



Connecticut Clippings

Volume 43, No 3

October/November 2009



2010 CAGCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

From Left to Right

Scott Ramsay, CGCS, Steve Curry, Eric Morrison, Mike Donahue, Mark Mansur, Don Beck, Paul Bonini, CGCS, John Garcia, Marc Weston, Sean Flynn, Chris Mauro, Steve Smith

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Seated, Jason, Left to right Alessia, Sage and Zachary Mauro

The President's Message

monthly golf meetings kicked off in April. The social calendar included Family Day at Lake Compounce and will end with the Christmas Party in December at J. Timothy's. Thank you to the following members for hosting a monthly meeting in 2009:

- April** – Willow Brook Golf Course and Chris Guilmette
- May** – Watertown Golf Club and Paul Bonini, CGCS
- June** – Shennecossett Golf Club and Eric Morrison
- July** – Wintonbury Hills Golf Course and Mark Mansur
- October** – Topstone Golf Course and Gary DeVaux
- November** – Highland Golf Club and Chad Esposito

The CAGCS Board of Directors held meetings throughout 2009 in which we discussed, decided and voted on usual issues concerning CAGCS, below are a few issues that may not be mentioned in other annual reports and deserve to be highlighted.

- The Board of Directors decided that beginning in 2009 we would establish a Benevolent Fund that would be available

for our members and their families to help in times of need, the Board voted to start this fund with a \$10,000.00 donation from our general fund.

- The Board voted to commit one of our monthly golf meetings to be dedicated as a fund raiser for our Benevolent Fund. Our first annual tournament was hosted by Wintonbury Hills and Mark Mansur.
- The Board acting on a recommendation from a committee of past Superintendent of the Year Award winners voted to change the Superintendent of the Year Award to the Distinguished Member of the Year Award.

Thank you to Mary Jo, the Board of Directors and to everyone who has volunteered their time to help CAGCS be what it is today and thank you to those hosted our 2009 events. A special thank you to all our commercial members for volunteering your time and for your continued donations that help keep our meetings enjoyable and affordable.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris P. Mauro

Dear Members,

Another golf season has come and for the most part gone and with the holiday season fast approaching I would like to highlight some of the 2009 season happenings and the Board of Directors work for 2009 as well as thank those who continue to make this association a model of success for all other associations to follow.

The event calendar started for us with the winter seminar at the Hawthorne in January with a great list of speakers and a near record number of attendees. Our

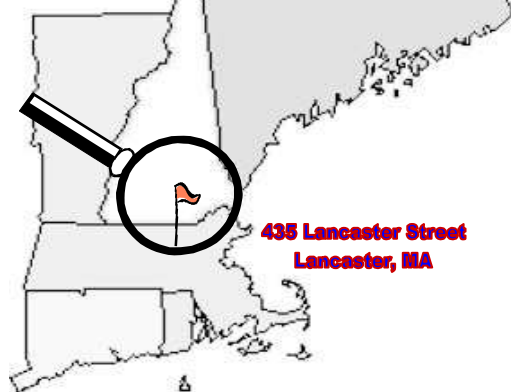
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2009 CAGCS CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

The championship is a two round combined score from the Shennecossett Golf Club and Topstone Golf Course meetings. Congratulation!

| | Gross | Net |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1st Flight | Eric DeStefano 153 | Eric Morrison 144 |
| 2nd Flight | Mike Decker 174 | Steve Curry 144 |
| 3rd Flight | Bruce Morse 199 | Al Adaskaveg 159 |
| Senior Flight | John Motycka 192 | Brian Skelly 150 |
| Commercial Flight | Ward Weischet, CGCS 147 | John Callahan 138 |

2-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP
 Champion – Kevin Collins/John Parmelee
 Second Place – John LaBrie/Gary Burns
 Third/Fourth (tie) – Chris Mauro/Walter Wozniak and Jason Booth/Shannon Slevin



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**MET TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
PLAINFIELD COUNTRY CLUB
EDISON, NJ • MONDAY,
OCTOBER 5, 2009**

