> Get Well Soon TOM

Your Friends in the GCSANJ

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From the editor's desk Hope and Encouragement

We carry a torch passed down from one generation of greenkeepers to another.

Seventy-seven years ago the need to help one another was the foundation on which our association was built. Not only in matters of turf but also of benevolence.

Many members recently answered the call for help from fellow greenkeeper Tom Crump CGCS and his family. They donated blood and platelets. They gave hope and they gave encouragement.

"We are optimistic" Wanda Crump says of Tom's transplant. "With superintendents behind us anything is possible."

The torch shines bright. Sincerely,

2004



Buddy Rizzio (L) has helped keep the GCSANJ informed about Tom Crump's challenge.

Calendar

July 14, 2003

Oct. 14, 2003

July Monthly Meeting Apple Ridge CC Host: Wayne Remo, CGCS

GCSANJ Championship Morris County GC Host: William Carrick Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100

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

Rainy days and Mondays always get me down.

f you have a crew like I do that likes to keep busy and needs to work a full day, these continuous rainy days are killers, especially if they're on Mondays. Monday is our day to get "everything" done and if the rain keeps us off the golf course, it's inside jobs for most of the crew. My guys don't mind working in the rain but with standing water in historically waterlogged Wayne, NJ, there is no way I can keep an entire crew on the course. So, we've cleaned and painted everything that isn't moving. Then it hit me...like a bolt out of the sky...a very gray sky. Maybe the job we should be doing is building an ark.

See, it's positive thinking that will get us through the rain. The big picture is compromise, we have to understand the needs of the turf vs. the needs of the members. The members have to be able to play golf at some point even though we may suffer agronomically or esthetically to some degree. Just kind of wish wilt was our biggest battle this time of year.

Keep looking at that long range forecast, it's bound to change at some point. You know, the whole deal with the silver lining and all. We just have to stay patient. I know we have the strength. I've seen it in our members, especially lately. You'll be happy to know that Tom Crump is at home and is working hard to recuperate. We have to continue our positive thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery. Huge thanks to Shaun Barry, Buddy Rizzio, Bruce Peeples and Ken Kubik who helped organize us and made it easier for those who wanted to help Tom. Many thanks to all who went to Sloan Kettering to donate blood and platelets. When we work together as an association, we are at our best.

Association is very important. Webster defines it as "the



John O'Keefe, CGCS, donates platelets for the Tom Crump Blood Drive.

act of associating or a group of people". You're part of our group of people and we aren't truly associating if you aren't present. Make an effort to attend meetings. I know it's hard this time of year. There are a million reasons not to leave the course, but there is one very important reason why you should. YOU! Going to meetings is still the best way to ease tension about issues at work, make new friends that are in the same boat or ark as you are, and to gather new ideas to make your job easier. Sounds like a silver lining to me.

John Otherfe



174 Plainsboro Road, Cranbury, NJ



Bringing new products to market

By Bob York

After being prodded a number of times to write an article for the local superintendents association I finally targeted a topic that defined cooperation between superintendent and manufacturer. At BASF, 'Making It Better' is the tag line, but how do we make the products better? In this article we'll talk about bringing a new product to market and all the steps related to that process. Starting out with the discovery phase, then on to development, and finally the end-user evaluation phase. It's in the end-user evaluation phase that I would like to highlight the efforts made by local superintendents to help test and evaluate these products.

Discovery Phase: The objective of this phase is to identify or produce products that BASF can test. In the testing process there are many methods like compound synthesis, plant extraction and fermentation to test for potential compounds. In addition there are multiple forms of screening that takes place to identify if the compound possesses desired characteristics to be an herbicide, fungicide or insecticide. BASF tests approximately 10,000 compounds for plant growth regulator, herbicide, fungicide or insecticide activity; out of the 10,000 tested approximately 100 are passed on to the next phase. The second phase of screening involves analog testing, spectrum of activity, and effects of environmental factors, application timing, toxicity studies, adjuvants and formulations. On average, only 1 in approximately 30,000 compounds make it from the chemist laboratory to the enduser. Development, testing and EPA approval takes 10-12 years and costs 75 to 100 million dollars for each product.

