



Tournament Talk



Published for the volunteers and friends of the Bridgestone Invitational

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A Note from Northern Ohio Golf Charities

Gini Page ~ President



One of the nicest perks of my job is hearing all of the wonderful compliments about you, our volunteers. Our sponsors, players, tour officials and guests have been telling me all week just how wonderful you are. It's certainly no surprise to me but it's nice to hear that everyone recognizes your passion for excellence.

Many of these compliments are coming from people who travel to other tournaments and tell us that we are the best trained, most friendly and most helpful volunteers in the world.

A huge thank you to all of you for your unfailing energy, commitment and sacrifices that you make to insure that our tournament runs smoothly and that our guests enjoy themselves. Thank you for sharing our passion to present a world class golf tournament unparalleled by any other.

And best of all your efforts result in our ability to give back almost one million dollars each year to those in need in our northeastern Ohio communities. The Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation will begin meeting in late fall to determine how best to help the charities who need us.

We are almost 1,000 strong and you should be proud of the part you have played to make our communities a better place to live.

On behalf of Northern Ohio Golf Charities, a huge thank you for all that you do. Enjoy a fabulous Sunday. We look forward to seeing you in 2012 when we again showcase Akron to the rest of world at the 2012 Bridgestone Invitational. 📧



2012 Volunteer Tournament Chair

Tom Batten

Thank you for your community involvement and volunteer mind set. The 2011 WGC Bridgestone Invitational has been a success directly because of you, and due to your efforts. You are one of the true Ambassadors of golf, but more importantly I consider you a family member. We are a family that is spread across the country, in a variety of professions, ethnicity, habits, and cultures that comes

together once a year to hold our "family reunion" on the world stage.

This year, Bret Benson Volunteer Chairman, and the EVCs, Mike Slifka, Bryon Miller, Mike Adolph, Terry Ginley and Sandy Becker-Neidert, led us to what I hope you saw was an exciting and fun-filled year. My goal is to do the same in 2012, and I want to be the first to invite you to next year's reunion. I won't be the same without you.

Congratulations to everyone for another Job Well done. 📧

Lunch in the Volunteer Compound

Today's Menu

Meatball Sandwich with Mozzarella Cheese, Caesar Salad, An Assortment of Desserts

Lunch will be served daily **from 11:00am to 2:00pm** in the Volunteer Compound. Your vouchers are also redeemable for a cheeseburger, chicken sandwich, or hot dog, bag of chips, whole fruit bar or candy bar, and soft drink or bottled water at concession stands on the course. New for this year, your coupons are also valid for a garden salad or sandwich wrap and soft drink or bottled water, but there may be some limited availability. Buon Appetito 📧

The Volunteer Lunch Shuttle runs from 11:30 – 1:30.

Pick up is located behind the Tournament Office on Champions Way. Just look for the sign!

Elise Tareshawty - Volunteer Newsletter Editor



Volunteer Spotlight

Bill Mull

Did you enjoy some of that great smoked beef last night? You have Bill Mull, our final Volunteer Spotlight to thank.

Bill is the Vice Chairman for Admissions & Parking. In his eight years at the tournament, Bill has always worked on the parking committee.

Bill credits his good friend Don Pucak for getting him started in volunteering at the tournament.

He lives in Copley, has two children, and enjoys scuba diving and golfing. He owns his own business Mull Iron. He made the smoker that he used to cook our food last night. He cooks for parties about 10 – 12 times a year.

Thank you Bill for your service and being such a great cook! 🍴



★ ★ See You Next Year!! ★ ★
August 1 through August 4, 2012



Volunteer Stats

We have many years of service we our volunteers. Here are some statistics:

52 years – 5 volunteers	20 years – 8 volunteers
45 years – 5 volunteers	15 years – 18 volunteers
40 years – 2 volunteers	10 years – 67 volunteers
35 years – 1 volunteer	5 years – 55 volunteers
30 years – 3 volunteer	1 year – 128 volunteers
25 years – 9 volunteers	

Thank you for all you do to make our tournament a success. 🍴



Tournament Volunteer Leadership

Here is our executive leadership who shared with us their wisdom all week. Pictured left to right are the Executive Vice Chairs (EVC) and Volunteer Tournament Chairman: Mike Slifka – Security EVC; Don Pucak – Past Tournament Chairman, 2010; Sandy Becker–Neidert - Admissions & Parking EVC; Bret Benson – 2011 Tournament Volunteer Chairman; Glenda Buchanan, Administrator Northern Ohio Golf Charities, Tom Batten – 2011 Volunteer Tournament Chairman, Bryon Miller – Hospitality Services EVC; Mike Adolph – Scoring EVC; Terry Ginley – Facilities EVC.

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We're Gonna Miss You!

Billie Ferguson

After 18 years, Billie Ferguson, Tournament Services Manager, is retiring. She joined the PGA TOUR in March of 1998 as Tournament Services Manager. Billie services over 65 corporate hospitality clients annually at the World Golf Championships – Bridgestone Invitational. The vast majority of these clients support the event year after year. One of the main reasons these clients return is the outstanding customer service that Billie provides.

Billie also interfaces with key volunteer positions that operate the event. The volunteer core at the Bridgestone Invitational is approximately 1,000 people. Billie's rapport with people and her attention to detail are just some of the reasons she does such a great job.

She was employed by Northern Ohio Golf Charities as Administrator of the various professional golf events held at Firestone Country Club for 5 years; prior to that she was a teacher in the Akron Public School system.

Billie is a graduate of the University of Akron with a degree in teaching. She lives in Akron with Dave, her husband of over 40 years; has one son, Vic (wife Linda) and grandsons Van and Mac.

Thank you Billie for all of your years with us. We hope you enjoy your retirement reading and knitting to your heart's content! 📖



Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation

Did you know?

Thanks to the volunteer efforts at the 2010 tournament the Akron-Canton and Cleveland Foodbanks are able to more safely and efficiently move tons of food in their warehouses, children in need will get back to school supplies and patients without transportation are able to get to lifesaving chemotherapy, radiation and dialysis treatments. Also, new parents who can't afford cribs and car seats will be provided with these items to keep their little ones safe. 📖

Don't forget to stop at the Uniform Desk to pick up your Bridgestone t-shirt!

Where's Bret???

We would like to thank all of our members of the military past and present for your service to our county.

Bret's location yesterday was near the Cadillac display at hole 14. Our winner was Brynden Duncan. Good Job Brynden! 📖



Annual Foliage Sale!!

Starts Tuesday, August 9th from 12:00 – 6:00 Great prices on hundreds of beautiful plants, flowers, and containers from the Bridgestone Invitational. 📖

