New Jersey of Honor And Ho

## Dr Bruce Clarke receives Distinguished Service Award

By Bruce Peeples, CGCS

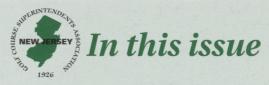
hen we speak of the three words that make up this honor - Distinguished - Service - and Award, the name Dr. Bruce Clarke immediately comes to mind.

Dr. Clarke received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Cook College in Forest Management in 1977. His Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from Rutgers University was awarded in 1982. He has been the Director of the Center for Turfgrass Science at Cook College since 1993. Also, Dr. Clarke is a professor within the two year turf program, graduate and undergraduate courses at Cook College. He is a research scientist whose work with turfgrass diseases, in particular summer patch and anthracnose, has helped golf courses and golf course superintendents not only within the United States but throughout the world as well. Dr. Clarke is a NJ Turfgrass Association Hall of Fame award winner as well as a John Reid Lifetime Achievement award winner of the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents. He has authored numerous articles in professional publications and published two highly acclaimed books on turfgrass pathology. He is a highly sought-after speaker for educational seminars and conferences throughout the industry. We are very fortunate to have Dr. Bruce Clarke so close to us here in New Jersey.

Serving on the Board of the GCSANJ has allowed many of us to get to know Dr. Clarke and we are better off for the experience. Almost every month, Dr. Clarke takes two to three hours out of a very busy schedule and listens patiently to, at times, lengthy discussions, without ever complaining. When called upon, he insists on doing what's best for the GCSANJ, not what may be easiest for Dr. Clarke. He is a tireless promoter - not of himself but for his many students, for Rutgers University, and for golf course superintendents in New Jersey. Dr. Clarke is a huge supporter of the turfgrass industry and a true friend to many of us here today. I am proud to present the 2003 GCSANJ Distinguished Service Award winner - Dr. Bruce Clarke!

Bruce Peeples, CGCS, vice-president of the GCSANJ, presented Dr. Clarke his award at the Fall Seminar held at the Fiddlers Elbow Country Club.





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### From the editor's desk

t had been a long wet day, one of many this year. I finally had a chance to sit back and relax when my third grade daughter handed me a note from her teacher that read...

#### Dear Mr. Vogel,

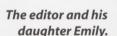
The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has informed me that you are slacking on your PDI credits for vocabulary and spelling. Please use the following words to write a professional report to your Board of Directors on the poor condition of your golf course this season. I will see to it that you are properly credited. Sincerely, Miss Moss

Deluge, Rot, Stench, Quagmire, Why, Is, The, Course, Closed, Different, Direction, Resume.

2003 has been a season to remember. When is it going to end?

Grammatically yours,







#### **New GCSANJ Address**

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

ere we go again! It's December 6th, 2003 and it looks a hell of a lot like December 6th, 2002 with some added inches of the white stuff to boot. After coming out of last winter dealing with severe ice damage, I am already worried about next Spring. The winter sure can be cruel to turf but it can be a very productive period for superintendents. It's a great time to become reacquainted with family life, especially for those of us that put in way too many hours. It's also a great time to hit the slopes or just get away to recharge those tired batteries. Don't forget to make time to volunteer for our organization. It's the perfect time to get involved while next year's activities are being planned. Start thinking about attending our February Winter Seminar. It's always a good time to gain some support from your peers as well as some knowledge. This year we are fortunate to have Dr. Houston B. Couch, Ph.D. a renown plant pathologist from Virginia Tech. He was the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award recipient for 2002. I'm sure you will find Dr. Couch's presentation very interesting.

Our website is up and running and getting more and more hits by the day. The address is GCSANJ.org. Please don't hesitate to email our web host Todd Raisch, CGCS (<u>Raisch2810@aol.com</u>) with your input to the website. That's the thing about websites, they're only as good as the information they provide. We want our site to be a reflection of our membership, we would appreciate everyone's help in making that happen.

For anyone that is interested in renovating a current maintenance facility or constructing a new one, we will be hosting a round table meeting in January. This meeting will tour three new maintenance facilities. We feel this is a great forum to share ideas on state of the art maintenance buildings

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as well as useful preparation for those hoping to undertake such an expansive project in the future. The host superintendents will discuss every facet of planning and the actual

#### Don't forget to make time to volunteer for our organization. It's the perfect time to get involved while next year's activities are being planned.

building of their facilities and will of course be available to answer any questions you or your club representatives may have.

GCSAA is planning an exciting conference in San Diego. This is another perfect opportunity to gain some new knowledge and get to know other professionals from across the country, all while you're soaking up that California sunshine.

Holiday blessings to all of you and your families.