Development Phase: During the time a product is in the development phase a major commitment of money and resources are made to support the development of this product. Support for the product comes in many forms like field

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New products to market

Continued from page 4

evaluations, university studies and private testing facilities. General recommendations are developed at this time related to rates, timing of application, formulation and compatibility tests. Other tests that are conducted during this phase would be degradation studies, metabolism studies, mobility studies, dissipation studies, ecotoxicology studies and human toxicology studies. In addition to the safety studies that are conducted product chemistry trials are conducted to determine the components of the technical grade material, to determine the color, physical state, odor, viscosity, solubility, pH, melting and boiling points, bulk density, explosiveness, flammability and corrosiveness of the product. While working in the development phase technical support people along with universities will conduct numerous tests to evaluate spray drift, worker exposure, re-entry periods, best mixing formulation, least toxic formulation and the package system. While researchers are concentrating on the best and safest way to develop the product other technicians are conducting economical analysis related to manufacturing, production, plant design, label development and processing. Once we know we have a product that meets the stringent criteria suitable for registration, a complete package of information is submitted to the EPA for the registration process.

End-User Evaluation Phase: Over the last couple of years I have been able to work with superintendents to test a couple of these new compounds, namely EmeraldTM, Insignia® and HonorTM in real world situations out on the course. This process is called EUP or Experimental Use Permit trials. In 2001 we positioned 7 EUP's with courses in New York, New England and New Jersey area, in 2002 we positioned over 30 trials. BASF is continuing the EUP process in 2003 and will be looking at all three compounds and how they work in real world situations. With the help of Chris Boyle CGCS, we were able to develop some best management practices or guidelines to help maximize the most effective way to use Emerald at Mendham Golf & Tennis Club, Mendham, NJ. We were able to identify strengths and weaknesses of the product and how best to use the product under different management practices. We were also able to use this product in conjunction with other products like Chico 26GT® (Iprodione) and Banner MAXX® (Propiconazole) that are already on the market. The ability to test these products prior to registration will help launch this product with the most agronomically sound recommendations and the highest level of fundamental knowledge.

Chris Boyle CGCS says, "When it comes to my agronomic practices and maintenance programs, I would consider myself to be more traditional than cutting edge. I work hard to stay abreast of new technologies and turfgrass research, but they must survive the test of time before I will incorporate anything new into my maintenance system. I am particularly skeptical of new products like fertilizers, pesticides, and biostimulants that are introduced to the market and advertised as the "next best" or "the answer

Once we know we have a product that meets the stringent criteria suitable for registration, a complete package of information is submitted to the EPA for the registration process.

to all of my problems". It was this skepticism, however, that peaked my interest when I was asked to participate in a demonstration trial of an experimental fungicide not yet on the market. The protocol for the demonstration trial was clear, concise, and organized. With the support of Grass Roots and BASF, we initiated this trial on the golf course.

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Professionalism-stop hiding!

By Robert LaChance

Despite seventy-five years of the national golf course superintendents association's efforts, when you mention a professional at your golf course facility, there is still only one-the golf pro. GCSAA in recent years has tried to address this issue, and after a failed effort at educating the public is now focusing on educating us, its members. Maybe if we can somehow certify that we have the required education, time on the job, and attend even more educational programs continually, we will be viewed as professionals along with our golf-merchandising brothers. Realistically, I doubt it.

The goal of providing education to its members in the many diverse areas of our profession is admirable. Continual education in a profession changing as rapidly as ours is a requirement for just holding on to your job. That is my point. These things do not make us professionals or make others view us as professionals. An education and



a commitment to continuing education are prerequisites for our jobs. Like the prerequisites in college, you have to take the classes, do the work, and pass the exams in *Continues on page 8*



Products to market

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Throughout the trial, there was continued interaction between BASF and myself. I gained valuable insight on the methods and procedures that a company must endure to bring a new fungicide to market, and quite frankly it was exciting to be a part of that process. With a little extra time and planning, the trial was easy to administer. Our applications went smoothly, and produced some very positive results. Participation in this research has definitely changed my way of thinking about new products. I certainly gained a better understanding of the research development process. By examining the development of other new products more closely, I may feel more comfortable using a new product. This experience has probably taken me one step closer to the cutting edge."

