

Aunt Polly and Uncle Herman

Founders of the Schwartz Family Golf Tournament

by Beth Schwartz Humes
Labor Day 1999

My first memories of Aunt Polly and Uncle Herman are from the mid 1940s before I was old enough to participate in the Schwartz Family Golf Tournament founded in 1932.

When I was a girl of six, Aunt Polly picked me up in their classic Packard convertible to join the cousins for a leisurely drive to the Otsego Golf Club, where we found Uncle Herman finishing a round of golf with his friends. He looked tall and impressive in his tweeds as he opened the Packard door and gave each of us a hug. He then took us onto the course, discussing golf etiquette as we walked the holes. "Be quiet when another person is playing. Compliment your partner on a good shot," he said in a stern voice. The cousins and I paid close attention to Uncle Herman when he showed us how to address the ball and how to keep the left arm straight on the back swing. His grandfatherly style won our hearts.

To my delight he gave serious attention to my golf and to me--a mere girl. He had his own grandchildren, yet he took the time to introduce other children in his family to the rules of golf and to the excitement of being together.

When I turned eight, I was invited by Aunt Polly and Uncle Herman to join a few of the cousins in our first Labor Day tournament. In the children's putting contest on the ninth green Uncle Stubby, Dede's brother, was my coach. Oh, the thrill I felt when Aunt Polly and Uncle Herman presented the winner's cup to me and congratulated Coach Stubby!

As the years passed we all looked forward to Labor Day. Aunt Polly in her elegant cape presided over lunch on the club porch. We gobbled down macaroni and cheese, chicken salad, and lots of chocolate cake. At the little table on the lawn Uncle Herman, on the edge of his chair peering intently through his horn rimmed glasses, consulted his sons Uncle Livy and Uncle Deen. They were computing sweepstakes results for the winner of the handicap cup and for the winner of the pot of money in a system created by Uncle Herman. His booming laugh signalled his happiness over an unexpected outcome, such as the year there was a playoff on the ninth hole between my father and thirteen year old Jenaud.

The cheering crowd included Aunt Bun and Uncle Louis who were Uncle Herman's sister and brother. Uncle Abe of Glensfoot, dressed in his dark suit, enjoyed firing the Glensfoot cannon to rattle the nerves of young and old.

Long after Uncle Herman's funeral on Labor Day of 1958, I began to realize that he was born in the 1880s and that he won the Fourth Street Club Golf Tournament in Philadelphia in 1923. An historic plaque celebrating his victory now hangs across from Graham's great grandfather in our dining room in Radnor, Pennsylvania.

After his father, David Louis Schwartz died on a golf course in 1900, Uncle Herman became a leader in the early tradition of golf in the USA. How fortunate all of us are that he left his friends on the links in Philadelphia and took the long drive on the old roads to Cherry Valley to join Aunt Polly in introducing golf, good sportsmanship, and joy in the fellowship of the game to his family.

1933

SCHWARTZ CHAMPIONSHIP
FOR THE SCHWARTZ CHALLENGE CUP

To Be Played

Over

OTSEGO GOLF COURSE

East Springfield
New York

To Be Competed For Annually

ON LABOR DAY MORNING

1. 4 members must be present for the tournament to be official.
2. Rules--U. S. G. A. and local rules.
3. Ball driven out of bounds from tee may be played from tee with penalty of loss of distance only.

50 Top Handicap

9 Holes Medal Play

HANDICAP RATINGS

		Gross.	Net.
Mrs. H. L. Schwartz, Sr.	40 strokes	99	59
Mrs. H. L. Schwartz, Jr.	17 "	59	42
Uncle Herman	5 "	46	41
Livy	6 "	44	38
Deen	9 "	56	47
B. O. B.	7 "	48	41
Billie	50 "	98	48
Uncle Louis	10 "	53	43
David	15 "	53	38
Aston	15 "	61	46
Aunt Bun	25 "		
Mary McClung	27 "	75	48



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Arthur

The name of "the only
caddy" in the 1933 picture was
Teddy Quair. His parents
ran the club house

