



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PGA HISTORICAL CENTER EXPANDS MUSEUM HOURS FOR SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL
*Golf Enthusiasts Can Now View Ryder Cup, Championship Trophies and Exhibits Each Thursday-Sunday***

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. – Responding to a more than 150 percent increase in visitors to the PGA Historical Center in Port St. Lucie, Fla., during the Christmas-Easter season, the world-renowned golf museum has expanded its spring, summer and fall off-season days and hours to accommodate the increasing demand. Now through Christmas Eve, the PGA Historical Center will open each Thursday-Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Traditionally, the facility -- which is home to the Ryder Cup Trophy; the four major Championship trophies of golf; Donald Ross' 1900s-era workbench, the oldest known written mention of golf from the Articles of Parliament from the 1500s and the PGA Golf Professional Hall of Fame – has only been open on weekends from Easter through Christmas. However, due to demand from its many popular exhibits, the PGA Historical Center will double the number of days it is open during this period to four days a week.

“The PGA Historical Center has organized a staff of more than 20 volunteers to help us expand the time that we can keep the history and traditions of The PGA of America alive for the public to witness and treasure,” said Bob Baldassari, PGA general manager, PGA Village, which also encompasses the PGA Golf Club and the adjacent PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance. “We invite everyone -- golf enthusiasts, schools, summer camps, families and museum goers alike to experience our world-class facility that traces the history of the great sport of golf.”

Admission to the PGA Historical Center is free year-round. For more information on PGA Village, call 800-800-GOLF (4653) or visit www.pgavillage.com/stlucie.

Notes: The adjacent PGA Education Center will host the private induction ceremonies of the 2009 PGA Golf Professional Hall of Fame on Tuesday, May 5, in conjunction with the PGA Leadership Conference. Inductees include: PGA Honorary President Brian Whitcomb; former PGA Golf Professionals of the Year Jim Manthis and Peter Krause; late 1948 Masters Champion Claude Harmon; the late legendary PGA teaching professional Harvey Penick; former UCLA golf coach and renowned teaching professional Eddie Merrins; PGA of America Rules Committee Chairman Don Essig III; and three-time PGA of America Board of Director Harry “Cotton” Berrier. The PGA Golf Professional Hall of Fame is officially housed on the back portico of the PGA Historical Center. Media interested in covering the event can contact PGA Director of Communications Kelly Elbin at (561) 624-8445 or kelbin@pgahq.com.

A Ladies Play Golf America Day will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m., at the next-door PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance (formerly PGA Learning Center), with complimentary golf clinics, lessons and fun. For more information visit pgavillage.com/stlucie or call (800) 800-GOLF (4653).

About PGA Village:

The Ryder, Wanamaker and Dye Courses form a trio of world-class public courses at the PGA Golf Club, at PGA Village in Port St. Lucie, Fla. Named by *Golf Digest* as one of the “75 Best Golf Resorts in North America,” PGA Village also features the award-winning, 35-acre PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance (formerly the PGA Learning Center) and PGA Historical Center golf museum. The PGA Golf Club exists to be one of the premier daily fee facilities in America, and to serve as a home club for our 28,000 PGA Professionals. For more information, please visit www.pgavillage.com.

About The PGA of America:

Since 1916, The PGA of America’s mission has been twofold: to establish and elevate the standards of the profession and to grow interest and participation in the game of golf.

By establishing and elevating the standards of the golf profession through world-class education, career services, marketing and research programs, the Association enables PGA Professionals to maximize their performance in their respective career paths and showcases them as experts in the game and in the multi-billion dollar golf industry.

By creating and delivering dramatic world-class championships and exciting and enjoyable golf promotions that are viewed as the best of their class in the golf industry, The PGA of America elevates the public’s interest in the game, the desire to play more golf, and ensures accessibility to the game for everyone, everywhere. The PGA of America brand represents the very best in golf.

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