BASF is committed to the turf industry and will continue to bring NEW innovative products to the marketplace, which could not be done without the help from golf course superintendents and golf course superintendent associations. If you are interested in finding the closest EUP to your location or you need any information related to these products, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Bob York is the Specialty Products Representative for BASF.





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Professionalism-stop hiding!

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order to prepare for your real classes. Frequently, the prerequisite classes do not even count towards your degree.

Our on-the-job-performance is what sets us apart as professionals, and if we want to change our image to that of professionals, we need to change how our performance is perceived by the public, our members or golfers, our staff, our golf professionals, general managers, and everyone else we interact with in the performance of our duties as golf course superintendents. After all, when we say we want to be viewed as professionals, we are actually asking for our due respect.

Respect, the old adage goes, is earned. Your position or education and certification, do not guarantee respect. You earn respect by how others perceive you while you perform the duties of your job and in how you interact with others while you perform that job. You earn respect by being perceived as deserving respect.

Now this bothers quite a few people, and rightly so I would say. In a world that seems to be more about perception than reality, image than performance; perception is hardly truth. Nevertheless, the reality is that if we want to



be perceived as knowledgeable, resourceful, and dedicated; we are going to have to project that image. We can no longer hide in our own little world, and expect others to recognize our achievements. We need to get out and show people what we do-and how well we do it. That means we need to

We need to get out and show people what we do-and how well we do it. That means we need to interact with more than our own staff, the golf pro's staff, and maybe the accounting staff.

interact with more than our own staff, the golf pro's staff, and maybe the accounting staff. We need to get out more!

We need to be seen as doing our job, an important job that requires many talents, all of which we are capable of and proficient in. We need to be perceived as efficient and effective in the performance of our duties. We need to let people know what it is that we do.

How can we do this? Most importantly, I believe, we must stop hiding. The grounds maintenance building is usually situated where it will not be seen. As impractical and outrageous as it may sound, maybe the superintendent needs to have an office in the clubhouse, an office in which he/she can be seen and even visited. This office needs to be a bit like a professor's office with designated open office hours each week that the superintendent will be in for to answer questions and other related tasks. The office at the "barn" does not have to be abandoned, but we need to be perceived as available to more than our own staff. How about a sign on our cart "Golf Course Superintendent?" As a professional, we need to be willing to take responsibility for our work.

Speaking of our staff, how many times have we heard that if you can raise up the lowest, everyone will benefit. Do we speak highly of our crew as trained technicians and quality people? Are they educated in their job and do they project an image of competency. We need to address this issue if we want to be viewed as professionals ourselves. Professionals supervise trained personnel, not interchangeable laborers.

The relationship with our assistants and interns need to be examined too. Some assistants are merely interns putting in time to qualify for a better job. We need to treat these people with respect and be sure we are providing the education, training, and opportunities to learn that a person in these positions deserves. They are not just an extra cup changer, spray technician, or irrigation technician; and if you are paying them a salary, the Wage and Hours people can straighten you out on this matter. We need *Continues on page 9*

Stop hiding!

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to treat our assistants as the professional they will one day be, and if we are lucky enough to have one of those career assistants, be sure to treat them with the respect and professionalism that you would want to be treated. Another old adage is that you earn respect by giving respect.

We need to seize opportunities that present themselves to us. Why not speak to your kid's class on career day or get up and say a few things at your club's annual meeting when you are called upon. You can write for your club newsletter or chapter publication. You might even want to serve on the board of the local affiliated chapter of GCSAA or serve on a national committee if you have a special area of interest. Any of these activities show your dedication to your profession and, consequently, your own professionalism.

One of the easiest ways you can show your professionalism is to host a local chapter function. Nothing is more impressive to those at your course than to see you and your peers getting together to share each other's perspective, receive some education, and share some quality time together. Your course can host a golfing event or an educational meeting. Guaranteed, the staff at the clubhouse, the golf staff, and general manager will view you differently when they see the professionalism of your local chapter. Sure, they know you belong to this organization and might even read the newsletters that you leave lying around, but bringing the event to your facility for all to see will make and impression, a lasting, positive impression.