✓ ety & Dedc
—————

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OTSEGO GOLF CLUB *Lake Day*

Event *Schwartz Championship* Date *Sept.* 193*8*

REPETITIONS
AND NOT BY

Player A. _____ Player C. _____
B. _____ D. _____

OUT

IN

Hole	Yards	Name	Par	Hdkp.	A	B	C	D	+ or -	Hole	Yards	Name	Par	Hdkp.	A	B	C	D	+ or -			
1	400	Lake	4	3	15	6	8	9	9	10	400	Lake	4	6	4	5	8	7	12	10		
2	510	Long	5	7	14	6	8	14	9	11	510	Long	5	8	8	5	8	12	13	7		
3	430	Pines	4	1	11	7	6	10	8	12	430	Pines	4	5	2	6	5	5	11	7		
4	390	Road	4	9	12	6	6	7	5	13	390	Road	4	5	10	5	6	8	13	8		
5	150	Short	3	17	8	3	4	5	4	14	150	Short	3	3	18	3	4	4	7	4		
6	315	Creek	4	13	10	4	6	8	6	15	315	Creek	4	6	14	5	5	6	8	4		
7	335	Brook	4	5	14	7	4	7	7	16	335	Brook	4	6	6	6	7	8	14	4		
8	340	Hickory	4	11	8	6	5	9	7	17	340	Hickory	4	3	12	5	7	8	11	6		
9	155	Home	3	15	7	3	6	6	4	18	155	Home	3	4	16	4	3	3	7	6		
Out 3025					35	99	48	53	75	59	In 3025					35	46	44	53	61	98	56
Signed					40	7	10	21	17		Out 3025					35	5	6	15	15	50	9
Attested					59	41	43	48	42		Ttl. 6050					70	41	38	38	46	48	47

THIS CARD MEASURES SIX INCHES ACROSS

Player takes stroke at every hole where there is a red figure equal to or less than player's handicap.

PLEASE REPLACE TURF

Cherry Valley News

"The People's Paper"

The Only Newspaper Printed in Historic Cherry Valley. A Home Paper for the Home
News of the People in the Towns of Cherry Valley, Roseboom, Middlefield, Springfield, Sharon Springs and Vicinity.

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Schwartz Family 15th Annual Golf Tournament

By ABRAHAM B. COX

The Fifteenth Annual Schwartz Family Golf Tournament was held on Labor Day, Sept. 1, at the links of the Otsego Golf Club.

There were 30 contestants in the field. Thomas Barclay won both the Handicap Cup—"The Cup"—with the low score of 35. He also won the lowest score Tray. Runner up of the handicap was Margaret Cannon, with her handicap, the scores of both were a tie, but she lost in the play-off.

The contest covers but one round of the 9 holes of the links, as is customary. The usual Saluting Cannon was fired as each group of players left the first tee. It was also fired at the Ninth Green, as each group finished.

The "automatic" method of handicapping was again used. This method seems to be exceedingly fair to all concerned, and is much fairer than any handicap committee can devise under circumstances, where a number of players, such as the Scribe, have few chances to play, and no scores to offer as to ability, and the consequent handicap to be granted. The links were in fine condition and not too crowded, although there were other players using them, and not included in the Tournament. The prizes, after being awarded, are taken care of by the committee, and the winners were given other prizes or mementoes "to keep." This is done to enable the Schwartz Family Committee to have the names of the winners and runners-up properly engraved on the Cup and Tray. There were no consolation or 'worst' score prizes. Last year a new ruling was put in force, which is that the younger members of the "family" must play, in order to keep the tournament going in the years while we older ones slowly withdraw. Of these younger members, only "Sandy" Schwartz actually played. Harry and Judy Cannon, and

Peter Hansen and others acted as caddies, which is held to fulfil the requirements of the ruling. It is also to be noted that the "Schwartz Golfing Family" includes in its envied numbers certain members, who are all required to be golfers, though perhaps not related by the ordinary ties of civic relationship, and bound but by friendship and affection.

There were some 43 who sat down to the very fine lunch which followed the contest. According to a recent ruling of the Committee, this lunch is only for such guests as have participated in the present or past tournaments, or their very near relatives, such as "the wife" or the "old man." In this group were a number and hope to play again in the future, of faces who had played in the past, but could not do so on the immediate occasion.

