



# Metropolitan Golf Writers Association NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014 - JANUARY 2015

## SEND IN YOUR NEWS AND NOTES

All members of the MGWA who may have items for our newsletter are urged to e-mail them to **Chuck Stogel** ([chstogel@aol.com](mailto:chstogel@aol.com)).

## SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 9, MGWA AWARDS DINNER

The MGWA Executive Committee has scheduled the Association's 64th National Awards Dinner for Tuesday, June 9, at the Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown, NY. The event will be held during the week of the LPGA Tour's KPMG Women's PGA Championship at Westchester CC, Harrison, NY. MGWA president **Bruce Beck** and vp **Ann Liguori** return as co-chairs of the dinner. Additionally, the MGWA Executive Committee has retained past president **Bruce Smith** as event marketing director for a third consecutive year. The Exec Committee is working on a roster of honorees for the dinner, and plans to make related announcements at various intervals over the next few months. Stay tuned.

## 2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS UNDERWAY

### MGWA Also Seeking New Members

The MGWA Executive Committee has voted to maintain our dues structure for 2015, and a notice to the membership with information about renewing for the upcoming season was mailed in December. There is a Jan. 15 deadline for renewal in order to be included in our 2015 Membership Directory. Annual dues remain \$75 for Regular members and \$100 for Associate members. There is a discounted fee for Retired members (\$25), who must substantiate their Retired status for the MGWA Membership Committee.

The Met Golf Writers Assn. also is looking for prospective members, and word-of-mouth from the current membership is our best outreach in seeking new members. There may be personnel at your organization who would qualify for MGWA membership, or you may know of nonmembers at Met area media, companies and related organizations who would qualify. If you do know of such prospective members, please pass the word along about our group and its activities. Criteria for membership and the various categories available are listed in our annual directory. New member application forms for 2015 are available at our web site ([www.metgolfwriters.org](http://www.metgolfwriters.org)).

For additional information about membership, please contact **Kate Keller**, MGWA Executive Administrator (914-347-4653, [kate@metgolfwriters.org](mailto:kate@metgolfwriters.org)).

## LOCALS PLACE IN LPGA, WEB.COM QUALIFIERS

**Nanette Hill** of Pelham, NY, a Wake Forest graduate, has earned fully exempt status on the 2015 LPGA Tour by finishing ninth in December during a 90-hole qualifying finale in Daytona Beach, FL. For her five rounds, the consistent Hill shot 70-70-72-70-71. The 27-year-old, whose mentor is Pelham CC head pro **Mike Diffley**, has had several elbow surgeries over the past few years. She played regularly on the Futures Tour and in occasional LPGA events in 2010 and 2011 . . . 2009 Met Golf Assn. Player of the Year **Cameron Wilson** of Shorehaven CC, Norwalk, CT, finished at 9-under-par for six rounds in December's Web.com Tour Q-School Finals at PGA National in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, earning a tie for 28th spot along with eight exemptions for the 2015 season. Also in the qualifying finale, **David Pastore** of Griff Harris GC, Greenwich, CT, and **Marc Turnesa** of Rockville Centre, NY, finished T64 and T103, respectively, to gain conditional status for the upcoming season.

## POUND RIDGE RECEIVES BUILDERS AWARD

Custom builder **Mark Mosolino** has been named recipient of the 2014 Best Commercial Rehab Overall award from the Home Builders and Remodelers Assn. of Connecticut for his renovation of the clubhouse at Pound Ridge (NY) GC ([www.poundridgegolf.com](http://www.poundridgegolf.com)). Renovations included the addition of permanent bathrooms, a full-service kitchen with new



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equipment, and men's and women's showers and small locker rooms. The breezeway between the building and temporary structure also was enclosed for additional comfort and privacy. Other notable enhancements included floor, ceiling and window frame molding, chair rails and other fixtures. Guests now have the choice of relaxing in the refreshed interior or outdoors on one of Pound Ridge's two alfresco seating and gathering areas. A daily fee facility opened in 2008 with a 7,165-yard, par 72 course crafted by father-son architects **Pete** and **Perry Dye**, Pound Ridge is located in Westchester County and owned by businessman **Ken Wang**.