TEAM EVENT

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1st Place – GCSA of New Jersey | 294 |
| 2nd Place – Connecticut AGCS | 295 |
| 3rd Place – Met GCSA | 304 |
| 4th Place – Philadelphia AGCS | 306 |

**OCTOBER MEETING GOLF
RESULTS TOPSTONE GOLF
COURSE OCTOBER 13, 2009**

*Presidents Cup/McLaughlin Trophy
Superintendent/Assistant Tournament
2-person Best Ball Gross/Net*

Superintendent/Assistant Tournament

1st Gross – Twin Hills CC – 72
Mike McDermott
Eric DeStefano

2nd Gross – Madison CC – 75
Mike Chrzanowski
David Ryan

1st Net – The University Club – 61
John LaBrie
Gary Burns

2ND FLIGHT

1st Gross – 72
Eric Morrison, Shennecossett GC
Ward Weischet, CGCS, John Deere Golf

2nd Gross – 79
Brian Pope, Turf Products Corp.
Mike Decker, Clinton CC

1st Net - 62
Kevin D'Amico, Westwoods GC
Steve LaMesa, MGC Developers, LLC

2nd Net - 65
Aaron Maher, New England Turf
Jim Favreau, TurfLinks, Inc.

Presidents Cup – 73
Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills CC

McLaughlin Trophy – 65
Brian Pope, Turf Products Corp.

Closest to the Pin, Hole #4 – 15'8"
Heather Garvin, Chas. C. Hart Seed

Closest to the Pin, Hole #8 – 19'4"
Mike Pieri, Glastonbury Hills CC

Closest to the Pin, Hole 12 – 16'5"
Eric Morrison, Shennecossett GC

Closest to the Pin, Hole #15 – 9'11"
John LaBrie, The University Club

Closest to the Line –
Phil Neaton, Black Hall Club

Longest Drive
Mike Decker, Clinton CC

Longest Putt, Hole #7 – 15'8"
Chris Newcome, Madison CC

Longest Putt, Hole #14 – 12'6"
Tom DeGrandi, TPC River Highlands

**15TH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND
TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
MIACOMET GOLF COURSE
NANTUCKET, MA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009**

1st Place – CT Association of Golf Course
Superintendent
2nd Place – RI Golf Course Superintendent
Association
3rd Place – Maine Golf Course
Superintendents Association
4th Place – Golf Course Superintendents

Association of Cape Cod
5th Place – NH Golf Course Superintendents
Association
6th Place – Golf Course Superintendents
Association of New England
7th Place – Vermont Golf Course
Superintendents Association

**NOVEMBER MEETING GOLF
RESULTS HIGHLAND GOLF
CLUB NOVEMBER 5, 2009**

9 Hole ABCD Scramble

1st Gross – 30
Peter Lund
Mike Cornicelli, A-OK Turf
John Mroz, Highland Golf Club
Dan Murphy, Highland Golf Club

2nd Gross – 30
Mike Dukette, Harrell's
Pete Maier, Highland Golf Club
Bruce Morse, Norwich Golf Course
Al Adaskaveg, Rockledge Golf Club

3rd Gross – 32
Heather Garvin, Chas. C. Hart Seed
Robert Szymanski, Short Beach Park GC
Sean Donovan, Turf Products Corp.

1st Net – 22
Sean Flynn, Great River Golf Club
Marc Weston, Indian Hill Country Club
Mike Donahue, Phoenix Environmental Care
Erick Holm, CGCS, Hop Meadow CC

2nd Net - 22
David Conrad, Metro Turf Specialists
Steve Curry, Shuttle Meadow CC
Kevin D'Amico, CGCS, Westwoods GC
Charlie Babcock, Tunxis Plantation

3rd Gross – 25
Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills Country Club
Mike McDermott, Twin Hills Country Club
Ed Downing, New England Specialty Soils
Manny Mihailides, DGM Systems, LLC

Closest to the Pin, Hole #6 – 4'7"
Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills CC

Closest to the Pin, Hole #8 – 6'1"
Mike McDermott, Twin Hills CC


Longest Drive
Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS, The Blind Brook Club