Professionalism is about acting as a professional. To be perceived as a professional one must be seen as one. We cannot hide what we do. We need to be visible managers of our facilities and our staff. We do not need certification or a public relations campaign. We only need to be ready to put our best foot forward and let other see us as the professionals we are. We need to stop hiding.

Robert LaChance is the award winning editor of "The Green Breeze", the newsletter of the Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association.



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How to make a mountain meat loaf

By Armand LeSage

Greetings from Lake Arrowhead, California!

e are called to make decisions that can affect all phases of our lives. My family is still based in New Jersey while my daughter Amanda finishes her senior year in high school. My wife will move to California upon getting Amanda off to college in the New York City area in August.

I moved here in the end of March 2002 and at that time August 2003 seemed like an eternity and at times it seems like another tour in the Army. But Mary-Justine and I know that the golf business is very mobile. Our home is in California, but our hearts will always be in New Jersey. Ok, maybe we will become "left coasters" when we listen to reports of cold snowy winters. California mountain winters contain large amounts of snow, but if you tire of winter the beach is only one hour away.

Cooking has never been my strong suit. Well, cooking has never even made it into my closet. I have a difficult time in the kitchen. By my girth you can tell that I love food. But if



I had to cook all my meals I would be rail thin. Mary-Justine is an excellent cook. Amanda is an excellent cook. Armand has a difficult time boiling water.

Ok, I move to a golf course at 5200 feet above sea level, I purchase a wonderful home (four minutes) near the golf course. My home's elevation is 5800 feet above sea level. *Continues on page 11*

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Mountain meat loaf

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Cooking in the mountains is difficult for a novice food network flunky. Water boils at 202 degrees, microwaves get very weird. Ovens are luke warm, pressure cookers are in vogue (they are also good for painting ceilings with food like substances), crock pots work best with minor recipe adjustments, anything carbonated is subject to explosion when opened, wine tastes good, vegetables are either raw or very mushy. Did I say wine tastes good? My cooking skills weak as they are, have gone straight down the toilet, along with a lot of meals.

Even TV dinners have to be adjusted to the altitude. Macaroni and cheese has to be made differently. My wife purchased for me this cook book about cooking to high altitudes; I still can't get the hang of it. Our office staff at the club has tried to give me recipes that they say work, yeah, ok. To top it all off in the winter up here most restaurants close at 8 pm during the week. I look with envy upon the coyotes when they grab the road kill and they don't have to cook it.

Let's get back to my meat loaf. I really love good meat loaf served with a baked potato and a good glass of red wine. I got this high altitude cook book out, all ingredients ready to go, and then thought of this wonderful dinner ready in a little over an hour. I follow all the directions to the letter (I never knew that all those ingredients were mixed by hand), I fire up the oven, I put this artistically appealing, hand shaped, perfect orb of meat, crackers, eggs, tomato paste, onions, and a shot of red wine into the oven. I set the timer and then I put the baked potato in the toaster oven on low heat and read my Sunday LA Times.

One hour and fifteen minutes later the timer goes off and I pop out the baked potato, open the oven door and there

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sits a very rare meat loaf that hadn't cooked at all. Ok move forward and set the timer for another half and hour. I eat the potato and start reading the entertainment section. Well, the LA Times rivals the NY Times in size on Sunday. I finished reading every section and reread the editorials, then wrote two letters to the editor before I gave up on the conventional oven. That sucker was half cooked about six and a half hours later. I'm really hungry and I take that pile of red bloody meat out of the oven and put it in the microwave for about five minutes. Well about four minutes into the micro-zapping process, smoke starts coming out of the microwave. Smoke detectors through out the house start beeping and I'm placing the old oven mitts on to take this smoking dish outside into the snow for it's ultimate resting place. I never knew smoke detectors made such a loud noise. By the time I pull the batteries, open the windows, turn on the exhaust fans, clean out the micro it is now midnight. I'm famished, angry and very tired (cooking is exhausting).

I start to think that maybe the meat loaf might be some-

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THE GCSANJ LANDS AT HARBOR PINES GC

By Shaun Barry

Rick Broome CGCS is very proud of his "little part of paradise." Golfers call it Harbor Pines GC but I believe both names can be used accurately. Since Rick wanted others to share his feelings he invited the GCSANJ to let him host our April meeting. Being the opening act on our meeting schedule can be a daunting task because there is just so much to do to open a course coming out of winter. If Rick had known how long this winter would hang around he might have asked for June.

