



THE Greenerside

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Photographic documentation on the golf course

By Rich Oates

Many Golf Course Superintendents use photography to document conditions on their course for future reference. If photography is something you would like to pursue but haven't found the time, you should make it part of your job. Pictures powerfully illustrate points of view like no verbal description can. Even lawyers—those alien life forms, those masters of verbal persuasion—regularly use pictures in the courtroom as evidence or to illustrate a point. In addition, photography is a fantastic hobby for anyone who likes gadgets, gizmos, gear and *equipment*. What Superintendent doesn't like *equipment*? When you get into photography, you're stepping into equipment heaven. Lenses, camera bodies, tripods, bags, filters, flash units, cables, classes, seminars, magazines, competitions, to the point where you'll want to do it all the time. Ah, well maybe.

Especially when starting at a new club, pictures can be used to record existing conditions, to capture problem areas you have inherited. Pictures can remind a greens committee of drainage problems at their worst or of lost revenue because of late season snow. Picture taking will keep a contractor honest. Have your assistant take pictures of a contractor working on your course (even if there isn't film in the camera) and corners will not be cut!

What if you have been at your course for 25 years and you have fine-tuned **everything**? Good luck because in this business you can't sit on your laurels for long. Political winds change in a snap and will you be ready? You will if you took pictures of all the wonderful things you've done over the years. A good portfolio of golf course project pictures can be a great parachute to have—just in case. You're going to mail the resume and bring a picture portfolio to back up your claims and nail the next job. Back up your accomplishments with pictures, think like a lawyer—there will be a bucket full of lawyers on the next course you'll be working for. They will admire the hell out of you.

So what do you need to know to improve your golf course

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From the editor's desk

Under the Weather

I love the Weather Channel.

I watch it before work, during work, after work. It's not an obsession but I do need to tune in before tuning out for the night.

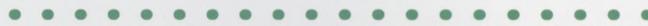
On weekend mornings, early arriving club members join me in the grill room looking for a crease in the big green blob. "Are we gonna get nine in Doug?" During commercials we switch to Metro Weather, but it just doesn't cut it.

Recently the red flags went up.

Two weeks ago I got into a heated argument with a friend about the need for a severe weather expert desk. I twitch when surfing the web if I don't log on for a quick peek. I can't get the local on the eights tune out of my head! Maybe it's an obsession or maybe it's just a weather related condition. How about you?

I'm all for the desk.

Doug



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President's Message *John O'Keefe, CGCS, Preakness Hills CC*

The state of the Association

I thought for this President's Message, I would update everyone on what is going on and what is on the horizon with our GCSANJ. The Board and the committees have been very busy with moving our association into the future.

At the Board level, Jim McNally is fine tuning our new accounting reports which, if you ever served on the Board, know that the old ones were impossible to understand. Once we have a full year with these new procedures we will have a much clearer picture of our finances.

Everyone should have received their new directory by now. We are excited about the future possibilities with this new format. During the year we can update member information and add new members without having to reprint the entire directory. Roger Stewart, his committee, and Judy did a great job getting this developed.

We started our new mailing options - E-mail, Fax or regular mail. Having these different options allows members to receive mailings much quicker with a substantial savings to the association. We have had some problems with members not receiving notices. If you are experiencing problems receiving notices, please contact Judy at headquarters.

Brian Remo has done a great job with the new line of GCSANJ merchandise. These items are available at a reasonable price. He has some items in stock and individual orders are welcome. Just give him a call.

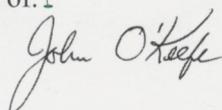
Coming soon is a completely re-built web site. Todd Raisch from Ridgewood C.C. has been actively working on this project. The new site will be located on an independent server and will be managed by a web manager. Greg Nichol and Todd have been working extremely hard on this project and we hope everyone enjoys the new site once it is launched this fall.

Paul Dotti and Brian Remo are actively planning our Fall and Winter Seminars. Education is a main objective of our association and the committee is continuing to improve our educational events.

These are just a few examples of some of the changes we are making as we move forward.

One change you won't see is the way we help one another. I am extremely proud of our membership and the way they stepped up to the plate to help Tom Crump and John Carpinelli with their crisis.

I thank the membership for their continued support. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey is an association we all should be proud of. I



President John O'Keefe, CGCS congratulates Bruce Rickert CGCS on the great job he did preparing Medford Village CC for our June meeting.



