



# THE GREENERSIDE

January-February 2005 • Volume 29 Number 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

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# From the editor's desk

## The name game

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) serves the men and women who maintain quality turf for the game of golf. Across the Atlantic Ocean the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association (BIGGA) functions for the same purpose. Amazingly, they both share job title identity problems.

Golf Course Superintendent, Director of Grounds, Greenkeeper (GCSAA).

Course Manager, Links Councilor, Greenkeeper (BIGGA).

It only takes three seconds of deep thought to notice a common thread. One of tradition. One of great descriptive power.

Yes, we are all brother greenkeepers. Maybe we could, maybe we should join forces and form the Brotherhood of Greenkeepers (BOG). Better yet maybe we shouldn't. BOG might just slow us down and force us to lose focus.

The focus of the recent Golf Industry Show was sharp. Great education, great trade show, great experience. The only blur, and it was a big blur, was public relations.

As I stood waiting for my shuttle bus, a gentleman looked at my Golf Industry Show credentials and inquired "You a golf Pro?"

Maybe it's time to replay the name game. 🏌️

Your brother greenkeeper,

*Doug*



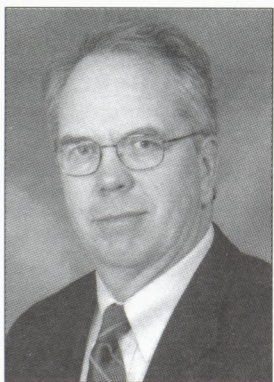
**The editor and his mentor Ziggy Zaleski visited Ken Krausz at the Fritz Behnke Historical Museum at the Paramus Golf Club.**

### On the cover:

The beautiful no. 5 hole of the Trump National Golf Club at Bedminster maintained by the crew of Gregory C. Nicoll CGCS.



# President's *Message*




*Bruce Peebles*

Bruce Peebles, CGCS  
Spring Lake Golf Club

## "Sandwich"

I have come to realize more and more recently just how many definitions of the word "sandwich" there are in life. When young, the only thing it stood for was the "PB and J" we ate for school lunch. Around the age of twenty, it was a town on Cape Cod that was a place of great beauty and lots of fun times. Even Homer Simpson confuses the word sandwedge with Hmmm.....sandwich! During

the next decade or two, how do I squeeze in or "sandwich" all the things I have to do to keep my head above water? Commitments of family, church, work, self and even GCSANJ all needed to be juggled to be a productive member of the human race.

Currently, the word sandwich has reached a point of being most associated with another word-generation. Observing our children become young adults as well as watching our parents grow older has become more and more a very significant part of daily life. There is both immense joy and genuine sadness associated with either of the observations. Normal life-changes for both the younger and older generations become a very significant part of the "sandwich generation" lives. We, in the middle, are needed to guide both age groups on a hopeful path of happiness in the longer or shorter days ahead. It is a big responsibility. However, we should be proud of playing such an important role in the lives of the people we love the most. Treasure this time, as it is a very special one for each generation. 



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# Doctor Joseph Troll "No Average Joe"

By Dave Pease

**I**t was a warm September morning on the southwest lawn of Stockbridge Hall. Gathered around in a collective huddle with fellow students I heard our Professor pause, then bending over requesting assistance in identifying a plant within the community of grasses present. It was my first day at the University and I was about to gain a valuable lesson if I were going to continue my studies at this institute of higher learning... A student up at the front of the group blurted out, "that's Poa". With immediacy, Dr. Troll responded to the collective mass staring deep to the rear of the group, "*You know gentlemen, twenty five cents and hanging in the back will only get you a cup of coffee*"... "*I suggest if you want to learn anything you better get up front*"... Enough said.

