

June 2025

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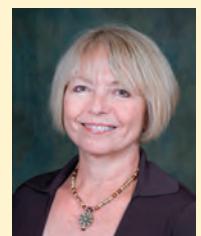
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Digital copies of *Soleil Living* are now available on the Soleil website.  
**Go to: Resident Resources > Soleil Living Magazine**



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# CONTACTS

## Clubhouse Office

**678-493-5710**

Onsite Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
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**A low layer of fog blankets  
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 glow of a spring Soleil sunrise.  
 Photo by Soleil resident  
 Penny James**





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# Springtime Donation for Homeless Women Veterans

April 8



▲ Ladies Auxiliary of the Soleil Veterans Club donate items for a Springtime Special for homeless women veterans. (L-R): Maureen Edick, Kathy Jones, Dorothy Greer, Terry Deloney, Marci Zied, Pam Camp, Erika Read, Judy Wise. (Photo by Pat Pugrant)

## Welcome to Soleil!

Please join us in welcoming the  
following new Soleil residents:

Name	Address
Joanne Hood	117 Laurel View
Katie & Billy Willis	314 Pepperwood Way
Gail Hanley & Steve Tuttle	500 Appalachian Woods Drive
Gina Ranaldi	308 Tree Top Lane
Nancy & Bill Rose	104 Big Meadows Drive
KJ Beavers	650 Hemlock Trail



## A Different Way to Recycle

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# Annual Club Meet & Greet

## April 30

The clubs and groups pictured on this page are just a small sampling of those represented. See Soleil's Resident Website for more club information.



▲ Jo Esman (left) visits with Jo Lazwell and Joyce Verseput (seated) at the Lady Bug Quilters table as Donna Dillon looks on from the adjacent Paper Dolls table. (Photo by Martha Crockett)



▲ Robin Wilson and Bill Schmidt (seated) man the Soleil Railroaders Club display, while fellow Railroader Wendell Henry (right) chats with Tim Carrera. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Past president Tom Wise (left) and current president Cliff Asbury (right) are joined by veteran Bill Pfaffle at the Veterans Club table. (Photo by Sandy Schnee)



▲ Kathy Wolfram, Jane Gandy and Kathy Schevling (L-R) stand ready to answer questions at the Health & Wellness Club table. (Photo by Sandy Schnee)



▲ Jim Graham, Rob Kraus and Donna Graham (L-R) are among those representing the Racquet Club. (Photo by Sandy Schnee)



▲ Donna Graham (she gets around) and Lisa Fletcher are pleased to represent the Rock Hounds, a special interest group for residents with an interest in different aspects of geology. (Photo by Sandy Schnee)



▲ Club President Caroline Calloway (left) and Treasurer Ellen Garrett are prepared to tell you all about the Soleil Garden Club. (Photo by Sandy Schnee)



▲ Alto Holly Stone, accompanist Judy Cheyne and bass Rick Zenna represent the Soleil Singers chorus. (Photo by Sandy Schnee)



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# 17th Annual Pancake Breakfast a Success

## April 5

By Lenora McCrea

On April 5, over 225 residents, guests, sponsors and club members enjoyed a delicious breakfast featuring pancakes, eggs, cheese grits, bacon, sausage, fruit, orange juice and coffee in the Soleil ballroom.

Club members obtained 45 sponsors from a variety of large and small businesses in the community, along with 64 raffle prizes and 58 silent auction items.

The club thanks our sponsors. Please consider patronizing these establishments as you shop in the Cherokee community:

- **Corporate Level:** IHOP, Publix, O'Charley's Restaurant, Stitch Coffee
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- **Blue Ribbon Level:** The Bray Insurance Agency, Canton Termite & Pest Control, Cherokee Family Dental, Country Carpets, Fairways of Canton, Garrison's



Furniture & Appliances, Sosebee Funeral Home, Swords & Phelps DDS, United Community Bank

- **Donor Level:** Aaron's Remodeling Services, BridgeMill Dentistry, Butter & Milk Eatery, James Cannon & Co., Cherokee Computer Guys, Good Hands Appliance Repair, Mid-City Pharmacy, Moghadam Family Dentistry, Denise Oliviera's Housecleaning, Practically Perfect Day Spa, Sellers & Warren PC, Vitality Project

It takes many hands working together to make this event a success. Members and friends of the club helped with important tasks such as: selling tickets and providing publicity; purchasing and gathering supplies and food items; setting up and decorating; making and displaying the sponsor frames; preparing the coffee service; assembling fruit cups; cooking; serving food; selling raffle tickets; organizing; displaying; assisting with distribution of raffle prizes and silent auction items; and cleanup.