Calendar

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 14, 2003 | District III Meeting Tom's River CC
Host: Ed McSeaman |
| August 19, 2003 | District I and II Meeting Flanders Valley GC
Host: Mark Johnson |
| August 19, 2003 | District IV Meeting McCulloughs Emerald GL
Host: Mark Peterson |
| September 25, 2003 | GCSANJ Monthly Meeting Twin Brooks CC
Host: Tom Crump, CGCS |
| October 14, 2003 | GCSANJ Championship Morris County GC
Host: William Carrick |

For more information contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100

Photographic documentation

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documentary photo skills? Are digital cameras better than film? What do professional photographers know that you don't?

1. The main difference between a professional photographer and an amateur is editing skills. The average National Geographic Magazine Shooting Assignment requires on average 400 rolls of film. Not 400 pictures-400 rolls taken by a professional. Of all these pictures taken, maybe 20 pictures are published. How many pictures do you need to make a point? You need a minimum of two of your very best shots. You need one wide angle picture to get an overall story of what is going on and a close up to show detail. That's it. Stop while you're ahead. Don't show 72 snap shots of the new tee box, have two of the very best enlarged to an 8x10 or 11x17 and then you'll have something sure to grab attention. It's tough to let go of creations you've made-but dozens of mediocre pictures will only bore the pants off of who ever it is you are trying to win over.

2. For documentation, use or buy a camera with a date

in frame feature. These cameras print the date within the picture and will fix the time of year along with the subject. When taking pictures of the family on vacation, shoot the first frame with the date feature then remember to turn the feature off for the rest of the roll. For picture taking other

Don't show 72 snap shots of the new tee box, have two of the very best enlarged to an 8x10 or 11x17 and then you'll have something sure to grab attention.

than documentation, the date feature takes away from the image.

3. Always take documentation pictures with a common object like a golf club, golf cart or person in the picture to show scale. Disease guys take pictures of dying turf with lens caps in the photo to show scale and also to let you know

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Documentation on the golf course

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they own an expensive camera. If your fairway is flooded, have your assistant stand in the deepest part to show scale. Be creative.

4. The time of day and cloud cover available is critical when taking pictures. Camera manuals lead you to believe you can take pictures anytime, anywhere and end up with great shots. The truth is, the best cameras available on the planet can record less than half of what your eye and brain can recognize. The human eye can see detail in bright and shadowed areas where the most advanced Nikon or Canon camera cannot. Professional photographers know this and now you know it. The best pictures are taken early in the morning, late in the afternoon or on cloudy days when there is less range between very dark shadows and bright highlights. You may not have the luxury to pick and choose the best time to take pictures but if you are not careful, your pictures will not be the best they can be. Even with the magic of digital picture manipulation, you can't improve on an image where most of the highlights are missing because of overexposure.

5. When taking close up shots, fill the frame with the subject. Your brain instantly filters out extraneous information when you are looking at an object but a camera records all objects (usually poorly and everything except for what you really wanted to record). With close up shots, zero in on what is important. One way to take close up shots is to buy a 35 mm single lens reflex camera (SLR) with removable lenses and purchase a \$1700 dollar telephoto vibration reduction zoom lens. A less expensive way to take frame filling close up pictures is to walk up closer to your subject and take a shot.

6. Speaking of cameras which is better, digital or film and which camera brands are better? There are advantages and disadvantages to both cameras. With digital you can instantly review what you are doing and know right away if you have the shot you want or need. For many, this frees

The human eye can see detail in bright and shadowed areas where the most advanced Nikon or Canon camera cannot. Professional photographers know this and now you know it.

up creativity because you know it's not costing you money every time you hit the shutter button. For documentation work, digital is the way to go. Just this year, Canon came out with a digital SLR that is said to surpass film base pic-

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Skin cancer - an undeclared epidemic

By Peter Pedrazzi, Sr.

For over twenty years I have been battling skin cancer. I have had basal cell carcinomas taken off my face, neck and back. Also, part of my right ear has been reconstructed due to skin cancer. However, my biggest scare came this past November when my wife Carole, who has also experienced skin cancer, noticed a small lesion on the top of my head. Without telling me, she immediately made an appointment with our dermatologist. When she told me about the appointment, I told her to cancel it, I would go after our vacation in February.

Carole insisted that I keep the appointment, which I did. She ultimately may have saved my life because the biopsy report came back that it was a melanoma, the most aggressive form of skin cancer. My doctor told me that it had to be removed as soon as possible. The melanoma was found to be in its early state and hadn't spread.

