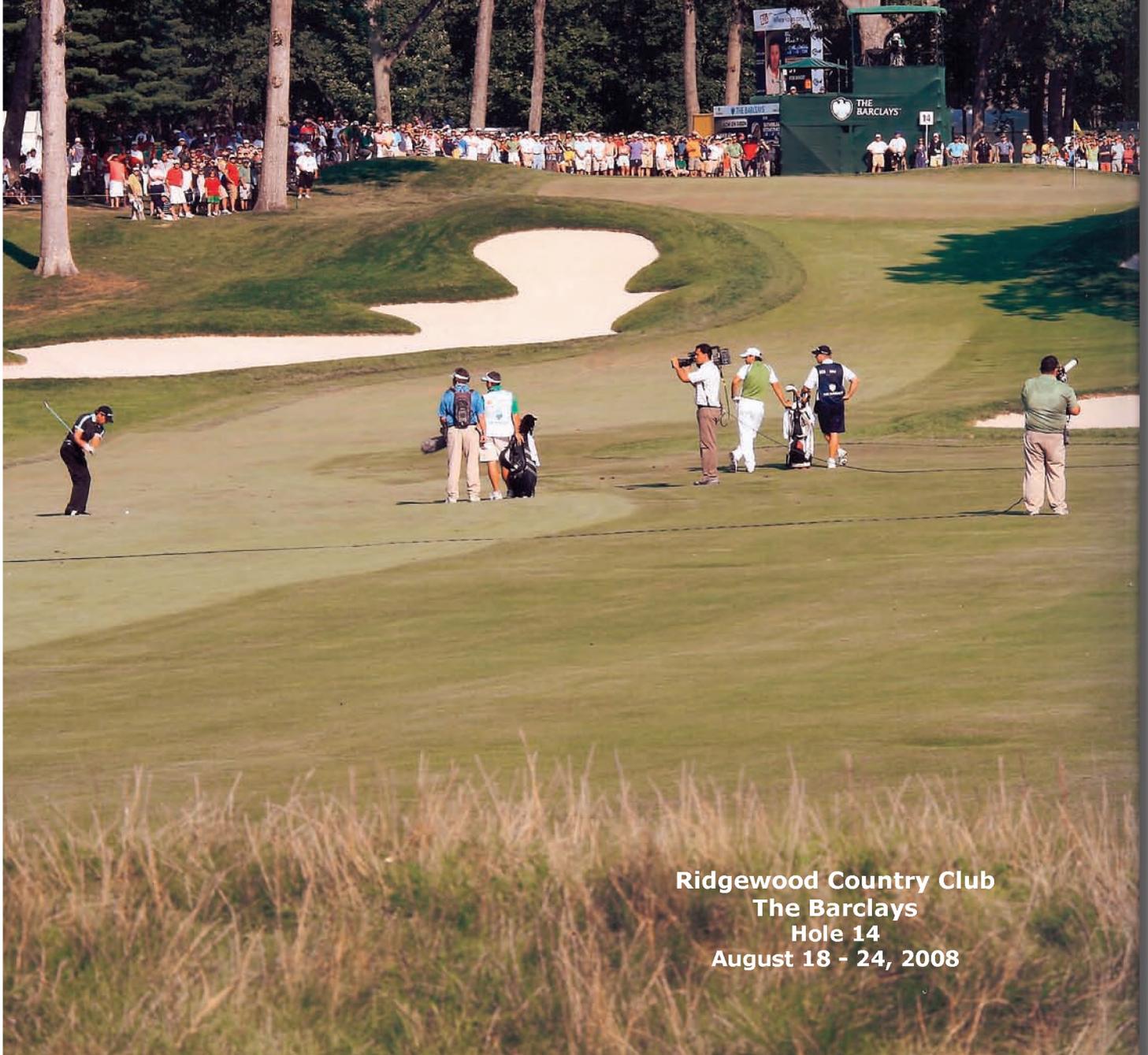




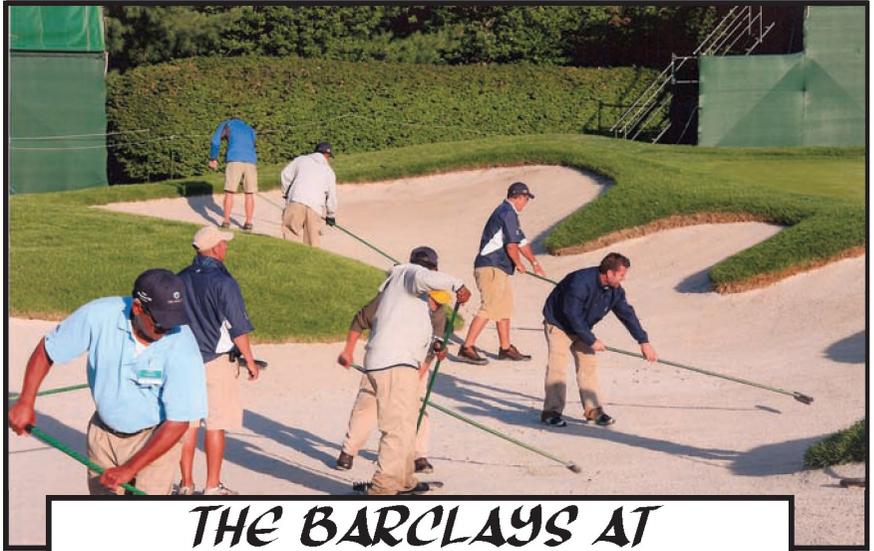
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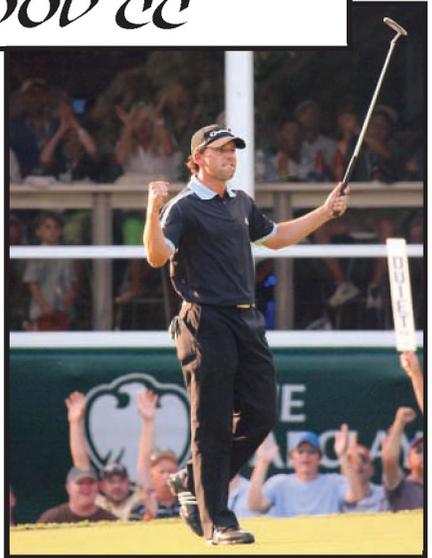
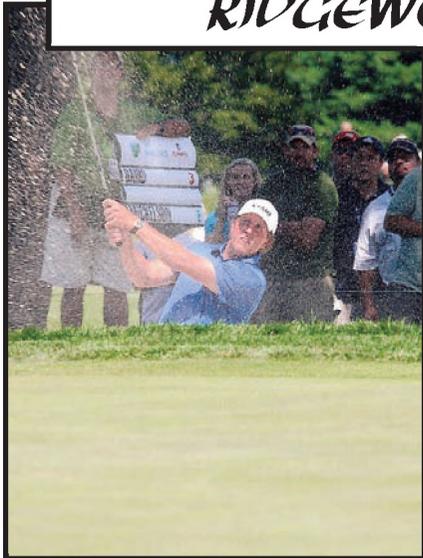
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**PICTURES TAKEN BY
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President's Message

Michael A. Stachowski, Golf Club of Concordia



They say time flies when you're having fun and that is true in my case. This will be my last President's Message, but it seems as though I just began my term as President. My service to our Association has gone by as fast as the golf season. I'm asking myself where the summer went. Just yesterday we were starting our spring preparations for the summer season, Memorial Day passed and then we blinked our eyes and Labor Day, too, has now passed.

I look back on my twelve years of service to our Association and feel confident that we have made contributions to the advancement of GCSANJ.

- First and foremost, we hired our Executive Director, Cece Peabody, a task that was started before my time on the Board. As Cece grows in her position, I feel strongly that our Association will also grow.

- We have created and maintained relationships with Legislators and Regulators in Trenton that assisted us in relaxing the drought restrictions in 2002. With our foot firmly in the door we will continue to voice our concerns and offer advice and input for the betterment of the industry when the time arises.

- Our Education Committee has provided the membership with its annual educational event – the Annual Crystal Conference – which provides state-of-the-art turfgrass research to the membership. The GCSANJ Foundation's growth may, in the near future, generate enough income to provide for research and scholarships.

- The Communication Committee created our website and has made the "Greenside" a premier publication among all the Chapters.

