

SHORT STROKES

2005 ARIZONA GOLF HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

John and Betty Beckwith, Kerry Graham, Dee Hornbake, John Jackson and Mark Sollenberger are the 2005 inductees into the Arizona Golf Hall of Fame. The induction ceremonies took place November 21, 2005, at Camelback Golf Club in Scottsdale. The day began with a fundraising pro-am golf event, immediately followed by the presentation ceremony emceed by Fred Hickle, former USGA Executive Committee member and long time supporter of golf in Arizona.

This prestigious honor recognizes individuals for service to the game of the golf in the state and is spearheaded by the Arizona Golf Association (AGA), Southwest Section of the PGA (SWSPGA), Arizona Women's Golf Association (AWGA) and the Cactus and Pine Golf Course Superintendent's Association of Arizona (CPGCSA). Since its establishment in 1968, a total of 55 people have been recognized.



Suzie Grenon, John and Betty's daughter, accepts their award from Fred Hickle.

John and Betty Beckwith

(Golf Course Superintendents)

Awarded posthumously, John & Betty were instrumental in structuring the state chapter of the Cactus and Pine Golf Course Superintendents Association. They loved the game of golf and loved

enhancing the quality of Arizona golf. Recognizing the need for the golf course superintendents association to become better organized, they volunteered their time and home during the 1950's to keep track of the members, coordinate meetings, type minutes and maintain financial records.

More importantly, according to Paul McGinnis, a past president of the CPGC-SA and 2004 Arizona Golf Hall of Fame Inductee, their philosophy was to encourage others to "get involved in the association. John and Betty took superintendents from being viewed merely as 'grass growers' to being recognized as a credible source of knowledge in the world of golf course maintenance."

John and Betty's daughter, Suzie Grenon, accepted the award on their behalf.

Kerry Graham

(Professional)



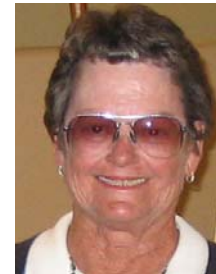
Kerry Graham, who received a bachelor's and master's degree from ASU, has been a leader in the Arizona and national golf scene for 20 years. A one time golf instructor in the Phoenix area, she became national president of the LPGA Teaching and Club Professional Division (1987-1993), directed the development of the LPGA Urban Youth Program, LPGA Girls Golf Clubs and LPGA Teachers' Education Program. She established the first Women in Golf Summit in 1991 and organized subsequent summits in 1993 and 1995. In 1991, Graham was the recipient of the Joe Graffis Award by the National Golf Foundation for her contributions to education.

Kerry served as president of the JGAA for 4 years and is the current president of the JGAA Foundation. She is also a member of the Board of Governors for the PING Banner Health LPGA event. Among the other awards she has received are the Women's Sports Foundation President's Award in 1992, the LPGA's Patty Berg Award for leadership in women's golf in 1993 and the Commissioner's Award for leadership in contributions to the LPGA in 2000.

"I've always enjoyed sports and am so lucky to have started playing when I was nine years old," she said. "Everything I have done with my life has been with golf and it has so enriched my life with all the opportunities that I have had. I'm so fortunate to have this sport in my life and all that it has brought."

Dee Hornbake

(Amateur)



Dee Hornbake began playing golf in high school because of her father. She moved to Arizona in the mid 60's as a new bride and has been actively involved in women's golf in the state as a top-level competitor and as a volunteer ever since.

In state and regional competitions she won the Arizona Women's Match Play Championship in 1967, 70 and 71 and the Women's Southwestern Championship in 1968 and 69. She has also won numerous club championships: Moon Valley Country Club seven times, Arizona Country Club five times and Concho Valley Country Club nine times.

Dee is also the consummate volunteer. She began rating golf courses for the AWGA in 1965 and has been the northern

Ed Gowan — The AGA's Tasmanian Devil

It's been more than twenty years since Ed Gowan left his job as tournament director of the LPGA tour and moved his family to sunny Arizona to take on the role of Executive Director of the Arizona Golf Association.

Since taking over the leadership of the AGA, the association has experienced many successes; its membership has increased from under 20,000 members to more than 60,000, and the tournament schedule has escalated from two to more than 40. A quarterly magazine, *Arizona The State of Golf*, has been added, computers are now provided to each club to manage a leading edge USGA Handicapping service and the development of the Web site has become a focal point of communicating with our members.

Ed has never been one to let the dust settle—he is always pushing the envelope and looking beyond the present in an attempt to stay one step ahead of potential challenges to the golf industry and the viability of the golf association. As a result, the association is always on the forefront of progress and development and is referred to as “forward thinking,” “innovative” and “cutting edge” by its peers in the industry.