In spite of all of the unexpected challenges and delays the course was ready for us and perhaps The US Open. I hate to think of the long and hard hours Rick and his crew put in to prepare for this event. It was a wonderful job Rick and please let everyone know how much we appreciated *Continues on page 13*



Greg Armbruster presents our flag to Rick Broome, CGCS, to thank him for hosting our April meeting.



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their efforts and hopefully they were able to catch-up on their rest.

Dr. Murphy found time in his schedule to address our group. He did a great job informing us about what is happening at Rutgers. His data and insights were worth making the long trip south even if it were just to hear him speak. Unfortunately a few attendees spent extra time on the range and they skipped Jim's talk. That should not happen again but perhaps it was some of our guests who did not realize what they were missing.

Nobody missed lunch though (sponsored by Tuckahoe Sand & Seed) and that was a good thing. The clubhouse staff really went out of their way to nourish us properly and they were successful. A big lunch may not be the best way to prepare for a round of golf but we didn't seem to care. As soon as we put down the forks we were picking-up our clubs. Five hours later we were back at the clubhouse eating more food (sponsored by Syngenta) while discussing all of the good and bad things that had happened to us as we attempted to play some golf. The good in all discussions was the quality and the condition of the course. There were a few good scores to talk about but most were on the bad side of the discussion (it was a long winter). That however

Mountain meat loaf

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what edible. I open the door and I see this big California black bear sitting near the meat loaf. I turn on the outside light and make a large amount of noise. The bear looks at me and runs off. I venture outside to look for the meat loaf. It was still there, even the bear didn't want to eat it! You know it was still there when I went to work very hungry the next morning. Even the coyotes didn't venture near the gourmet delight.

I know the convention is in San Diego next year and I have an idea that many will want to visit the mountains. So my invitation is extended to those who want to come up. My meat loaf will be the only food served in my house. Get the hint!

Armand "This is a true story" LeSage is currently entertaining an offer to fill in for Martha Stewart on her cooking show. I did not bother anyone because everybody had a good time just being on the course.

Doug Larson led all scorers with a fine 72. John Farrell (78) took second on a match of cards with John Carpinelli CGCS, Vic Gerard Jr. and Peter VanDrumpt. Wendell Beakley would have taken second place in the gross event with his 77 but he did win the first place prize in the net division with a 66. Winners in the higher flight were Harry Harsin, Shaun Barry and Rich Hendrickson (they asked to keep their scores a secret). In the ABCD Net Team Event the winning team was comprised of J. Carpinelli, Jeff Carlson, Mark Peterson and Bill McAteer.

All of our skill contests were sponsored by affiliate members of the GCSANJ. This is another way that they try to help the association and their help is really appreciated. Winning these prizes in the closest to the pin contests were D. Larson- 4 ft, 3 ins (Jacklin Seed), Stephen Kay- 8 ft, 10 ins (Fisher & Son), Pete Haran- 3 ft, 10 ins (A.T. Sales) and Clark Weld- 4 ft, 5 ins (The Terre Co.). Long drive *Continues on page 14*





winners were V. Gerard Jr. (Torsilieri), Jim Cross (Jacklin Seed) Mark Peterson (Pocono Turf) and Dave Mitchell (Bayer ES). Closing out our contests was the skins event. Greg Armbruster, Ian Kunesch, Bill Rahlings, J. Farrell, D. Larson, Shawn Reynolds, H. Harsin and Kevin (he had a witness I checked) Driscoll had one each.

Congratulations to all of our winners and in that group I have to once again include everyone at Harbor Pines GC. It was a wonderful day and we know about all of the efforts that you put into making this day special. Thanks.

It was a wonderful day filled with lots of smiles and fun but we were serious at lunch. Ken Kubik donated a prize for the winner of the 50/50. This was so the money could go to help Tom Crump. As it turned out Ken's donation will also go to Tom. In addition to this kind of help he can still use blood donations and will need them for quite a while. So please check your schedule, grab a friend and roll your sleeve up for a good cause and a wonderful friend. I

A GOOD IDEA GETS BETTER.