Funds from the Annual Pancake Breakfast, along with the yearly raffle sale, allow the club to help hundreds of children and youth, as well as seniors and homeless veterans in Cherokee County.

Optimist Club meetings, including lunch, are held on the second Monday of the month at Sidelines Grille. If interested in attending a meeting, learning more about the club's projects or volunteering time, contact Alan Lodwick, president (alodwick@gmail.com / 303-748-3719) or Ed Hill, past president (evhilljr@yahoo.com / 770-880-6462).



▲ Table waiters received rave reviews from the guests for their great service this year. (L-R): front row: Mary DeLuca, Robyn De La Houssaye, Eileen Shafer, Pam Dulin, Debbie Everett, Linda Brent. Back row: Ginny Pallo, Martha Kennedy, Cindy Schmitt, Kathy Geroski, Susan Gilbert, Linda Penrose, Bonnie Burnett, Renée English. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Kitchen crew responsible for cooking sausage, bacon, pancakes and grits. (L-R): Tony Lee, Randy Plant, Larry Sykes, Scott Davis, Greg Hill, Ed Hill, John Brent, Don Schmitt. (Photo by Lenora McCrea)



▲ More kitchen crew responsible for cooking eggs, bacon and sausage. (L-R): Ed Hill, Don Schmitt, John Brent, Tony DeLuca, Denise Davis. (Photo by Lenora McCrea)





▲ Cindy Schmitt (left) assists shoppers selecting raffle prizes. (L-R): John Szwest, Don Gizinski, Ruth Gizinski. (Photo by Lenora McCrea)



▲ Servers Cliff Penrose, Valerie Hill and Phil Rodes (L-R against the wall) serve guests Jane and Steve Wirsch, Don Cheyne and Gene Balog (front to back). (Photo by Lenora McCrea)

## Marigolds at Ralph Bunche Elementary

Photos by Lori Rich



▲ Robyn de la Houssaye (left) and Eileen Shafer help students at Ralph Bunche Elementary plant marigold seeds.



▲ Valerie Hill (left) reads *Flower Garden* by Eve Bunting with Mary DeLuca assisting.



# Spring Birds of Laurel Canyon

Compiled by Craig Stichtenoth



▲ A Canada Goose stands guard as Soleil resident Tom Flood hits his approach shot to the 9th green at Fairways of Canton. (Photo by Steve Henderson)



▲ Several migrating Blue-winged Teal ducks take off from Laurel Lake, a stopover on their way north. (Photo by Joe Nicholson)



▲ A Brown-headed Nuthatch is ready to deliver food to hatchlings in a nest near the nature trail flanking Laurel Lake. (Photo by Tim Carerra)



▲ A male Summer Tanager—newly arrived from his winter home far south of Georgia—visits the deck railing of a home on Laurel Ridge. (Photo by Charlie Barnes)



▲ A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher gathers nesting material in the woods near Laurel Lake anticipating a summer catching bugs in Soleil. (Photo by Joe Nicholson)



▲ A Yellow-throated Warbler observed in the woods just north of Laurel Lake has a shorter migratory range than other warblers who may breed as far north as Canada. (Photo by Charlie Barnes)



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▲ Chaplain Jon Pirtle offers his message of faith to an attentive gathering of Soleil residents and family early on Easter morning. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)

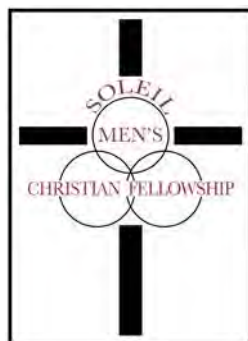
## 14 Years of Easter Worship

By Rich Elwell and Dick Jackson

Early on April 20, an assembly of Soleil neighbors, friends and family gathered at the Clubhouse to celebrate Easter. Russ Cudmore presided over the service, welcoming everyone and opening the service in prayer, and later leading the Lord's Prayer and offering a closing benediction.

