Golf Links Exhibit

Museums are about time, and the new exhibit at the hall is more about time than any other on display. The exhibit actually is a “time line” taking the visitor through the centuries interweaving world events and golf events.

Volunteer David Crouse was very impressed when the installation was finished. “I really like to see how things are related, when facts are not presented independently but rather as a part of a whole – this exhibit does that in spades,” he said.

A few hands on elements have been incorporated to help “discover” the linkages between events, including oversized golf balls, comparison of wood and metal shafts, and the variations in modern club heads.

A very special feature of the new exhibit is the interactive DVDs from the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. The first minute books, early rules, the oldest extant golf footage from canora reels and clips of every (British) Open since the 1920s are available to the visitor to explore courtesy of the R&A.

Stewart Streit vs. Gunderson Carner

50 years ago, Marlene Stewart (now Streit), a young Canadian from Fonthill, Ontario, defeated an even younger JoAnne Gunderson (now Carner) to capture the 1956 United States Women’s Amateur Championship at Meridian Hills Country Club, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The game was destined to make the history books. If JoAnne Gunderson were to win, she would have accomplished something no other female had done before - be the first person in USGA history to capture the Junior Girls’ and Women’s Amateur titles in the same year. On the other hand, if Marlene Stewart were victorious, she would become the first Canadian woman to win the U.S. championship.

Streit was able to come back from a four-hole deficit to capture the title 2-and-1.

The two ladies met once again at Meridian Hills CC on September 22, 2006, exactly 50 years to the day, to play a friendly 18-hole match to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Stewart’s historic victory.

Streit and Carner battled neck-and-neck. The two were even after 17 holes. Streit parred the 18th while Carner bogeyed, giving Streit the victory.

Congratulations Marlene on a fabulous win both now and then and exemplifying what great sportsmanship truly is.
Hall of Fame Tournament

The day was dreary but the celebration was not. Hurricane Ernesto was not going to dampen the spirit of our first Hall of Fame golf tournament held on September 3, 2006.

The tournament commemorated the 30th anniversary of Glen Abbey Golf Club and the 10th anniversary of the Leonard E. Shore building, home to the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame.

Part of the ceremony included the unveiling of a bronze plaque commemorating the event as well as the creation of a time capsule that will be opened in 50 years.

Six golfers had the opportunity to join Canada’s Golf Hall of Fame members and golf media to play a round over the renowned Glen Abbey Golf Club. ClubLink Corp. was generous enough to donate the tee times for the tournament.

Honoured Members Nick Weslock, Gayle Borthwick, Cathy Sherk, Wilf Homenuik, Gary Cowan, Dick Grimm, and Marlene Streit were partnered in four-somes with a mixture of media reporters, RCGA representatives, ClubLink Corp. representatives and individuals who had purchased tickets to attend the event.

The course was in excellent condition and although there was a mixture of spring, fall, winter and summer conditions, everyone had a great day.

“I hope you are planning on making this tournament a yearly event!” raved Marlene Streit.

The CGHF would like to thank all of the Hall of Fame members, the local media and the other participants who attended and braved the conditions to enjoy a truly unforgettable day.

To learn more about the items donated to the time capsule please visit page 4.

Goodbye Lord Byron

The golfing world mourned a legend on September 26, 2006 when golfing great Byron Nelson passed away at his ranch in Texas. He was 94.

Although Nelson’s golf career was not long it was prolific. He became a household name when he was able to successfully win 18 tournaments in 1945 — especially the 11 consecutive victories. The 11th took place right here in Canada at the Thornhill Country Club where Nelson won his first and only Canadian Open Championship.
Feature Trophy

The CN Canadian Women’s Open trophy is one of the newest trophies in our collection. Made of sterling silver, the trophy stands 25 inches tall on a Canadian maple base where the winners are inscribed. In just five years the trophy has accumulated a list of champions that represents the best on the LPGA Tour, including Annika Sorenstam, Meg Mallon, Beth Daniel, Meena Lee and Cristie Kerr.

The du Maurier Classic, a major on the LPGA Tour since the 1970s, ceased to exist in 2000 when the Tobacco Act prevented Imperial Tobacco’s title sponsorship of any sports events. The Royal Canadian Golf Association secured a spot on the LPGA Tour and conducted the first official Canadian Women’s Open. Sponsored by Bank of Montreal, the tournament was first known as the Bank of Montreal Canadian Women’s Open and later called the BMO Financial Group Canadian Women’s Open.