Deep in the bowels of Stockbridge Hall amongst the catacombs of research laboratories was Dr. Troll's office, an extension to his formal classroom setting two stories above. Like something out of a Mickey Spillane novel, the doorway with its wainscoting frame and frosted window

pane embossed with gold leaf lettering, "*Dr. Troll, Turf*", greeted all who entered. His office was a most welcome place for his students. Doc, coming off as a no-nonsense guy, pretty much black and white when it came to issues of principal, was warm and approachable to his students, almost the antithesis of his classroom demeanor, peering over his reading glasses as if he could read your darkest thoughts... Joe had an open door policy, welcomed to visit any time. However, his classroom was an area of business where lectures were given, notes taken, and above all, you had better be prepared for that day's lesson, his time was valuable and he required that his students respect their time as well. He provided guidance and an ear to your concerns, in addition to giving advice and snippets of wisdom beyond our years. The office was the "doorway to our future"...

Prof Dickinson was a legendary figure who established the country's very first college-level course in turfgrass management and science at the University of

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# "No Average Joe"

*Continued from page 4*

Massachusetts (Mass Aggie, Mass State); Dr. Troll on the other hand is a "Legend in his own time". He took the virtues bestowed upon him back in 1957 and transcended their value for the hundreds of students who came under his tutelage. Doc championed the attitudes and resources necessary to be successful, not only in the profession of golf course stewardship, but in life as well. First and foremost Dr. Troll was a researcher and educator which has been well documented, but his profound affect on the industry was his commitment to human resourcing; the emphasis in getting his students who had completed their studies into the field of Golf Course Management. "To diversify ones knowledge, cut the apron strings, and get out into the world to expand your knowledge base by exploring opportunities beyond your backyard" was Joe's philosophy.

When I heard that the New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents Association Distinguish Service Award was being presented to Dr. Troll, I could not think of a more deserved person to receive such honor. His legacy extends deep within the fabric of our profession through the careers launched by his steadfast beliefs in getting his students into the field of Golf Course Management. No other person has impacted the "Personnel landscape" of New Jersey Golf Courses more than Dr. Troll. His profound impact was felt by networking a placement program to promote the positioning of students with the opportunity to manage golf courses. For over three decades his impact has been felt by his students who have had careers and still have careers on New Jersey Golf Courses. To name a few; Steve Finamore, Bill Spence, Dick LaFlamme, Mike Minor, Eric Cadenelli, Jack Martin, Larry Dodge, Jeff Allen, Skip Cameron, Jan Kasyjanski, Sherwood Moore, Dave Heroian, Bruce Peebles,

*Continues on page 8*



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## Calendar

**February 28, 2005** GCSANJ/Rutgers Winter Seminar,  
USGA Golf House, Far Hills, N.J.  
Contact [www.gcsanj.org](http://www.gcsanj.org)

**March 7-10, 2005** New England Turfgrass Conference,  
Providence, Rhode Island  
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**April 11, 2005** GCSANJ Monthly meeting,  
Harbor Pines Golf Club, Newfield, N.J.  
Host: Richard Broome CGCS



# Their house is a museum

By Ken Krausz CGCS

**R**emember that line from the Adams Family television show? My house is now a museum. Officially it is called **THE PARAMUS FRITZ BEHNKE HISTORICAL MUSEUM**.

The story starts when I was hired as the superintendent at the Paramus Golf Course in 1988. Housing came with the position in the form of a big house. When I got into the house I realized that something was drastically wrong with the residence. The upstairs bathroom was so out of plum that in the width of the doorway the top of the frame was 5 inches higher from one end to the other. This was over a 30 inch span!


Further investigation revealed that in the basement the floor joists were no longer resting on the main beam, but a couple of inches short and just hanging in mid air. The house



**Ken Krausz admires the new museum that was once his house.**

was falling down from the basement beam to the roof rafters. Closer inspection showed that there was not one straight exterior wall and not one level floor in the upstairs. The house needed a minimum of \$150,000 in structural repairs.