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE FOLLOWING CAGCS
MEMBERS RECEIVING THEIR
"LIFE MEMBERSHIP"**

Alexander Adaskaveg, Class A, Rockledge
Golf Club; Douglas Cooper, Class C,
Watertown Golf Club; Steve DiVito, Class
A, Western Hills Golf Course; William R.
Hamm, Jr., Class A, Chippabee Golf Club;
Peter Lund, CGCS, Class A; Michael C.
Reeb, CGCS, Class A, Country Club of New
Canaan; Les Sheiber, Class C, Hartford
Golf Club; Gregory J. Wojick, CGCS, Class
Commercial, Communitool, LLC

25-YEAR PIN RECIPIENTS

Heather L. Garvin, Class Commercial,
Chas. C. Hart Seed Co.; Peter Hull, Class
Commercial, Turf Products Corp.; Les
Kennedy, Jr., CGCS, Class A, The Blind Brook
Club; Michael Kravontka, Class Affiliate,
Wethersfield Country Club; Michael S.
Moran, Class C, The Course at Yale; Scott
M. Ramsay, CGCS, Class A, The Course at
Yale; James Staszowski, Class Commercial,
Turf Products Corp.; Wayne C. Urban, Class
A-Retired; Harry Ward, Class A, Crestbrook
Park Golf Club

20-YEAR PIN RECIPIENTS

Dave Basconi, Class Commercial, D & S;
Gary B. DePaola, Class C, Hunter Golf Club;
Edward M. Goodhouse, Class A, Torrington
Country Club; Dave Pijnburg, Class
Commercial, Greenacres Company

15-YEAR PIN RECIPIENTS

Ed Ball, Class SM, East Lyme Park &
Recreation; Thomas M. DeGrandi, Class A,
TPC River Highlands; Thomas J. DeVaux,
Class SM, Hunter Golf Club; John T. Moran,
Class Commercial, Arbor Care, Inc.; Richard
A. Negralle, Class C, Clinton Country Club

10-YEAR PIN RECIPIENTS

Mark Ericson, Class Commercial, Steven
Willand, Inc.; Joseph Fabrizio, Class C,
Orange Hills Country Club; Michael E.
Griswold, Class SM, Skungamaug River Golf
Club; Ted Tighe, Class A, Guilford Lakes Golf
Course; Walter Wozniak, Class C, Mill River
Country Club

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New Members

David R. Golembeski, Class C
Rock Ridge Country Club

Benjamin Goossen, Class C
The Patterson Club

Aaron Maher, Class Commercial
New England Turf, Inc.

Phillip N. Matts, Class C
The Patterson Club

Congratulations

Congratulations to Gloria & Shannon Slevin, Golf Course Superintendent at Pine Orchard Yacht & Country Club on their recent marriage "The event" took place September 26, 2009 at The Pelham Country Club in New York.

CAGCS Awards Annual Scholarships

The following are recipients of the 2009 CAGCS scholarships. Dr. Richard Skogley Scholarship recipient: Justin O'Neill, son of Timothy O'Neill. He is attending Brown University.

CAGCS Scholarships were awarded to: Austin Adaskaveg, son of Alexander Adaskaveg, he is attending Western New England College; Maggie Ball, daughter of Ed Ball, she is attending Penn State; Emily DeVaux, daughter

of Gary DeVaux, she is attending University of Connecticut; Tyler DeVaux, son of Gary DeVaux, he is attending Lyndon State College; Edward Dukette, son of Michael Dukette, he is attending University of Rhode Island; Alexandra Flowers is the daughter of Michael Flowers, is attending University of Rhode Island; Patrick Gallagher, son of John Gallagher, III, he is attending Central CT State University; Meghan Gennings, daughter of Scott Gennings, CGCS, she is attending University of Massachusetts; Todd Gennings, son of Scott Gennings, CGCS, he is attending Saint Michael's College; Thomas Lund, son of Peter Lund, CGCS he is attending Quinnipiac College; Alexandra Mish, daughter of Terrance Mish, she is attending Springfield College; Michael & Robert Neaton, sons of Philip Neaton, Michael & Robert are attending University of Hartford; Kristen O'Neill, daughter of Timothy O'Neill, CGCS, she is attending Connecticut College; Kevin Rackliffe, son of Dan Rackliffe, CGCS, he is attending Penn college of Technology; Randi Schock, daughter of Richard Schock, she is attending Southern CT State University; Brittany Staszowski, daughter of James Staszowski, she is attending Simmons College; P. Gus Wollenberg, son of Paul Wollenberg, she is attending Castleton State College.