The Easter message was delivered by LTC. Jon Pirtle, who has a doctorate in church history and currently serves as Chaplain for the Georgia Army National Guard, ministering to units in seven states and the District of Columbia. He lives at Lake Arrowhead with his wife Carrie Jane.

Easter music included "Crown Him with Many Crowns," the familiar traditional hymn sung by the entire assembly. Soleil resident Jean Shore sang the beautiful



"Because He Lives," composed by Bill and Glory Gaither in the 1970s.

After the service, people enjoyed fellowship and refreshments generously provided by Publix, Ingles, Dunkin and Ray's Donuts.

The 14th annual Easter Morning Worship Service was sponsored by the Soleil Men's Christian Fellowship (SMCF), which also sponsors an annual Thanksgiving service. The Men's Christian Fellowship is a non-denominational group that meets every first and third Monday from 4-5 p.m. in the clubhouse for Bible study and prayer for our community. Open to all Soleil men, each session is facilitated by a member of the group, encouraging spiritual and spirited discussions of the Bible.



◀ Soleil resident Jean Shore shares the Easter message in song with her interpretation of "Because He Lives." (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

### CORRECTION:

In the April 2025 issue, we misreported the name of the woman who portrayed Mary Todd Lincoln during the presentation by Homer S. Sewell as Abraham Lincoln. The correct name is Alice Ault. We regret this error.



# Hearing Aid Specialist Speaks at Soleil

Article & Photos by Kathy Schevling

**C**an you repeat that?”  
 “What did he say?”  
 “Turn the TV up!”

How many of you say these things on a daily basis? Maybe you need a hearing loss evaluation.

On March 24, Hearing Instrument Specialist and founder of the Hearing Aid Factory Outlet Gwen Cantrell spoke at Soleil to educate the residents about hearing loss and the available treatment options.

## SUBJECTS COVERED:

- Types of hearing loss: conductive and sensorineural
- Range of hearing loss: mild to severe
- Symptoms: mishearing words, turning up TV, ringing or buzzing, etc.
- Causes: aging, genetics, noise exposure, trauma, medications, etc.

Gwen described the process of a comprehensive hearing exam which includes medical history, an inner and outer ear exam and an ear-drum assessment known as Tympanometry.

Audio tests similar to the ones we had as kids are done, as well as speech recognition tests. Cognitive testing is also done to clarify if there are any signs of memory loss.

Gwen recommends yearly hearing evaluations for seniors.

She stressed the risks of untreated hearing loss, and you may be surprised. It is related to:

- Falls
- Depression and anxiety
- Feelings of isolation
- Dementia

Gwen explained that brain imaging (such as MRIs) shows that the brain shrinks when not stimulated by new information.

With proper hearing aids—or in severe cases, cochlear implants—improvement in memory and function were noted. Caregivers also reported that the person affected had increased socialization and better relationships once they were treated.

Gwen Cantrell offered free hearing tests to Soleil residents at the seminar, done in her mobile evaluation van. You can request a test by contacting Ms. Cantrell at 404-786-6416 or at [Gwenhearingaidfactory@gmail.com](mailto:Gwenhearingaidfactory@gmail.com)



▲ Gwen Cantrell lectures about hearing loss.



▲ Nancy Krocza, Laura Gildenberg and Susan Abrams learn about hearing loss treatment options.



# Fun Facts about Folks

By Joe DiBernardo



▲ Joan Ahrens. (Photo by cruise staff)

## Joan Ahrens. Renaissance Woman.

Joan's accomplishments and interests are so numerous, it's difficult to write about each one in detail. Her travels alone can make you breathless: 66 countries and 12 states. Joan has been a professional photographer and writer having authored a book titled *Hong Kong – Gems and Jewelry*. A Graduate Gemologist, she has written dozens of magazine articles about oriental jewelry. If that's not enough, Joan has spent twenty years raising and breeding horses. Another area of interest is water gardening with a concentration on raising unusual and hybrid lotus flowers. In the garden of the Soleil home she shares with husband Buzz is a large pond where she cultivates varieties of lotus flowers. The Ahrens residence has Asian artwork and furniture they've gathered in their many travels.