One main feature of the lunch was the unrivalled Punch which was prepared by Uncle David Updike, which quite beggars description, as it has for years. This Punch is of the seductive character, which impels one to desire as much of it as can be surrounded, but, despite this fact, possesses a certain artistic and refined prohibition not to attempt too much, and thereby mar the pleasure of a gentlemanly and judicious indulgence. There hangs on the wall of the Club House a poem, composed some fifty years ago, and entitled "That Famous Punch." This celebrates the exploits of a gentleman named "Billy," (known to the Scribe,) who composed what was really a melodious and harmonious Punch, but of which the Scribe knows nought save by reputation and tradition. He doubts whether "Billy" could even faintly rival Uncle David as a compounder of really masterful and thoughtfully compounded beverages. Suffice it to say the Otsego Golf Club has known of Punches in its time. Long may the Tournament and lunch and Uncle David wave!

The Scribe will not attempt to describe some stories told by Mr. Beech Cooke, who presides over the destinies of the Club House. Even to attempt might damage our good Editor's printing machinery. Some things had better be remembered than spoken!

Top Row Ralph Wright
 Kathryn Galbraith
 Curtis
 Margaret Wright
 Polly
 Godfrey Updyke
 Bob Baldwin

Uncle Louis
 Mrs Wright
 Doria
 Lucy
 King
 Henry B.
 Betty
 Harry Cannon
 Equen Meder
 Sandy

2nd
 Ned Lycell
 Edith Sawyer
 Updike
 Georgie
 Bud Barclay
 Capt Billy
 Beek Cannon
 Roy Sawyer
 Stralinger
 Updike
 Tom Lincoln
 Barbara Lincoln
 A B Cox

4
 Saltus
 Betty Wright
 Margaret Cannon
 Esther Lycell
 Dr John Parris
 Emilie
 Aunt Beem
 Aunt

5
 Alice
 Pete
 Stubbie
 Colleen
 Phillis Linn
 Mary Barclay
 Ralph Linn
 Brevoy

45
 15
 22 5
 45
 67

45 / 85

Top Row - Ralph Wright, Kathryn Galbraith, Mr Curtis, Margaret Wright, Polly, Godfrey B...
 Second - Ned Lycell, Edith Sawyer, Updike, Georgie, Bud Barclay, Capt Bill Galbraith
 Third - Beek, Roy Sawyer, Stralinger, Updike, Tom, Barbara Lincoln, A B Cox
 Fourth - Salt, Betty Wright, Margaret, Esther Lycell, Dr John, Emilie, Aunt Beem
 Fifth - Alice, Pete, Stubbie, Colleen, Phillis Linn, Mary Barclay, Ralph Linn, David Brevoy
 Sixth - Sandy, Emily Wright, Doria, Lucy, King, Mary Baldwin, Lilly, Harry
 Uncle Louis, Equen Meder

Major ABRAHAM B. COX
Glensfoot



Dial Phone 4121

Cherry Valley, N. Y., August 11, 1954

Dear Livy:--

I want to ask some questions about the Schwartz Family Golf Tournament. It has been intimated to me that it might be omitted this year, with the idea that next year things might be all right again. So many persons cannot be present that at best the Tournament could be just a "Token" Tournament.

Just to recall - "the absentees. Uncle Louis is gone, and he seemed to be a sort of leading Spirit. Your Father and Mother understand expect to pass the title to "Nob Cot" on or about the 20th. of the month. They have to return to Ardmore, as to build the new house at Cooperstown will take some time even if it could be started now, which I doubt. Aunt Georgie does not want to come to Cherry Valley, I understand she does not like it here, which is understandable. Pete and Alice cannot come from Kansas City, as I have heard. Stubby Schwartz lives even farther away, and I hardly think he and his new wife would feel themselves very welcome, Godfrey and Alice Updike cannot come, though Godfrey has written offering to send up the "ingredients" for the famous "Uncle Davie's Tournament Punch." It has been proposed I understand that the Dinner be a "Dutch Treat." If so, I believe I have chickens and other things I could and would contribute. I presume that whoever runs the Club House could get up a dinner, if he or she knew exactly what is wanted. But it seems as if there would be quite a large number of absentees. The Cannons are here, or will soon all be. Those who stayed at Nob Cot could come to Glensfoot, and maybe we could get them all in who did stay at Nob Cot. The others would stay at the Morse House or, I imagine, at Londonderry.

So I am wondering what your plans may be about the Tournament. I feel that you are now the "Boss," or the "Main Guy," or whatever is the appropriate title. If your Father and Mother were installed at Cooperstown in would be different. Even though he might not be able to walk much, we could get him up to the Club House.

