



# NEWSLETTER

*"This Association has been formed and exists for the purpose of promoting and conserving, throughout the State of Florida, the best interests and the true spirit of the game of Golf as embodied in its ancient and honorable traditions."*

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## NEW DIRECTIONS IN 1980

In looking forward to the year ahead we begin with words of thanks and appreciation to those of you who were active in FSGA in 1979. It was a good year with near maximum attendance for tournaments and special events.

We shall be ready for the challenge of the 1980s with new faces and plans for new directions. In addition to a fine tournament schedule, which appears elsewhere in this newsletter, our anticipatory look-ahead includes expanded and improved services to member clubs. The fascinating world of the mini-computer will be entered to assist Florida clubs in capturing and evaluating operating data to produce improved business and money management in an era where better systems are vitally needed.

## HELP US RECLAIM THE PINK SHEETS

The pink sheet in your envelope is a copy of an information form sent to managers of our member clubs. It is included in your mailing (1.) To inform you of the survey. (2.) To ask your aid in prodding your club manager to respond promptly with the information we're seeking. Thanks much for your help.

## HANDICAPPING QUESTIONNAIRE

This extensive inquiry is from the USGA seeking help in a special handicap research crusade to evaluate the present system. Your assistance will be appreciated and will influence whatever changes may have to be made in the Handicap System and Course Rating method. Return your completed form to our Sarasota office so that we may measure the participation FSGA has in the project.

## BILL EARLEY SHOOTS RECORD ROUND

The popular, 18th annual, "almost old-folks" tournament at Lehigh Country Club was the last event of '79 and produced some record numbers. Bill Earley, veteran Association competitor from Sarasota's Gator Creek, was the overall victor in the Life at Forty event, scoring a six under par 210 for the 54-hole distance.

Easy-rider Earley ripped it around in a smart seven under 65 the second day, in warm November sunshine, to outdistance the full field. His 71 the final day was exemplary as the last five holes were played in the rain.

The winning total, 74-65-71-210, was a record for the event and the second day 65 also a single-round record for the "40." However, the 65 was a stroke shy of the best single-round effort in an FSGA event at Lehigh. Julian Arnold still claims the low score, a 64, which included a stroke penalty for inadvertently moving his ball on the putting green, during the 1977 State Amateur won by Jack Veghte.

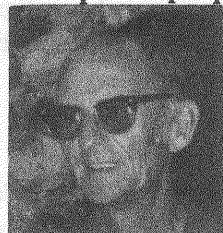
Earley competed in the 40 to 54 year section which was won by Luther Essex of Maitland. Lynn Lee, Sebring, was the 55-64 winner and Dexter Daniels, Winter Haven, copped the 65 and over class. All division winners, in addition to merchandise certificates, were awarded special plaques bearing the champs' photograph in color.



EARLEY



ESSEX



LEE



DANIELS



BEHL

SNYDER

## BEHL-SNYDER STRONGARM STATE FOURBALL TITLE

Scott Behl's cunning chip-in touch around the greens and David Snyder's tee bombs were strong medicine for a high-energy fourball field at Lakeland's ImperiaLakes Country Club. The combine tacked a 68-67-135 win on the scoreboard after the FSGA better ball of pair championship had been postponed once because of rain. Behl, from Lakeland, and Snyder, Winter Haven, found the home Polk County environs much to their liking and won by a shot in late October.

Prior successes in FSGA events for the new champions came when Snyder was low amateur in the 1979 Gillespie Memorial Pro-Am at Longboat Key. Behl, partnered by Jack Nicklaus II, represented FSGA Juniors in 1978 in the Association's July 4 match in Scotland with St. Andrews University Town & Gown Team.

## FSGA JUNIORS ARE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



ETSCORN



BYRNE

Bill Byrne and Richard Etscorn, a pair of Orlando youngsters who clinched a place on the FSGA team with steady play at Augusta in mid-summer, proved sharper at home in November than in Georgia in June. The pair won the National Junior Team Golf Classic at Disney with an 11 under performance for 36 holes.

It was a four-stroke victory and earned an eight-column headline for Jim Carfield's fine story in the Orlando Sentinel in which the "Iron-nerved Orlando youngsters" were acclaimed for their win which saw them hit 17 greens the final day for their 66-67-133 final numbers. Both will be back for junior competition next year. Byrne just turned 17 and Etscorn is 15 years old. He had won FSGA's 12-14 year state title last summer.

**BILL CAREY'S**  
**GOLF JOURNAL**

**FAIRWAY FALLS, N.C.** — If you've never wanted to own a mountain don't bother to read on.

This is a confession. Going public with a closely held desire harbored from kid days when I first visited the glory-ground of the Western North Carolina Mountains.

Journeying up the hill last month Mrs. C. and I reminisced through years of visitation, first with parents, then with our own young people, now as a twosome. Together we've logged almost 95 years in combined time coming-back-to-the-mountain.

Now, the good Lord willing, with the help of friends and a consortium of banks from the World Monetary Fund, we're going to have a hill of our own.

What'll we do with 450 acres of hillside besides love it? We're going to build a fine, friendly retreat for mind, body and spirit in that corner of the Appalachian highlands where mountain mystique makes daily house calls and juices the spirit with lofty dreams and desires.

Sure there will be golf, tennis, ski slope and lodge, health spa, swimming, hiking, hotel, single family residential and condominium villa facilities.