I could go on and on but the bottom line is that GCSANJ is growing stronger every year, and not just because of my participation, but because of all of you working together to make it a reality.

I'm not a big fan of famous quotes, but I will leave you with one to ponder as you go about your daily activities. For me, it has special meaning because Mark Twain wrote some of his best works in my hometown of Elmira, NY.

"It's impossible to know all there is to know.

The subject is just too big. Besides, it changes every day."

Mark Twain on being a Mississippi River Boat Pilot

I think this quote fits our respective jobs to a tee. No matter how large your budget is, how many members you have, or who designed your course, we all do the same things on the property that we manage. We mow the grass, we water the grass, we apply the right chemicals when needed, and after that, it's up to Mother Nature to direct us to our next problem. So, just as the river changes because of environmental

influence, so do our courses change with the impact of the weather and its associated challenges.

ASSOCIATION NEWS:

The **5th Annual Crystal Conference** will be held from November 11th-13th. The Education Committee has once again put together an excellent program with cutting-edge information that you can use on a daily basis. This is an excellent opportunity to network with fellow Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Affiliate members, and leading Academia members that can answer any questions you may have.

The GCSANJ Foundation will once again be organizing the **20th Annual RTJ Invitational** at Metedeconk National Golf Club on October 20, 2008. I encourage you to join in this event with your club. This event not only helps our Foundation but it also helps to fund the Environmental Institute for Golf.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the current and past Board members for their service and time to our association. Your insight, guidance, and dedication has made the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey one of the best chapters in the nation.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you! ♪



In this Issue

President's Message	3
2008 Clambake by the Sea.....	4
Colonial Bentgrass On Your Fairways?	7
Hawk Pointe to the Rescue.....	16
Crystal Conference 2008	20-21
The Barclays -- A Week of History	25
The Green Keeper.....	31
From the Buckeye State to The Barclays.....	32
District III Returns to Toms River CC.....	37
Quick Facts about Golf Courses	40
Patron Directory.....	42

2008 Clambake by the Sea

Under moonlit skies and a cool breeze, the GCSANJ Foundation held it's 3rd Annual Summer Social on July 12 at Jenkinson's Pavillion in Point Pleasant Beach.

More than 100 members and guests began descending on the beautiful beach front deck around 6:00 pm, and it was obvious to all that they were not just at another beach. Lined with swaying palm trees and cozy tiki huts, the setting was exactly what was needed for a mid season break from the golf course industry in New Jersey. A cool breeze, plenty of fresh seafood, and a staff that could serve you a fresh tropical beverage had everybody feeling festive. Then it was time for Smokey! And he did not disappoint anybody as he belted out one island tune after another.

"The weather was phenomenal, the entertainment great, plenty of food and fun! Anybody who missed this very worthwhile fundraiser should already be signed up for next year!" exclaimed Monmouth County, General Manager, Dave Pease. These sentiments were echoed throughout the evening.

As the party moved into the night, it was time to hand the microphone over to the Foundation members for a little door prize fun. Little did we know that our very own "cowboy" would grab the bull by the horns. Yes, it was time for Lance! After a sad rendition of the new hit single by Jessica Simpson, we were finally ready for some prizes. Two Coolers were given away, one to Lucille Kozsey and the other to Madison Benner. Pete and Carol Pedrazzi were given a \$100 gift certificate to the Lobster Shanty Restaurant. The 50/50 was won by three people. Keith Kubik and Bill Murray each took home \$100 and the big fish was caught by Glenn Miller for \$300.

continued on page 5

by Jim Cadott

GCSANJ Newsletter is published four times a year by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

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Cover Picture of Ridgewood Country Club
Courtesy of Peter Pedrazzi

And then it was time for a last round of Smokey. But before that, all the guests were thanked for supporting this fundraiser and they were reminded about what the Foundation does and who all it affects.

A successful evening just does not happen by itself. A dedicated group of members worked hard to make sure everything was just right, and for all those that attended it was obvious. This year was our most successful as far as sponsorship support. All the sponsors are owed a huge THANK YOU!!!