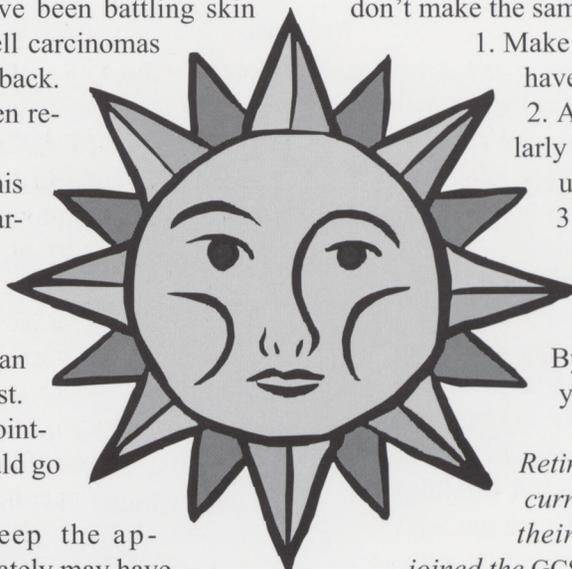
Being a golf course superintendent for so many years, I was exposed to the sun far too often. Also, I have to admit that I didn't take skin cancer seriously. Please take my advice

don't make the same mistake that I did.

1. Make an appointment with a dermatologist to have a complete body check.
2. Avoid or decrease sun exposure particularly between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. when ultraviolet radiation is most severe.
3. Use a sunscreen with a SPF of 15 or higher. Wear a wide brimmed hat and tightly woven clothing.

By doing these things you may just save your life.

Retired superintendent Pete Pedrazzi, Sr. is currently employed by Grass Roots, Inc. as their technical sales representative. Pete joined the GCSANJ in 1960. [



Wilfred MacDonald, Inc. receives Jacobsen's highest honor

Wilfred MacDonald, Inc received Jacobsen's top honor, the Distributor of the Year Award for 2002 at the GCSAA show in Atlanta. It was the tenth time Wilfred MacDonald has received this award and the first time since 1997. The entire sales team was there to receive the award, including Chairman Jim Pelrine, President Mike Pelrine, and Vice-President Chris Hunt, salesmen Bill Luthin, Bernie White, Glenn Gallion, Tim Kerwin, Mike Clifford and Service Manager John Carr. [

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GCSANJ news

MEDFORD VILLAGE CHALLENGES THE GCSANJ AND WINS

By Shaun Barry

In March of 2003 Brian Minemier told me that Medford Village CC wanted to host a monthly meeting. A week later Gregg Armbruster told me the same thing. This is the kind of help that makes this job so easy. I called Bruce Rickert CGCS and we met the next day with Leo DeGisi and Chris Curry. Within an hour everything was set and June 30th was the date picked.

There was a lot of excitement as everyone arrived because they were all really looking forward to playing this storied golf course. Built in 1963 and originally called Sunny Jim GC this course had a bounty placed upon its head. Anyone who accepted the challenge of playing from the back tees could win \$10,000 if they broke par. Many people tried

but nobody ever walked away with the money. Knowing this history Bruce had us playing from the blue tees so we could get a true feeling for the Medford Village experience. There were no complaints even though this made it really tough. We enjoyed the experience because for many of us the scores would be bad from any set of tees.

Dr. Richard Hurley got things going with his unique speech on the history of golf. You could tell that Rich and his very ancient looking actor enjoyed their parts in this epic story. It is even reported that due to popular demand Rich and Seamus will return in another story that also will not reach your local theatres.

Bill Goodrich and Matt Anasiewicz from Helena Chemical Company donated \$1,000 to sponsor lunch and dinner. It was money well-spent because the food was great. I know you didn't have to do it guys but it really helped keep our costs down. Thanks.

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GCSANJ *news*

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On the course we had a great time. The heat and humidity were broken by a 30 minute shower but it never affected the conditions of the course. Bruce thought it could be better but he was the only person there who had those thoughts. I still hear raves about the course whenever I mention the meeting to anyone who was there.

Tom Grimac shot a 76 and won the low gross part of this tournament (it is nice to know that some things never change). John Farrell (79) took second place on a match of cards with Tom Ashfield and Jim Woods. John Alexander (67) edged Charlie McGill (68) in the net division. Mr. Ashfield however did win a closest to the pin contest (The Terre Co.) 7 ft 4 ins. J. Alexander won two of these contest (both sponsored by Wilfred MacDonald Inc.) with shots of 9 ft 9 ins and 4 ft 8 ins. Doug Larson had one closest to the pin (Storr Tractor) when he hit it to three putt range of 2 ft 6 ins (caused by the fact he was putting with something other than his recently broken putter). Doug also had a longest drive (Storr Tractor which might have occurred on the hole following the three putt). The other long drive winners were

Matt Dobbie (Tosilieri), C. McGill (Bayer ES) and John O'Keefe (Bayer ES). Ken Mathis got a double skin for his eagle and Mr. Alexander continued his successful day with two skins. Other winners were Ken Jeinings, Dr Jim Murphy, Dave Mishkin, T Ashfield, Bill Murray, Jack Montecalvo and Brian Remo.

