

No “Paraskavedekatriaphobics” at our 14th Annual Scottish Games Charity Golf Tourney on Friday the 13th

Friday the 13th is considered a day of bad luck in English-, French- and Portuguese-speaking countries around the world, as well as in Germany, Finland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Bulgaria, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia. The fear of Friday the 13th is called paraskavedekatriaphobia. Well this year we proved that paraskavedekatriaphobics had nothing to worry about on Friday the 13th in Schenectady, NY at the Stadium Golf Club. That was the date and venue for the 14th annual Scottish Games Charity Golf Tournament to benefit St. Anne Institute. We were a little worried last year with the unluckiness associated with the number “13” when we had our 13th annual tournament and that turned out to be a picture perfect day. As a result we didn’t get too worried about the “bad luck” aura associated with our Friday the 13th date. In fact, we were optimistic. That optimism was well founded because we had another beautifully sunny day! We had a full field of 144 golfers and everything went off like clockwork from the registration to the presentation of our \$7,500 donation to St. Anne Institute. Our Committee is extremely grateful to all of our golfers and sponsors. Since 1887, St. Anne Institute (<http://stanneinstitute.org>) has been helping children and families develop the confidence and skills they need to overcome crisis in their lives. The Institute’s total program is designed to meet the needs of children and their families through a comprehensive range of independent but interrelated services including: residential and non-residential treatment for adolescent females, a special education preschool and a community-based treatment program that specializes in sex abuse prevention and intervention for males and females of all ages and their families. To date, the Golf Tourney has donated \$60,000 to local charities and this year’s donation is the largest yet. All of our golfers and sponsors should take great pride in that!

Many of those golfers and sponsors have been with us for all or most of the past fourteen years (a list of our sponsors accompanies this article). We are happy to welcome some new sponsors this year: WeatherGuard Roofing, Stockli, Greene & Slevin, LLP, Adams Glass, LLC and Ralph’s Tavern at 1328 Central Avenue just east of Fuller Road.

While we have so many great, loyal sponsors, I’d like to spotlight one of them this year for who has been a dedicated supporter for our golf tournament every year. The Orchard Tavern has been an Albany landmark since 1903 and is **the** place to be for great food, outstanding beverage selections, entertainment and a friendly, family oriented atmosphere. Not to mention the best pizza anywhere! Mike Noonan and his family and wonderful staff will make you happy that you made the choice to visit. While all of the above should be enough to make you want to go there I have one more reason. Mike proves over and over again that the secret to longevity in his business is to give back to the community. He is one of the good guys and that’s just one more reason for making 68 N Manning Blvd in Albany the destination for your next night out. Thanks Mike!

For the third year in a row the long range weather forecast leading up to Golf day was calling for sunny and in the low 80’s. But the week leading up to the event was hot and muggy with thunderstorms and was a bit unsettling for our event organizers. Low and behold...the weatherman got it right! It was as nice a day as we could ever have hoped for and it stayed that way all day long.

The raffle held after the golfing is done usually represents a big share of the donation and this year was no different. The quality of our donated prizes is probably the primary reason for the raffle's success. We want to especially thank DeCrescente Distributors, Rick Riccio from St Anne's Institute, Mike Noonan from the Orchard Tavern and Lori Deichman from Scissors III for all the wonderful gift donations that they provided. One of our golfers is Ewald Maassmann, the President of the Blackhead Mountain Lodge and Country Club and Ewald was nice enough to donate a golf package to the raffle for the second year in a row. This year that prize raffle raised \$1,785.

The staff from St Anne's Institute came prepared to help throughout the day by selling raffle tickets, 50/50 chances and witnessing the hole in one event. This year that 50/50 raffle amounted to a prize of \$1050. But the donation amount was increased by 50% when the winner of the raffle, Fred McGown, donated half of his winnings right back to St. Anne Institute. Fred on behalf of the Scottish Games and St Anne Institute we thank you so very much.

Once again this year my lovely daughter Jennifer Munro played the bagpipes at the hole in one contest throughout the day and Nicole Munro, my glowingly 8 month pregnant niece, was still able to volunteer as our foursome photographer. We had a new and beautiful addition to our list of volunteers this year. Judy Cocca was our roving photographer and was seen all day long lurking in the woods and whizzing by on her golf cart in pursuit of just the right shot. Judy's pictures can be seen along with Nicole's foursome pics can be seen by going to our website at <http://www.scotgames.com/>. As always we were entertained by another fantastic performance from the award winning pipes and drums of the Schenectady Pipe Band at the banquet.

We had excellent golf contests and simply awesome food and drink served up by Dave and Sean from the Stadium Golf Club. You'll see the banner from the Stadium Golf Club gracing our field today. We can always count on Greg and Michele Hennel for their support. I advise you to call the Stadium if you have plans for a tournament or a banquet of any kind. Their restaurant and banquet facilities are gorgeous and I promise you will not be disappointed.

Once again this year golfers were offered the chance to play the Jack Munro Memorial Fund Par 3. Jack's son Mike Munro organized that event and Jack's wife Ruth and their two daughters Maureen Mix and Karen Murphy did the registration work at the Par 3 12th hole. Jack's passion was teaching beginning bagpipers and just about \$760 was raised this year's tourney and will be used to award a brand new set of bagpipes to a beginning piper. This year's presentation will take place on Saturday during the Scottish Games ceremonies. The entire Munro family is happy and proud that Jack's name continues to be associated with one of the things he loved most, teaching bagpipes. It's also fitting that this Scottish Games Tourney is the primary fund raiser for the memorial fund since Jack was not only one of the tourney's founding members but one of it's most lively and colorful participants. Jack was famous for perfecting the Hawaiian shirt and kilt ensemble. In fact, at the Jack's Par 3 event one of the prizes coveted by our loyal players is an outrageously, colorful Hawaiian shirt. We love you and still miss you Jacky!

Congratulations to this year's contest winners who are listed along with this article. More details about our 2008 Golf Tourney along with pictures and contact information can be found on our website at <http://www.scotgames.com/> Brian Lenihan from Network 42 (www.network42.com) has outdone himself once again this year with our website design. In addition I'd like to thank Dee Taylor and Matt Kelly for sharing their expertise in maintaining the CDSG web and picture sites

Last but not least. I would like to thank the members of our volunteer golf committee and others who donate of their time and money to make this event a success. The committee members are noted below but in addition we'd like to thank the staff from St. Anne Institute who sold raffle tickets all day and witnessed our hole in one event and Linda Colonno and Maggie Bradley for their help with registrations.

Be sure to keep Friday June 12, 2009 marked on your calendars for next year's tourney. Just contact one of us if you want to be put on our mailing list for 2008! All the best from the Capital District Scottish Games Golf Tourney Committee members listed below!

Bob Munro
Vincent Colonno
Bill Munro
Mike Munro

Joe Bradley
Lou Schenck
Lee Elmendorf

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