If there is anything I can do to help along--let me know. But this is a Schwartz Affair, and I do not want to usurp any rights or privileges. I want to help all I can, and not to stand in the limelight, which is something I dislike exceedingly. It seems to me that there might be arranged a little contest, just so as not to break the continuity, and hope for another year to improve matters. But maybe it might be best to omit the Tournament this year and start making plans for next year. However I am ready to do all I can, but would like to know what seems likely to take place. At 80 years of age, it seems to me you young fellows ought to run things and decide how to keep the game going while we old duffers (that's all I ever was!) just do the heavy looking on and cheering. Well here's luck to the Schwartz Family and its Golf Tournament! Long may it wave!

Your affectionate Cousin;--

Schwartz Family Holds Annual Golf Tourney

The Schwartz Family Invitation Golf Tournament was held at the Otsego Golf Club on Otsego Lake on Labor Day, September 6th, as usual. The participants in the tournament were originally the Schwartz family and certain of its kinsfolk and relatives, but this has been gradually widened to include friends, on the principal of "your friends are my friends, and my friends are your friends!" Compared with past years, many "old familiar faces" were missing, due to distances and unavoidable engagements. We hope that next time most, if not all of them, will be with us. But, the same spirit of good fellowship was just as present, and, with a perfect day, an extremely good time was enjoyed by all present.

The chief feature is the Cup Handicap contest. The Otsego links have but nine holes, and one round is considered enough to determine the golfing ability of the contestants. Incidentally, in passing, it may be mentioned that there is no unavoidable requirement that eighteen holes be played. Some of the links in Scotland, where golf was born centuries ago, have less than nine, to say nothing of eighteen holes. The handicap given to any play-

er is determined by a rule or rules that work automatically, and is determined after the score cards are turned in. This seems to work out very justly and fairly, as it has been tested over quite a number of years. To win, the player must play better than his usual average, whether it be high or low. The results are always interesting.

But few of our best players were present. The field (was made up of 28 players—somewhat more than last year.

The cup was won by Deen Baldwin. The runner-up was Kay Schwartz.

The Women's Low Gross score, made by Phyllis Lum, was 48. The lowest gross score for men was tied by Ralph Lum, "Bobby" Baldwin, and Deen Schwartz. The latter won the final play-off. These last two contests, or portion of the main contest, are "Medal Play," in which handicaps are not considered.

There is a silver tray for the men, and a silver bowl for the women. Each winner has his or her name engraved on the prize.

The cup, however, is now so covered with names that some modification of the prize is being seriously considered so more names can be engraved during the years to come. The most practical plan is to add another silver base on which the cup will stand.

Curiously enough, the names on

the cup, as well as the runners-up give only the given name—not the surname. Maybe, during the coming years, some dictionary or biography book will have to go with the cup to more particularly describe who actually are or were. May it grow to the size of Webster's "Unabridged."

The contest being very satisfactorily concluded, the participants and the "gallery" were regaled by a lunch that had been provided by them "jointly and severally," as the jurists might technically phrase it. The mainstay of the lunch was some genuine Cherry Valley chicken salad, that can be equalled nowhere else, on any golf links. This was accompanied by an Italian dish known as macaroni, which can be interpreted as "dandy," just as your own Century Dictionary will tell you. (See also "Yankee Doodle.")

To make everything more peaceful and enjoyable, if possible, a modicum of "Uncle Davie's Tournament Punch" was also provided which never intoxicates because you cannot get enough, and various little kickshaws too many to mention, but much appreciated. Was a good time had by all Well, just guess "yes."

The chief manager of the tournament was Deen Schwartz. He did honor to his family name, none better. Talk about impatient waiting and expectation until next Labor Day rolls around!

Abraham B. Cox.



August 24, 1954

Dear Uncle Abe:

Thank you very much for your thoughtful letter of August 11th in which you discuss the Family Golf Tournament.