So, all that is left is to plan for 2009. And the Foundation has already set the date. **SATURDAY JULY 11, 2009.** Please plan on attending and supporting your fellow GCSANJ members -- you will not regret it! 📌

**SEE PHOTOS ON PAGES
6, 12, 13,15**

2008 & 2009

C A L E N D A R

- **September 16:** District I & II Championship, Panther Valley GC
- **September 24:** District IV Golf Championship, McCullough's Emerald Links
- **October 20:** RTJ Invitational, Metedeconk National GC
- **Nov 11-13:** Crystal Conference, Crystal Springs Resort
- **Dec 9-11:** NJ GREEN Expo, Taj Mahal, Atlantic City
- **Feb 2-7, 2009:** Golf Industry Show, New Orleans
*Check calendar for updates and signup info.
WWW.GCSANJ.ORG*

I'm Impressed...

*Cece Peabody, MAT, CMP
Executive Director*

"Deeply or markedly affected or influenced" -- this is the short definition of the word impressed.



I have been affected and impressed by many things and many members since being involved with the GC Superintendents Association of New Jersey.

- the caliber of commitment to get things done
- the time spent above and beyond
- the dedication to the mission
- the creativity
- the team mentality
- the strength of mind
- the caring when hardships affect members
- the desire to be better all the time
- the shared learning
- the welcoming attitude

I have been impressed since the first time I met with Mickey and the interview committee over a year ago, and then with the Board of Directors, and members. It's easy to see how good leadership has a positive trickle down effect.

Thank you for being so impressive effortlessly! 📌

NEW! GCSANJ News EMAIL link!

Do you have something to share about other GCSANJ members? Send an email to the address below to share information, good or bad, that you may want passed onto the membership. This is our best avenue to keep all members well informed. Thanks.

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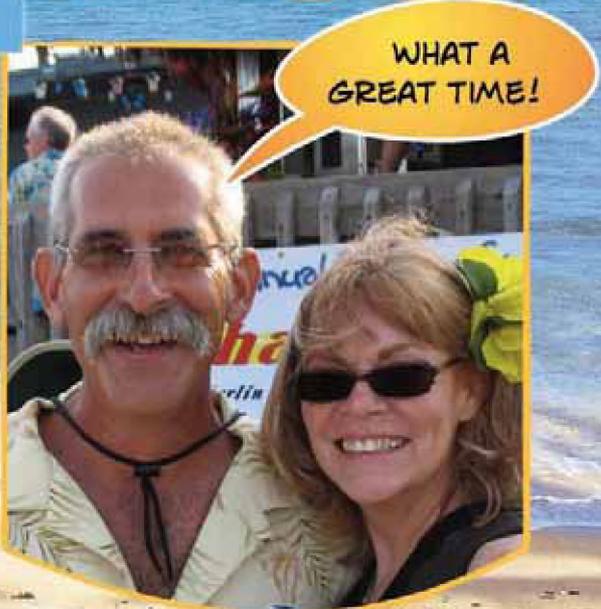
Listen to a response from John Alexander, GC Supt. at Cranbury Golf Club, about his recent posting in the job employment section of our website: "You guys are the best, the response was overwhelming!"

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CLAMBAKE BY THE SEA



WELCOMING COMMITTEE...LET'S HAVE FUN!



Have You Thought About Colonial Bentgrass for Your Fairways?

by Stacy A. Bonos, Ph.D.

Higher energy prices have increased the costs of almost everything including grass seed, fertilizer and pesticides. As the costs of energy increases, many of you might be thinking 'How can I cut costs?' Additionally more emphasis is being placed on conserving natural resources and reducing inputs. With all that in mind, have you thought about switching to colonial bentgrass on your fairways?

Creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera*) is currently the most widely used bentgrass for golf courses. Its prostrate growth habit and ability to produce vigorous spreading stolons, allow it to tolerate low cutting heights and quickly recover from damage. This makes creeping bentgrass a good choice for golf course putting greens in the cool- temperate and in some cases the warm-humid climates. However, creeping bentgrass, as a species, is very susceptible to dollar spot disease (caused by *Sclerotinia homoeocapa* F.T. Bennet) and typically requires regular fungicide applications and high inputs (cultural practices) for acceptable quality.

Dollar spot disease is probably the most common disease on golf course turf in the northeastern U.S. Although, breeders have developed creeping bentgrass cultivars with improved resistance they still may require several fungicide applications per year. Colonial bentgrass (*Agrostis capillaris*) generally has better tolerance of dollar spot disease than creeping (*Figure 1*).

