

Dec 2023 -  
Jan 2024



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we come to the close of 2023, I want to share our accomplishments this year. I started the year by focusing on three main goals: 1. Increase the involvement of the members. 2. Build the capacity of the Club to serve our members and our community. 3. Grow TDTD Club membership, leadership, and recognition. I will continue these goals in 2024, my final year as President.

### ***Here are some of the great things that occurred in 2023***

1. Installed our 2023-2024 Officers in January, adding new Officers Leslie Banks, Vice President; Venessa Johnson, Treasurer; Bill Black, Historian; and Patricia Greene, Corresponding Secretary. (goal 1)
2. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Junior Achievement-Black Golf History Event in February was a major success. Led by TDTD Junior Golf Chair Jenny Bethune and the Junior Golf Committee, the event recognized Junior graduates and scholarship recipients. We also welcomed the U.S. Open in Los Angeles and the U.S. Open Trophy that the USGA brought to the historic Chester Washington Golf Course event. (goal 1,2)
3. In March, the Club was the focus of the documentary "An LA Institution," produced by social media star and fresh voice of golf Bradford Wilson and sponsored by the SCGA. (goal 3)
4. April saw the kick-off of another successful season of Player Development under the leadership of Tamara Bossett and her team, with many juniors participating with the adult golfers. (goal 1)
5. Seventeen members and their families traveled to New Orleans in May for our first club trip since before the pandemic. (goal 1)
6. In July, 50 + members and friends gathered at the theater to see "Tina" as one of our Friends and Family events. (goal 1)
7. In July, we had the second of our in-person meetings at Chester Washington with recognitions, introductions, viewing of videos, and dancing. (goal 1)
8. Assisted in graduating over 40 new golfers from the Women in Golf program in August. (goal 1,3)
9. Twenty + women traveled by bus to Vallejo in September to defend the North/ South Shootout trophy.
10. The Off-Season Program kicked off in October under the new leadership of Dee Dee Carter. (goal 1 and 2)
11. Increased membership from 87 to 111. (goal 3)

As we say goodbye to 2023, I pray that God will continue to shine on the Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club as we make an impact in the golf community.

*Blessings,*  
**Eloeis McGehee, (Proud) President,**  
**Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club**



### BRADFORD PLAYS TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES “AN LA INSTITUTION”



Social media star, actor, producer, and “SoCal fresh face of golf” Bradford Wilson put a spotlight on the Tee Divas & Tee Dudes in his SCGA-sponsored video short, “An L.A. Institution - Bradford Plays w/ Tee Divas & Dudes.” He did indeed join TDTD members at our June Tournament at the Wilson-Harding Golf Course in Griffith Park. Bradford was intrigued with how the TDTD blossomed into a “So Cal golf institution...impacting multiple generations of Black golfers.” The Divas and the Dudes spoke to Bradford between holes, and everyone had a good time.

**See the 7-minute video on YouTube at**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wu6lpE\\_iSJQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wu6lpE_iSJQ)

Follow Bradford on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/bradfordwilsongolf/>



### USGA GOLF JOURNAL SPOTLIGHTS WESTERN STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION HISTORY. TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES AMONG WSGA CLUBS HIGHLIGHTED

“Change Agents” published in Golf Journal a publication of the USGA presents a sweeping historical perspective of WSGA as it approaches its 70th Anniversary. It’s a compelling history of the WSGA to break barriers facing Black golfers. TDTD Golf Club, a WSGA member, quotes Jenny Bethune TDTD Junior Golf Chair that TDTD is among those growing the next generation of WSGA members.

<https://usgagolfjournal->

[fl.newsmemory.com/?selDate=20231101&qoTo=056&artid=5&editionStart=USGA%20GolfJournal](https://fl.newsmemory.com/?selDate=20231101&qoTo=056&artid=5&editionStart=USGA%20GolfJournal)

### US OPEN COMMUNITY LEGACY PARTNERSHIP TO UPGRADE MAGGIE HATHAWAY GOLF COURSE PROJECT AGREEMENT SIGNED. SEE PAGE 6.



### LOS ANGELES SENTINEL FEATURES TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES GOLF CLUB JUNIOR PROGRAM

**“Tee Divas and Tee Dudes Bring Youth to Golf,”** a feature article on the TDTD Junior Golf Program, was published in the Los Angeles Sentinel. Sports Editor Amanda Scurlock wrote, “A major asset for TDTD is their variety of partnerships that allow youth involvement in tournaments, academic and athletic scholarships, and access to golf apparel.” The article quotes TDTD Junior golfers Luke Johnson, Charles Watts, Nayani Lewis, Kourey Patterson, and Michael Johnson on academic and golfing benefits they experienced as members of the TDTD Juniors. **Read the story in the December 14 issue of the Los Angeles Sentinel in the Sports Section, pg. D-2.**

<https://lasentinel.net/epaper/december-14-2023>.