A Memorial Scholarships were awarded to Michael Casey, who is employed at Wallingford Country Club, Scott Gennings, CGCS & Anthony Minitti, who is employed at Orange Hills Country Club, Jud Smith, Golf Course Superintendent.

The Board of Directors and members of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents want to congratulate all recipients, and wish them the best in their scholastic endeavors.

Note

John Motycka, Golf Course Superintendent of Skungamaug River Golf Club has invented a tool to aid in repairing sprinkler heads. An article about this invention and John will be appearing in our next issue. In the meantime please check out his web site. www.jiffytool.net

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President – Christian P. Mauro
Vice President – Kimberly J. Heyl
Secretary – Mark B. Mansur
Treasurer – John Garcia
Past President – Keith A. Angilly

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Education – Donald Beck
Golf – Eric Morrison
Membership – Sean Flynn
Scholarship & Research – Paul Bonini, CGCS
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PIN RECIPIENTS

(From Left to Right) Al Adaskaveg, Peter Hull, Ted Tighe, Heather Garvin, John Moran Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS, Sean Flynn, Dave Basconi, Peter Lund, CGCS, Steve Divito, Greg Wojick, CGCS



CONGRATULATIONS TO BEN GOOSSEN, THE PATTERSON CLUB WINNER OF THE CAGCS CLASS C TOURNAMENT - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2009

Photo 1: Doug Zitnay, Great River GC, Scott Lund, Ridgeway CC, Rob Capacelatro, Great River GC
Photo 2: Noel Hall - TPC River Highlands, Ben Newfang -TPC River Highlands, Matt Quinn - Indian Hill CC, Mike Morawski - Indian Hill CC
Photo 3: Steve Winiarski - Shuttle Meadow CC, Tim Nadeau - Wethersfield CC, Chris Knapp - HB Brownson CC, Mike Pieri - Glastonbury Hills CC
Photo 4: Neil Lajeunesse - Oak Hills Park GC, Ed Clark - Wallingford CC, Ben Goossen - The Patterson Club, Rick Duggan - The Patterson Club



NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES CANDIDATES FOR THE 2010 GCSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee has ratified the slate of candidates for the 2010 GCSAA Board of Directors. The following members have been nominated and will appear on the ballot at the Annual Meeting and Election Feb. 12 in San Diego:

- For president: James R. Fitzroy, CGCS at Wollaston Recreational Facility / Presidents GC
 - For vice president: Robert M. Randquist, CGCS at Boca Rio GC
 - For secretary/treasurer: Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS at The Olympic Club; and Sanford G. Queen, CGCS at City of Overland Park
- There are two open director positions this year, as Finlen and Queen are both at the end of their two-year terms:
- For the two director positions: Robert O. Farren Jr., CGCS at Pinehurst Resort and CC, Todd A. Lupkes, CGCS at Palouse Ridge GC, Bill H. Maynard, CGCS at Milburn G&CC, and Mike B. Wooten, CGCS at Cedar Ridge CC

Peter J. Grass, CGCS; Keith A. Ihms, CGCS; and John J. O'Keefe, CGCS, will remain on the board with one year remaining in their two-year terms. Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS, will serve on the board as immediate past president, and David S. Downing II, CGCS, will retire from the board. The candidates' complete bios and statements will be published in the January issue of GCM.