▲ Richard Edmondson. (Photo by Dick Slaats)

## Richard Edmondson. Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force (Retired).

Throughout Richard's military career, he did his best for himself, his family and his country. At the top of his class through years of training and promotions, he and wife Carole with daughter Heather moved extensively throughout the world (England, Germany, Japan) and from state to state (Alaska, Hawaii, Alabama, California, Texas and Florida) during his military service. After flying as a navigator, Richard advanced in rank as he was groomed for Air Force overt intelligence operations. His job duties included working with radar, electronic signals, monitoring surface-to-air missiles and even U-2s. After retiring, Richard worked in the private sector for ten years at Jacobs engineering as an operational test engineer.



▲ Lanna Swindler. (Photo by Dick Slaats)

## Lanna Swindler. Photojournalist.

Before getting the job she most desired—staff photographer with the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*—Lanna did stints at the *Clayton County News Daily*, *South Fulton Today* and the *Clayton Neighbor*. While she concentrated in sports photography covering the Falcons and the Braves, she worked right on the sidelines. Lanna also had many experiences with celebrities such as Bette Midler. One of Lanna's most memorable experiences was meeting Virginia Callaway who with her husband assembled land during the Depression for what was to become Callaway Gardens. Lanna has witnessed extreme changes in her profession from the days when things were printed in black-and-white. Digital photography along with color changed things radically. She now laments the demise of daily papers.

*This column highlights interesting facts you may not know about fellow residents in Soleil Laurel Canyon. If you would like to be considered for inclusion in an upcoming column or know of someone who should be, please contact Joe at [jldibernardo@gmail.com](mailto:jldibernardo@gmail.com).*



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# Semiannual Plant Sale

April 19

THE  
Garden Club  
of Soleil



▲ Garden Club volunteers confirm Spring plant sale orders and load flats of plants into vehicles on a Saturday morning in April. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

# Garden Club Presents Butterfly Symposium

April 24



► Pamela Crawford's book *Container Gardens for Butterflies*. (Photo by Caroline Calloway)



◀ Landscape architect and author of gardening books Pamela Crawford autographs copies of her book *Container Gardens for Butterflies* after a Garden Club-sponsored event on pollinators. Talking about the favorite plants she uses to attract butterflies (most are annuals), Pamela named pentas (her favorite), blue salvia, lantana, New Guinea impatiens, wax begonias, dragonwing begonias, California daisy, celosia, cosmos, jatropha, Melampodium, red salvia, scaevola, shrimp plant and zinnias. Ways to attract butterflies (and other pollinators) are 1) avoid pesticides; 2) ensure abundant sunshine; 3) give them something to drink; 4) add fruit; and 5) plant bright colors. (Photo by Joe Nicholson)





THE  
Garden Club  
of Soleil

▲ The Garden Club cleans up the raised beds located in the area around the greenhouse. Garden bed renters received soil amendments and mulch to cover the upgraded irrigation system. Working in their beds are (L-R:) Tony Lee, Nikki Lockwood and Mary Anne Parker. (Photo by Caroline Calloway)

## Garden Club Preps Raised Beds for Summer

April 26



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# Spring Arts & Crafts Fair

March 29

**T**he Soleil ballroom welcomed 20 exhibitors, many from Soleil, for the first Spring Arts & Crafts Fair. Organizer Sharon Golden reported that in addition to the creative energy that filled the room, a donation of \$250 was made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital on behalf of the Fair.



▲ Rick Zenna speaks with Fred Weems as he assists Peter Evans (not pictured) in selling art supplies once used by Peter's late wife Sally Evans. (Photo by Tommy Jacobs)



▲ Fabric artist and scarf designer Marlene Caracalas (right) chats with Donna Dillon. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



▲ Ron Sifen welcomes a closer look at his collection of geodes and other interesting geological examples. (Photo by Tommy Jacobs)



▲ Jane Wirsch, Robyn de la Houssaye and Carol Munster represent the 'Soleil Samba Sisters,' enticing folks like Carol Howlin with their variety of tasty baked goods. Proceeds benefit local nursing homes. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



▲ Judy & Don Cheyne (right) visit with outside artist Gary Hickey, who specializes in portrait caricature. (Photo by Tommy Jacobs)



▲ Joan Ahrens (left) admires the display of jewelry creations made by Gwen Witton. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)