The day had to end but it was a great time from start to finish. Bruce I hope that when you read this you will thank everyone at the club for all of their hard work and that especially includes you and your staff. Augusta National would be proud of your conditions and I think their budget might be slightly larger than yours. I hope we can do it again.

Note: Most of the skin money and the 50/50 winnings were donated to John Carpinelli CGCS. A fire burned the family home and they lost everything. Doug Larson told us the story and gave us an update at lunch. That evening we raised over \$1,100. Most of that came from John, Bill & Tim but since they gave anonymously I won't give their last names. I do know however that the giving continues and that I am very lucky to be part of such a wonderful group of people. [



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GCSANJ *news*

WAYNE PITCHED AND WE STRUCK OUT

By Shaun Barry

Wayne Remo, CGCS stepped up to the plate when he volunteered to host the July meeting. Unfortunately we as an association failed to answer his invitation. I was at a mandatory sales meeting in Washington DC and I am sure there were lots of other good reasons for missing this meeting but we should have had more than 40 people in attendance. Please make every effort to attend these meetings or else we will have to look at other ways to have our meetings.

Those that did attend had a great time. Dr. Jim Baird took time out from his busy schedule to address the group and did a great job. He was able to discuss the many problems and solutions that he has seen this year. It is this kind of information that can really help our members whether it be for this year or in their planning for the future. Jim had to leave to attend to business but he left with our thanks.

Bill Murray loved the course even though he didn't win anything and I believe he, like many players before him, expect that they will do better next time. In Bill's case I think he is correct. He helped run the day for the association so that was to be expected. Paul Dotti was truly amazed at how neat everything was on the course. He was under a tree or two and never saw a twig or a pine needle. He knew that the turf would be great but this got his attention as well.

Brian Remo knows how to bring guests. Bring a great guest who can play this game. Lou Buttermark Jr. shot a 75 to win low gross honors and together with Brian they won the low gross part of the member-guest tournament. Their score was 72. Peter VanDrumpt shot 76 gross for second place. The low net team was Brad Fox and his Dad. They

shot an amazing 59. Brad also shot a net 64 on his own ball and took 1st place honors beating out Paul Ramina who had a nice 67.

Closest to the pin honors went to Tony Gordon (Wilfred MacDonald), Pat Quinlan (Wilfred MacDonald), Mark Wittlinger (AT Sales) and Pat Quinlan (Storr Tractor). Our long drive winners were Mark Wittlinger (Torsilieri). Tom Weinert (Storr Tractor), Lee Kozsey (The Terre Co.) and Wayne Remo (Bayer ES). The skins winners had one each and they were John O'Keefe, Fred Blaicher, Tony Gordon, Pat Quinlan, Lou Buttermark Jr., Peter VanDrumpt and Dick Neufeld.

Thanks for all of your efforts Wayne. I know you put your heart and soul into this meeting and I hope you enjoyed the day as much as those of us who were able to attend. Please thank everyone on your crew for all of their hard work and next time we will have a waiting list of people wanting to attend. I



Welcome to our new members

Scott Smith - Superintendent - Mattawang G.C. Class A, District III

Barry Kronman - JADA Corp. Class AF, District II

Matthew Paulina - Lesco, Class AF, District IV

John Kirkpatrick - Redhook Equipment Co. Class AF, District III

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TAKING THE FIRST STEP TOWARD AUDUBON CERTIFICATION

Certification is a significant milestone for properties enrolled in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary and Audubon Signature Programs. A diverse array of properties has achieved the distinction of becoming certified, yet all began in the same way-*with a single step.*

Getting started begins with commitment. It starts with someone who says *"We can do this."*

"It's a mindset," says Ken Giedd, retired Director of Golf and Landscape at Kingsmill Resort in Virginia, certified in 2000. "Once you become certified, you're always looking at how things affect the environment; you're always looking for ways to improve."

To encourage those of you who have not yet taken that first step, we asked several of our certified members to help us address key concerns regarding certification. We hope their responses help you take the first step.

"Certification is too tough. I don't think my course can achieve it."

• Focus on the ***Site Assessment and Environmental Plan*** to get started.

Members often look at the entire certification process instead of simply taking it one step at a time. Begin by focusing on the *Site Assessment and Environmental Plan*. When you get through that first step, rather than worrying about all of the steps at once, you'll feel more confident in becoming certified and you'll have a solid game plan to follow.

