

PGA REACH GEORGIA

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

PGA REACH Georgia is the 501(c)(3) charitable foundation and arm of the Georgia Section of the PGA of America ("Georgia PGA").

PGA REACH Georgia's mission is to positively impact the lives of youth, military, and diverse populations by enabling access to the game of golf in Georgia.



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INTRODUCTION

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I welcome you to our 2023 Year in Review. I am honored to share with you the remarkable impact and achievements made possible through your unwavering support.

Within these pages, you will discover stories of resilience, growth, and transformation—testimonials that underscore the profound influence our initiatives have had on individuals and communities alike.

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments, we extend our deepest appreciation to each and every one of you who has played a role in advancing our shared vision. Together, we are creating a lasting legacy that reaches far beyond the fairways.

Your involvement has not only shaped the present but is also laying the foundation for a future where golf serves as a catalyst for positive societal change. Thank you for your continued support, and here's to another year of making a difference through the transformative power of golf.



Scott Geary

Scott Geary
CEO/Executive Director

MEET THE BOARD



CARY BROWN

GENERAL MANAGER
VALDOSTA COUNTRY CLUB



ASHLEY SILLER

VP, BUSINESS MOBILITY SALES
AT&T



MONTY WATSON

CHAIRMAN & CEO
PIEDMONT BANK



DAVID DENHAM

INVESTMENT ADVISOR
TRADEMARK CAPITAL

PHILIP JONES

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
CRC GROUP



CHAD PARKER

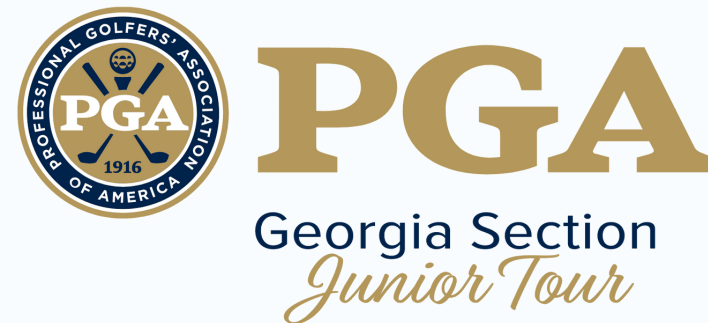
GENERAL MANAGER
EAST LAKE GOLF CLUB

YOUTH

IN 2023, PGA REACH GEORGIA ENGAGED 2,238 JUNIOR GOLFERS ACROSS THE STATE THROUGH PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE, GEORGIA PGA JUNIOR TOUR AND DRIVE CHIP & PUTT. THESE INITIATIVES FOSTER LIFE SKILLS, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, AND A PASSION FOR THE GAME.



- 520 Passionate Players
- 82 Dedicated Coaches



- 430 Unique Members
- 35 Tournaments Played



- 1,288 Skilled Participants
- 13 Qualifiers Held

YOUTH

GENE SILLER MEMORIAL GRANT

In honor of the late PGA Professional, Gene Siller, \$23,500 was distributed to 7 individuals and 1 organization looking to learn, play, and compete in junior golf initiatives. Recipients used funds for tournament entry fees, mental coaching, and competition travel.

The Grant's annual flagship pro-am fundraiser, the Red Pants Tournament, was held on August 14th at Pinetree Country Club. 115 golfers came out on one of the hottest days in Georgia history to raise \$91,000+. The event featured 18 holes, an online auction, complimentary food & beverage, gift bags, an awards reception, and speeches from the Grant recipients.



My biggest goal is to honor the legacy of kindness and giving that Mr. Gene Siller left us by playing to the best of my abilities and giving back to others like he did.

THAXTON CHEYNE
2023 GENE SILLER MEMORIAL GRANT RECIPIENT

MILITARY

2023 PGA HOPE PROGRAMS

ACWORTH

Lead Instructor: Dave Windsor
Location: Cobblestone
Vets Served: 20

ATLANTA

Lead Instructor: Jason Kuiper
Location: Bobby Jones
Vets Served: 100

COLUMBUS

Lead Instructor: Jim Arendt
Location: Oxbow Creek
Vets Served: 160

DUBLIN

Lead Instructor: Doug MacArthur
Location: Riverview
Vets Served: 10

EAST ATLANTA

Lead Instructor: Beth Blevins
Location: Charlie Yates
Vets Served: 20

EVANS

Lead Instructor: Doug Cameron
Location: Bartram Trail
Vets Served: 60

MARIETTA

Lead Instructor: Dave Windsor
Location: City Club Marietta
Vets Served: 35

SAVANNAH

Lead Instructor: Cindy Swift-Jones
Location: Henderson
Vets Served: 20

WARNER ROBINS

Lead Instructor: Jarred Reneau
Location: International City
Vets Served: 30

MILITARY

PGA HOPE GEORGIA AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT: ROBERT LEAHEY