See previous coverage of TDTD Juniors: **Kourey Patterson, Athlete of the Week, August 3, Sports Section, pg. D2.** <https://lasentinel.net/student-athlete-of-the-week-kourey-patterson.html> and **Nayani Lewis, April 20, Sports Section, pg. D2.** See additional coverage of Nayani in the African American Golf Digest April issue <https://africanamericangolfersdigest.com/nayani-lewis-named-student-athlete-of-the-week-by-the-los-angeles-sentinel/>



### GET ALL THE UPDATES ON TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES JUNIOR PROGRAM PAGES 7- 8.

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## 2023 GALE JAMES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

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*Scholarship recipients with Committee: L-R: Doris LaCour, Kourey Patterson, Rosemary Spriggs, Nayani Lewis, Verna Stroud, and Gloria Howard.*

TDTD elite Junior golfers Kourey Patterson and Nayani Lewis were the 2023 Gale James Memorial Scholarship recipients. The scholarships were awarded in July at the Tee Divas & Tee Dudes General Membership Meeting at the Chester Washington Golf Course.

Kourey Patterson, on a golf scholarship, is continuing his golf career at Alabama A&M University. The Palisades Charter High School graduate helped the boy's golf team win CIF City Section Championships in 2021 and 2022. Nayani Lewis, a graduate of St. Monica H.S., will be attending HBCU University of Maryland Eastern Shore on a golf scholarship in the fall.

"The Gale James Memorial Scholarship" was established in memory of D. Gale James, a professional golf instructor until

her death in April 2015. The scholarship awards \$500 to a student golfer(s) in an organized golf program or interested in furthering their golf skills and education. Visit the Gale James Memorial Scholarship webpage at <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/gj-memorial-scholarship/>

*Verna Stroud, TDTD Scholarship Chair*  
*Committee Members: Doris LaCour, Rosemary Spriggs, and Gloria Howard*

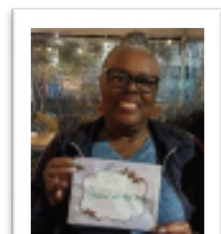
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## CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

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### OFF-SEASON RESUMES JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> CONTINUES THROUGH MARCH 2024

The next monthly golf date is January 5 at Don Knabe Golf Center & Junior Academy in Norwalk. The 19th hole is at Fronk's Restaurant and Sports Bar in Bellflower.



*Off Season Game of the Day Winner Betty Wimberly*

The Off-Season Program, scheduled from October 2023 through March 2024, was established to inspire players to continue working on their golf game, play often, have fun, and, most importantly, develop their golf skills during the winter season.

Off-season is a commitment you make to yourself to stay in your game yet be competitive. Golfers play nine-hole courses and meet at the nineteenth hole for dinner and fun. The program is for all skill levels. The more you golf, the more you increase your golf skills.

*Dee Dee Carter, TDTD Off-Season Chair*  
*Debbie Givens, Co-Chair*

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### TDTD TOURNAMENTS RESUME JANUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> AT LOS AMIGOS - REGISTRATION OPEN

The annual Red, White & Blue Tournament will be held on January 20, 2024, at the Los Amigos Golf Club in Downey for all golfers and those participating in the 18-Hole Challenge, which was launched in April. To qualify for the Challenge, golfers must have played six consecutive tournaments to be eligible to win three holes each tournament for a total of "18 holes". The golfer with the lowest total score from all six tournaments will win cash and prizes awarded in January 2024. <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/tournament-schedule-2023/>

*Charna Blakely, TDTD Tournament Chair*  
*Committee: Bob Watson, Tamara Bossett*



## PLAYER DEVELOPMENT 2023 – DESTINATION GOLF A SUCCESS!



*Player Development Kick-Off at Rancho Park: L-R: Chair Tamara Bossett with guest player, and members Sharon Walton, and Dee Dee Carter*

TDTD Player Development program series was a rousing success with an innovative 10-week schedule of golf play dates and training clinics. Coach “Chip” Womack taught several Short Game Clinics, and a Golf Rules Clinic was held to update golfers on USGA golf rules. Play dates took place at 9-hole courses with both adult and junior players.

The 2023 theme was Destination Golf, with each play date themed after favorite travel locations and players dressed to the location. Player Development kicked off at Rancho Park 3 Par with the “Monte Carlo” casino theme.