John Otherfe

Calendar

#### Feb. 9-14, 2004

GCSAA Conference and Show San Diego, CA Contact GCSAA Headquarters 1-800-472-7878

**Feb. 24, 2004** GCSANJ Winter Seminar TBA

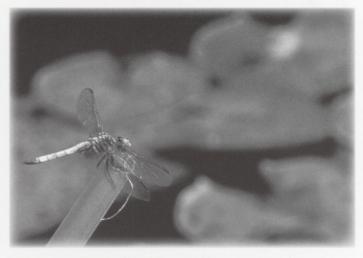
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# Wildlife and landscape photography on the golf course

By Rich Oates

he great thing about working on a golf course is being on a golf course. Superintendents and ground staff spend so much time on the property that it can after awhile "feel" like the real estate belongs to you. You're there to see it all-the monthly change of seasons, the daily weather fluctuations, the constant changes in light, the wonderment of who will show up to mow greens on Saturday morning. Would you like to record or capture these changes through photography? No reason why you can't.

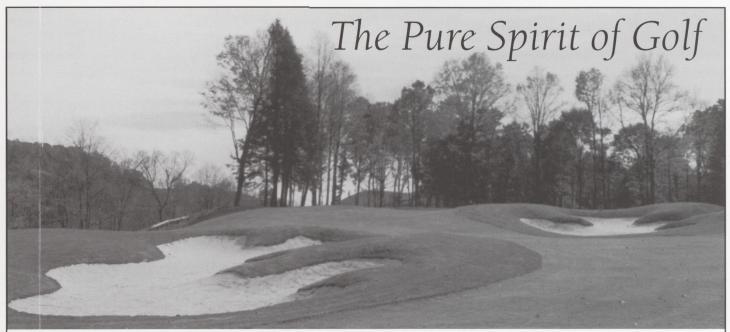
Because you're on the course from dawn to dusk-more than anyone else, you have the home court advantage over a professional photographer. Suppose your club decides it needs wildlife pictures of your course. The general manager hires a commercial photographer for \$5000 to take shots 3 weeks from Tuesday. Suppose the sky isn't blue or the fox that's been keeping your geese away isn't around on that day? But you're there-you're there all the time. With a good



camera and basic photo knowledge there's no reason why you can't produce an image as good as anyone. Here are a few observations and tips to help you along with golf course nature photography.

Continues on page 5





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# Wildlife and landscape photography

#### Continued from page 4

1. Read your camera manual and learn when to override the automatic features. Think of the automatic features on your camera as training wheels on a bike. Lose the training wheels and take control! It won't happen right away but you can do it. There will be pain and embarrassment involved but it's worth it.

2. Own a camera that has manual override features-meaning a high-end digital or 35 mm Single Lens Reflex camera (SLR) with removable lenses. Use a tripod if your pictures are not sharp.

3. A good camera costs about as much as a set of graphite golf clubs. Unless you're really into golf you won't appreciate graphite. Unless you're really into photography you won't appreciate the features of a really good camera.

4. Learn what "depth of field" is and know how to adjust it to include or exclude details.

5. It takes as long to become good at photography as it does to become good at golf.

6. The most interesting light is generally found just after the sun comes up or just before it goes down.

7. For landscape shots when the sky is overcast and bright white, include little or none of it in your pictures. The bright white will swing the darker color elements too darkly. Include the sky if there are interesting blue tones or if the clouds are worth capturing. A "circular polarizing" filter will darken a light blue sky or make clouds pop out so they are interesting.

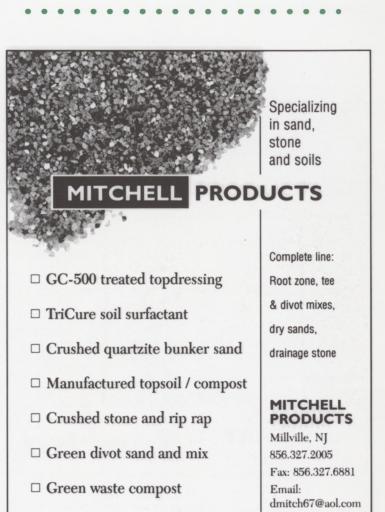
8. Non-professionals take most pictures standing up so all images originate 6" down from whatever their height is. If taking pictures of flowers or a living thing with eyeballs-be at "their eyeball level" (this includes everything from small children to frogs). A dynamic picture of a turtle means having your belly on the ground when you push the shutter release button. Stand on a ladder, sit in a helicopter-do what's best for the image, not what's convenient for human ergonomics.

9. If nothing else is in focus, make sure the eyeball in the picture is. All seeing creatures are drawn to looking at the eye-more so than you realize. If the eye is sharp, you've won most of the battle.