Robert Leahey is a former Navy Corpsman who served 5 years with Marine Corps and Navy Expeditionary Units. Robert was first introduced to PGA HOPE during a speech about the program at the 2020 Ryder Cup Opening Ceremonies. He immediately returned home to Georgia and attended a Session at Bobby Jones Golf Course. Surrounded by fellow Veterans, compassionate PGA Professionals, and the therapeutic effects of golf- Robert felt right at home.

In the spring, Robert was nominated to be the 2023 PGA HOPE Georgia Ambassador. He now volunteers his time recruiting other Veterans to PGA HOPE and sharing the story of how PGA HOPE saved his life after the military. In October, Robert traveled to Congressional Golf Club in Washington D.C. for National Golf and Wellness Week to represent the Section and exchange ideas with other Ambassadors on how to improve PGA HOPE Georgia's offerings.

With Robert's help, PGA HOPE Georgia will expand its post program engagement next year, with a newly created Committee, to host an inaugural fundraiser event for the program and organize quarterly playing opportunities to bring Veterans back together.



PGA HOPE IS MORE THAN A GOLF PROGRAM FOR VETERANS.

IT'S A PATHWAY FOR HEALING. IT'S NOT
ABOUT MASTERING THE COURSE; IT'S
ABOUT MASTERING OUR JOURNEY BACK
TO JOY, ONE SWING AT A TIME.

ROBERT LEAHEY
2023 PGA HOPE GEORGIA AMBASSADOR

INCLUSION

WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAKING SURE THAT PEOPLE OF ALL BACKGROUNDS HAVE ACCESS TO AND FEEL AUTHENTICALLY WELCOME IN THE GAME AND BUSINESS OF GOLF.

PGA WORKS FELLOWSHIP

The PGA WORKS Fellowship employed an underrepresented candidate with the Section for a 1 year term to learn the ins and outs of the business, with a long-term goal of diversifying the golf industry.



CATALYST PROGRAM

This innovative mentorship initiative paired diverse high school and college students with seasoned professionals in the golf world to provide valuable connections to help the next generation break into the industry.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



CALAMITY JANE CHARITY CUP

The first annual Calamity Jane Charity Cup was held on October 12th at the Bobby Jones Golf Course. The event raised over \$36k benefitting PGA REACH Georgia and Bobby Jones Chiari & Syringomyelia Foundation. 18 holes of golf were followed by an awards ceremony, silent auction, and celebration at Fire Maker Brewing Taproom.



GRAND SLAM FOR GOLF

In partnership with the Atlanta Braves Foundation, PGA REACH Georgia hosted corporate foursomes at 4 of the most exclusive clubs in the country: Reynolds, Peachtree, Sea Island, and Atlanta Athletic Club. The initiative raised \$60k+ split evenly between the foundations.

A LOOK AHEAD AT 2024

PLAY YELLOW BIRDIE BASH

On April 22nd, Georgia PGA Professionals will play 72 holes at The Country Club of the South to benefit PGA REACH Georgia and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). Working as a team of two in a scramble format, PGA Professionals will attempt to make as many birdies as possible with a goal of raising \$100,000 in one day. Prior to the inaugural event, PGA Professionals will peer to peer fundraise in order to solicit donations per birdie made throughout the day.

SMILING FORE LIFE

Smiling Fore Life provides young Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA) patients an outlet to escape the hardships they are facing and get out of the hospital room to enjoy a fun, new activity. Two Georgia PGA Members represent the Section each month by providing an hour and a half of basic golf instruction to a group of 5-10 patients at CHOA - Scottish Rite.

PGA HOPE CUP

The inaugural PGA HOPE Cup will take place at the 9 hole Bobby Jones Golf Course on Veterans Day, November 11th. All funds raised from the event will be matched up to \$10,000 and each Veteran will be announced on the first tee with their name and hometown.