

15th Annual Scottish Games Charity Golf Tourney results in a \$6,540 Donation to St. Anne Institute

Unfortunately, the weather forecast for the 2009 tournament day didn't provide the comfort zone that we've experienced for the past 3 years. All of the local TV channels, the Weather Channel and the National Weather Service were all predicting rain. When I arrived at the Stadium Golf Club at 6:30 AM on Friday, June 12th it felt like Scotland. The mist that was hanging over the course and the lush greenery all around reminded me of the old country. Despite the threatening predictions, preparations were well under way and there was an air of confidence from the Committee that this day would continue to be as special as it always has been. Well, that positive thinking paid off because while the clouds prevailed for the first few holes, the sun actually shined from that point forward and we had a very comfortable day to play golf. A full field of 144 golfers arrived and everything went off like clockwork from the registration to the presentation of our \$6,540 donation to St. Anne Institute. Our Committee is again 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 \$66,540 to local charities and 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 fifteen years (a list of our sponsors accompanies this article). We were happy to welcome two new sponsors this year: IKON Office Solutions (A Ricoh Company) and Quality PM Inc., Property Management.

While we have so many great, loyal sponsors, I'd like to spotlight one of them in particular this year. The State Employees Federal Credit Union (SEFCU) has been a loyal supporter of both our Golf Tournament and our Scottish Games for many years. This year SEFCU decided to upgrade their tournament sponsorship to the Acemaker category joining the Orchard Tavern as our two biggest sponsors. Michael Castellana, the President /CEO of SEFCU joined us as part of two foursomes of golfers from the SEFCU family. SEFCU's continued success is due in no small part to the fact that they realize the importance of giving back to the community. It's with that in mind that I wish to congratulate SEFCU for being voted as the "Best Bank and Credit Union" by a Times Union readers poll for a third consecutive year. It's great to see a company that cares about the community, like SEFCU does, being recognized by that community for their good work.

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, 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 \$2,035. The staff from St Anne's Institute came prepared to help throughout the day by selling both raffle tickets and 50/50 chances. This year that 50/50 raffle amounted to an \$815 prize.

Once again this year my lovely daughter Jennifer Munro played the bagpipes at the hole in one contest throughout the day and Nicole Munro was still able to volunteer as our foursome

photographer. Thankfully Judy Cocca agreed to return this year as 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 and Nicole's pictures can be seen by going to our website at <http://www.scotgames.com>. We had two beautiful new additions to our volunteer family this year. Amy Munro (my youngest daughter) and Molly Stevens agreed to come and be our hole-in-one witnesses. They were both rays of sunshine for all of our golfers ... but sadly... no hole in one winner this year. Another thing that our golfers look forward to each year is a performance from the award winning pipes and drums of the Schenectady Pipe Band at the banquet. As usual they didn't disappoint!

Once again there were excellent golf contests and simply awesome food and drink served up by Dave and Matt 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. Please take my advice, if you are planning a tournament or a banquet of any kind be sure to call the Stadium at 374-9104 and talk to Michele. 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 \$800 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 miss you Jacky!

Congratulations to this year's golf contests winners who are listed along with this article. More details about our 2009 Golf Tourney along with pictures and contact information can be found on our website at <http://www.scotgames.com/> Another vote of thanks to our own Dee Taylor who has worked diligently along with Brian Lenihan from Network 42 (www.network42.com) to maintain and upgrade the Scottish Games website.

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.

Be sure to keep Friday June 11, 2010 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 2010! All the best from the Capital District Scottish Games Golf Tourney Committee members listed below!

Bob Munro, Committee Chairperson
Vincent Colonna
Bill Munro
Mike Munro
Joe Bradley
Lou Schenck
Lee Elmendorf

Our Sponsors are great so please frequent their businesses. They deserve our support:

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