10. For a better composition, try not to have the main subject in the middle-you're looking through a camera, not the scope

of a rifle. Look at famous paintings. Notice how elements are grouped and organized. You're going to do the same with how you frame and emphasize a photo shot.

11. Politically correct people would suggest lens size doesn't matter-it's in knowing what to do with the lens that counts. With wildlife photography, lens size does matter-depending on what you're trying to capture. If you're on your stomach taking turtle shots you're safe. If you take a shot of that fox with a 100 mm lens, you won't know if it's a fox or a dog. With a 300 mm lens, you'll know it's a fox. With a 600 mm lens you'll be able to pick out details in his face. The 600 mm lens requires the right camera to mount it to, a donkey to transport it and about \$8000 to acquire it. You've may have noticed the big lenses at sporting events-they are about the size of a baseball bat. The acquisition isn't impossible-just requires long range strategic planning. You start out well in advance by saying "But honey, you've been working so hard *Continues on page 6* 



# Wildlife and landscape photography

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lately, you deserve that \_\_\_\_\_ "A) Solo trip to Europe B) New car C) The horse you always wanted. By coincidence my wife did go to Italy last summer with her family and at my urging is taking horse back riding lessons.

12. Wide angle zoom lens in the 20 to 80 mm range will allow you to take scenic and flower shots. The most popular all round nature lens is the 80 to 200 zoom lens. The 80 to 200 zoom is popular because it's not terribly bulky to carry and it's at the end of the range where you can manage to hand hold the camera. With a 300 mm lens you can walk up to Mallard Ducks or get close to deer and capture a lot of detail. You can buy a good used 300 mm lens with a "teleconverter" to magnify its strength for under \$1000. For serious bird photography, you'll have to invest in lottery tickets, attempt the "send a spouse to Europe deal" for the really big lens or shoot pictures of dead birds your cat has stalked.

13. Unless you're willing to set up your own darkroom, shoot slides or go digital, you can send a negative out to 6 different 1 hour quickie photo places and get back 6 wildly



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**178 Ridge Road, Dayton, NJ 800-524-1662** • **732-274-0894 fax** The Cleary logo, 3336 and Spectro are trademarks of Cleary Chemical Corporation. different quickie results. Slide film is true to what you shoot. Slide film (positives) requires more accuracy in metering for exposure (and can be frustrating to learn) but the results are worth it. You can scan slides into a computer and print out the results yourself or just go digital from the start.

Wide angle zoom lens in the 20 to 80 mm range will allow you to take scenic and flower shots. The most popular all round nature lens is the 80 to 200 zoom lens.

14. The marketing hype about inkjet printers producing photo quality print results is amazingly true!

15. Almost all serious or professional nature photographers (if shooting film) use Fuji Velvia 50 speed slide film for non moving subjects. Velvia is a professional "super saturated" color slide film. The slower the film (lower the number) the better the picture quality. Professional films have a shelf life and must be refrigerated. All film should be kept cool until you're ready to use it and then should be sent out for processing ASAP. For moving wildlife shots you may need a 400 speed film-it won't produce quite as sharp a final picture but it will freeze action more effectively than the slower films. There's no such thing as a good or bad speed film-they all are designed to work in either different light or action conditions. Slower films must be shot using a tripodthere's no way around it.

16. Don't look for Velvia at the supermarket checkout or drug store. If you ask for Velvia, the clerk will look at you like you just parachuted down from Mars. It's easiest to order it online. I buy everything online from a huge photo dealer in New York City. Check out the price of a camera at your local photography store and then check online pricing. Unless your local camera store is really helping you with information or you're related to someone working there, you'll jump ship pretty quickly. After you learn a few things about photography, you'll discover the only person who knows anything in your local camera store is the owner and he or she more than likely is not around. You can find all the major online photo sources in the back of photo magazines such as <u>Shutterbug</u> or <u>Popular Photography</u> etc.

17. Resources: <u>Outdoor Photographer</u> Magazine-got to have it. Best Nature Photography technique books are in my opin-



# Wildlife and landscape photography

#### Continued from page 6

ion by John Shaw. Build a photography library, go online and attend photography seminars. Photo seminars are advertised in photo magazines. You can even experience a photography vacation hosted by professional photographer who will lead you to any spot in the world and show you how to hold a camera. A bit of hand holding on the pro's part pays his way to anywhere in the world. Not a bad gig huh?

18. Speaking of which-keep your job so you can keep buying more camera gear as needed. Avoid the unpleasantness of telling your spouse the kids will have to adjust to another school system again. You can spend 100 hours a week on the course but you'll never really be "Lord of The Manor" (unless you win the lottery and buy your own golf coursebut then you'll be spending so much time keeping an eye on the books, you'll never see the course again). Maybe it's clear to most that the number one job is not to keep ahead of Anthracnose or Dollar Spot-it's to keep ahead of Clubhouse Politics. When will a chemical company come up with a fungicide labeled for Clubhouse Politics?