Colonial bentgrass also known as brown top, has traditionally been used as a lawn and golf course grass in areas of Northern Europe and New Zealand that have mild (cool humid) summers. Compared to creeping bentgrass, colonial bentgrass has a more upright growth habit and spreads by short rhizomes instead of stolons. In addition to differences in growth habit, colonial bentgrass also differs in genetic color. Colonial bentgrass ranges from light to medium green while creeping bentgrasses typically range from medium green to a dark blue-green color (*Figure 2*).

Additionally, colonial bentgrass typically retains more green color during winter compared to creeping bentgrass. Colonial bentgrasses also do not accumulate thatch as aggressively as creeping bentgrass cultivars with high shoot density. High density creeping bentgrasses may require adjustments in management practices including increased topdressing and cultivation (aeration, verticutting, and grooming) to manage thatch development.



Figure 1 (l): Dollar spot disease resistance of colonial bentgrass (left) compared to the dollar spot susceptibility of creeping bentgrass (right).

Figure 2 (r): Color differences of colonial bentgrass compared to creeping bentgrass. Colonial bentgrass plots have a bright medium green color compared to dark green color of creeping bentgrass plots.



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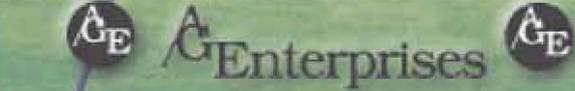


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Colonial bentgrasses typically do not require aggressive cultural management inputs. Additionally, it has been documented that colonial bentgrass exhibits faster recovery from drought stress compared to creeping bentgrass (DaCosta and Huang, 2007; DaCosta and Huang, 2006). The drought recovery, reduced maintenance requirements and increased dollar spot resistance of colonial bentgrass make it an interesting choice for golf course fairways during a time where environmental conservation, using lower inputs and energy conservation are on the minds of many people.

However, colonial bentgrass does have a major weakness affecting its use in temperate areas of the US. It is susceptible to brown patch disease (caused by *Rhizoctonia solani* Kühn) (Figure 3). Brown patch can cause some loss of turf density on creeping bentgrass mainly during the months of July and August, but severe damage from brown patch disease is unusual on creeping bentgrass in the northeastern and northcentral U.S. Colonial bentgrass cultivars, however, are quite susceptible to brown patch disease and loss of turf density (damage) can be strongly evident during the months of June through September.

It has been the goal of the breeding program at Rutgers for the past 10 years to improve the brown patch resistance in colonial bentgrass so that it may be more useful as a potential grass for fairways and tees. Prior to this research, there were no studies conducted on the inheritance of brown patch resistance in colonial bentgrass. It is important to understand how disease resistance is inherited in order to optimize selection procedures.

Traits can be inherited in different ways. Qualitative inheritance typically involves one (or a few) genes that confer complete resistance and are not strongly influenced by the environment. Quantitative inheritance involves a large number of genes that confer partial resistance and are strongly influenced by the environment. If brown patch is inherited qualitatively, then selection could be conducted in one environment possibly with limited replications.

If brown patch is inherited quantitatively then steps need to be taken to determine the extent of environmental influence on the disease compared to the genetic influence. It also would typically require evaluation in a number of environments with multiple replications. Preliminary research on brown patch resistance in tall fescue indicates that resistance may be quantitative (Simmons and Hamblin, 2002; Bonos et al., 2004; Bokmeyer et al., 2006). We have previously shown that dollar spot resistance in creeping bentgrass is most likely quantitatively inherited (Bonos et al., 2003; Bonos, 2006).

We have been investigating several selection techniques to improve brown patch resistance in colonial bentgrass. Selecting plants based on turf plot evaluations has only resulted in moderate improvements in brown patch resistance. However, we have found that selecting plants based on mowed spaced-plant evaluations has resulted in greater improvements in disease resistance compared to turf plot selection.



Figure 3: Brown patch disease of colonial bentgrass.



Figure 4 (page 11): Mowed spaced-plant evaluation trail for brown patch resistance in colonial bentgrass.

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Colonial Bentgrass on Your Fairways?