In 2006 CN replaced BMO Financial Group as title sponsor. Held at the renowned London Hunt and Golf Club the 2006 tournament brought in record numbers of spectators and provided a thrilling finish when American Cristie Kerr was able to come from eight strokes behind to surpass fellow countryman Angela Stanford as victor.

As noted in the opening, winners of the Canadian Women’s Open trophy include some of the most prolific female golfers to play on the LPGA tour.

The inaugural year of the Bank of Montreal Canadian Women’s Open saw Annika Sorenstam post an impressive 272 to capture the title and the $180,000 purse.

In 2002, Meg Mallon won her first of two Canadian Women’s Open championships at Summerlea Golf Club. Her second victory would come in 2004 (matching a record low of 270) at the always remarkable Legends on the Niagara (Battlefield course).

2003 saw champion Beth Daniel sink a 10 foot putt in order to capture the title on the 18th green and collect her $195,000 winnings at Point Grey Golf & Country Club in Vancouver, British Columbia.

The 2005 tournament was held at Glen Arbour Golf Club in Halifax, marking the first LPGA event held in Atlantic Canada. Rookie Meena Lee won her first LPGA victory at the tournament and also had the honor of hoisting the beautiful Canadian Women’s trophy above her head.

Celebrations

Hall of Fame Members’ Birthdays

Dawn Coe-Jones  October 19th
Bob Panasik  October 20th
Gary Cowan  October 28th
Gayle Borthwick  December 3rd
Nick Weslock  December 13th
Marilyn O’Connor  December 17th
Doug Roxburgh  December 28th
Wilf Homenuik  December 30th
Douglas Silverberg  January 16th
Jack Nicklaus  January 21st
Dave Barr  March 1st
Marlene Striet  March 9th

Special birthday wishes to Marilyn O’Connor who will be celebrating her 60th birthday on December 17th.

“(The) Swing’s the thing”

By Gordon McInnis Sr.
Time capsule not to be opened until 2056

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Leonard E. Shore building we thought it would be appropriate to highlight the event by creating a time capsule.

We asked all of our Honoured Members to donate an item, as well as all of the individuals who were competing in the golf tournament that day.

The time capsule will be sealed until 2056. It is stored in the museum and a text panel explaining its significance can be found by the 6th hole.

Below you will find a list of some of the items found in the time capsule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hall of Fame Donor</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey Cornish</td>
<td>A book, Golf Course Design by Cornish and Hurdzan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Stanhope-Cole</td>
<td>A past, present, and future account about golf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jocelyne Bourassa</td>
<td>Lapel pin from 1973 &quot;La Canadienne&quot; victory. The pin displays the tournament logo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Todd</td>
<td>Written account of the 1953 CLGU trip to Britain. Includes photograph and Victoria Golf Club crest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlene Streit</td>
<td>Autographed golf glove with dime (which she uses to mark her balls) and World Golf Hall of Fame Honoured Member’s pin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Haldorson</td>
<td>2006 PGA Tour members card.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug Roxburgh</td>
<td>Putter cover from the 2006 Marine Drive Amateur to commemorate Stan Leonard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Nicklaus</td>
<td>Signed Jack Nicklaus photo from the 2005 Open Championship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Grimm</td>
<td>&quot;Launch: The New Golf Game&quot; pin, RCGA pin, 2000 Toronto Star Amateur pin, and the 10th anniversary of the Canadian Open at Glen Abbey pin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Cowan</td>
<td>Gary Cowan’s invitation to attend the Hall of Fame tournament, a signed trading card, and an autographed Gary Cowan Tribute Day golf ball.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gayle Borthwick</td>
<td>Autographed golf ball and &quot;Top 100 Golf Courses in Canada&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Sherk</td>
<td>Autographed and dated golf ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilf Homenuik</td>
<td>Saskatchewan Homecoming 1971 medallion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Weslock</td>
<td>Your Golf Bag Pro: Nick Weslock’s Little Black Book of Key Golf Secrets book</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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New Acquisitions

The Canadian Golf Hall of Fame would like to recognize those individuals who have donated artifacts to the museum. We thank them for their support.