19. There's life outside of the golf course. A Superintendent position can pay handsomely but the job can cost you more. Get a life-take up photography or at least learn how to tell a really good joke.

Any questions, you can email me at <u>leenrich@optonline.net</u> I'm not an expert but do like talking about "image capture". I'll help any way I can.

When not shooting Fuji Velvia 50 speed film, Rich Oates is employed by the Ocean County Utilities Authority.

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# A day like no other

By Shawn Reynolds

ike any other day, I awoke at 4:30 am. As I relaxed in bed for a few minutes before getting up, I began to think of what I needed to get accomplished at work. Slowly I began to realize my wife Holly, nine months pregnant, was not next to me. I figured it was another restless night and she was on the couch to allow me some shut-eye. If that were only the case!

After getting myself together, I went downstairs and found my wife pacing with contractions. She told me "don't go anywhere" so I figured today was "the day" for the arrival of our second child. She had been up since 1:40 am and making progress. The contractions were already 8 minutes apart. As I grabbed a quick bowl of cereal, the contractions quickly moved to 1-2 minutes apart. I figured this brief episode of close contractions would pass. I was told that the second child comes much quicker, but the birth of our first child was a 36 hour ordeal. My wife instructed me to call her mother to come and watch our oldest daughter so we *Continues on page 9* 



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# A day like no other

#### Continued from page 8

could head to the hospital. Holly headed upstairs to change for the hospital and I reluctantly called my mother-in-law at 4:45 am. As I finished my breakfast, a scream came from upstairs that I'll never forget.

Startled, I ran up the steps to find my wife on our bed in obvious pain. Alright, I figured the contractions were getting stronger. She screamed out to me that the baby is here and to call 911. Like a deer in headlights, I froze. Holly continued to yell at me when she could until I snapped out of it and picked up the phone. As the 911 operator took my call, several more screams came from my wife on the bed. She shouted "I can feel the baby and I have to push". The 911 operator instructed me to try to calm my wife and above all else, don't let her push.

As I tried to listen and talk on the phone, the screaming intensified and became more constant. Our older daughter Megan, two years old, awoke to the screaming and came into our room. She immediately started crying and screaming because she did not know what was wrong with Mommy. Neither did our 7 year old Labrador who was barking and running around the room. Somehow I managed to hear a voice outside of our house. It was our next-door neighbor Laura who heard the commotion and came by to check on Holly. She knows I leave for work early and thought Holly may have been in labor and all alone. She asked if I needed help and I quickly shouted "yes" and told her to come in.

After Laura entered the house and came up to our room, it hit me that we weren't going to make it to the hospital. Laura gathered towels and I forced the dog downstairs and onto the porch. I knew he wouldn't be happy when the police and paramedics arrived. I ran back upstairs to our room and the 911 operator told me a police officer was outside and I must let him in. As I hung up the phone and ran downstairs, Laura yelled out to me that the baby's head was crowning. I met the young officer at the door and told him the baby's head was coming out. His only response was "I've never delivered a baby before".

After checking on my wife, he said "Oh my god... I need gloves". While he ran back to his car for gloves, the baby really started to come. I frantically searched our bathroom for gloves but could not find any. I stepped back to the bed just in time to catch our little one's head. Within seconds, I was holding our second daughter in shock and amazement. Then I realized that she had not cried. Instinct took over and I began to try to clear her throat but still no luck. I noticed a "film" over her head and removed it. She then cried and we all could breath a little easier. The police officer came back in and was accompanied by another officer. The second officer had a kit of medical supplies and took the child from my hands. She was cleaned up and wrapped in towels. The paramedics arrived shortly after and went to work checking the baby and starting an IV for my wife. I was never so happy to see paramedics in all my life.

When all were stable, we did get to the hospital via an ambulance and police escort. Kelsey is now 7 weeks old and mother and child are both doing well. I didn't remember to grab the camera before jumping in the ambulance that morning, so we have no pictures of the incredible event. What I do have is a great story to tell my daughter one day of my day like no other.

Shawn Reynolds is the superintendent of the BL England Golf Club. I





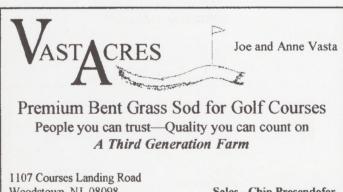
## **Road trip to Kansas**

By Gregory C. Nicoll, CGCS

don't know how many of you have ever been involved with a local or national committee, but you may consider it after reading this. I had the opportunity to serve on the scholarship committee this year for GCSAA. It involved reading many applications and essays and also an invitation out to National Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. I was anxious to see our headquarters, not to mention the state of Kansas. I have to say, I have never needed to visit the middle of the country. I mean, what is there to visit? Right?