*Player Development at Rancho Park: Elois McGehee, President (left) and Jenny Bethune (right) Junior Program Chair with Junior Players at Rancho event*

Player Development is designed to help golfers of all levels improve their skills, know and understand golf rules, follow golf etiquette, prepare for tournaments, and, most importantly, have fun. Player Development Program activities are scheduled from April to August. Information on the Player Development Program is available on our website at <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/player-development/>

***Tamara Bossett, TDTD Player Development Chair  
Committee: Joan Alexander, Alvin Boudreau, and Ivy Cass***

## TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES GOLF CLUB TRAVEL EVENT: NEW ORLEANS



Tee Divas & Tee Dudes held its long-awaited golf travel event in New Orleans in May. Travel destinations have been a hallmark of the Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club since its founding in 1996, interrupted only by the pandemic. New Orleans was just what we needed. More than 17 members, many with family joining in, experienced the joy and excitement of golf and the City. The Club is known for well-planned travel for golfers and family, allowing for a mix of golfing, touring, and personal outings.



*Lakewood GC: Back L-R: Stevie Mack, Tamara Bossett, Terry Black, Sharon Walton, Chris Guyton, Elois McGehee, Willie Craven, Charna Blakely, Peggy Toy. Front L-R: Olivia Roux, Iberia Nelson, Lora Ary, Beverly King. Right: Al the Alligator greeted us on the course. Yikes!! Far right: Tamara, Elois, Charna, and Sharon at a second day of golf minus Alligator. Yayyyy!*



Golfing occurred at the Lakewood Golf Course, Bayou Oaks South Course, and the Audubon Park Executive Course.



*Bourbon Street view*

Anchored at the historic world-famous Monteleone Hotel in the heart of Bourbon Street, our travelers experienced the joys of the City. In between, we ate, walked Bourbon Street, ate again, toured the City with a guide to the history and wonders of New Orleans, and ate some more. As they say, “**laissez les bon temps rouler**” (pronounced “Lay-say le bon tom roo-lay”), which is “**Let the good times roll.**” We definitely did that.



A highlight of our experience was dining at the notable Dooky Chase Restaurant. Founded in 1941 by Emily and Dooky Chase, Sr., Dooky Chase's Restaurant soon became the meeting place for music, entertainment, civil rights, and culture in New Orleans. Thurgood Marshall and Martin Luther King held court to discuss civil rights and strategy.



*Speaker: Jay H. Banks, Former City Councilman*

Our speaker at Dooky Chase was Jay H. Banks, former City Councilman and cousin to our own Beryl Bryant. He's also known as Zulu The Big Shot, the 100th Zulu King, and Past Chairman of the Board of the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club, Inc. He shared the rich history of New Orleans and the transformations taking place since Katrina.



*Diners: Table Left: Terry Black, Willie Craven, Del Huff, Lora Ary, Olivia Roux, Elois McGehee, Peggy Toy, Charna Blakely, Stevie Mack. Table Right: Mary Black, Chris Guyton, Dianne Grant, Beverly King, Tamara Bossett, Sharon Walton*

Alas, it was time to go. As we prepared to leave the City, we found love in a basket delivered to our room. A beautiful SWAG basket with the taste of New Orleans and lots of other goodies from the local welcome group that prepared this reminder of the joy of New Orleans to take with us! Thank you, Auntie Gloria Banks, Artilia Banks, and Jonetta Faye Bennett. And special thanks to Beryl Bryant for family connections, making us feel right at home.



**TTTD Travel Committee:**  
**Chris Guyton, Chair, Beryl Bryant, and Donna Castron**



## MAGGIE HATHAWAY RENOVATION MOVING FORWARD – AGREEMENT SIGNED IN NOV

When the 123rd U.S. Open Championship came to Los Angeles in June for the first time since 1948, the United States Golf Association (USGA) brought a significant investment in the host community as it does in every City hosting the event.



This year, it chose to invest in renovating Maggie Hathaway Golf Course in South Los Angeles. A collection of foundations formed a funding collaborative around the initiative to establish a \$15 million fund—[FORE Youth: 2023 U.S. Open Community Legacy Campaign](#)—overseen by the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA) to support the endeavor. The Southern California Golf Association announced the news on their website that the project agreement has been signed:

*“The Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation, American Golf and the Fore Youth Golf Foundation signed an agreement Thursday to officially commence the Maggie Hathaway GC renovation project. The Foundation is the newly established non-profit supporting renovation, maintenance, and impactful junior programming at Maggie Hathaway GC. The Fore Youth: 2023 U.S. Open Community Legacy campaign, led by the SCGA, USGA, and The Los Angeles Country Club (LACC), has raised \$8M for the renovation project to create a community legacy benefiting underserved and underrepresented youth.”*  
<https://www.scgajunior.org/news/agreement-signed-to-initiate-maggie-hathaway-project/>