Continued from page 8

Individual colonial bentgrass progeny plants from 7 controlled crosses between tolerant and susceptible parents were planted into a stand of perennial ryegrass in the fall of 2001. The mowed-spaced plant trial was maintained at 1.9 cm (3/4 in). Tolerant and susceptible parent plants were planted with three replicates. All plants were inoculated with a mixture of two different brown patch isolates isolated from colonial bentgrass. The isolates were grown on sterilized Kentucky bluegrass seed and applied with a drop spreader at approximately 0.25 g m⁻². Brown patch disease was evaluated weekly after symptoms began to develop using a 1-9 scale, 9 representing least brown patch disease and 1 representing completely susceptible. The symptoms occurred approximately two weeks after inoculation. After two full seasons of brown patch disease pressure, significant differences in brown patch disease among colonial bentgrass clones was evident (*Figure 4 - on page 8*).

From this trial we found that susceptible parents were not significantly more susceptible than the tolerant parents. Tolerant x tolerant crosses were not more tolerant than tolerant x susceptible crosses. These results indicated that brown patch resistance is significantly affected by the environment and suggests that inheritance is quantitative.

The colonial bentgrass clones with high levels of disease resistance in the mowed-spaced plant trial were selected and moved to isolated crossing blocks and allowed to inter-pollinate (*Figure 5*). Seed was harvested individually from each plant to establish single progeny turf plots. Additionally, equivalent amounts of seed from each plant were bulked to make a composite in order to establish replicated turf plots in the fall of 2002.



Figure 5: Isolated crossing block of colonial bentgrass.



Figure 6: Colonial bentgrass cultivars selected for brown patch resistance compared to susceptible cultivars.

Entries in the turf plot evaluation trial included standard cultivars and experimental selections from numerous turfgrass breeding programs. Entries in each test were seeded using a maximum of 0.22 g m⁻² (1.3 lb per 1000 ft²) of seed. Between 8.9 g nitrogen (N) m⁻² and 6.5 g N m⁻² (2.2 and 1.6 pounds of N per 1000 ft²) were applied annually (2003 and 2004 respectively). No single N application exceeded 2 g N m⁻² (0.5 pound N per 1000 ft²). The yearly fertilization program included two granular N applications in the spring and fall at approximately 2 g N m⁻² and biweekly liquid N applications during the summer months at approximately 0.8 g N m⁻² (0.2 lb N per 1000 ft²). The trial was maintained at approximately 0.48 cm (3/16-in) cutting height. The trials were rated throughout the growing seasons for turf quality (color, brightness, leaf texture, density, uniformity, and amount of disease and insect damage) and dollar spot disease. The turf trial was not inoculated with the brown patch pathogen. All disease outbreaks were a result of natural infection.

The mowed-spaced plant selection technique has resulted in dramatic improvements in brown patch resistance in colonial bentgrass. The experimental selections developed using this technique (BCD, 9110 - 8-10, 9111 - 6-12) had higher brown patch ratings than standard cultivars that were not selected for brown patch resistance (SR 7100, SR 7150) (*Table 1*) (*Figure 6*). This data indicates that this technique is effective in improving brown patch resistance.

Table 1. Performance of Bentgrass Cultivars in a Fairway/Tee Trial – 2005 Brown Patch Data

Top Cultivars Cultivar or	Sp.	BP Avg 1-9	Cultivar or	Sp.	BP Avg
4. Shark	Creep	8.6	34. Declaration	Creep	6.7
9. Tyee	Creep	8.3	35. PST-9PIN	Col.	6.6
13. Independence	Creep	8.0	38. Alpha	Creep	6.3
15. Penn G-2	Creep	7.8	39. Penn A-4	Creep	6.3
18. MacKenzie	Creep	7.7	41. Penneagle	Creep	6.2
28. 9110 - 8-10	Col.	7.0	43. Crenshaw	Creep	6.0
29. BCD Comp	Col.	6.9	44. 9113 - 1&5	Col.	5.9
31. Penn G-1	Creep	6.8	46. King Pin	Creep	5.9
32. 9111 - 6-12	Col.	6.7	47. EBM Comp	Col.	5.7
33. Century	Creep	6.7	48. 9108 - 1&5	Col.	5.6

LSD at 5% = 1.4, according Fisher's Protected Isd (87 total entries)