GCSAA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

For Immediate Release -- September 2009

Contact: Bill Newton, GCSAA Manager of Media Relations, 800-472-7878, ext. 3688

Selected by national golf association based on knowledge, skills, abilities

Flynn of Great River Golf Club participates in leadership academy

Sean Flynn, Golf Course Superintendent, Great River Golf Club was one of 25 individuals from around the nation who participated in the Golf Course

Superintendents Association of America's Leadership Academy, Sept. 9-10 at association headquarters in Lawrence, Kan.

Those who attended the two-day session were nominated by their GCSAA-affiliated chapter based on their potential to serve as volunteer leaders in the near future. They heard speakers and shared best practices that helped them learn practical leadership skills. The program also addressed current issues and future trends impacting the golf course superintendent profession and association management, and helped the attendees begin building a professional network of peers who share best practices and innovative ideas.

"The lifeblood of any organization is a membership that has vision and is engaged," GCSAA President Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS, said. "To guarantee those resources exist, we believe it is important to identify and cultivate leaders who can execute on the association's mission and the vision. Sean is to be congratulated because he has been recognized by his peers as having the talent to be a leader."

Among the sessions featured included a presentation from Steve Keating of The Toro Co., who focused on "The 360 Degree Leader," Bryan Stromme, Midwest Regional Director of Agronomy for Billy Casper Golf, who presented "Taking the Lead in Environmental Issues in Golf," and GCSAA CEO Mark Woodward, CGCS, who talked about association management. The event was presented in partnership with The Toro Co. and Syngenta.

GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 20,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. The association's philanthropic organization, The Environmental Institute for Golf, works to strengthen the compatibility of golf with the natural environment through research grants, support for education programs and outreach efforts. Visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org.

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW 2010

The 13th Annual New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show will take place March 1-4, 2010 in Providence at the Rhode Island Convention Center. With ½-day and 6hr. seminars on Monday, a full USGA day on Tuesday, keynote speaker, education sessions on Wednesday and Thursday offering an array of turf management informative speakers, this year's conference will cover something for all turf managers! Many turf professors and researchers from inside and outside of the New England area are scheduled to participate bringing with them some of the newest research findings and information. Expectations are that the trade show will expand to nearly 400 booths with all the newest in available equipment and turf management products. Each year the city of Providence plays host to events at the convention center offering more in comfort, cuisine and entertainment. More information will be mailed in November and December and can also be found on our website at www.NERTF.org for both attendee and exhibitors. Registration will begin in December and can be done by either mail, fax or online. Please watch the mail for more information!

Gary Sykes, NERTF Executive Director



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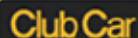
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RENOWNED GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT GEOFFREY CORNISH ESTABLISHES ENDOWMENT AT STOCKBRIDGE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

Best known as the award-winning architect of more than 230 golf courses throughout the Western world, Dr. Geoffrey Cornish, ASGCA, has always been active in golf course and turf education. Now he is ensuring that new generations of turfgrass students will benefit from the mentoring of top professionals at preeminent facilities.

Dr. Cornish, principal at Mungeam Cornish Golf Design, recently established The Geoffrey and Carol Cornish Fund for Enhanced Learning Opportunities in the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The endowment, named for Dr. Cornish and his late wife, will underwrite special internships at the finest golf courses and premiere athletic complexes for qualified students in the School's Turfgrass Management Program.

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A long-time instructor at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design and the Stockbridge School, as well as a renowned golf course author and historian, Dr. Cornish hopes the Fund will forge lifelong affiliations between students, donors, and leading golf course superintendents and turf managers. Donors who sponsor an internship will be encouraged to visit the intern at work—imagine getting seats and a behind-the-scenes tour at a World Series game or playing with the pro at one of the nation's top-ranked golf courses—and students will report on their experience to the donor and to their turf classmates.

Earlier this year, Dr. Geoffrey Cornish's protege and former partner, Brian Silva, visited the UMass Amherst campus as the Alumni Association's Bateman Scholar. While he was on campus, Brian helped to publicize the Cornish Fund. In a story that appeared on the university's website, Brian was quoted as saying, "This will be an incredible learning experience for a Stockbridge student. I wish I were twenty again and had an opportunity like this." (For the full story, visit www.umass.edu/giving/news)

A minimum of \$250,000 is necessary to fully endow the Cornish Fund and provide once-in-a-lifetime internships for deserving students. Including Dr. Cornish's initial gift and very generous bequest, contributions to date have brought the fund halfway to its goal.