A launching event was held at Maggie Hathaway Golf Course on June 11 with USGA and SCGA officials following the formal announcement from [Los County Board of Supervisors Holly Mitchell 2<sup>nd</sup> District](#), and other officials, including Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and California State 35<sup>th</sup> District Senator Steven Bradford. Officials and members of the Western States Golf Association (WSGA), including Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club, one of several WSGA member clubs, were in attendance. The youth came out to golf and received golf equipment from the organizers.



L-R: CA Senator Steven Bradford. TDTD: Peggy Toy, Leslie Banks, Jenny Bethune, Joan Alexander, Doris LaCour, Elois McGehee, Sharon Black, Penny Cunningham, Verna Stroud, and USGA CEO Mike Whan.



Junior golfer Alyssa Davis putts on 9th hole at Maggie Hathaway Golf Course as USGA's Mike Whan looks on.



Janeen Driscoll USGA Director of Brand Communications with TDTD Jenny Bethune, Junior Program Chair, Elois McGehee, President, and Doris LaCour, Founder

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## TEE DIVAS & TEE DUDES JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM UPDATE

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2 / 4 / 2024**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Black Golf History &  
Junior Achievement Event**  
**Sunday, February 4, 2024**

*Tee Divas & Dudes*  
GOLF CLUB

*3<sup>rd</sup> Annual*

**BLACK  
GOLF  
HISTORY  
BRUNCH &  
JUNIOR  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**



**Charles Luther Sifford**  
(June 2, 1922 – Feb 3, 2015)  
The first African American to  
play on the PGA Tour.

The TDTD Black Golf History and Junior Achievement Award event will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Event. TDTD Juniors will present the **Significant Moment in Black Golf History on Pioneer Black golfer Charlie Sifford.**

In 1961, Charlie Sifford, famous for his statement "**Just Let Me Play,**" became the first Black man allowed to join the Professional Golf Association after the "Caucasian Only" clause was removed from their membership By-laws. What was unknown by many in the golf community was that Charlie's battle with the PGA began in California. During the event, our TDTD Juniors will present Charlie Sifford's Significant Moment in Black Golf History.



**CHESTER WASHINGTON GOLF COURSE**  
1818 CHARLIE SIFFORD DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90047

TDTD Juniors will also present the **Doris LaCour Leadership Award to the SCGA Junior Foundation.** As a major partner to the TDTD Golf Club, the Foundation consistently supported our Juniors by offering College scholarships and campus tours. They also provide playing opportunities at Golf Country Clubs across Los Angeles County with reduced rates for group and on-course lessons, opportunities for our TDTD girls' participation in the LPGA Girls Golf Southwest Chapter, financial support for participation in the Mack Champ Invitational, and other support. Most recently, the SCGA Junior Foundation led efforts to revitalize our community

golf course with the **Maggie Hathaway Project.** The project will be a game-changer for our juniors, women's golf clubs, and the entire South Los Angeles golfing community.

**JOIN the TDTD Golf Club on February 4. Purchase your tickets now or donate to support the event.**  
To purchase tickets or donate, go to the TDTD website: <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/juniors/>

### TDTD JUNIOR PROGRAM 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Graduating Juniors Kourey Patterson, Nayani Lewis, Charles Watts, Michael and Luke Johnson were acknowledged at the TDTD Golf Club General Meeting at Chester Washington Golf Course in July.
- On a golf scholarship, TDTD Junior golfer Dontya Bell will attend CSU Dominguez Hills Fall 2024, playing on the CSUDH Golf Team.

- **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Golf Tournament** hosted participating TDTD Junior Golfers Alysa Davis, Sanai Lambert; Michael, Luke, and Judah Johnson; Isaiah Gold, Pierre Campa, and Zebulon Barnes.
- **Koa Seymour and Blayne Brown, both Class of 2025**, were among only thirteen girls who made it to the final Steph Curry Underrated Golf Tour tournament in San Francisco. In November, Koa played the Notah Begay Junior National Championship in Louisiana with TDTD Juniors Blayne Brown and Siham Ibrahim.
- **Allan Bennett Golf Tournament: Participating TDTD class of 2024 golfers:** Boys: Isaiah Gold, Dontya Bell. Girls: Salma Ibrahim and Rori Fanning.
- **SCGA Junior Golf Foundation Scholar Dinner** featured TDTD Club Leaders and Junior Members.