Honoured Member Gayle Borthwick: A 1998 U.S. Senior Women’s Amateur Championship medal, the putter that she used during her 1962 Canadian Women’s Amateur win, and various photographs.

Michael Carlson: A Mongrel Iron

Honoured Member Keith Alexander: A set of Tony Pena golf clubs.

Honoured Member Doug Silverberg: An Alberta Willingdon Cup crest, a Titleist 1 golf ball, a Callaway 4 golf ball, and a Spalding Dot golf ball.

Honoured Member Cathy Sherk: The North-South Women’s Amateur Championship trophy, Ontario Amateur Athlete of the Year trophy, a MacGregor candy tin, a miniature golf maze game, a box of “Canada Wood Specialty Co. Ltd.” tees, two golf match book covers, a “Golfers Gold” beer label, a 1923 Buffalo, NY, Division of Golf Permit, a 1932 Chedoke Civic Golf Club season pass, a F.H. Ayres Golf ball box, and an advertisement board for Wrigley’s Gum.

PGA player Jim Furyk: The hat and glove that he wore to capture the 2006 Canadian Open title.

To make a donation to the museum please contact Paul Stone at pstone@rcga.org or 1-800-263-0009 ext. 410.
2006/2007 Beyond the Fairway

Tickets for the 2006/2007 schedule of Beyond the Fairway: The Legends of Canadian Golf are quickly becoming a hot commodity. Tickets for the events are very limited with only 50 people able to attend. Get your tickets soon before we are sold out.

Gordon Brydson will be featured on October 29, 2006 at the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame while Stan Leonard will be our first Hall of Famer to be featured outside of Ontario at the BC Golf Museum in Vancouver, British Columbia on November 19, 2006. Jules Huot is scheduled as the subject of an event in Montreal, February 25, 2007 and the season will finish with Sandy Somerville on March 25, 2007 at the CGHF.

Tickets are $25 and must be purchased in advance. Our past Beyond the Fairway Honoured Members have included Moe Norman, George Knudson, Ada Mackenzie, and Stanley Thompson. If you were unable to attend any of these events, DVD copies are available for purchase in the museum gift shop at a cost of $14.95 each. If you would like to purchase tickets for the 2006/2007 series, please contact the museum at 1-800-849-9700 ext. 412.

“Golf is simple - ‘ball, hole, win trophy, go home’”

By Cathy Sherk

Interesting Artifacts

The Watson Golf Buggy first appeared in 1949. Converted from a Cushman Model 60 Scooter, the vehicle went by the name “The Arthritis Special”, apparently in reference to its intended market.

By the mid 1950s, several versions of the converted Cushman scooter came on the market. By this time, the Cushman company took notice and decided that some of these vehicles were so poorly made they gave the company a bad name, as well as noting the potential market for these vehicles. Cushman started its own line of golf buggies, thus starting what was to become one of the best known lines of motorized golf carts.

This particular buggy came from F.W. Dalglish of London, Ontario whose father purchased it around 1952. The other members at York Downs Golf Club began to complain of the noise and smell of its gas powered engine and its days on the course were limited.

“Comb or stay home”

By Moe Norman

Winter Hours

Please note that the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame will be changing to its winter hours effective November 1, 2006.

The museum will be open Monday to Friday from 10:00am – 5:00pm and Sunday from 11:00am – 4:00pm.

We will be closed on Christmas, Boxing and New Year’s Days.

Our summer hours will resume again on April 1, 2007.

“Comb or stay home”

By Moe Norman
Remembering

It is with great sadness that the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame reports of the passing of Honoured Member, Al Balding, at his home on July 30, 2006. He truly was a great Canadian golf legend.

At the 1955 Mayfair Open, Mr. Balding became the first Canadian to win a PGA tour event outside of Canada. In addition to three other international titles, Al Balding led the Canadian team of himself and George Knudson to victory at the 1968 Canada Cup (now World Cup) Championships in Rome. Balding also claimed the low individual title of the tournament and established himself as one of Canada’s leading players of all time.

His last victory was in 2000, where he was successful at winning the Canadian PGA Seniors’ Championship, the oldest individual to do so at the age of 76.

