

STLWDGA OPENING MEETING  
SUNSET HILLS COUNTRY CLUB - APRIL 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President, Kathy Gugger at 11:00 a.m.

Kathy introduced herself and welcomed members to Sunset Hills Country Club and the opening of the 2017 golf season. She made reference to the 2016 Fall Closing Meeting minutes that were on the tables and told the ladies to take a few minutes to review them as we begin the opening meeting.

Kathy recognized and thanked the ladies who volunteer to serve on the board and described each position:

- Gerry Wisniewski (NW), Vice President responsible for the database, yearbook, and the Jr Tournament.
- Vickie Ressler (MB), Tournament Chair responsible for non-team tournament, the Merit System and master player list.
- Joyce Jackson (FH), Assist. Tournament Chair responsible for luncheon at non-team golf events.
- Ronnie Burg (PW), Team Chair responsible for team events.
- Margaret Farrell (WB), Assistant Team Chair responsible for luncheons at the team events.
- CJ Evans (LF), Treasurer responsible for the checkbook, budget update, reimbursements and dues.
- Sue Springmeyer (STA), Recording Secretary responsible to take notes and prepare minutes for all meetings.
- Bev Frein (BH), Corresponding Secretary assists in mass mailing and sending cards.
- Laurel Palmer (ALG), Rules Chair tours the clubs, communicates with officials and club pros.
- Marian Sinnett (FH), Parliamentarian and Honorary President assists President and chair of the Nomination Committee.

Kathy recognized and thanked Past Presidents who attended the meeting.

- Dorothy Gould (1969-1970) WW
- Lucinn Sams (1995-1996) FH
- Kathy Reid (2001-2002) FH
- Brooke Ungar (2003-2004) MB
- Laurie Merchant (2005-2006) STA
- Belinda Green (2007-2008) BH
- Marsha Rheinnecker (2009-2010) OW
- Pattie Canter (2013-2014) NW
- Marian Sinnett (2015-2016) FH
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Kathy recognized the members of the Standing Committee Members.

- Auditor: Gerry Wisniewski (NW)
- Mixed Event Chair: Marsha Rheinnecker (OW)
- Nominating Committee: Marian Sinnett (FH), Daveann Degenhart (LG), Kathy Gugger (SSH)
- Prize Chairs: Boobie Light (MB), Laurie Merchant (STA)
- Rules: Laurel Palmer (ALG), Pattie Canter (NW), Jan Hayo (SS)
- Website: Ronnie Burg (PW), Daveann Degenhart (LG), Beth Schasteen (NW), Gail Schultz (MB), Gail Walters (BH)

Kathy expressed gratitude to the staff of Sunset Hills CC and Cathy Croft (lunch coordinator) for their hospitality. Staff included the GM, Mario Nikolov; Danielle Scheible, Event Coordinator, Olivia, Receptionist as well as the chef and his staff.

**Kathy recognized NON-DISTRICT 18 HOLE CHAIRS. Nancy Leonard (STA) who is also a member of STLWDGA.**

Kathy recognized and awarded pins to new members:

- Nancy Leonard from St. Albans
- Sandy Matthes from Bellerive

Not present were:

- Donna Maxson from Greenbriar Hills
- Jessica Samson from Westwood
- Mindy Dull returning from Whitmoor

Kathy asked for confirmation that directors and alternates from each club had signed in. Kathy reminded the ladies that we need a quorum of 15 clubs to vote, however, we do not have a vote at today's meeting. Voting privileges are extended to the Executive Board, PP and three Directors from each club. She asked Recording Secretary Sue Springmeyer if there was a quorum, and she confirmed that there was a quorum.

Kathy requested comments in regards to minutes of the 2016 Fall Closing Meeting. Pat Heinrich (LG) made a motion to approve. Second by Lucy Krause (ALG), Minutes were approved and will be filed as presented.

## REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS

### **President's Report: Kathy Gugger**

Kathy introduced the new USGA tournament operating systems, Golf Genius. Due to the efforts of Vickie & Joyce, tournament committee and Ronnie and Margaret, team committee, the new system will be in place for our upcoming tournaments.