"I completed the first certificate quickly. It was easy-describe your property and what is on it," shares Robert Taeger, CGCS at Village Country Club in Lompoc, California, certified in 2001.

That said, most people who have achieved certification for their properties agree that it is not accomplished without effort. Audubon International has long sought to find a balance in the certification process- trying not to make it so difficult that it's not attainable, but strong enough to give it meaning.

"I think the certification process is difficult, but fair. I was required to improve several of my projects and goals before I became certified and I feel now that the efforts were worth the time. The tougher the effort, the more rewarding the certification and the more meaningful," states Joe Alonzi, CGCS of Westchester Country Club in Rye, New York, certified since 1996.

"I don't want to apply until I've done everything."

• You don't have to be perfect to start. Certification is a way to build upon your strengths, reduce liabilities, and discover new possibilities that lay ahead.

The ACSP is not like school and your certification request is not like a test handed in to be graded. We work with you to find ways to meet certification guidelines based on your unique circumstances.

The ACSP is not like school and your certification request is not like a test handed in to be graded. We work with you to find ways to meet certification guidelines based on your unique circumstances. Waiting until "everything is in place" usually results in never getting started and never getting certified.

"Remember that the spirit of the program is that it's a *cooperative* effort, which means getting others involved. Assign duties to other people who can carry them out," advises Tim Hiers of The Old Collier Club in Naples, Florida, a Certified Audubon Signature Sanctuary. Many environmental management practices and projects required for certification are likely already in place. The point of getting certified is

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to evaluate where you are, develop a plan for filling gaps, and continually improve.

"I'm satisfied with just being a registered member, why should I pursue certification?"

- Certification enables you to assess management practices, make changes to improve the environment, reduce costs and liabilities, and better communicate about your efforts.

"The best management practices recommended by Audubon International can lead to savings in man hours, water costs, chemical costs, and more," points out Keith Thompson, Director of Horticulture at Innsbrook Resort and Conference Center in Missouri, certified since 1999. "Coupled with public education, the program creates a positive image for your property."

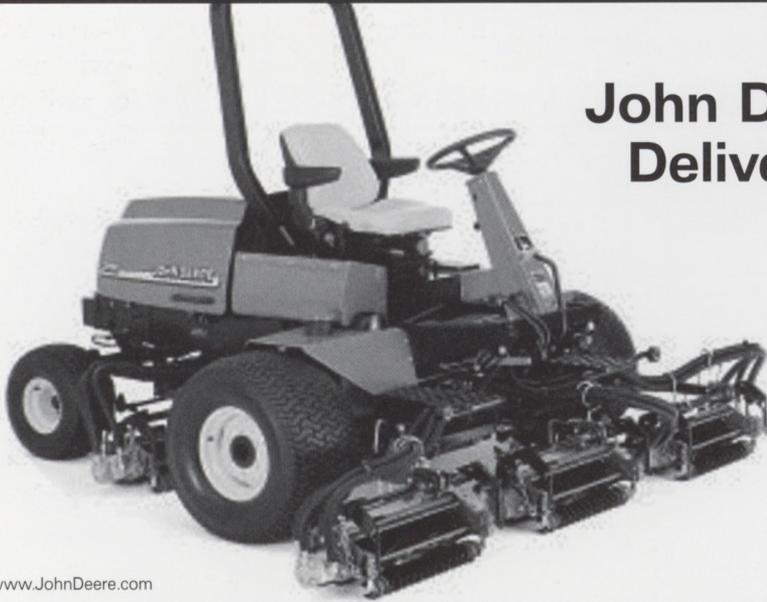
Others report that demonstrating environmental leader-

ship led them to pursue the *certified* designation. "We're proud to be in the forefront of environmental excellence and to prove that a well-designed, well-maintained golf course can also be one that strives for a high degree of environmental

"The best management practices recommended by Audubon International can lead to savings in man hours, water costs, chemical costs, and more," points out Keith Thompson

quality," shares Golf Course Superintendent Glen Misiasek of Shaker Hills Golf Club in Massachusetts, certified since 1999. "The fact that we are the first daily fee course in Massachusetts to receive the designation is especially gratifying."

Continues on page 12



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GCSAA *news*

Continued from page 11

“We won’t be able to get certified; we don’t have the staff, money, or time.”

• Any golf course, business, school, or individual backyard can join and become certified.

You don’t have to have lots of acreage or habitat on your property to get certified—you just have to *practice good environmental management*. ACSP certified properties include small backyards, suburban schools, and industrial facilities, as well as large resorts, cemeteries, and all sorts of golf courses. We’ve built flexibility into the ACSP so that we can work with people of all walks of life to improve the quality of the environment.

