd.com

Naperbrook Golf Course
630-378-4215
22204 W. Hassert Boulevard
Plainfield, IL 60585
golfnaperville.org

Par 72
Yardage: 6677
Weekday: \$39.50
Weekend: \$49.50
Mid-day Rates: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Super Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Oak Brook Golf Club
630-368-6400
2606 York Road
Oak Brook, IL 60523
oak-brook.org/recreation

Par 72
Yardage 6541 - 5341 yds
Weekday: \$67.50 w/cart
Weekend: \$71.50 w/cart
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Course Managers:

For inclusion in this directory, or to update your listing, please call 815.741.8005 or email us at dweretka@golfchicagomagazine.com

Oak Meadows Golf Club

630-595-0071
900 N. Wood Dale Road
Addison, IL 60101
DuPageGolf.com

Par 71
Yardage: 6,718 - 5,628 yds.
Weekday: \$32 walk
\$49 ride
Weekend: \$41 walk
\$58 ride

*Frequent specials on course website
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: No

Sentry World

866-479-6753
Stevens Point, WI 54481
18 holes
Par 72
6,951 yards
sentryworld.com

Shepherd's Crook
847-872-2080
351 N. Green Bay Rd.
Zion, IL 60099
shepherdsCrook.org

Shiloh Park
847-746-5500
23rd and Bethesda Blvd.
Zion, IL 60099
shilohparkgolf.com

Springbrook Golf Course
630-848-5060
2220 W. 83rd Street
Naperville, IL 60564
golfnaperville.org

Par 72
Yardage: 6,896
Weekday: \$41.50
Weekend: \$51.50
Mid-day Rates: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Super Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Village Greens
630-985-3610
Woodridge, IL 60517

Western Golf Association / Evans Scholars Foundation
westerngolfassociation.com

White Pines Dome
630-776-0304, ext. 5
Bensenville, IL 60106
whitepinesdome.com

Zigfield Troy Par 3
630-985-9860
1535 W. 75th Street
Woodridge, IL 60517



2013 Champion
Andrew Price
Lake Forest, Illinois

Learn 2014 Lake County Amateur

July 26 & 27

Lake Bluff Golf Club

Lake County Senior Amateur | Friday, August 1 | 8:00am Tee Times

For more information, entry forms and online registration please visit www.lakebluffgolfclub.com or call (847) 234-6771.



Majors Migrating North

The sun has risen in the North, and Wisconsin is basking in the glow of its Golden Age of professional golf.

The Chicago area? It has been left holding the bag after the greatest Ryder Cup collapse in American team history in the fall of 2012 at Medinah Country Club. From 1999 through 2012, the state hosted two PGA Championships (1999, 2006 at Medinah), one U.S. Open (2003, Olympia Fields), one U.S. Women's Open (2000, The Merit Club), one Solheim Cup (2009, Rich Harvest Farms) and the 2012 Ryder Cup. That's a great slate, with some great champions and memorable moments. It was a great run, Illinois. However, the PGA Tour, and its majors, will see more action above the cheddar curtain than around Sweet Home Chicago.

"The city of Chicago is a great golf town," said 2013 PGA Champion Jason Dufner, who was part of the U.S. Ryder Cup team at Medinah. "It has a lot of history with the game of golf." Somewhere along the line however, the eyes of the PGA of America and the United States Golf Association began to wander. We can speculate as to why, and how. It matters not, really, because they did—and Chicagoland has been left in the dust.

True, Wisconsin does not have its own annual PGA Tour stop either, and the North Shore is home to the Champions Tour's Encompass Championship and, on a part-time basis, the BMW Championship. However, Wisconsin has become major golf's favorite Midwestern destination. Illinois won't have a monopoly on tour events much longer either, as there is buzz circulating the state that when PGA Tour pro's Steve Stricker and Jerry Kelly turn 50 in 2017, their home of Madison, Wisconsin, will immediately become a spot for a Champions Tour event as well. While everyone, myself included, would love to see either the PGA or LPGA tours return to the Chicago area on a full-time basis, it's always all about the majors.

And Wisconsin's got a stranglehold on that.

From 2010 through 2020, our neighbors to the north will have two PGA Championships (2010, 2015 at Whistling Straits), one U.S. Open (2017, Erin Hills), one U.S. Women's Open (2012, Blackwolf Run), and one Ryder Cup (2020, Whistling Straits). Toss in the 2004 PGA Championship and the 2007 U.S. Senior Open, and Wisconsin has held, or will hold, seven major championships or team competitions of that ilk since the turn of the century. The key phrase there is "will hold."

Dufner's right, the history of major golf in the Chicago area is remarkable. But that's the problem. While the history is lengthening, the future is stagnating. The Chicago area has had five majors or major

FROM THE FRINGE

Insights on the PGA Tour



Jim Owczarski

team competitions since 2000, but no more are currently booked outside of the 2016 LGPA International Crown at Rich Harvest. To add insult to injury, Donald Trump just added his first two men's majors to his 2017 U.S. Women's Open—the 2017 PGA Championship and the 2022 PGA Championship. Donald. Trump. C'mon, man.