I flew out with fellow committee member Brian Remo, CGCS of the Richmond County Country Club. Surprisingly our flight was on time. With the temperature at about 300 degrees, I couldn't help but wonder if Poa-annua could survive out here. Thank God for air conditioning because it was hot. The drive was short from the airport, but we drove through miles and miles of cornfields. All I could think about was that horror movie "Children of the Corn" and the town that had no way out. I thought for sure that we were going to get lost and Mali chi was going to have his way with us.

Anyway, we made it through the corn and into Lawrence. Civilization actually exists out there. They even had a McDonalds. I was impressed. As Brian and I drove through town I couldn't get over what I was seeing. Everywhere I turned, there was a Toucan statue. It was on the front lawns of homes and in the front of mini malls. The local bank even had a *Huge Gold Toucan*. I said to Brian, "Bro, check out all the toucans everywhere. What gives?" Brian replied, "Greg, what do you think these people have a fetish for Fruit



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Sales - Chip Presendofer Toll Free: 888-442-2322 Loops? Those are *Jay Hawks*!" "Oh. What is a Jay Hawk?" I replied. "The Kansas Jay Hawks, the national college champs!" "Oh yeah" I said. These people were passionate about their basketball.

As we arrived at our hotel, we checked in and I made a smart comment to the person behind the desk asking them if we "were in Kansas anymore?" They didn't like the joke

I never really thought about what goes into our association. I thought all we received was a fancy gold card with my name and distinction on it, a magazine, and a cool trade show each year.

about the Wizard of Oz and could tell I was an arrogant jerk from the East Coast. I knew that if I was going to survive this trip I had to stop being a "smart ass", but for those of you who know Brian, you know that it would be a tough task.

The next morning we woke up and it was off to headquarters. As we arrived, I was blown away. We approached this beautiful four-story building where a statue of Old Tom Morris greeted us at the entrance. The walkway outside was paved with bricks that had names of clubs, superintendents and their families who sponsored the foundation. The interior of the building was lined with old golf course machinery. There was a large sunken auditorium where delegate meetings and other presentations are held. Everywhere I turned I couldn't believe that this was for me. The great building, the people who work there, are all there for me and everyone else who is a part of the GCSAA.

I was a little in shock. I never really thought about what goes into our association. I thought all we received was a fancy gold card with my name and distinction on it, a magazine, and a cool trade show each year. I used to think that was it. I never gave it any more thought. I took way too much for granted.

I witnessed over 120 dedicated employees working on various things like education programs, student chapter relations, research projects, career development resources, and the list goes on and on. They are focused professionals working hard for me, so I am represented as a professional. My career is recognized not only in the game of golf but also that of having a lasting positive effect on the environment.

We met Steve Mona, CAE, and the CEO of GCSAA. He gave us the State of the Association. I was so impressed by his professionalism and commitment to GCSAA. His focus and passion trickled down to everyone who is a part of that team. It was truly amazing.

Continues on page 11



#### Morris County Golf Club hosts the GCSANJ Championship

#### By Shaun Barry

When Morris County GC was created in 1894 it was for ladies only. They then made a major mistake. They invited men into the club as associate members. Once that happened things changed quickly and by 1896 the club had its first male president. One thing that hasn't changed is their ability to host major golf events. They started out with the 1896 US Women's Amateur and the 1898 US Men's Amateur. In 2003 they finally reached the pinnacle of success when the decided to be the site for the GCSANJ Championship.

William Carrick got the ball rolling when he volunteered to host a meeting. Knowing the history and the quality of the club, we chose the Championship. It turned out to be a great choice. William is now working in New York and was unable to return for this event. He did leave the course with lots of confidence because he knew it was in good hands. Jason Clark and Jim Carr stepped into decision-making roles and the quality level of the course remained high for *Continues on page 12* 

## **Trip to Kansas**

#### Continued from page 10

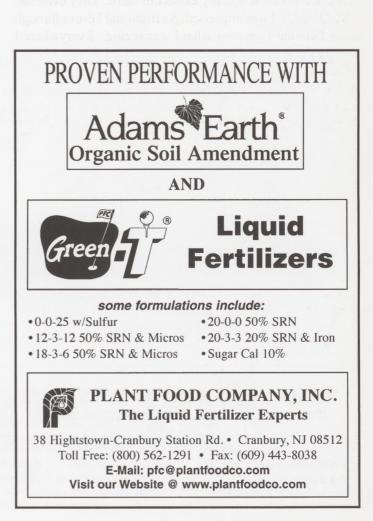
After our meeting and having the opportunity to see headquarters, I couldn't stop thinking about how lucky I was to see the whole operation. I will never forget it. It made me proud to a part of GCSAA. It made me think how many members will never see headquarters, because they either don't have a need to or it doesn't fit within their budget to do so.