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▲ Soleil models line up in their finery provided by the Ann Taylor Loft in the Woodstock outlets. (L-R): Lisa Gadaleta, Sharon Jernigan, Kristina Croteau, Cathy Pica, Christina Quinn, Roz Gladstone, Rose Shaver, Beth Moore, Debbie Nagelberg. (Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)

# Ann Taylor Loft Presents 2025 Fashion Show

## March 26



► Beth Moore.  
(Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)

◀ Rose Shaver.  
(Photo by Dick Slaats)



► Roz Gladstone.  
(Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)

◀ Kristina Croteau.  
(Photo by Dick Slaats)







◀ Sharon Jernigan.  
(Photo by Dick Slaats)



◀ Cathy Pica.  
(Photo by Dick Slaats)



◀ Christina Quinn.  
(Photo by Dick Slaats)

► Lisa Gadaleta.  
(Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)



► Debbie Nagelberg.  
(Photo by Chastaine Kendrick)



▲ Chastaine Kendrick (blue shirt, standing) snaps a photo of model Cathy Pica as she poses in front of the stage. Announcer (left) and Store Manager Mayra from Ann Taylor Loft in the Woodstock outlets describes Cathy's outfit.  
(Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



▲ As Roz Gladstone strolls through the crowd, Pat Stephen (left), Lori Poer and Holly Stone beckon her to their table for a closer look at her outfit.  
(Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



# Family Feud

March 22

Photos by Sallie Swartz



▲ Donna Goppelt (left of buzzer stand) and Dan Bender (right) are ready to engage in a battle of the buzzers as our guest game show host reads a fill-in-the-blank question that brings the heat.



▲ There is laughter aplenty as the teams in the third match of the evening consider the answer possibilities to a question. The team in red on the left goes on to be the big winners for the night. Winning team members include: Rose Russo, Julie Taylor, Debbie Jerome, Connie Harrison, Donna Graham.

# Dueling Pianos

April 11



▲ The Dueling Pianos team known as "The Andrews Brothers" plays to a full house in the Soleil ballroom, an evening of songs-by-request along with plenty of humor. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

# Music Bingo

April 16



▲ Dave Coppage—the first person to complete an "X"—shows off his winning card. The crowd played "5-in-a-row," "X" and "Cover all." (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)





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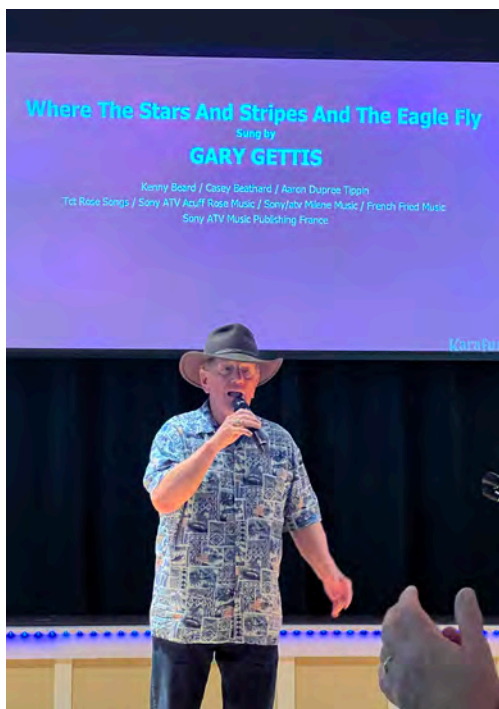
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# Karaoke

April 26



▲ Gary Gettis sings "Where the Stars and Stripes and the Eagle Fly," a song made famous by Country music star Aaron Tippin. (Photo by Sue Dodd)



▲ Angie Kurzen reminds the audience of what it is like to have "Friends In Low Places." (Photo by Cathy Pica)

# Cinco de Mayo

May 1



▲ Melanie Fazio and Mike Rainwater are surrounded by a circle of celebratory dancers. The DJ kept the dance floor hopping well into the evening. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Jerry Boisvert seems to have swiped his wife's festive hat. (Photo by Marge Nettuno)



▲ Linda Boisvert is served by one of the caterers from Mo's. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Bob & Jeanie Johnson recommend the frozen margaritas. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Steve Henderson, Martha Kennedy and others (left side of table) get their shots of tequila from volunteers Wendell & Betty Henry before visiting the frozen margarita machine. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ Janelle Walker and Lynn Hermann show off their fashionable and festive eyewear. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



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# Drive-Thru Donuts

March 13

Photos by Bev Stichtenoth



▲ Celebrating an early St. Patrick's Day, Property Manager Krista Kugelman hands a bag of Ray's Donuts to Susie & Tom Beebe.