“Rather than let issues of lack of time and money defeat us, we just plod along and do what we can,” says Andrea Vittum, President and CEO of White Haven Memorial Park in New York, certified since 1998. “We just started a program for four interdepartmental groups each to come up with a project to show respect to White Haven visitors

and the environment. All four chose something related to the Audubon Program. Interest and enthusiasm are running high and things are getting done.”

“To reach certification, it took a lot more thought than money and a willingness to try some things differently,” explains Barry Endicott, Superintendent of Nobleton Lakes Golf Club in Ontario, Canada, certified since 1997. “At Nobleton, we have found that we can operate a successful business, while at the same time we can be environmentally sensitive.”

To find out more about the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses

or request a membership application, call (518) 767-9051, extension 12 or email: acss@audubonintl.org www.audubonintl.org ¶

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8TH ANNUAL RUTGERS TURFGRASS RESEARCH GOLF CLASSIC

By Shaun Barry

Once again this wonderful fundraiser was held at Royce Brook GC. The count for players was 232 before registration started but 3 more teams joined this effort to help Rutgers. The final number was a little less than this because the weather was threatening but it still turned out to be an extraordinary field with every part of this industry represented. It was a true VIP list of attendees.

GCSANJ member Trent Inman CGCS changed jobs earlier this year so the care of the course went to Mike Gornnert. Mike was the assistant at Hamilton Farm GC and he made this change a seamless transition. Congratulations Mike and good-luck Trent.

Members of our association did very well so I will report their scores. In the team gross division the winners were (East Course) Dennis DeSanctis Sr., Bill Rahling and Dr. Jim Murphy (59) and (West Course) Dennis Reed, Jay Villani, Mike Kelly and John O'Leary (61). The net winners (East Course) Marie Pompei, Nancy Sadlon, Ray Liotta and Bob Zelle (59) and (West Course) S. Sell, Mike Pelrine, Chris Hunt and S. Kopach (58 the USGA team had a 57 but they refused to take the prize). Closest to the pin winners were Don Kobayashi (7 ft 5 ins) and Corey Wescoe (5 ft 9 ins). Jim Baird won the long drive contest by one foot over Rich

Sweeny (supt. at Glen Oak CC in the Poconos) so Rich was awarded the prize. Doug Larson hit the other longest drive and he almost had to hit back to the green. Nancy DiRienzo won in the women's event and it was really hit.

Once again this wonderful fundraiser was held at Royce Brook GC. The count for players was 232 before registration started but 3 more teams joined this effort to help Rutgers.

This event continues to grow because of you and your desire to help a good cause. Dr Clarke puts his heart and soul into this event and he wants you to know how much he appreciates your help. You are always there for him and he will always be there for you. I



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Leslie Cup update

North

Carrick/Gardiner defeated Griff/Wirth in the first round but lost to Barry/Pease in the second round.

Ashfield/Weinert defeated Harsin/Farrell in the second round.

Barry/Pease play Ashfield/Weinert in the third round.

Macaulay/McMonagle defeated DeSanctis/King in the first round but lost to Fallacaro/Neufeld in the second round.

Cross/Woods defeated Boyle/Sparta in the second round.

Cross/Woods play Fallacaro/Neufeld in the third round.

South

Mitchell/Rider defeated Riggs/Weld in the first round but lost to Mathis/Simpkins in the second round.

Beck/Casteen defeated Mishkin/Peterson in the first round.

Alexander/Hanisko defeated Baird/Murphy in the first round.

Alexander/Hanisko defeated Beck/Casteen in the second round.

Alexander/Hanisko will play Mathis/Simpkins in the third round.

Lescrinier/Strobel defeated Bosco/Colurra by default in the first round.

Lescrinier/Strobel defeated Driscoll/O'Brien in the second round.

Dobbie/O'Neill defeated Berardo/Murray in the first round.

Dobbie/O'Neill play Owsik/Owsik in the second round.

Lescrinier/Strobel play the winner of the above match in the third round.

Note to the remaining matches. There have been some matches played without official handicaps. As per the instructions everyone needs to have an official handicap and if you do not have a handicap you are to play as a scratch. Please make sure you have a fair chance and get a handicap. [

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Photo-op's



Striking a Sports Illustrated cover pose, Chris Zelley (L) and Tim Christ were the winning team at the Robert Trent Jones Appreciation Day held at the Metedeconk National G.C.



Ian Kunesch (L) congratulates Pat Campbell CGCS for the superb job he did preparing the Panther Valley C.C. for the NJSGA amateur. Of course Ian participated!