If you get the opportunity, take it. You won't regret it. Maybe, the possible move to a more accessible location will allow more members to see it. What ever happens, I know the focus and the drive of the employees at GCSAA Headquarters will make employers, golfers and the environmental community continue to recognize the importance of the Golf Course Superintendent.

*Gregory Nicoll, CGCS is the Communications Committee Chairman of the GCSANJ and the superintendent of the Maplewood Country Club.* <sup>[</sup>



Morris County Golf Club acting superintendent Jason Clark accepts his GCSANJ flag and plaque from Jim McNally for hosting the GCSANJ Championship.





our meeting. Jason, Jim and their staff worked very hard to present this extraordinary old course in tournament conditions and they were successful. Please thank everyone for their wonderful efforts. Someone however could have told us to keep it below the hole.

We also have to thank Dan Bromage and the entire clubhouse staff for all of their fine work. Lunch and dinner were great and they were sponsored by Lebanon and Syngenta (three months in a row and it is really appreciated).

The golfing part of the day started with the finals of our long-drive contest. This event seems to have some things that remain constant. Rob Finnesey and Tree Tech Inc. donates \$600.00 every year. Half of this goes to the winners and the other half goes to our foundation. The winners this year were Tom Weinert (A), Shaun Barry (B) and John Hyland (C) in their respective flights. If you know anything about Shaun

Continues on page 13



John Alexander - the 2003 Sherwood Moore Cup winner with all his hardware.





and John's games then you know that they could not have had a lot of people to beat.

John Alexander's 77 was the lowest gross score of the day. This gave him low gross honors in the 0-14 flight. His prize was sponsored by Pocono Turf. It also gave him victory in the Championship Flight and that puts his name onto The



The 2003 Dr. Paul Sartoretto Cup winner John Farrell is all smiles.

Sherwood Moore Cup. He joins some of the best players in the GCSANJ's long history. Charlie McGill took low net honors in this flight with his fine 69. This prize was sponsored by Syngenta. Mark Peterson (85) and Shaun Barry (69) were winners in the 14-43 flight. The A Flight winners were John Carpinelli (71), Dave Mishkin (72) and Wendell Beakley (72). Mark Peterson's net 67 was the best in the B Flight but it also was the best net score of any superintendent. He is now the winner of the Dr. Henry Indyk Cup. Ken Miller and Harry Harsin took 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in this flight. Jim McNally edged out Jim Carr in the C Flight. John Farrell (81) had the best gross score from the commercial members and so he is a first-time winner of the Dr. Paul Sartoretto Cup. Shaun Barry (69) won the Affiliate Flight on a match of cards with Charlie McGill (69) and John Farrell took third place with a 77.

All of the skills contests were sponsored by our affiliates as they have been at every meeting this year. Closest to the pin winners were Todd Bunte (Wilfred MacDonald) 10 ft 4 ins. Mike Uckar (Storr Tractor) 20 ins., Wendell Beakley (A.T. Sales) 10 ft 10 ins. and Dick Neufeld (Bayer ES) 6 ft 6 ins.. Our longest hitters were Rick Krok (Torsilieri Inc), Joe Guarino (Storr Tractor), John Alexander (The Terre Co.) and Harry Harsin (Fisher & Son). John Carpinelli was the only player to win two skins. John Alexander, Todd Bunte, Jim Cross, John Farrell, Bill McAteer, Bill Murray, Dick Neufeld, Jason Thompson and Mike Uckar had one each.

Our district champions once again came from Dist IV. They were Tom Grimac (78), John Carpinelli (81), John Farrell (81), Charlie McGill (81), Wendell Beakley (83) and Tony Benfield (84). These were 6 fine scores on a very difficult course and they won by 17 shots over Dist III.

The day did end but it came much too quickly. I am sure that everyone from our group looks forward to the day that we can return. It is a very special place and we are all very thankful to all of the members and staff that allowed us the opportunity to be there and to have such a wonderful experience.

Note: In addition to all of the winners on the course our Foundation was also a big winner. We raised \$1,950.00 from this day alone and I need to thank our very generous

Continues on page 14





benefactors. In alphabetical order they are: Bayer ES, CCI, Finch, Florantine, Grass Roots, Koonz, Masser Consulting, Montco, Plant Food, Syngenta, The Terre Co., Tree Tech and UHS. These companies don't have to give anything because they do so much all year long and have done so every year that they have been involved with our industry. They do it because it comes from the heart. Thanks for your kindness. I hope it is returned many times over.

