



President's Letter

As I look outside at the wonderful colors of our New England landscape, I am reminded of all the fabulous days on the links with my friends and fellow SNEWGA members. I hope that your season was fun and you made new friends along the way.

SNEWGA had a busy and exciting year. I would like to thank Barbara DePalo for all her efforts in developing a new Spring Cup format that was very successful and will continue to be refined. We also have a new major tournament, the Member-Member, fashioned after our 50th Anniversary.

CSGA held the inaugural Women's Four Ball event at Rolling Hills this year and we appreciate their efforts to increase the number of events for women in our state. I encourage you to participate in this tournament in future years. I have enjoyed working with Ron Drapeau, CSGA Executive Director, as our organizations share similar challenges and goals.

The charitable contributions made by SNEWGA over the past few years have been a new initiative for our organization. As part of our mission to support the development of women's golf, we support our local USGA LPGA Girls Golf sites and more recently, The First Tee of Connecticut. SNEWGA has a position on the board of The First Tee of Connecticut and we are ably represented on that board by Linda Woods. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with either of these fine organizations, you should contact your Regional Delegate.

Sincere congratulations to all our champions this year! Linda Lyons captured the SNEWGA Championship at Simsbury Farms for the second time in her career. Deb Jamgochian was a first time champion of the Seniors at Rolling Meadows. Other first time winners include Beth Rotko, Super Senior Champion, and Mary Pattacini, Legends Champion.

Heartfelt thanks to the SNEWGA club representatives and volunteers that worked on all our tournaments this year! Tournaments are the essence of this organization and without the dedication of our volunteers we could not enjoy the variety of events that we do. A special thank you to Cindy Hedge for her tireless efforts as our Tournament Coordinator for the past two years.

Lyman Orchards Golf Course was the site of the 2007 CT Women's Amateur. Pat Balzer, her committee, and the staff at Lyman Orchards did a fine job of hosting this event. Congratulations to Natalie Sheary on her victory and all the SNEWGA members who participated in this event.

This was the first year that we utilized the point system to help determine our USGA State Team. I am very proud that our three CT State Team members were SNEWGA members: Daria Cummings, Deb Jamgochian and Lisa Fern-Boros. They represented us at the USGA Women's State Team Championship in Texas this past September.

Our website continues to improve and it is a vital component of our association. There is a tremendous amount of information on the site and I am very grateful to Donna Pauzé and Deb Johnson for their efforts in this area.

Again this year, we maintained our membership levels as we continued to actively recruit new clubs with Laurie Masciandro leading our Membership Committee.

Jo Aldred will be leaving the board this year. I thank her for her service as secretary in the past year, and Regional Delegate in prior years. Karen DeBartolo has done an outstanding job as treasurer for the past several years and has graciously agreed to continue in this capacity. Our veteran board members, Jackie Weisenberg and Bev Vidgor continue to contribute to our mission in their work as USGA Regional Affairs representative and Course Rating Coordinator for SNEWGA, respectively. Bev Sleeper has provided valuable assistance to the Course Rating Committee. My personal thanks to Jen Burrill, past president, who has served as Historian this past year.

I did receive several communications this past year regarding the upper age limits on our tournaments. Connecticut is the only women's golf association in New England that has age maximums on our tournaments and the board is planning to address this important issue over the winter. For those of you who have not yet expressed your opinion to the board or your Regional Delegate on this issue, I would encourage you to do so.

My sincere appreciate to each and every Board member for their time, energy, and support. I have been blessed with the opportunity to work with a group of women that are bright, articulate and have the mission of this association as the focus of their work. It has been a privilege to serve as your President for the past two years.

I am certain that SNEWGA will continue to grow and prosper because of the dedication and leadership of the board and the support and involvement from the membership.

Warm Regards,

Gale Lemieux

P.S. Thank you all for the beautiful Waterford martini pitcher—I will put that to good use! Thank you for the opportunity to say yes. Have a safe and healthy winter.