▲ Marty Spellman proudly shows off his sack of donuts after cruising through via golf cart.

## Sacred Space

BY RICHARD CORCORAN

Look in and around yourself.

Sacred space is everything,  
everywhere, all the time...

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intuition.

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book, song, dance, color, desire,  
dream, child, grandchild, martini,  
truth.

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every silence, every day.

## What's Going On?

BY RICKY WAYNE

Strange weather this spring—in  
sunshine it feels like summer but in  
shade it feels like fall.

Seems like that on any given day we  
have to be prepared to dress for all  
four seasons.

The golf balls I have been getting  
lately in my back yard seem to be a  
new popular brand: "Practice."

Driving a cart on the golf course  
pathway reminds me of a song:  
"Shake, Rattle and Roll."

Just realized I haven't heard the call  
of a Whippoorwill in a long time.

Unfortunately I'm still waiting for  
that wisdom that's supposed to come  
with old age.

For all the grandfathers here in  
Soleil, aren't you supposed to be  
carrying a pocket knife?





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# A Bourbon Tasting

## March 7

Photos by Craig Stichtenoth



▲ Club President Gene Reilly (right) prepares the first bourbon tasters under the watchful eyes of co-host Dan Wolfram and Neil Fletcher



▲ Doug Tinsley plates the boneless chicken wings which will be served with the second bourbon.



▲ Event host Brent Chisolm and team leader Dan Casey place the wrapped beef brisket in the oven, later to be served with the third bourbon of the evening.

On May 7, the Four Seasons Culinary Club presented a bourbon tasting, comprised of four distinct bourbons each paired with a different and thoughtfully chosen small plate food offering. The bourbon tasting was under the guidance of Gerry Whitson, a certified Master of Bourbon and a resident of Soleil Laurel Canyon.



▲ Master of Bourbon and Soleil resident Gerry Whitson (yellow shirt) introduces the subject of bourbon and the plans for the evening, before the first bourbon and food pairing is served.



▲ The first two bourbons are ready to be distributed to the evening's attendees.





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# Southern Coastal Flair from Garland Mountain

March 25



▲ Chef Sean Lynn (red cap) with Cliff Penrose (left) and Craig Vandenberg of the Crab Cake Napoleon team. On March 25, the Soleil Cooking Club invited Chef Sean Lynn from the Garland Mountain Grill. The restaurant is still rebuilding from a fire last year and expects to reopen in early 2026. (Photo by Bob Abroms)



▲ SCC President Jeff Pawlik (right) along with Host Neil Dubry (SCC Event Chair) convert the original recipe to 48 guests—not an easy task. (Photo by George Horack)



▲ Pecan Encrusted Grouper was delicious and used a lot of butter. (L-R): Team Leader Mark Runge, David Hyatt, Frank Schmidt, Craig Stichtenoth, Greg Adamovsky. (Photo by Bob Abroms)

## Cooking School Dinner

April 22

Photos by Bob Abroms



▲ With the Derby Party canceled, Al Bardakjy, Neil DuBry and George Horack direct six SCC members in preparing a special Cooking School Dinner for them and their spouses. Clockwise from left: John Szwast, Dennis Guerard, Norman Bushee, Bill Barbin, Al Bardakjy, Richard Cheap, George Horack, Neil DuBry, Bob Abroms.



▲ The group had lots of smiles afterwards: (L-R): Bob Abroms, Al Bardakjy, John & Fay Szwast, Neil DuBry, Paula & Bill Barbin, Susan Abroms, Dale & Dennis Guerrard, Nancy & Richard Cheap, George Horack.