Career highlights also include:

PGA Tour Victories:

- Mayfair Open 1955
- Miami Beach Open 1957
- West Palm Beach Open 1957
- Havana Invitational 1957
- Mexican Open Champion: 1963
- World Cup Team Champion 1968

Al Balding was elected into Canada’s Sports Hall of Fame in 1968 and the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame in 1985. He leaves his lifetime companion and friend, Maureen as well as their two children and grandchildren.

He is greatly missed.

Rent the Hall of Fame

Are you looking for an interesting place to hold your special function? The Canadian Golf Hall of Fame may be just the location.

From anniversaries and holiday parties to business meetings and seminars, the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame offers a unique and entertaining venue.

You can use the entire museum area to allow your guests to wander and enjoy the many interactive exhibits or rent just our very popular “Honoured Members” gallery. For seasonal events the atmosphere is enhanced by two operating fireplaces.

Events can be catered to fit your budget requirements. We use a variety of different caterers so your function can and will be a unique event.

No need to worry about bringing your own audio video equipment. We have:

- Power Point projector
- VCR/DVD/TV
- Audio System
- Screens
- And more…

Our staff is friendly, courteous, and professional. Call us today to find out about our affordable rates.

We will always work to meet your needs.

Contact Karen Hewson at 1-800-263-0009 ext. 411 or khewson@rcga.org.
From the Archives

A postcard featuring the clubhouse of Waterloo County Golf Club (now the Galt Country Club). This Waterloo golf course is the oldest in the area and celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2006.

Spectators enjoying the CN Future Links Western Championship. Pictured is competitor Taylor Smith from Saskatchewan.

2004 Canadian Women's Open picture with all of the Canadian players who participated:


The 5th fairway on the Stanley Thompson designed Jasper Park Lodge in 1926.
I first heard of Al Balding in 1957 and met him at the Mayfair Open in Sanford, Florida the same year. I was impressed by his attitude towards the game of golf.

I played on Carling Cup teams with Al, Stan Leonard, Gerry Kesselring, Johnny Henrick, and Jack Kay and other professionals from Canada as well as amateurs Eric Hanson, Nick Weslock, Hugh Patterson and Don Doc. We did quite well, winning the first two yearly events at the St. Georges’ Golf Club in Toronto.

Al was a good friend of Eric Hanson with whom I was also a friend. We spent many years playing golf together in the early 60s, 70s and 80s. Eric was always trying to hit the ball like Al Balding.

Golfers Paul Williams and Eric Bailey were also close to Al. We used to call him “The Silver Fox”. He really enjoyed us calling him that.

I remember going to the reception at Markland Woods Golf Club for Al and George Knudson after they captured the World Cup Championship in 1968 for Canada. Al was in his element and really enjoyed this tribute to him. I never saw him happier.

He loved Wesmount Golf Club in Kitchener. Al and Eric Hanson re-designed two greens at our club in the 1970’s: holes #13 and #14.

We had differing opinions on the course as to how certain holes should be played. My idea on how to approach the hole was to drive the ball as far as I could. That way I would have a shorter iron into the hole. Al didn’t see it that way. For instance, if the hole was narrow he would use an iron off the tee. His logic was that he could get the next iron shot on the green. I would ask, “What would happen if you hit the ball into the rough”? And so it would go. I would go my way and he would go his. However we did play many practice rounds together, and we would have the same discussion or a new one would begin. We respected each other’s opinion in any case.

Al was a member of the Harder Hall Country Club in Sebring, Florida. I called him up one day and asked him if I could come down with a couple of friends for a week. So he got us a house next door to his and down we went. Apparently, Al was inviting other friends to Florida and was having a hard time beating the locals in golf matches with them. This time he had enough notice to give the local golfers time to prepare. He would say he had a couple of snow birds coming down with white arms and legs and no tan who were anxious to play. The locals would say “bring them on”.

We ended up playing a scramble after we had a couple of days to warm up.

Wednesday was game time. We introduced ourselves and off we went. On the front nine, our team went birdie, birdie, birdie, eagle, birdie, birdie, birdie, par, par and eagle. Needless to say there was no press and the locals could not wait to finish this game. Al was happy to finally get one over on the locals.

Al Balding was a fine person both on and off the golf course and he will be missed. My sincere condolences to his wife Mo, children Erin and Allan and their families.