#### Pease slider captures Leslie Cup

#### By Seamus Barry

An unlikely duo finally won the Leslie Cup. It was perhaps the most intense match ever played in this competition. This isn't to say that great golf was played throughout the entire match but both teams came through when it was needed. Perhaps the most telling statistic is that it took 36 holes to complete the match. Rolf Strobel made a clutch but nearly impossible par in the dark to end the 1<sup>st</sup> 18 holes all square. Instead of coming back for sudden death it was decided to play another 18 hole match. Spring Lake GC was chosen for the site and when Rolf made another incredible putt on the 17<sup>th</sup> to keep the match even it looked like extra holes were in the cards. Brian Lescrinier's birdie putt on 18 peeked into the hole but refused to fall. Dave Pease now had to make a 5 foot slider and he picked the correct line (thanks to Brian's putt) and suddenly the match was over. Just like the recent President's Cup there were no losers in this match but the trophy does go to the team of Barry & Pease. According to Dave expect to see this trophy all over the state "ala" the Stanley Cup. It was a great event and I hope everyone finds a partner for 2004. When you look at this winning team and you know that Driscoll and O'Brien have won you really can see you have as good a chance as anybody. I

#### 2003 GCSANJ Member of the Year

#### By Bruce Peeples, CGCS

The following person was about as close as one can get for being a unanimous winner of the 2003 GCSANJ Member of the Year Award. I know when I cast my ballot his name was written in without hesitation. Looking over the ballots cast from the GCSANJ membership, it would appear that *Continues on page 16* 



The proud winning team of the Leslie Cup - Shaun Barry and Dave Pease. Where's the Cup and who took the picture?



Dave Pease receives a phone call from the President of the United States congratulating him on his Leslie Cup victory and a speedy recovery from hip surgery.



Here's the Cup but two questions remain. Who took this picture and how did these guys win the Leslie Cup?

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many more did the exact same thing!

Knowing that our winner received his BA in communication from William Paterson University now makes a lot of sense. Those skills have been put to a lot of use for the GCSANJ. He played on the golf team for William Paterson and was their Most Valuable Player for the 1988 season! Our assistant golf professional at Spring Lake Golf Club, Kevin Macorowski, a teammate, says that our award winner hits a golf ball farther than anyone he has ever seen! I'm not sure of all the details but I would imagine our recipient's love of the game somehow drew him into the turf side of the industry and we are glad it did! Cook College at Rutgers University was the next stop and a turf degree was earned and a star was born! He is currently employed at the Edgewood Country Club as golf course superintendent and recently, he and his wife Lisa just had their first child. If you haven't guessed by now the recipient for Member of the Year is Paul Dotti.

Paul joined the GCSANJ in 1997 and won the district one election for Director in 2001. Our Past President Ed





*Paul Dotti (L) is presented the Member of the Year award by Bruce Peeples, CGCS.* 

Mellor's greatest accomplishment was naming Paul to be the Education Committee Chairman. In those two short years, GCSANJ education seminars have risen in stature to where they are now at the forefront of the turfgrass industry throughout the northeast. Today's program is one more example of that.

Paul also organized an evening green chairman/superintendent roundtable with the USGA last season at Edgewood CC. Knowing Paul, he would be the first to acknowledge all the hard work and enthusiasm of the education committee and rightly so. Paul and his committee have improved the stature of all golf course superintendents in NJ and for this we thank them.

It is with great pleasure I present to you the 2003 GCSANJ Member of the Year, Paul Dotti! I

#### **Birth announcement**

Lisa and Paul Dotti were blessed with the arrival their first child, Nicolas Joseph, on September 25, 2003. The handsome lad weighed in at 7 lbs. 10 oz's. and has been seen reading about his father in Golfdom magazine. Paul is the superintendent of the Edgewood Country Club. I

# Thank You

The education committee would like to thank the following vendors who helped make our Fall Seminar a tremendous success.

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And a special Thank You to Dave McGhee and the staff of the Fiddlers Elbow Country Club.

The GCSANJ Education Committee Paul Dotti - Chairman Brian Remo, CGCS - Co-Chairman Chris Boyle, CGCS Brad Sparta Tim Reinagel Jim Gurzler Keith Kubik Mark Kuhns, CGCS





#### Metedeconk hosts 15th annual RTJ Invitational

Metedeconk National Golf Club hosted the 15th annual RTJ Invitational Oct. 7 to benefit the Robert Trent Jones Endowment Fund and the "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" endowment campaign administered by <u>The Environmental Institute for Golf</u>. The event raised more than \$35,000 for scholarships, turf research programs and education initiatives.