*Continues on page 7*



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# museum

*Continued from page 6*

I went to the Mayor and Council (my bosses) and explained the situation, expecting some resistance. There was no resistance and I was told to look into purchasing a log cabin or modular home. We went the modular route and settled in as a young family. As the family grew the house got smaller and I went back to the bosses and asked for a second story addition to the house.

The conversation went something like this:

Me: "I need \$75,000 for an addition to the house."

The Bosses: "You already own a house in town, why don't you move back there."

Me: "I rent it out and the renters will be there another year."

The Bosses: "We can wait, let's negotiate."

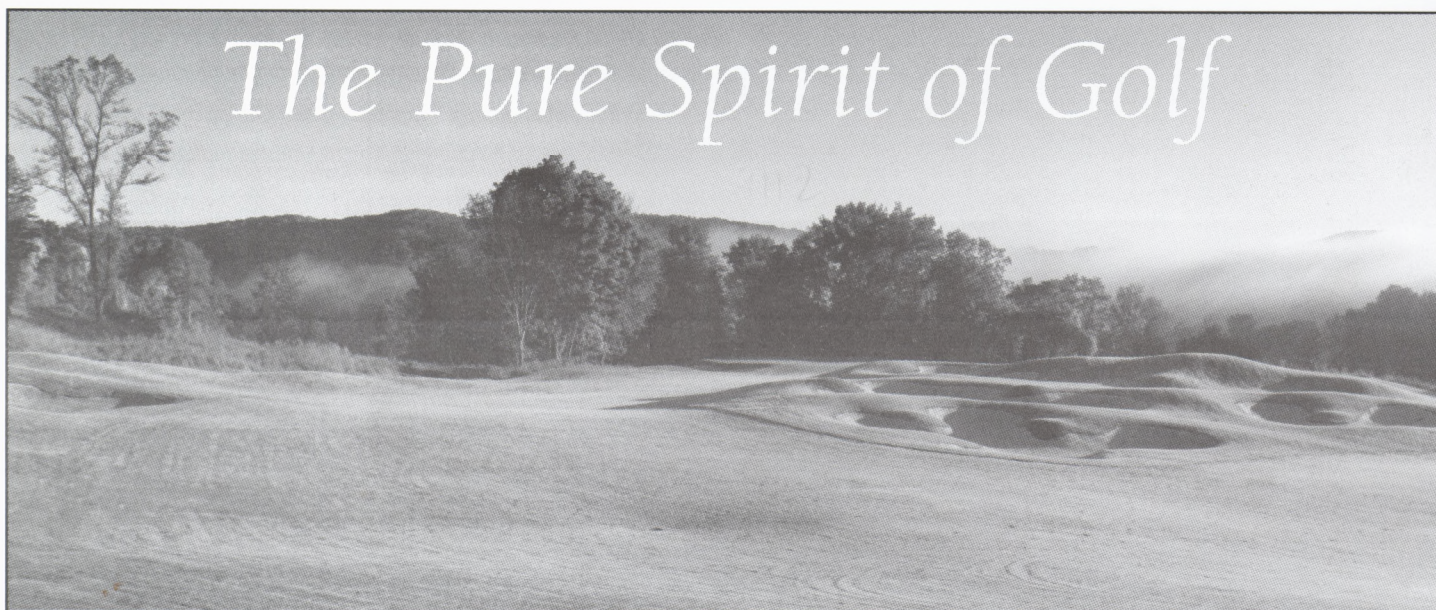
And the rest is history. My family moved back to our original house in a nice neighborhood as compared to a small house on a busy road and I got a raise to boot!

A couple of years and government grants later the Paramus Fritz Behnke Historical Museum opened it's doors at my old place of residence on the grounds of the Paramus Golf Course. The museum holds a lot of Paramus and local history as well as providing a place for school children to take field trips to learn about farming and the general way of life at the turn of the century.