Kathy is going to make it her mission for this season to address the pace of play. The new tournament operating system and upcoming changes to the rules of golf are a few of the challenges that we face. We will get through it with everyone's help.

The Tournament of a Lifetime will be at Whitmoor CC on May 19th. There is no 50 Year Honoree so we will recognize the many accomplishments of Jayne Watson, past President of STLWDGA 1987-88.

The Invitational Tournament will be held at Westwood CC on August 7-11. This is our tournament to determine the champion of STLWDGA. It is a gross competition that is pre-flighted. Day 1 is seeding and qualifying round of stroke play. The lowest 16 handicap players make up the Championship Flight and the field is cut to 96 competitors. Day 2 through day 5 are flighted match play with 10 participants on the final day who play for the Edward A. Faust Perpetual Trophy. Entries can be found in the back of the yearbook.

Old Warson CC will host the Mixed Event on Friday, July 21. The entry form is in the back of the yearbook and must be postmarked June 23-July 7.

The Charity for the Susan E. Shepard Tournament at Meadowbrook CC on Sept. 22 is Gateway to Hope. Gateway to Hope is a breast cancer lifeline.

### **Vice President's Report: Gerry Wisniewski**

Gerry welcomed everyone to the start of the 2017 season. During the off season she updated and prepared the yearbook. The CDs inform her as to the staff changes that have occurred and members who agreed to serve in a District position. Address and telephone changes are critical to ensuring that the information in

the yearbook is correct. Gerry thanked Kathy Gugger, Marian Sinnett and Pattie Canter for being proof readers. There is an addendum to the yearbooks was given to the CDs during their meeting this morning. Please review your information and if anything is incorrect, let Gerry or your CD know so it can be corrected for next year.

In addition, Gerry is the New Member Director. During the New Member Coordinator meeting earlier this morning, she stressed the importance of monitoring the handicap reports bi-monthly and contacting those eligible that have achieved the handicap index of 15.4 to join STLWDGA. We added 3 new members since the yearbook was printed: Mindy Dull – Whitmoor (actually a returning member), Catherine Ketler – Lake Forest and Jenny Pettinga – Norwood. Please welcome these ladies.

The Junior Invitational Tournament will be July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> at Glen Echo Country Club. If you know any Junior golfers at your clubs between the ages of 12 and 18, please encourage them to sign up and play in the tournament. Information about the tournament can be found in your yearbooks on page 81 or on the website. There is one correction to the information in the yearbook regarding caddies. Where it states, 'relatives' cannot caddie for their child/children, it should read "Parents". The entry form is also available on the website or I can email it to anybody that's interested.

Our recipient charity for the 2017 Susan E. Shepherd Tournament is **Gateway to Hope**. This worthy charity was suggested by Jackie Rosen. **Gateway to Hope** is a breast cancer lifeline founded 11 years ago. Their mission is to secure comprehensive care and provide financial assistance for individuals in need diagnosed with or at high risk for developing breast cancer. They partner with 100+ local physicians, surgeons, social workers, and pharmacies, who agree to donate a specific number of cases per year. They, also, provide financial assistance for women undergoing treatment.

At the closing meeting you will be asked if you have any suggestions for 2018 as we discuss and vote on the next recipient at our Fall Executive Board Meeting. Charities considered are those that primarily assist women and children.

We have 20 of the baseball style caps with the STLWDGA logo for \$5.

#### **Tournament Chair Report: Vickie Ressler**

Vickie introduced the Assistant Tournament Chair, Joyce Jackson, from Forest Hills CC. The Opening Scramble on April 28<sup>th</sup> is at Westborough CC due to her today at 10:00 a.m. The Closing Day Scramble is at St. Louis CC on Friday, October 6. You can make your own foursome or sign up as a threesome, twosome, or single. Singles are encouraged and welcome to sign up as this can help fill out the foursomes that are necessary because these events are usually full.

The Tournament of a Lifetime (TOL) is at Whitmoor CC on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> and the Senior Tournament will be on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Meadowbrook CC. They are one day individual stroke play events. You will be flighted and play with other members according to handicap.