Venues aren't the problem here, of course. "Medinah holds its own, I think, when you speak of it as a major championship venue," Dufner said. "It'll be interesting to see when they get back to Chicago for some major championship golf." Indeed. You figure Medinah might be a pick for the 2021 PGA Championship, but man, that's a long drought. If that educated guess holds up, that would mean no four-round, stroke play major championship had been played in the state for 15 years. Wisconsin? How about six between 2004 and 2017.

So, this year, we'll just have to make sure to support the Encompass Championship at North Shore Country Club (June 16-22) and head west to attend the John Deere Classic out in Silvis (July 7-13). It's a year where the BMW Championship rotates out, this time to Denver. And it's a year where the Ryder Cup will be held in Europe, at The PGA Centenary Course in Gleneagles, Scotland. We'll see the rousing highlights of 2012 at Medinah, then. And like Jim Furyk, Steve Stricker, Phil Mickelson, Dufner and the like—we'll remember it as an incredible experience with great fan support, but we'll also be acknowledging that it's past. Hopefully the powers that be in the golf world start working on a brighter future when it comes to major championship golf in Chicago. With our fingers crossed, we can only hope one of the nation's authentic golf meccas plays host to the world's best before your grandkids are born.

Encompass Pointing Up

The newest tour stop in Illinois couldn't have gotten off to a better start last year, as Craig Stadler held off Fred Couples, Kenny Perry, Mark O'Meara, and Tom Pernice, Jr. to capture the inaugural Encompass Championship. Tournament organizers had to be thrilled to see likely participants like Bernhard Langer and Couples play well at the Masters in April and those two are atop the Charles Schwab Cup standings. What's also nice to see is that guys with Illinois ties like Jay Haas and former PGA Champion Jeff Sluman are playing well also.

I know the idea of appearance fees makes people bristle (especially when tour pro's skip events stateside to go overseas), but I think Champions Tour events should have that option. How big of a deal would it be if Greg Norman, Vijay Singh, and Miguel Angel "The Mechanic" Jimenez teed it up at North Shore?

It was a great run, Illinois. However, the PGA Tour, and its majors, will see more action above the cheddar curtain, and Sweet Home Chicago has been left in the dust.



TRUE NORTH
GOLF CLUB

EXCLUSIVE. PRIVATE. GENERATIONAL.



TRUE NORTH is an exclusive private destination club for individuals who share a passion for the game and its history. Nestled in the pristine Northern Michigan forest above Harbor Springs, True North provides championship golf with a high level of personal service in a low volume atmosphere - creating a quality member experience in a comfortable and relaxing setting.

A True North membership is truly generational as the member and their immediate family are extended member privileges. Additionally, the member has the ability to transfer their membership to a dependent at any time. In essence, at True North you are receiving more than just a membership, you own a unique and exclusive holding which can stay in the family from generation to generation.

A destination in the truest sense, True North stands above the rest — great golf, impeccable service and exclusively for members.

We encourage you to learn more about our membership options and this special place.



2500 TRUE NORTH DRIVE / HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740 / 231 526 3300
TRUENORTHGOLF.COM



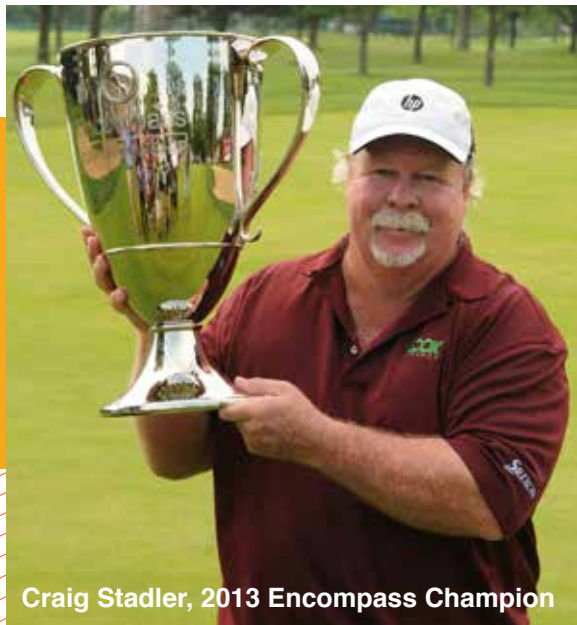
2014 Encompass Championship



Chicagoland's Only Tour Event!
June 16–22, 2014



North Shore Country Club Glenview, Illinois



Craig Stadler, 2013 Encompass Champion

Great golf.

Great fun.

Great golf. Hall of Famers
Fred Couples, Bernhard Langer,
Hale Irwin, Ben Crenshaw, Nick Price
and Colin Montgomerie

Great fun. Fan favorites like
Peter Jacobsen, Fuzzy Zoeller
and 2013 Rookie of the Year,
Rocco Mediate

Save Now! Discount Tickets and Special Offers
Find out more at encompasschampionship.com


Encompass

CHAMPIONSHIPSM

presented by **careerbuilder**[®]