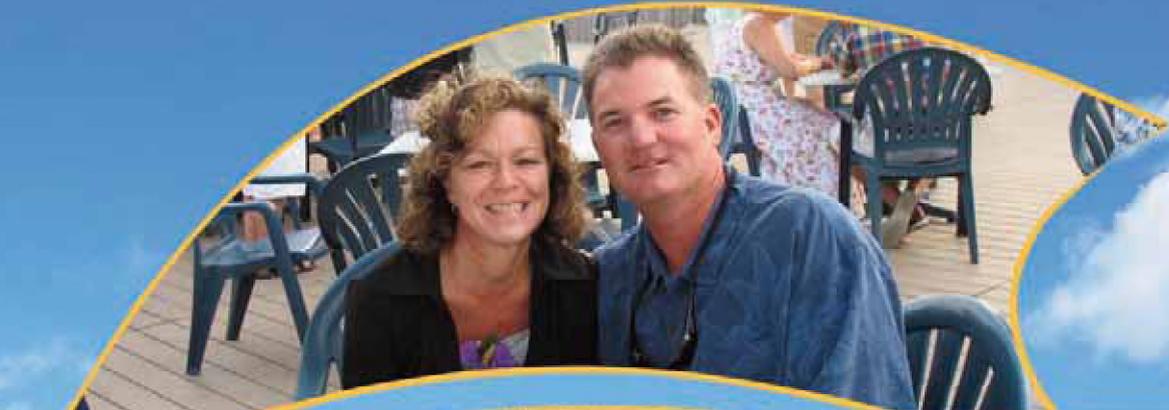
Table 1 - right

Table 1. Performance of Bentgrass Cultivars in a Fairway/Tee Trial – 2005 Brown Patch Data

Bottom Cultivars Cultivar or	Sp.	BP Avg 1-9	Cultivar or	Sp.	BP Avg
61. SR 1119	Creep	5.0	71. Putter	Creep	3.9
62. LDP Comp	Col.	4.9	72. Pennlinks	Creep	3.8
63. L-93	Creep	4.9	73. SRX 7EE4	Col.	3.6
64. Tiger II	Col.	4.8	74. Southshore	Creep	3.6
65. SRX 7CRCO	Cr/Col	4.3	75. SRX 7EE	Col.	3.5
66. Glory	Col.	4.3	76. 9118 - 1-6b	Col.	3.5
67. Pennlinks II	Creep	4.2	79. SR 7100	Col.	3.3
68. Alister	Col.	4.2	81. SR 7150	Col.	3.2
69. Seaside II	Creep	4.1	82. Penncross	Creep	2.9
70. PST-9R3	Col.	4.0	LSD at 5%		1.4

Continued on page 14

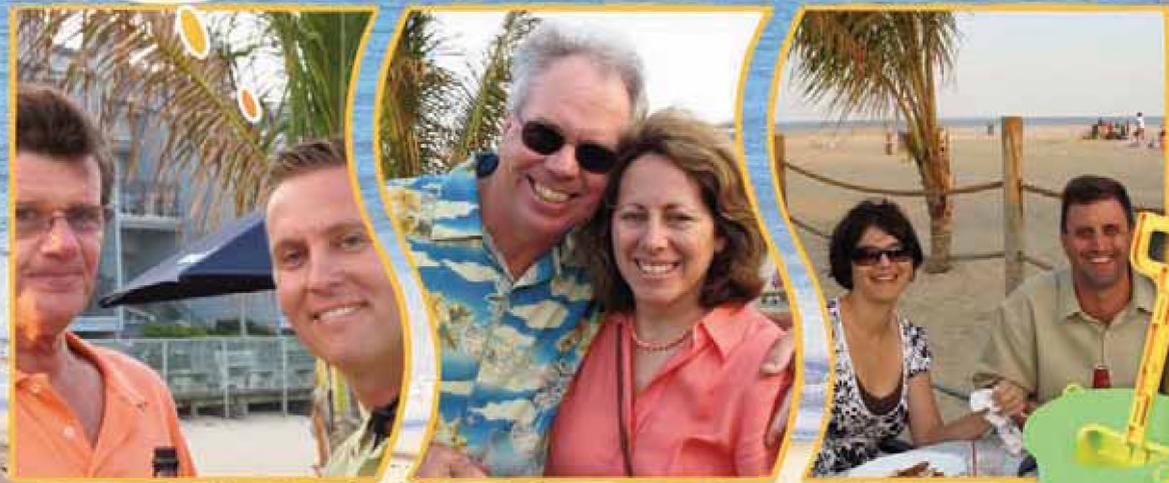




FUN WAS HAD BY ALL!