The Three Day Stroke Tournament this year will start at Lake Forest CC on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, Meadowbrook CC on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, and end at St. Clair CC on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Meadowbrook for taking Bellerive's place this year for the second day of this event. Members can complete the entry form found on page 142 of the Yearbook and hand it to Vickie after the meeting. The entry form is available on the STLWDGA website.

We will have two 4-Person Best Balls events again this year. Sunset CC, Friday, June 23, sign up individually through your Corresponding Director. The Tournament Committee will make the pairings by handicap in an ABCD format. At The Legends, Friday, September 8. You will be able to make your own foursome.

The Susan E. Shepherd Charity Tournament will be at held at Norwood Hills CC on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a two person event.

The CD's will have a document that they can send/email to their members that explains the details about each of our tournaments for the 2017 season. All of this information can also be found in your Yearbook. The information must be sent to and received by Vickie no later than 10:00 a.m., one week prior to the event. For any changes after the cutoff, the individual player should contact Vickie directly.

Our member clubs allow up to 100 golfers per event. If we have more players than what can be accommodated we will use the Merit System. It is a point-based system that is kept up to date by the Tournament Chair. One (1) point is assigned for playing in an event and two (2) points are assigned for playing in the Three-Day Stroke or Invitational. No (0) points are earned for Team Play or the Mixed Event. A half (.05) point is awarded to a player that is wait-listed from an event due to her Merit status. The points determine who is accommodated and who would be put on a waitlist. For the Opening Scramble we would look back at the 2016 season. More detailed information about the Merit System can be found on pages 5-6 in your Yearbook.

Vickie informed everyone of a new rule added to the Conditions of Competition being that of Accidental Movement of Ball on the Green. "When a player's ball lies on the putting green, there is no penalty if the ball or ball-marker is accidentally moved by the player, her partner, their opponent or any of their caddies and equipment. The ball or ball-marker moved must be replaced."

Golf Genius is the new Tournament Pairing Program that we will be using. The scorecards will have yardage, par, handicap as well as the rating and slope. She will try to have pace of play on the scorecards.

Vickie reminded everyone that all competitors must be checked in and at her cart 15 minutes prior to tee off. If you should check in late, you can still play in the event but will not be eligible for prizes. After you finish the round, turn your scorecard in BEFORE taking your clubs to your cars.

Vickie added that we need show our appreciation to the 20 clubs willing to let the STLWDGA play on their courses.

**Assistant Tournament Chair: Joyce Jackson, no report.**

**Team Chair Report: Ronnie Burg**

Ronnie and her assistant, Margaret, will be using the Golf Genius Tournament Management System during the year.

On June 2, 2017 the team event is at Bogey Hills CC with lunch under the pavilion.

On June 16, 2017 team will be played at St. Albans CC on the Tavern Creek course.

**Assistant Team Chair: Margaret Farrell, no report.**

### **Treasurer Report: CJ Evans**

CJ informed STLWDGA members that we ended the 2016 season in good standing. We have \$2500 in reserves, \$8000 in the 100 anniversary fund, and \$250 in the MedArt fund. After the books were balanced, there was \$892.90 to put forward in the 2017 budget.

This year, we moved the account to US Bank. And became incorporated in the State of Missouri on November 11, 2016. We will have to file a report and \$10renew every year.

STLWDGA deposited \$2500 in the US Bank. Signatures on this account are Kathy Gugger and CJ. Once all outstanding checks cleared the old account, it was closed and the money transferred to US Bank.

A tentative 2017 budget was submitted to the Board and approved at the Spring Board meeting. On the table is the 2017 budget and a comparison for 2016 & 2017.

All participating clubs have sent in District dues for the ladies in their membership. The Website invoice (\$149.00) has been paid. All submitted invoices and dues refunds since November 1 have been paid.

### **Recording Secretary: Sue Springmeyer, no report**

### **Corresponding Secretary – Bev Frien**

Bev informed the ladies that she has sent thinking of you cards, sympathy cards, and aided in the spring mailing on March 14. The spring mailing included:

367 President's Letter

367 Luncheon Invitations

367 2017 Invitation and Programs for Invitational

20 letters mailed to the current CDs' from our clubs.