By Bruce Peeples CGCS

A GCSANJ Roundtable Discussion Meeting was held the evening May 13, 2003 at The Blue Heron Pines Golf Club located within District Four. Our host superintendent was Clark Weld. Eighteen people were in attendance, with plenty of time for a cold drink and casual conversation before an excellent dinner of steak or salmon was served. At each table, it was easy to see that many different topics were being discussed, not all being turf related. But as dessert was *Continues on page 15*



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served, Roger Stewart CGCS stood up and began the formal portion of the evening. He described how the Roundtable idea had evolved from a similar superintendent group he was involved in the Chicago area and his intentions on starting something similar in his new home of New Jersey - superintendent only discussions held in a formal evening atmosphere with dinner at various golf clubs. Each person was then asked to stand and introduce themselves. My reaction last night, as well as with previous Roundtables, is how good it is to see different faces at these type meetings - faces one rarely sees at other GCSANJ venues. Gregg Armbruster then started off the spring cultural discussion with his aerification program. What ensued was an hour and a half of everyone having their turn at a question or two of people or relating their own cultural practice stories. To hear the variety of different ways we all have of reaching the same common goal is amazing! From the number one course in the world to private owner courses, to government owned - all types were represented.

Both Gregg Armbruster and Brian Minemier, District Four Directors, are to be congratulated on organizing this latest successful Roundtable. If you haven't been to one of these, try it next time. I think they are a real success story for GCSANJ. I

JASNA POLANA WAS WORTH THE INVITATION

By Shaun Barry

A few days after the Invitational I was waiting for completion of play at the NJSGA amateur so we could present a plaque to Pat Campbell CGCS for hosting this event. I ran *Continues on page 16*





Gary Arlio and the 2003 Invitational winning team from North Jersey C.C. (L-R), Ed Lapadula, Gary Arlio, Chris Dachisen and Bob Pappa.





into Ian Kunesch. He had just completed his 72 holes and was speaking to his playing partner. When Ian saw me he asked about Jasna Polana. The other golfer immediately gave us his opinion. He said it wasn't really, really tough but it was the most beautiful course that he had ever played.

I use this story to start my report on the Invitational because that golfer was correct. The TPC at Jasna Polana was never intended to be the toughest course in the world but it still is a very strong challenge even when you are on your game. Only 1 professional at our event broke par at a course that played 640 yards. It is a beautiful course. And a real joy to play. Much of this beauty and joy comes from its condition. Everything was perfect. Roger Stewart CGCS must smile every day of his life. These conditions exist on a daily basis so our congratulations and thanks are sentiments Roger and his staff should hear quite often.

The field arrived and was greeted by John Hyland, Ken Mathis, Kevin Driscoll and Jasna's staff. Registration went



Roger Stewart, CGCS, accepts the GCSANJ plaque for hosting The Invitational from Vice President Bruce Peeples, CGCS.

very smoothly and our guests seemed to feel at home. Just the way that we wanted them to feel.

Golf started right on time which is unusual for a shotgun. It must have been everyone's desire to start play. If we could *Continues on page 17*



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have played another nine I don't think we would have had any complaints. The weather and the course were just that beautiful.

The only bad thing was also a good thing. Gary Arlio's team won. How is that bad? Gary is very committed to this event. He is co-chairman and he arranged for the gifts and he got everybody to donate to the silent auction. He also had an important family obligation that evening back in North Jersey. He had decided to play golf with his team and then hurry home without eating dinner. A great plan until his team won. How would it look if the winning team wasn't there to accept the prizes? He stayed, but you could tell his mind was somewhere else. Thanks Gary for making such a tough decision.

Completing North Jersey CC's team were Chris Dachisen, Bob Pappa and Ed Lapadula. They shot a 54. Tim Christ, Jay Davis, Jim Kiley and John Sienkieicx led Metedeconk National GC to a second place finish with a 56. Rob Mlynarski and Jason Cramer (Copper Hill CC) tied Chris Boyle CGCS and Tom Staples (Mendham Golf and Tennis Club) with a 65 in the superintendents pro event. Rob's team won on a match of cards.