I recently visited the museum with the Editor of The Greenside, Mr. Doug Vogel, and retired Superintendent Mr. Ziggy Zaleski. Doug, Ziggy and I get together for a holiday lunch each December and since Doug is also the historian of GCSANJ and since Ziggy is one of our elder superintendents it was a logical move to have lunch at the golf course and then get a personalized tour of the museum. Mr. Fritz Behnke opened the museum up for us and showed us around.

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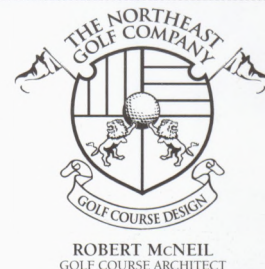
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# "No Average Joe"

*Continued from page 5*

Rick Christian, Greg Nicoll, Steve Malikowski, Pete Coste, Steve Curry, Tom Grimaldi, Bob Dwyer, Bruce Cadenelli, Dick Bator, Harry Stafford, Doug Larson, Bob Tosh, Bill Murray, Bob Mathews, Charlie Cross, Steve Cadenelli, Matt Clement, Steve McNamara, Kevin Osgood, John O'Keefe, Gary Stedman, Phil Scott, Pete Pedrazzi, yours truly, and many more.

*"I owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Troll. I am where I am today because of him. I wish my children had someone like him to guide them on their professional pursuits."* - Steve Finamore, Alpine Country Club, Demarest NJ.

*"I was in his office one day while working on the Turf Bulletin, and Doc inquired: 'Spence, you ever heard of Mon-Mouth County?' With a smile I replied, yes, that's where I'm from in New Jersey... 'Well Bill they're looking for a Superintendent'... That opportunity provided my first Superintendent's job."* - Bill Spence, The Country Club, Brookline MA.

*"He has been committed to excellence in every aspect, in teaching, research, and in guiding his students," said Dave Sylvester, a sales rep from Bayer Environmental Science and a class of '75 graduate of the Turf Program. "If it weren't for Dr. Troll, I wouldn't have enjoyed the career that I have."*

*It was my first day of class sitting next to Teddy Maddox who's now in Vermont and I can remember so clearly Dr. Troll saying: "I don't care what you*

*do in any of your other classes, but if you ever miss any one of my eight o'clock classes you'll never get a job in this country, cause your Grandfather only dies once"... (Insinuating that you've got one excused absence...) - Steve Malikowski, Ponderlodge Golf Club, Villas, NJ.*

## ***Dr. Troll was recognized in 1983 by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America with its Distinguished Service Award.***

Joe Troll grew up in Paterson, New Jersey the son of a Chemist. It's quite apparent that Joe got off to a pretty good-start in his career, inheriting some prime DNA to pursue a career in the field of Science. Dr. Troll joined the department of plant and soil sciences at UMass as an instructor in 1957 and was promoted to professor in 1959. He was responsible for teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, conducting an eight-week winter school for turf grass managers, and teaching courses in a two-year program at the Stockbridge School, where he was chosen as Outstanding Professor of the Year on three occasions. Dr. Troll was recognized in 1983 by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America with its Distinguished Service Award. In 1991, Dr. Troll received the USGA Greens Section award in recognition for his distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.

*"He touched people's lives throughout their careers. His influence on his students was not limited to the two or four years they were at school. He would involve himself unselfishly throughout the careers of his students. He would be instrumental in placing his students in golf course positions throughout the nation. His far reaching contacts made it possible to run a job referral service and many of his students eventually occupied the most prestigious positions in the industry."* -J. Barrie Robertson

*Continues on page 10*

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# "No Average Joe"

*Continued from page 8*

We in the business have been so fortunate to have known this man; he has been a mentor to me and so many others. He strived to get you to think outside the box, that there were no "cookbook answers" out there and that one needed to expose themselves to the unanticipated changes one was about to have thrown at them. There was an excitement in his eyes when conversing about the business of managing turf, as if in an after life, he too would like to drive the bus, to be a Superintendent experiencing the constant trials and tribulations in maintaining high quality turf on golf courses. He loved the game of golf and like most of us was frustrated that he couldn't improve his handicap beyond his skill level. In the basement of Stockbridge Hall I recall seeing him donned in his white lab coat, doing research, reading his papers, and I wondered at times while observing him

at his work just how approachable he was when it came to our life's pursuits. Dr. Troll has impacted my life in ways that I have yet to discover. Like many of us who studied under him I pass on those virtues to my protégées. He continues to have a profound effect through his disciples of turf management. Joe is a powerful figure for all who have come to know him.