## TDTD PARTNERS 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- **SoCal Jr Golf Team Partnership: The Inland Golf Academy (IGA) and Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club (TDTD).** The SoCal Jr Golf Team partnership launched in December to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion by increasing visibility, player development, and growth opportunities within the golfing industry. For more information, visit <https://www.inlandgolfacademy.org/socal-golf-team>
- **First Tee Los Angeles**, an organization dedicated to empowering young individuals through golf, is partnering with TDTD Junior Golf Program to connect TDTD Juniors with opportunities available through First Tee. TDTD Juniors Alysa Davis, Sanai Lambert, Salma and Siham Ibrahim participated in the First Tee National Tournament in New Orleans in December. The First Tee Los Angeles team finished 3rd out of 18 teams in the field—the only **ALL Girl** team. Learn more about First Tee Los Angeles at <https://firstteelosangeles.org/>
- **Advocates Professional Golf Association (APGA)** sponsored the Free Youth Golf Clinic at Chester Washington Golf Course in November. The event also included an essay contest. Congratulations to TDTD Juniors Dontya Bell (Class of 2024) and Monique Thomas (Class of 2024) for winning the Essay Contest Grand Prize. APGA is a non-profit organization that aims to bring greater diversity to golf. Learn more at <https://www.apgatour.org/>
- **Southern California PGA (SCPGA) Foundation Junior Tour Fund Partnership to support TDTD Juniors participating in the tour.** All funds contributed by TDTD members or Junior family members go to TDTD Juniors. Thanks to all TDTD members who contributed. Donate to the SCPGA Foundation Junior Tour fund go to: <https://scpga.bluegolf.com/bluegolf/scpga23/donation/socfypdonatetoday/index.htm>
- **College Recruiting Webinar with Coach Pope and Coach Smith of Southern University Golf Program, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was held in December.** Webinar topics included: What college coaches consider when recruiting junior golfers. What you need to know about Scoring average. Tournament history and the GPA and NCCA number. How to get on a coach's radar. Scholarship opportunities.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT TDTD JUNIOR PROGRAM**

@ <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/juniors/>

**FOLLOW TDTD JUNIORS ON INSTAGRAM**

@ <https://www.instagram.com/teedivadudejuniorgolf/>



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## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

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### TDTD GOLF CLUB POPCORN FUNDRAISER NETS FUNDS FOR JUNIOR PROGRAM AND SCHOLARSHIPS

TDTD partnered with Double Good Popcorn to hold its second Popcorn Fundraiser online from October 21 to 25. Fourteen TDTD adult and junior members opened a Double Good Popcorn online store, achieving \$7,500 in sales and donations over the 4-day event, netting more than \$4,200 in funds for the Junior Program and Junior Scholarships.

Bob Watson, TDTD Tournament Committee member, led the effort. Bob thanked the following for opening a Double Good online store and making the fundraiser possible:

**Top Sellers:** Vanessa Johnson, Zebulon Banes, and Jenny Bethune (deferred recognition to supporters of her store). **Other participating sellers:** Verna Stroud, Elois McGehee, Koa Seymour, Alysa Davis, Sharon & Bill Black, Robert Watson, Sharon Sanders, Sharon Walton, Patricia Green, Nikia Watts, & Nikki Wadley.



### TDTD FOUNDATION LAUNCHES 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GIVING TUESDAY FUNDRAISING DRIVE

Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Foundation launched a “Zero Calorie” Shoe Fundraiser collecting “gently worn” shoes of all types to support the mission of the 501c3 organization. The drive launched on October 21 at the Alhambra Golf Course and other TDTD Tournament sites. TDTD members donated dressy, sports, men and women, children, and golf shoes to the drive. Shoe drives have been a popular fundraiser for non-profits to enable contributors to give goods to support causes in their community.

You can still contribute at any one of the collection sites throughout Los Angeles, including the TDTD Golf Club meeting space and Yvonne Burke Senior and Community Center at 62<sup>nd</sup> and LA Brea Ave. For more information, contact Candis Noel at 818-406-1036.

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### ***Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Newsletter Acknowledgments - Photography***

*Bill Black, Club Historian*

*Jenny Bethune*

*Tamara Bossett*

*Sharon Walton*

*Peggy Toy*

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### ***Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Golf Club***

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*Rose Mary Spriggs, Newsletter Publisher Emeritus*

*Peggy Toy, Update Editor*

**Visit us online at <https://teedivas-dudesgolf.com/>,**

**Follow Tee Divas & Tee Dudes Juniors on Instagram**

**<https://www.instagram.com/teedivadudejuniorgolf/>**