In the event for teams without a pro, The Grass Roots team was victorious with a 52. Keith Kubik, Jay McKenna, Fred Reidel and Lance Rogers made up the team and their handicaps are being investigated (They think they should be higher). Jim O'Brien (Moorestown Field Club) had two closest to the pins and Chris Boyle and Ken Cloman (Trenton) had the others. Gary Manton (Essex Country CC) and Tom Hassel (Trenton CC) had the longest drives. Jay Davis from Metedeconk was low pro with a 70. He earned \$200 in cash and Tim Christ said that he would give him the money (Don't let him read this article Tim).

The awards ceremony ended our day, but our memories will last. It was a perfect day spent with wonderful friends on a great golf course. Priceless!



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GCSANJ members helping Tom get well



Mark DeNoble chauffered Jack Martin, Bob Dwyer, and Larry Dodge (not pictured) into New York City for the blood drive.

Jim McNally checks into the Sloan-Kettering blood donation center.



By: Stancil Gesaa Gesaa De te

Pat Campbell CGCS and Les Carpenter Jr. wait their turn to donate blood.

Ken Kubik did a fine job keeping Gary Arlio comfortable while on the platelet machine.



<section-header> Attention Country Clubs AND SCAPE LIGHTING AND SCAPE LIGHTING Data Scape Lig

From the archives

How Fast is Fast?

By Sherwood Moore, CGCS

The following article was written over twenty years ago and was printed in numerous chapter newsletters across the country. Sherwood endured many sleepless nights worrying about turf loss of ultra fast greens.

Editor

n the English language the word fast has many meanings, such as you can run fast, hold fast, go on a fast, have fast women and have fast greens.

The topic of conversation around the locker and grill rooms of golf clubs these days is "how fast are the greens today?" In some areas of the country it is referred to as "the roll of the green." It all boils down to the speed of the ball on the green. Lost is the art of stroking the ball - today a tap is all that is required. I think some of the golfers want the ball to roll into the cup just by looking at it. At some clubs they post the speed of the green on the bulletin board for the day.

Are we becoming the victims of the stimp meter, fast greens and tournament play? When big tournaments are on TV all we hear about is how fast the greens putt, that they double cut the greens daily, even triple cut, and yes, on some greens quadruple cut to increase the speed.

Whenever a group of golfers or superintendents congregate, golf and turf are naturally discussed, and the topic always gets around to just what should be the speed of greens for the average club. It is suggested from seven or eight to nine, ten or more.

Has the superintendent contributed to the dilemma? Yes, in a way. He probably has perfected his course to the point where the only way par can be saved is by having incredible

Continues on page 21

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From the archives

Continued from page 20

fast greens. And also the competition to have faster greens than your neighbor is not helping the situation in any way.

In any event, an increasing amount of pressure is put on the Superintendent to increase the speed of the greens. Every Superintendent has heard the following remarks: "Are the greens going to be mowed today?" "When are you going to lower the height of cut?" "The greens at such and such a club are faster than ours."

Seriously, I am concerned about this trend of "fast greens." Can we afford to maintain greens of this caliber - that require frequent topdressing; frequent verti-cutting; daily cutting or double cutting of greens; close, close mowing - even to the point of grinding the underside of already thin bed knives.

And in all my conversation and reading and listening, I have never heard anyone mention a thing about the little grass plant. How is it standing up under all this abuse? I was tutored under the late Professor Lawrence Dickenson of Massachusetts and one of his often quoted phrases was "Give the grass plant half a chance. It wants to live." Under these conditions of shaving the grass plant to 1/8" or less are we giving it "half a chance?" I do not think so. We are giving it very little chance. Sooner or later we are headed for trouble.

We all know that the root growth of the grass plant is in proportion to the top growth. That the grass plant needs leaf surface for survival - for transpiration, respiration, the manufacturing of carbohydrates to maintain life and growth. It also needs nitrogen and other nutrients that we are withholding so as to increase speed by limiting plant growth.

I predict that in the not too distant future we will get back to the basics of a good putting green surface - that the demands of the grass plant will be given equal or more consideration than the demands of the golfers. A <u>firm</u>, <u>true</u>, <u>healthy green</u> with reasonable speed is much more pleasurable than putting on dead grass and plain soil. We will return to stroking the ball, not tapping it. I



Beat the caption!

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