I think I should clear up some misconceptions which apparently exist regarding this event. It was founded and conceived back in the fall of 1931 by my father, Lucy, Dean, Bobby and me with the idea that it would provide a central function for the Labor Day weekend, which seemed to be a gathering time for all branches of the family. That the Tournament has existed uninterruptedly for 22 years is evidence enough that everybody liked the event and wanted it to continue. The fact that my mother and father who, through all these years acted as host and hostess for lunch, cannot be present this year does not in itself mean the end of the Golf Tournament. I feel strongly that it should be continued if sufficient members of the family wish it. For your information I will say that under the original bylaws, which have never been amended to my knowledge, there need be only four members of the family to make it official.

Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend this year as I have to leave for White Sulphur Springs on Labor Day afternoon. However, Dean and Mary, I understand, will be staying with you at Glensfoot and are more than pleased to assume the responsibilities necessary to make the Tournament a success. As for the luncheon arrangements, that of course will have to be left to other members of the family this year. My daughter, Lily, will be the only immediate member of my own family but you can be sure that all of us will be thinking about you on Labor Day and hoping that you all have a most happy and enjoyable time.

Affectionately,



Major Abraham B. Cox
Glensfoot
Cherry Valley
Otsego County, N. Y.

1954

Sept, 6th

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LIFE IS SHORT, WHY GOLF?
GRAHAM

20:09 EST

MGMCOMP

OTSEGO GOLF CLUB

Sept. 5 - 1960

Date _____ 19__

Player A. Livy

Player C. _____

B. Bobby B.

D. _____

OUT

Livy Bob B.

This round played

IN

Hole	Dist. Back	Yds. Front	Tees	Name	Par	A	B	Hdcp	C	D	Hole	Dist. Back	Yds. Front	Tees	Name	Par	A	B	Hdcp	C	D	
1	400	373		Lake	4	5	5	3			10	400	373		Lake	4						
2	485	485		Long	5	5	6	7			11											
3	432	432		Pines	4	5	5	1			12	432	432		Pines	4						
4	386	310		Road	4	3	5	13			13	386	310		Road	4						
5	152	152		Short	3	3	4	17			14	152	152		Short	3						
6	350	262		Creek	4	4	5	11			15	350	262		Creek	4						
7	335	335		Brook	4	4	5	5			16	335	335		Brook	4						
8	332	332		Hick'y	4	4	5	9			17	332	332		Hick'y	4						
9	155	117		Home	3	3	4	15			18	155	117		Home	3						

afternoon of Tournament -
~~unfortunately~~

Out	3027	2798		35	36	44					In	3027	2798		35						
Scorer	8 pars or										Out	3027	2798		35						
Attest	6 pars + 1 burdle										Ttl.	6054	5596		70						
											Handicap										
											Net Score										

PLEASE REPLACE DIVOTS

IN HONOUR OF
THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE OTSEGO GOLF CLUB

THE DIRECTORS REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY
AT AN EDWARDIAN CHAMPAGNE SUPPER

FRIDAY, THE TWENTY-NINTH OF AUGUST

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SEVEN O'CLOCK

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OTSEGO GOLF CLUB

*Play-off
Sept 1, 1969
Arthur
Bill*

Date Morning Round 19

Player A. _____

C. _____

B. _____

D. _____

OUT

IN

Hole	Dist. Back Tees	Yds. Front Tees	Name	Par	A	B	Hdcp	C	D	Hole	Dist. Back Tees	Yds. Front Tees	Name	Par	A	B	Hdcp	C	D
1	400	373	Lake	4			3			10	400	373	Lake	4	5	4		4	
2	485	485	Long	5			7			11	485	485	Long	5	5	4		8	
3	432	432	Pines	4			1			12	432	432	Pines	4	5	4		2	
4	386	310	Road	4			13			13	386	310	Road	4	4	3		14	
5	152	152	Short	3			17			14	152	152	Short	3	3	4		18	
6	350	262	Creek	4	3	5	11			15	350	262	Creek	4	4	5		12	
7	335	335	Brook	4	4	5	5			16	335	335	Brook	4	4	5		6	
8	332	332	Hick'y	4	3	5	9			17	332	332	Hick'y	4	3	4		10	
9	155	117	Home	3	3	3	15			18	155	117	Home	3	3	3		16	

Out	3027	2798	35	13	18					In	3027	2798	35	36	36					
Scorer	<i>Arthur H. Schwartz</i>									Out	3027	2798	35							
Attest	<i>Bill [unclear]</i>									Ttl.	6054	5596	70							
										Handicap										
										Net Score										

PLEASE REPLACE DIVOTS