The GCSANJ was well represented at the Metropolitan Golf Writers Association Awards Dinner.





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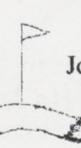
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Photographic documentation

Continued from page 5

tures--but wait just a minute. If you're going digital, you better be ready to spend time on the computer for printing and editing pictures. If you don't have the time, film may be more realistic. The important thing to remember is that the picture taking process of composition, focus and exposure (which is what photography is all about) is the same for both digital and film. The picture taking process involves two learning curves--the first is photographic technique, the second is mastering the camera itself (be it film or digital). As for camera brands--the best camera companies are the companies that specialize in optics. The most important part of the camera is the lens and the best camera companies are optical companies that happen to make cameras. Great pictures can be taken with any camera but the pros gravitate to Nikon and Canon. Nikon and Canon have the greatest selection of accessories and camera gear systems and their optics are the most advanced.

Well, these are a few tips to start you thinking. Pho-

tography is a tool that can save your job, make you a more powerful communicator and help secure a new job. You may even like taking pictures enough to make it a life long hobby.

Who is this Rich Oates guy? An alumni of the Rutgers Golf Turf Management School, Metedeconk National, Lesco and presently selling & marketing Oceangro fertilizer. Rich got hooked on photography four years ago after taking a photography class at Brookdale Community College.