*Dave Pease, of the Monmouth County Park System, is a lifelong Red Sox fan. L*



**Bob Dwyer, Dave Pease, Pete Pedrazzi, and Jack Martin tee it up with GCSANJ Distinguished Service Award winner Dr. Joseph Troll (center).**



**Shaun Barry, Dennis Ingram, Bill Murray, and Bruce Peebles with Dr. Troll.**

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# museum

*Continued from page 7*

After the tour was over we went over to see the tree that was planted on the museum property in memory of one of GCSANJ's deceased members, Mr. Roy C. Bossolt. (see related article, page 15)

I had the great pleasure of first meeting Ziggy and Roy when I became a member of the board of directors of GCSANJ. The board had a tradition of delivering holiday baskets to the retired members and since Ziggy and Roy were District I members they were on my delivery list. Ziggy and Doug go way back as Ziggy hired Doug at Packanack Lake and Doug took over after Ziggy retired. Ziggy knew

Roy as a salesman for the Terre Company. Ziggy also met Mr. Behnke over 50 years ago when he first moved into Paramus as Mr. Behnke owned the local lumber yard.

It is funny how life goes around. You meet people in the most unusual ways. Nothing spectacular, just meeting with a salesman, buying lumber for your new house or delivering a little bit of holiday cheer. Years later our paths crossed again at the house that is now a museum.

*Ken Krausz CGCS, past editor of the Greenerside, is the superintendent of the Paramus Golf Club.* 🌱



**The Fritz Behnke museum has a great collection of farm tools and toy tractors.**



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## GCSANJ Shop Tour 2005

By Bruce Peeples CGCS

The second annual GCSANJ Shop Tour was held recently on January 27th. It was even better attended than last year's successful venture. Eighty-five people, which included golf course superintendents, assistant superintendents, equipment managers, maintenance staff members and even green committee chairmen. Our thanks go out to the following superintendents and their respective staff members for being such great hosts. Brad Fox of New Jersey National Golf Club, Paul Ramina of Hamilton Farm Golf Club and Greg Nicoll of Trump National Golf Club. As well, Roger Stewart of the TPC @ Jasna Polana gets a big hand for his organizational skills and the initial idea of having this type of event.

The weather was in a word, January. Cold with a slight breeze but sunny throughout the entire day. We

gathered at nine o'clock with Brad Fox and his staff. Coffee, donuts and juice were available and everyone gathered about his shop with morning small talk in full flow. Brad was then introduced and after his warm welcome, told everyone to poke about at their leisure and any questions we had, would be answered. Brad has a neat, well-organized facility he is very proud of. We then regrouped, had a few questions and headed out to stop number two.

Paul Ramina and his staff at Hamilton Farm welcomed everyone and gave the good news about hot pizza being delivered for lunch in forty-five minutes. We gathered outside in the warm sun as Paul described the unique historical background of Hamilton Farm being a self-contained farm built in 1913. When it was decided to build a golf club only a few years ago, the beautiful old buildings were kept for use as the maintenance facility. They seem to work well with a few unique storage areas in use such as the old blacksmith

*Continues on page 14*

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during my tenure at St. Andrews.”**