## PEOPLE, PLACES, ETC

Hunter PR has been retained to handle regional media relations for the KPMG Women's PGA Championship ([www.kpmgwomenspgachampionship.com](http://www.kpmgwomenspgachampionship.com)) scheduled June 11-14 at Westchester CC, Harrison, NY. With a purse of \$3.5 million, the event is one of five majors on the LPGA Tour. HPR contact: MGWA member **Karen Moraghan**, (908-963-6013, [kmoraghan@hunter-pr.com](mailto:kmoraghan@hunter-pr.com)) . . . Nicholas & Lence Communications has been hired as pr agency of record for the new Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point ([www.trumpferrypoint.com](http://www.trumpferrypoint.com)), Bronx, NY. Situated adjacent to the northern foot of the Whitestone Bridge, with a course designed by **Jack Nicklaus**, Ferry Point is scheduled to open in spring 2015. Contacts: **Cristyne Nicholas** ([cristyne@nicholaslence.com](mailto:cristyne@nicholaslence.com), 212-938-0833), MGWA member **Nick Nicholas** [nick@nicholaslence.com](mailto:nick@nicholaslence.com), 212-938-0833) . . . The U.S. Golf Assn. will hold its 2015 annual meeting on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The USGA has scheduled a press conference that morning at the hotel. For more information about the meeting or to attend the press conference, contact MGWA Board member and USGA Communications honcho **Pete Kowalski** (908-234-2300, [pkowalski@usga.org](mailto:pkowalski@usga.org)) . . . **Stephen Boyd** of Morristown, N.J., a member at Baltusrol GC, Springfield, NJ, was elected to a one-year term as president of the Metropolitan Golf Assn at the MGA's 117th Annual Meeting and Dinner held in December at Westchester CC, Harrison, NY ([www.mgagolf.org/news/2014/december/BoydElectedPresident](http://www.mgagolf.org/news/2014/december/BoydElectedPresident)). He will lead a 22-member Executive Committee and serve as chairman of the MGA Foundation. At the meeting, **Michael Sullivan** of Garden City (NY) CC was named MGA vice president and **Tod Pike** of the Apawamis Club, Rye, NY, was named secretary/treasurer. Sullivan also is president of both the Long Island Golf Assn and the Long Island Caddie Scholarship Fund . . . **Ken Whitney** of Scarsdale, NY, a member at both Scarsdale and Hudson National clubs in Westchester, has been elected president of The First Tee of Metropolitan New York ([www.mgagolf.org/news/2014/december/kenwhitney\\_tftmny](http://www.mgagolf.org/news/2014/december/kenwhitney_tftmny)). He succeeded Philip Laskawy, who had served as president since 2008 . . . Club pro **Suzy Whaley** of Farmington, CT, was elected secretary of the PGA of America at the association's annual meeting in Indianapolis in mid-November . . . Golf pro and noted teacher **Michael Breed** is moving his namesake Golf Academy ([www.michaelbreed.com](http://www.michaelbreed.com)) from Manhattan Woods to Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point. Host of The Golf Fix on the Golf Channel and one of Golf Digest's Top 50 instructors in the U.S., Breed was formerly head pro in the Met area at Sunningdale and Birchwood clubs. For more info: Nicholas & Lence Communications (212-938-0833) . . . the annual preseason Journal News Golf Show ([www.lohud.com/golfshow](http://www.lohud.com/golfshow)), usually a two-day affair, has been scheduled as a one-day event for the upcoming season on Sunday, March 8, 2015, from 10 am to 5 pm, at the Westchester County Center, White Plains, NY. For info: **Tessa Garcia** (914-694-5188; [tagarcia1@lohud.com](mailto:tagarcia1@lohud.com)) . . . Former MGA president and 2003 Met Golf Writers DSA recipient **Paul Dillon** of Larchmont, NY, will receive the Met Golf Course Superintendents highest honor --- the John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award --- during the MetGCSA's Winter Seminar at Westchester CC on Jan. 14 ([www.mgagolf.org/news/2014/december/pauldillon\\_johnreidaward](http://www.mgagolf.org/news/2014/december/pauldillon_johnreidaward)). A member at Winged Foot, Dillon is the golf coach at Fordham University . . . The Golf Coaches Assn. of America has created the **Ron Balicki** Scholarship to "honor and encourage a student who, in pursuing his or her interest in journalism and writing, exemplifies dedication by writing about college and/or amateur golf." The scholarship, in memory of Golfweek writer Balicki who passed away last April at age 65, will be presented annually at the NCAA Championship. For information about tax deductible contributions or other info, contact the GCAA (866-422-2669, [www.collegiategolf.com](http://www.collegiategolf.com)) . . . HEAD PRO NAMED: **Jason Caron**, from assistant at Siwanoy CC, Bronxville, NY, to head pro at Mill River Club, Oyster Bay, NY . . . OBITS: **Tom Nieporte**, 86, longtime Met area head pro first at Piping Rock Club, Locust Valley, NY, and then at Winged Foot GC, Mamaroneck, NY, and the last true club professional to win a PGA Tour event, died Dec. 21 in Boca Raton, FL ([www.lohud.com/story/sports/golf/2014/12/22/winged-foot-ex-head-pro-tom-nieporte-left-vital-legacy/20786697/](http://www.lohud.com/story/sports/golf/2014/12/22/winged-foot-ex-head-pro-tom-nieporte-left-vital-legacy/20786697/)) . . . **Harry Dee**, 89, a 66-year member of the PGA of America and former head pro at Ridgewood CC, Paramus, NJ, and Scarsdale (NY) GC, died Dec. 16 in Norwell, MA ([www.legacy.com/obituaries/bostonglobe/obituary.aspx?pid=173503412](http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/bostonglobe/obituary.aspx?pid=173503412)). Both the Nieporte (1997) and Dee (1978) clans were recipients of our MGWA Family of the Year Award.