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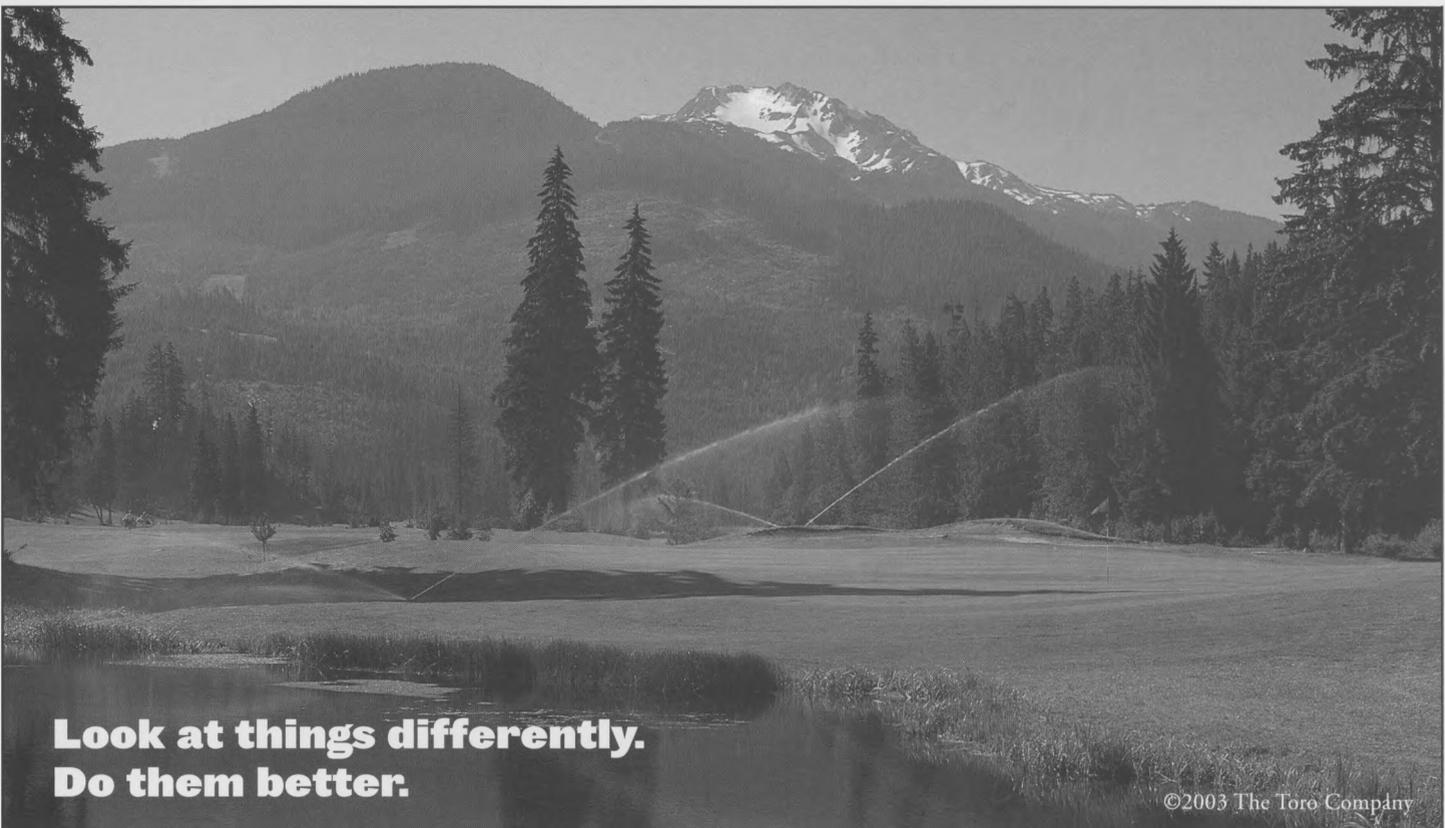
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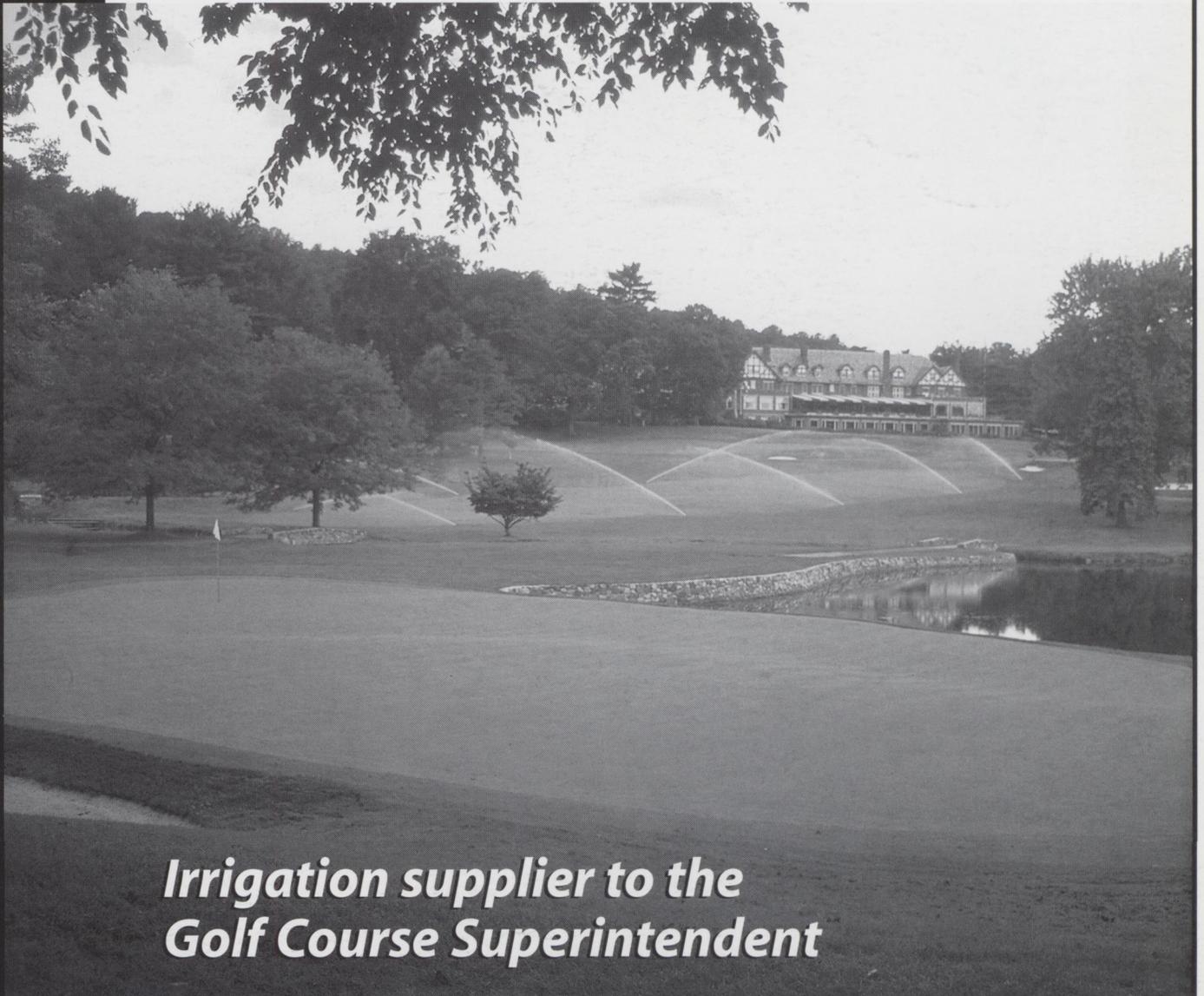
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