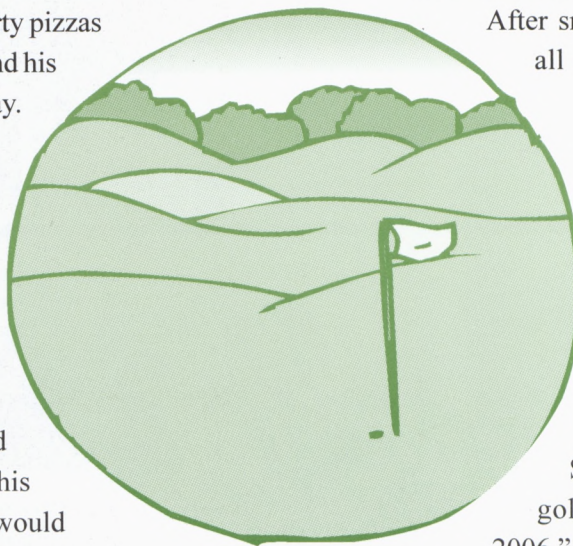
Old Tom Morris



Continued from page 12


shop with bellows still intact! Horse stalls serve as the offices for Paul and his staff. Greensmowers are stored for the winter in the hayloft. I think it was thirty pizzas later when we said thank you to Paul and his friendly staff and we were on our way.

Our last stop was with Greg Nicoll and his team at Trump National. Unique in many ways as well, Greg is using a "temporary" facility that also were old barns from years ago. They seem to serve Greg's purpose quite well and I think he will be a bit sad to leave the confines of the old buildings. However, in describing his new facility to be built this year, I would imagine his emotions would turn to joy. A state of the art maintenance area has been planned that will serve the needs of the thirty-six hole course for years to come.

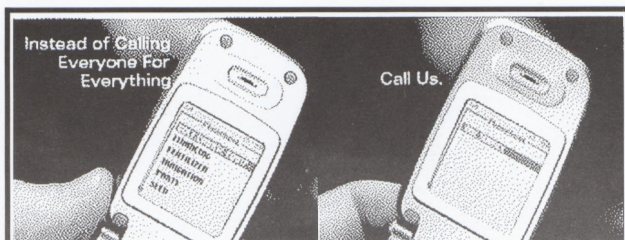


His current facility is scheduled to be a spa/pool facility for the membership. Can't wait for a return invitation!

After snacks and a few final questions, we all said goodbye about three o'clock.

It was a day well spent for superintendents and their staff to see how "they" do it and perhaps bring a few ideas of improvement back home. Discussions about quad times, work scheduling, staff responsibilities and many other topics were heard among smaller groups or even at times, everyone. Sounds like Roger already has three golf courses in mind for "Shop Tour 2006." Don't miss it! 

*Bruce Peebles CGCS, is the current President of the GCSANJ and also tends the greens of the Spring Lake Golf Club.*



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## *In Memory of Roy C. Bossolt*

*By Ken Krausz, CGCS*

The GCSANJ and the Borough of Paramus recently honored the memory of deceased life member Roy C. Bossolt. A Green Bay Zelcova tree was planted at the site of the Fritz Behnke Paramus Museum and a plaque was installed in remembrance of Mr. Bossolt.

Mr. Bossolt's connection with GCSANJ and Paramus was long and distinguished. He was a graduate of Rutgers University and became the Bergen County Agricultural Agent. He was a founding member of the Paramus Shade Tree Commission where he served 1951-1973. He was also a founding partner of the Terre Company along with Mr. William Feury in 1956. The Borough of Paramus named their tree nursery after Mr. Bossolt in 1985.

The tree and plaque will help to assure that Mr. Bossolt is remembered for years to come. 



