



NEWSFLASH From EWGA Albany/Capital Region

October 21, 2016

Party Time: Last Chance and Save the Dates

Today **BY NOON** is your *absolute last chance* to sign up for the Chapter's **Annual Dinner and Business Meeting** next Tuesday, October 25, at Shaker Ridge Country Club. Here's the [registration link](#).



Mark your calendar now for our final festivities of 2016: the **Holiday Party** on Wednesday, December 14, at the Albany Pump Station, site of last year's blowout. If we're all very, very good we'll get another visit from Santa Claus this year. (Sources say it's required by his pre-nup.)

In the meantime, November 3's **Happy Hour** will take place at the Recovery Sports Grill on Western Ave. in Guilderland. Sign up at [this link](#).

EWGA Championship: Report From Nationals

Three Chapter members made it all the way to the top of the three-tier EWGA Championship series, the world's largest amateur women's golf competition. Pictured, from left, are Terri Walsh (Third Flight), Catherine Becker (Fourth Flight), and Gail Czelusniak (First Flight). While none finished in the trophy realm, all three represented our Chapter with grace, skill, and patience in the two-day finals last week at Lansdowne Resort in Northern Virginia.



Patience, in particular, was at a premium on the challenging Robert Trent Jones II Course, where Flights 1-4 played. Terri Walsh describes ball-consuming hazards, blind shots, and deep rough--the course itself labels one area the "Ballmuda Triangle." She reports that multi-group backups on a tough par 3 with no drop zone were a factor in first-day rounds lasting up to 8 hours and yielding scores as high as 150. Full results are on the [EWGA Championship web site](#).

Terri's conclusion: "The saving grace, as usual, were my fellow competitors. There were so many wonderful women, especially under such trying circumstances. Laughing with my group-mate from Hawaii bundled up in the 49 degree weather in the morning, reconnecting with friends from Nationals years ago, almost getting a hole in one on the very last hole, and especially spending time



with Gail and Cathie were truly excellent experiences. Hugs and commiseration and laughter in the face of adversity!"

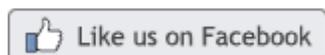
Cathie's comments: I was really nervous, but I felt that my preparation would help me in the competition. I started on the harder back nine, and I lost my swing--I could have won the Championship Division with this nine-hole score! I got myself together on the front nine and the second day was better. Golf is such a mental game. It was fun meeting new EWGA members and seeing my playing partners from the 2014 EWGA Nationals in Tennessee. So although I was disappointed in my performance, the friendships and memories I have made it all worth it!

Gail's observations: This was my first time going to Nationals, once I made the decision to go I did get excited. My practice round was a great deal of fun. All three women I played with were a lot of fun, and one who had played the day before freely shared information about the course. My first tee shot for competition was less than impressive, but I was not in any trouble and went on to par the first hole. The front nine was mostly OK, no ugly holes. The back nine was the harder one: I had three triples early on (including a 6 on the infamous par 3 that had a one-hour wait with seven-group backup) but finished up OK. On Day 2 my start was good again and then I hit the par 5 5th hole. Great drive, wonderful second shot, then my 70-yard shot to the green landed in a bunker. Five shots later I was finally out of that bunker. UGH! I scored a 10 on that hole, but I did meet my goal of doing better than on Day 1. Both days my foursomes were very pleasant. While something needs to be done to fix pace of play, all in all the experience was mostly good.

Thanks to all three of our Chapter delegates for taking the time to report their experiences, and for their patience with editing of comments for space.

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