

August Member Spotlight: *Donna Heskett*

I would like to introduce you to Donna Heskett, this month's member spotlight.

Donna has been a member of NEWGA since 2005. Donna joined Burden Lake CC in 1987 after just learning to play. One day she had lunch at Burden Lake CC and joined the course on the spot. She was secretary to NEWGA in 2006 and held that office for 10 years. In 2017 she became NEWGA president and held that office for 4 years. In addition to membership in NEWGA she is a member of Burden Lake CC Ladies League and their Interclub Rep for scheduling and building rosters.

Donna who now lives in East Greenbush, NY grew up in Portland, ME. She goes to Maine to visit her siblings and their families several times a year. Donna has one daughter, Libby. Libby lives nearby with her husband and two children.

Donna graduated with a BS degree 1971 in Physical Education and a MS degree in Health Education in 1976 both from Russell Sage College in Troy. She attended her 55th class reunion this past May. She taught PE for 35 years and called it a great job. She also coached middle school basketball and high school volleyball. She spent several summers teaching waterfront sports at a summer "Y" camp in Maine. She also worked as lifeguard and class assistant to instructors in swimming and tennis while in college. Throughout her life her love of sports has been a constant and all her jobs revolved around sports.

She got into golf in 1987 when a former PE professor challenged her to learn the game of golf. She went to a nearby driving range and was hooked. Her friend put together a beginner golf bag for her, consisting of an array of mismatched clubs and used it her first season. Donna has three holes-in-one all at Burden Lake CC. She really doesn't have a favorite course, and feels lucky to play all the courses she has. She says when "opportunity knocks" answer the door. She says all things considered it's not the course, it's the people with whom you share the course with and celebrate with afterwards.

Donna's advice for new/young golfers is: "that golf is a game". It offers you opportunities to compete if you choose. There is never a guarantee you will win. Pay attention to etiquette, learn the rules: it's important. Play fair and have fun. Donna is grateful that she was introduced to golf and that the game has introduced her to a great group of ladies. An interesting fact about Donna is since 2012 she has rented a condo on the ocean in the Dominican Republic on the North Coast. The area is called Cabarete and condo neighborhood is called "Hideaway Beach". It's warm in temperature and atmosphere. She has met great people there. it's wonderful community.