# History Hike in the 'Hood



▲ Brian Paley (center in yellow shirt) describes the remains of the mid-20th century vintage iron mill operation that lies just south of Laurel Canyon Parkway east of the clubhouse parking lot. From here, the group hiked the new Iron Mill Creek Trail that Brian built which parallels the creek as it flows downstream between the Racquet Club and homes at the end of Big Meadows and Springer Mountain Drives. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)



▲ The hikers pause for another local history lesson with Brian along the trail that flanks the eastern shore of Laurel Lake. (Photo by Bev Stichtenoth)



▲ In the woods near the large retaining wall that backs a portion of Hemlock Trail, Brian explains the wall today covers evidence of mine shafts that were dug back into the hill in the very early 1900s. (Photo by Craig Stichtenoth)

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▲ Early action while daylight was still at hand involved (L-R): Brenda Kees, John Jenkins, Chuck Nocht and Joe Rebele.

# Glow-in-the-Dark Cornhole Tourney

## March 19

Photos by Craig Stichtenoth



◀ The part of each cornhole board that glows is the target hole itself.

▶ With nightfall, the glow associated with each cornhole board is easily seen, and the motion of Jeff Golden's throw becomes a blur in the lower light as Dwight Kees waits his turn to throw. Because of the lateness of the competition, a three-way tie was declared between "The Dirt Bags" (Scott Trevathorn and Scott Nocht), "The Gentle Gentlemen" (Bill Healey and Jim Thomas) and first-time team "Mediocre at Best" (Bev Hesse and Tina Lolley).





# Line Dancers Celebrate St. Patrick's Day

► Soleil line dancers get in the St. Patrick's Day spirit! (L-R): Lisa Fletcher, Lucy Bosco, Brenda Gilbert, Ann Marie Folk, Pat Pugrant, Sue Polmanski, Joan Werner. (Photo by Pat Pugrant)



IF IT DOESN'T  
**CHALLENGE YOU**  
IT DOESN'T  
**CHANGE YOU**



## Fitness Tip

BY GINA BECKWITH

**"Fitness is not about being better than anyone else, it's about being better than you used to be."**

—Brett Hoebel,  
Professional Trainer

◀ Inspirational maxim in Soleil's dance studio.  
(Photo by Craig Sticheno)





# Soleil Ladies City Champions... Again!

► The Soleil ladies senior USTA team does it again—crowned 2025 Atlanta City Champions on April 4. The finals match was played on their home turf because they were the #1 seed. This qualifies them for the Georgia State Championships in Savannah in the fall. (L-R:) Joy Martin, Brenda Kees, Tineke Arzbach, Judy Shaffer (Captain), Sharen Brown, Linda Struck (Co-Captain), Lori Poer, Babs Baldwin, Kathy Furlong. Not pictured: Ann O'Mahoney. (Photo by Tom Cobb)



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# Tip-Toe Through the Tulips

By Bonnie Johnson

The LGA teed up seven foursomes for the first major tournament of the 2025 season in a Team Best Ball format that produced some rather unusual results.

While six teams tip-toed through the tulips and battled for first place until the last hole, one team decided to just smell the roses. This resulted in one first place team consisting of Kathy Cade, Ann Brackett, Bev Gilley and J.J. Veal. Five teams tied for second with one team hoping for a torrential downpour. Colette Sanders and Golf Genius really know how to create pairings.

Closest to the pin prizes went to Angie Kurzen (#2 hole) and Melissa Cohen (#14 hole). Heidi Martin hit the longest drive on the #6 hole for the second year in a row.

In the money or not, Angie Kurzen chaired a wonderful event, and the staff at Stratus prepared a delicious buffet. Prizes, food and fun with friends is what the day was all about, and the LGA ladies know that is priceless.



▲ The LGA ladies are ready to tee it up and Tiptoe Through the Tulips. (Photo Katelynn Cowen)



▲ Social chair Angie Kurzen won closest to the pin on hole #2. (Photo Bonnie Johnson)



▲ Kathy Cade, Ann Brackett, Bev Gilley and J.J. Veal played a great round and battled their way to first place. (Photo Bonnie Johnson)



▲ Hooking and Slicing their way to last place was still a fun day of golf for (L-R): Brenda Kees, Bonnie Johnson, Nancy Martin and Liz Danz. (Photo Teresa Moore)



▲ These tulip-toeing beauties all tied for second place. (L-R): front row: Colette Sanders, Debbie Hunter, Carolyn Tingle, Darlene Brannon, Teresa Ratteree, Jan Lawrence (seated), Karen Barber, Heidi Martin, Dee Wakefield, Susan Jarvis, Charlotte Loadwick. Back row: Angie Kurzen, Jackie Peterson, Bonny Lockrem, Teresa Moore, Christi Malec, Linda Lorenzi, Sharon Jensen. (Photo Bonnie Johnson)



# Tom Snipes Chosen Sportsman of the Year

Article by Dwight Kees

## SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR

The annual LCMGA late winter breakfast—held on March 12 this year—serves as a kickoff for the new golf season with recaps from the previous year meshed with plans for the warmer days ahead.