### **Rules Chair Report: Laurel Palmer**

Laurel has updated the Local Rules for each club so they are ready to pass along to the Tournament Chair and Team Chair.

Pace of Play will continue to be a focus for District Golf this season. A new plan will be implemented that should help speed play along.

Laurel reminded us that the new rules do not go into effect until 2019 with the exception of Accidental Movement of a Ball on the Green. This rule is effective immediately and will be included in the Local Rules for each club.

### **Parliamentarian/Honorary President Report: Marian Sinnett**

Marian finalized the 2017 schedule in November, 2016. Bellerive Country Club was unable to host Day 2 of the 3-Day Tournament. Meadowbrook Country Club stepped up and will be hosting that day as well as the Senior Tournament in August.

The nominating committee consists of President, Kathy Gugger, a member chosen at large, Daveann Degenhart from the Legends and Marian. The committee will begin work next year.

## **REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **AUDITOR: Gerry Wisniewski**

2017 year to date finances and the figures are paid and correct as entered in the ledger.

The reserves of \$2500 and the 100th Anniversary fund of \$7000 are at the proper level.

### **MIXED EVENT HOSPITALITY CHAIR: Marsha Rheinnecker**

The Mixed Event will be hosted by Old Warson CC on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The event will include morning and afternoon shotgun rounds of golf. The entry form in the back of the roster. The pairings will be assigned according to the postmark on the envelope. The \$200 fee for this event will be charged back to your club.

### **MONITORING COMMITTEE: Marian Sinnett, no report.**

### **PRIZE CHAIR: Boobie Light and Laurie Merchant, no report,**

### **HISTORIAN/PUBLICITY: Debbie Manne**

Thanks to Gerry LaGrand for all of her hard work for the past few years. Debbie will have a camera instead of golf clubs.

### **RULES COMMITTEE: Laurel Palmer, no additional report.**

### **WEBSITE: Ronnie Burg**

The website has been updated with the 2017 district information. Tournament results and other information will be posted as received.

Password for the website member list (on the ABOUT US page) is STLWDGAROSTER.

Thanks to Daveanne Degenhart, Pat Means, Beth Schasteen, Gail Schultz and Gail Walters for help in keeping the website up to date.

Kathy Guggler thanked the ladies for their service, asked for any additional Old Business and introduced New Business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Pace of Play & Slow Play Monitors**

Kathy Guggler lead the discussion on pace of play. The USGA encourages a 40 second second shot routine with is a 4:30 minute round. STLWDGA will have non-confrontational course monitors at most of the events this season that will warn slow groups. By dropping a "yellow" flag on the tee box of the next hole. Professional staff, USGA officials or members of the tournament committee will give warning or penalties. Penalties for slow play are listed on page 7 of the yearbook and the competition sheet. Each club will provide 2 volunteers who will receive 1 merit point for working an event.

A Raguzzi Chart, a running total of time to play each hole will be on each scorecard.

A short video will be available to show a 40 second shot. The monitors will time groups that have fallen behind. A “caption” of each foursome will be identified. It will be her responsibility to encourage and keep the group on time.

Kathy added that we are trying to find solutions for slow play and appreciate any suggestions.

Jackie suggested that it makes sense to monitor on a “home course” rather than one in which you are not familiar.

### **SHORT GAME CLINIC**

Day 2 of the 3-day tournament has been moved from Bellerive to Meadowbrook. Bellerive has offered to host a short game clinic for up to 60 participants, at no cost for STLWDGA. Afternoon and morning sessions will be offered. There will be a mandatory luncheon buffet for \$22 + tax and gratuity.

### **RULES CHANGES**

The USGA is in the process of revising the Rules of Golf to be adopted in 2019. Members have the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed changes. Go to [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org). We play by the Rules of Golf as printed in the 2016-2019 edition of the USGA THE RULES OF GOLF until 2019.

No additional New Business was presented.

Kathy responded to a quick question in regards to adjusting the index. She responded that sign ups are strong and we are using the merit system. We will monitor the membership during the 2017 season

There being no further business, from Judy Tindall (BH) moved to adjourn the meeting, and Linda McFarland (LF) seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Springmeyer  
Recording Secretary  
April 21, 2017