But that's nuts and bolts stuff. The hardware. The big kick will be to see how many of our friends from 40 years in business, golf, politics, travel, aviation, military, prison camps, etc., will come visit our mountain. Will we pitch 'em to buy a piece? You can bet your sweet sprig of mountain laurel we will! And when the entire Fairway Falls Country Club plan in the Carey High-

lands, bursts full flower you'll be among the first to know all about it.

We shall keep you posted on the development of the Elysian hills where old golfers will be recycled and cared for in body and spirit and dwell blissfully for years beyond par for their normal course.

Fairway Falls will sprout on Toxaway Mountain between Sapphire Valley and Lake Toxaway, both honored and respected vacation and summer home bastions for Floridians for eons. We have a mile of frontage on U.S. 64 about eight miles east of Cashiers. The property begins on the north side of the highway at the Jackson/Transylvania County line and proceeds easterly.

Up the hill (locals call it Hogback Mountain) the property rises from the county line at U.S. 64 to an elevation of 4,777 feet. The summit is adorned by Toxaway Tower, a fire watch station which enjoys a majestic 360 degree sweep of the highlands. The view is soul-boggling. If it doesn't cure what's wrong with you, check the column marked "beyond redemption."

It is from this point first development is planned for a ski slope at the highest elevation and northeast exposure. A lodge and the first interval ownership-time sharing condominium villas also will be built at the highest elevation.

A lofty designation which for so many years merely has been a line on a flight chart or road map to me — The Eastern Continental Divide — has taken on great new meaning for it now is the northeasterly property line of our mountain. This boundary in air space then takes a 90 degree turn to the southwest and returns to Highway 64 indicating the easterly confines.

Within those stirring 450 acres are waterfalls, streams, lake sites, mountain foliage and towering white pine reaching to touch the face of heaven. The golf course, planned for the lower 3,000 to 3,600 ft. level, will cover 160 acres. Housing will enjoy a density of four to seven units per acre, depending on type of structure.

If you didn't heed the warning in the first sentence and are still with us, or if you, too, have wished for a mountain in your future, stay tuned for future communication. You'll be hearing more . . . much more, about Fairway Falls.

**SCOTTISH VISITORS PROMPT THOUGHTS OF ANOTHER FSGA JUNKET**

We recently had the pleasure of hosting a delightful pair of young Scots at a pre-Christmas dinner party at Sarasota University Club. Lindsay MacGregor and Colin Archibald are recipients of Bobby Jones Scholarship grants and have attended Emory University in Atlanta this year as representatives of their country. Both are students of The University of St. Andrews in Scotland — Lindsay from Edinburgh, Colin from Glasgow.

Sarasotan John Henry Macdonell, who has assisted FSGA members in their excursions to Scotland, and was the official scorer of the '78 matches at St. Andrews, was the originator of the BJ scholar exchange plan which has received support and important dollars from many of golf's famous personalities.

John Henry and gracious lady, Helen, attended the holiday party and reminded us that 1980 is a Scotland year for the British Open. The 109th renewal of the game's most prestigious championship will be played at Muirfield and the FSGA travel department already is taking reservations for the return to Kincapple House and the auld courses. Note the dates in the schedule.

**1980 DUES NOW DUE AS COSTS INCREASE**

We urge you to pay your dues promptly and fill in the essential information on the return envelope. Over the past seven years individual dues have increased 40% while the Association's general cost of doing business has gone up more than 75%. We could bring the deficit into balance with more computer handicap system members. Dues for individual non-computer members will be \$25. Computer members with a minimum of 25 or more club members on the system, will pay \$6 per person, per year, in advance. Any member joining the system during the year will pay \$6. All member clubs, with or without the FSGA computer service, will pay \$50 annual dues. We'll appreciate your prompt response which will enable the state office to fund the 1980 program for Florida State Golf Association members.

**1980 FSGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

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| MAR. 30-31, KING NEPTUNE GOLF TOURNAMENT, 36 holes, Gator Creek Golf Club, Sarasota                            | JUNE 25-27, THREE STATE JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, 36 holes, (Georgia, South Carolina, Florida), Aiken, South Carolina        |
| APRIL 23-27, FSGA MEMBER CLUB SEMINAR AND MEMBER TOURNAMENT, 54 holes, Dodgertown, Vero Beach                  | JULY 14-28, FSGA-ST. ANDREWS MATCH, Scotland - British Open trip  |
| MAY 16, 17, 18, STATE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, 54 holes, Eastwood Golf Course, Fort Myers                          | OCT. 11-12, SENIOR FOUR-BALL, 36 holes, Vero Beach Country Club, Vero Beach   |
| MAY 19, U. S. OPEN QUALIFYING, 36 holes, Gator Creek Golf Club and Bent Tree Golf Club, Sarasota               | OCT. 25-26, STATE FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP, 36 holes, Burnt Store Country Club, Punta Gorda                                     |
| MAY 22-25, NORTH CAROLINA SPRING BLOOM MIXED PAIRS, High Hampton, Sapphire Valley, Lake Toxaway, Fairway Falls | NOV. 14-16, LIFE AT FORTY, 54 holes, Lehigh Country Club, Lehigh  |
| JUNE 5-8, 63RD ANNUAL STATE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP, 72 holes, Feather Sound Country Club, Clearwater             | DEC. 10-14, GILLESPIE MEMORIAL PRO-AM, Florida Seniors Open Championship, 72 holes, Longboat Key Golf & Tennis Club, Sarasota |
| JUNE 16-17, STATE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, 36 holes, Sara Bay Country Club, Sarasota                               |   |