To honor the man who has long served golf course architecture and the turf industries through his award-winning designs, leadership, and educational efforts, contributions may be made to The Geoffrey and Carol Cornish Fund for Enhanced Learning Opportunities in the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. There are many ways to make a gift, including sponsoring an internship with a gift of \$25,000 (which may be pledged over a period of up to five years). Contact Rick Robar at the university (413-577-1692; rrobar@cns.umass.edu) to find out how best to contribute to the training of tomorrow's turfgrass and golf course experts.

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NOW PART OF "THE CREW"

Fred Bachand knew he would have to do something when he retired from the job of Superintendent at Wethersfield Country Club after 39 years, but just where he would spend his time was up in the air until Paul Cormier, Lesco-John Deere, who worked at Wethersfield for Fred and with Tom DeGrandi, passed on the message that Tom DeGrandi, Superintendent at TPC River Highland, would love to have him on his crew. Tom was thrilled to have his mentor working on his crew but at the same time, it was a bit intimidating. Fred's request was to be part of the crew and not to be treated any different from the other workers. He does everything the crew does from mowing to bunkers and enjoys being one of them. Tom appreciates having another set of experienced eyes on the course and someone to bounce ideas off once in a while.

Fred grew up in Southbridge, MA and got into the business because he played golf. He attended trade school to become an electrician and after high school went to work for American Optical. One of his jobs was to maintain the hospital grounds and doctor's lawns and he liked it. His brother was attending UMASS for animal husbandry and he suggested Fred go there for a turf degree. The Wethersfield connections are Alex Clarkson, a fellow student who did his placement at Wethersfield CC for Superintendent, Bill Dest and Bob Phipps, who worked there and

when he left, Fred applied for his position. In the summer of 1965, Fred began working at Wethersfield for \$2.50/hour and married his wife, Sue. He was drafted in 1966 and went off to Vietnam, returning to the course in 1968 and became the Assistant in the fall of that year. Bill Dest accepted the position at UCONN in 1969 and Fred was given the job. In Fred's years as Superintendent, he hosted 14 PGA Tour Tournaments and never went over budget. This year, Tom tied Fred with 14 PGA Tour tournaments as Superintendent, and with Tom's 3 as an Assistant, they have hosted 32 between them.

Now Fred has gone full circle, as Tom so nicely pointed out. The reason you get into the business is because you like the instant gratification of seeing your work done well and as you work your way up the ladder, it becomes more management, not as much hands on. Now in retirement, Fred is back to being one of the crew.....and just that. During the 2009 Travelers Championship, word got out that Fred was working for Tom and the local TV and golf journals wanted a story. Fred refused because he didn't want to take the spotlight away from Tom and he wanted to be just part of the crew. Fred mowed fairways on the split shifts morning and night during it. Fred enjoyed seeing how the tournament has grown over the years with the addition of many tents, the police presence and the Tour Staff. The Tour Agronomist now spends two weeks before the tournament on site and checks the greens with moisture

probes, stimp meters and generally oversees the maintenance. Both Tom and Fred said the key to a relatively easy tournament week is to keep your course in great shape all year long and then it is just another week.

When asked what the biggest change Fred has seen over the years in the golf business, he said soft spikes on the golf shoes and their lack of damage to the greens. Bunker rakes, the hydraulics in the equipment and the level of course conditions have changed drastically over the years also. To see Fred and Tom together, this arrangement is a good fit for both. Respect for each other and the love of golf and the golf course are very present.



Fred began working full days, two days to be exact. Then he said, "What is wrong with this picture? I'm supposed to be retired." So now he works half days, and tends to his garden in the afternoon. Driving off the course at noon certainly took some getting use to, especially during aerification week.

By Heather Garvin

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