The highlight of the event for the past two years has been the announcement of LCMGA's Sportsman of the Year. This year, the membership chose Tom Snipes.

LCMGA's Sportsman of the Year award was proposed by the administrative board two years ago to recognize members who "consistently go above and beyond in volunteering their time and talents to the betterment of the LCMGA and the sport of golf in general while promoting the association's goals of good fellowship and sportsmanship."

Tom served 20 years as a Naval aviator retiring as Commander from his reserve squadron in California. He was hired by Western Airline as a pilot before it merged with Delta Airlines.

Tom brings his leadership skills to the LCMGA, serving first as vice-president for two years before being elected President in 2019. Tom's calm thinking and steady guidance has been instrumental in the smooth operation and growth of the club for the past six years.

Following the awards presentation, several LCMGA officers gave updates on association activities.

Fairways of Canton golf course supervisor Jim Barth detailed course improvements planned for the year as well as the issues involved in the course ownership transfer that is underway. Director of Instruction Derek Sauser closed by outlining several steps players can take to improve their golf skills utilizing the facilities offered by Fairways of Canton.

## JONES OPEN

Strong, swirling winds with gusts exceeding 25 miles per hour are any golfer's nemesis. That was what the 75 players faced on Tax Day in the 2025 season's first major tournament.

Despite the challenging conditions, 27 participants joined in a "Birdie-Fest" by harvesting a respectable 41 total birdies, six more than last year. James Bishop, Brian Dyer, Dwight Kees and Brad Peterson

led the way with three each. The overall low gross score on the day was an 81 turned in by Chris Wells in the Masters flight. Larry Mandersheid posted an 83 to lead the Champions flight with Lamar Gilmore carding an 87 to pace the Legends.

The closest-to-the-pin winners were #2 Larry Mandersheid, #8 Mike Gecan, #14 Mike Skonicki and #17 Mike Gandy.

Special thanks are extended to game-day hosts John Mathis and Joe Simpson with Tom Snipes assisting.

## LEADERBOARD WITH NET SCORES

### MASTERS FLIGHT

1. Chris Wells - 74
2. Fred Meyers - 75
3. Jim Pefinis - 76
4. James Bishop - 77
5. Tom Sawyer - 78

### CHAMPIONS FLIGHT

1. Larry Mandersheid - 70
2. Frank Hansen - 72
3. Tom Snipes - 72
4. Dwight Kees - 72
5. Eric Demaree - 75

### LEGENDS FLIGHT

1. Jim Palmer - 71
2. Lamar Gilmore - 71
3. Terry Conlon - 72
4. James Loadwick - 74
5. Mark Spazzano - 74

## MEET THE NEW MEMBERS

Willie and Jenny Biddix have lived in Soleil for a year. The Biddixes are parents to four children and three grandchildren with one on the way. Willie was in the food business where he managed dry commodities with U.S. Foods, among others.

Originally from North Carolina, Willie is an N.C. State fan.

Dale and Pam King have lived in Soleil for three years after moving from Alpharetta. The Kings are the proud parents of three children and five grandchildren, all residing in the area. Dale is retired from AT&T where he worked as a network engineer.

That brings membership to 144.

Hit 'em straight and not too many.



▲ Tom Snipes, LCMGA's 2024 Sportsman of the Year. (Photo by Jill Snipes)



▲ The Jones Open winners (L -R): Larry Mandersheid, Chris Wells, Jim Palmer. (Photo by Tom Snipes)





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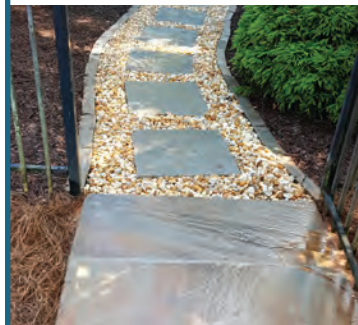
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