The RTJ team championship brings together superintendents and representatives from courses along the East Coast and recognizes the critical role played by the superintendent in developing the vision of the golf course architect and ensuring the integrity of that vision.

"Metedeconk National Golf Club and Tim Christ did an outstanding job of hosting the 15th Annual RTJ event," said GCSAA Director Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS, who participated in the event. "Their generous commitment to honor Robert Trent Jones Sr. with this event has helped provide tremendous funding to support the future of the game through scholarships and scientific research. The Institute and GCSAA are fortunate to have a great partnership with Metedeconk National."

Metedeconk has donated more than \$550,000 to The Institute to fund research and education programs for the golf course management profession and is recognized at the Star Club level for donors who have contributed \$500,000-\$999,999 since 1987. Metedeconk is one of only three donors to achieve this level of giving.

The Tavistock (N.J.) Country Club was the winning team in this year's tournament, led by superintendent Thomas I. Grimac, CGCS, and head professional Rich Hughart. The Navesink (N.J.) Country Club led by Pat O'Neil placed second.I



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#### **GCSANJ Lapel Pins: \$5.00**

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#### Other Items That May Not Be Listed Are Available For Special Order All Clothing Will Have The Embroidered Logo Of The GCSANJ (Included).

To Place An Order, Contact: Brian M. Remo, CGCS Richmond County Country Club (646) 644 - 6551

# **Photo gallery**



Dr. Thomas Watschke of Penn State is one of the most entertaining speakers on the turf circuit.



Nancy Sadlon presents Dave McGhee with the 2003 Alliance of Environmental Concerns Ilona Gray Award.



Clark Weld shows off his plaque from the GCSANJ for hosting the 2003 USGA Amateur Public Links tournament held at Blue Heron Pines Golf Club.

# From the archives

#### The bear under my bed!

By Armand LeSage

Editors note: although not quite vintage this article was lost in my computer and recently surfaced for your reading pleasure.

Greetings from Lake Arrowhead, California. Having arrived back in California on the Sunday after the convention it was only a matter of time till the GCSAA sinus infection kicked into full gear. No matter how much hand sanitizer is applied after shaking all those old friends hands, it still happens every year. By the middle of the week after the big show, I end up on antibiotics and in bed for a day. East Coast or West Coast, it still happens.

I have done extensive research on handshaking rituals; the original handshake consisted of each person putting their hands on each others right forearm and shaking that part of the body. I like that idea best. No contact of those areas that we use for nose blowing, picking our noses and those that are put to use in the rest rooms. Handshakes have become a sign of power and control. Handshakes spread diseases, especially at the GCSAA convention.

Having spent a feverish day in bed on Thursday, I dragged my butt out of bed and went to work on Friday. It went alright as the antibiotics did their job. I hit the bed about six o'clock at night and dozed off to dreamland. Sometime during the middle of the night in the middle of my dreams (you have all had fever dreams, I'm sure), I feel the bed jumping all around the room. In my sleep I jump up and I figure there is a bear under my bed!

I hop out of bed, grab my flashlight and look under the bed; nothing there. Then I realize I'm in an earthquake. Now I'm buck naked with no idea what to do. I jump back



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into bed just as the first aftershock hits, and the bed starts to dance around again. Pulling the covers over my head seems to help, but the bear under my bed still wants to cha-cha. The third aftershock hits, and now I'm trying to remember what my real estate agent told me to do in an earthquake. That's it, go outside. I bolt from the bed with my Cabbage Patch Doll (okay, the secret is out) and run downstairs, turn on the outside lights, grab my jacket, put on my shoes and exit the house. As the door closes I then realize I don't have any pants or underwear on my body. I also just locked the door with my keys in the house. And it is cold as hell outside. I run and hide behind my car, and then the first good thing of the night happens. I look at my car-I had left the doors unlocked and I have a spare house key in the glove box. I jump in the car and sit for a half-hour till the shaking stops. My backside started to get real cold. I sneaked through what appears to me a million candlepower of light to the safety and warmth of the house.

I look under the bed for the bear and drift off to sleep. When I awake I didn't know if I had a bad dream or if it all happened. I rush to the computer, look at the news and read about the 5.6 earthquake that was centered 20 miles away in Big Bear City, and the three or four after shocks of equal magnitude that occurred in the minutes after the first shock. I finally did realize that there was a bear under my bed, a very Big Bear.

Armand LeSage is the West Coast correspondent for The Greenerside when not tending the greens at Lake Arrowhead C.C. [

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