But innovation doesn't come without its challenges. Anyone who has ever been

involved in a planning meeting with Ed understands that he's an “idea” man. Picture this: You are sitting in a brainstorming session, and Ed starts throwing out ideas, one after another, more and more, faster and faster—it's like a whirlwind of energy swirling around. That's how he became the “Taz.” Sometimes he spins at lightning speed—the more he thinks, the more he spins. Every once in a while he slows down to take a breath and then starts over again. When he slips into that mode, all we can do is follow behind him, struggling to keep everything organized and manageable.

At our recent Fall Meeting, Ed was completely taken by surprise when he was presented with a gift commemorating his 20 years of service by Dave Barnes (our current president) and Tim Kloenne (the president who hired him in 1985). However, the biggest surprise came when he was



The Taz Master doesn't stop at making his head spin...he puts his whole body into it.

unveiled as the latest Character of Arizona Golf, joining such illustrious company as Doc Graves, Jerry Graham, Bill Mann, Jim Frazier and Rick LaRose. Edward “TAZ” Gowan. Congratulations Ed . . . and gotcha.

region captain ever since. In the early 1980's, Dee served on the AWGA Board of Directors, as Director of Junior Golf. At that time, the association conducted the Junior Girls State Championship under Dee's supervision. In 1985, Dee captained the Arizona Girls Junior Americas Cup team that included Dina Ammacapane. She began serving on the AWGA Rules Committee in the mid-1990s and still enjoys officiating at the women's state championships. In 2004, Dee was honored by the Arizona Women's Golf Association as their Volunteer of the Year.

“I've met so many wonderful people

through this great game,” she added. “My dad always told me this is one game with so much integrity that you have to call penalties on yourself, and it's a game you can play no matter what your age or handicap. I played a lot of competitive sports growing up, and this one stuck with me the most, not only because of the friendships that were developed, but also because of the challenge that comes from you against par and the course.”

Dee's childhood friend and member of the PGA Senior Tour, Dale Douglass, played in the pro-am event with her and presented the award to her at the induction ceremony.

John Jackson (Professional)



While a student at ASU, John was a four-year member of the golf team and received an Honorable Mention All-American in 1969. In that same year, he won the USGA Public Links Championship. He became a PGA Professional in 1971 and played on the PGA Tour in 1976 and 1977. He won the Footjoy National Assistants Championship in 1980 and played in two

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John has been named the Southwest Section's Player of the Year four times. He won the Match Play Championship on five occasions and the Section Championship in 1981, which made him exempt for the Phoenix and Tucson Opens, where he finished 34th and 6th, respectively.

Prior to joining the Tour in 1976, he worked at Papago Golf Course in Phoenix. Later he joined Camelback GC as associate golf professional and remained in that position until 1988, when he became head golf professional at Desert Mountain's Cochise GC. For the past 14 years, John has been the director of golf at The Phoenician. He became a member of the Southwest Section board of directors in 1981 and ultimately president in 1987.

"It is a tremendous honor with only 55 people in the past having received this and so many are people that I know," John commented. "Golf has been my life since I was 13 years old and this is really icing on the cake. Just like anything, life is a journey and this is just a wonderful part of what's happening," he added. "To be recognized with some of the greats, it just gives you chills. You don't look at the whole until something like this happens. I've been very fortunate. It truly has been a game of a lifetime for me."

Mark Sollenberger (Amateur)



After a brief professional career following his collegiate days at Arizona State University during which he won his first Arizona Amateur Championship in 1974, Mark Sollen-

berger returned to dominate amateur golf in Arizona for the better part of ten years, while building a very successful real estate business.

Prior to the creation of the Mayfair Award for competition scoring average, Mark had the low scoring average in AGA and USGA Qualifying events from 1985 through 1989, consecutively. Including a runner-up finish in the 1990 USGA Mid-Amateur at Troon Golf and Country Club, Mark accumulated numerous amateur titles both in Arizona and nationwide, including three more Arizona Amateur titles in '82, '85 and '88, the inaugural Arizona Mid-Amateur Championship in 1986 and '89 and the Stroke Play Championship in 1989. He was the AGA's Player of the Year in 1989 and 1990.

"I am very honored by this and am sorry that part of my family is not around to enjoy this with me," said Sollenberger, who is now the corporate director of sales, marketing and golf product for Blackrock Development. "My dad, "Solly," passed away and was a recipient of the Ed Updegraff award. My brother, who passed away this past June, was a sports historian. This would have been a kick for him."

About the Arizona Golf Hall of Fame

To be eligible for the Arizona Golf Hall of Fame, an individual must have been a resident of Arizona for at least 10 years and exemplify the spirit of the game. He/she must have participated in golf activities in Arizona in a way that is recognized as being significant in both substance and duration; contributed to the enhancement of the sport and the state for all golfers of all ages, ability and sectors of the community; or be involved in the sport through teaching, coaching, maintaining, managing, educating, writing or advocating for an extended period of time.