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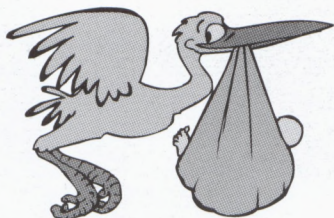


**In memory of Roy Bossolt one of the GCSANJ's first commercial members over 50 years ago.**



**The Zelcova tree donated by the GCSANJ will one day shade the parking lot of the Fritz Behnke Museum.**





## Birth announcements

Linda and Mark Peterson are happy to announce the birth of their first child, Noelle Elizabeth Peterson, born January 14, 2005 at 1:16 p.m. The beautiful young lady weighed 9 lbs. 14 oz's and measured 22.5 inches long. Proud father Mark is the superintendent of the McCullough's Emerald Golf Links in Egg Harbor Township.

Cassandra Grace Mathieu was born on February 3rd 2005 at 6:19 a.m. She weighed 9 lbs 5 oz's and was 21 1/4 inches long. The proud parents are Amy and Chad Mathieu. Chad is the superintendent at Ramsey Golf and Country Club. 🌱

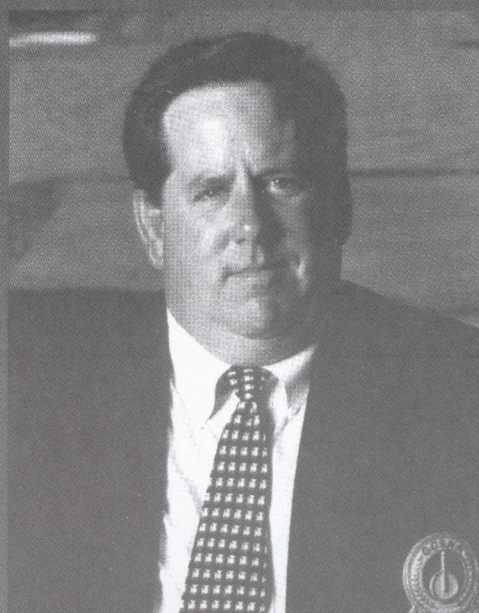
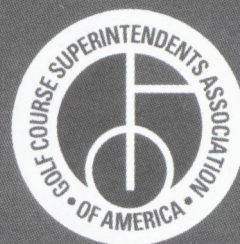


**Dr. Karen Plumley proudly accepts the Alumni Achievement Award for 2004 from the Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Association. She is flanked by her husband Ron Luepke and Dr. Bruce Clarke.**

## Congratulations Mark!

*On your 2005 election.*

MARK D. KUHN  
CGCS



GCSAA  
DIRECTOR CANDIDATE



## 2005 Golf Show



**Jack Nicklaus accepts the Old Tom Morris award during the opening reception for the Golf Industry Show.**



**Ken Krausz CGCS and Jim Cross CGCS spent their lunch break outside in the warm Florida sunshine.**



**Jim McNally and Wayne Remo CGCS took a break from the grueling cocktail hour at the GCSAA opening night poolside party.**



**Carole and Pete Pedrazzi spent time with good friends Larry Dodge at the Nor'easter hospitality room.**



**The Orlando Police Department charged Dick Neufeld of the E/T Equipment Company with impersonating a National Hockey League fan.**



**Greenside Editor Doug Vogel had a personal press conference with Jacobsen Salesman of the Year Glenn Gallion.**



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# 2005 Maintenance Facility Tour



**The sun rises over the New Jersey National Golf Club shop. Superintendent Brad Fox welcomed over eighty hardy souls for the first stop of the day.**



**Hot coffee and doughnuts awaited the crowd inside the heated shop after touring the cold storage areas of New Jersey National.**



**Hamilton Farm Golf Club maintenance takes place inside a real barn.**



**The gang joins Director of Maintenance Paul Ramina in the blacksmiths shop where much of their fleet is stored.**



**Shooting the bull in the bull barn with Paul and Hamilton Farm superintendent Tim Hetrick.**



**Trump National Golf Club superintendent Greg Nicoll is temporarily working out of the old horse stables of the former DeLorean Estates.**



**Every inch of space is efficiently used at Trump National.**

Photos courtesy of Jim Snow and Roger Stewart.



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