JOE K, CHECK OUT SMOKEY, HE'S JAMMIN!



Bentgrass on Fairways

Continued from page 11

This technique was also used to evaluate new collection sources of colonial bentgrass, for brown patch disease. We have identified over 150 colonial bentgrass plants from 20 European collection sources with improved brown patch resistance. The addition of new sources of resistance helps to maintain the genetic diversity of the species and may increase the durability of resistance. These new European sources of brown patch resistance have been crossed with colonial bentgrasses used in the Rutgers breeding program that are adapted to our climate here in the US. These new experimental selections of colonial bentgrass are able to maintain very good quality even in the presence of heavy brown patch disease pressure.

The results reported here indicate that new colonial bentgrass cultivars, selected for improved brown patch resistance should be useful on fairways where reduced inputs are anticipated.

The Rutgers turfgrass breeding program will continue to select and improve colonial bentgrass for this purpose. These newly developed cultivars can maintain acceptable quality with limited fungicides,

they can recover from drought stress quickly and they do not accumulate thatch aggressively and therefore do not require excessive cultural practices to reduce thatch accumulation. These attributes make colonial bentgrass an attractive alternative to creeping bentgrass for superintendents interested in reducing inputs and conserving energy on golf course fairways. †

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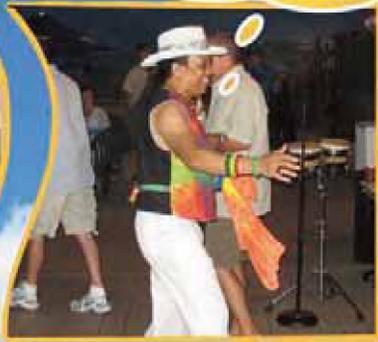
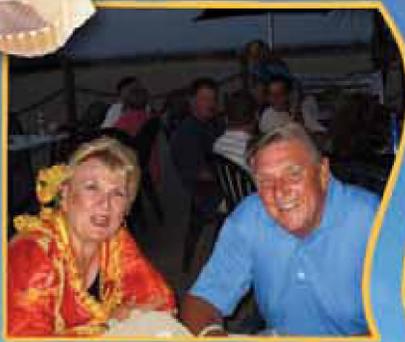
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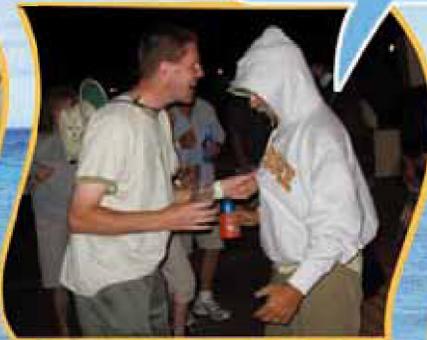
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Hawk Pointe to the Rescue

by Shaun Barry

The actual story leading up to Hawk Pointe being our host for the May meeting is not quite as dramatic as the title implies but it was a wonderful moment when **Dave Reece** said that he thought that he could help us out. During the National in Orlando I had spoken to **Bob Carey** from Spring Brook to see if he had any interest in hosting a meeting. He thought for a moment and then with that big smile said he would do whatever we needed. He was open for any month and since we had the April meeting booked already, he readily agreed to a May meeting. He just had to clear it with the club and that would have to wait because the club manager was going to be away for some vacation time. We agreed to get together in March and that is what we did. We spoke and Bob listened to all of the requirements that we have. He thought that everything sounded great.

In April we were finally able to meet with the assistant manager and that went very nicely. He checked the schedule and that seemed ok. He would speak to his boss and the committee to make sure everything was acceptable. Within a week Bob and I were given the bad news that they were not going to be able to accommodate us. Scheduling seemed to be the main issue and they offered to see if they could help locate another club for the meeting. I decided to make the calls on my own because time was now an issue and I didn't want any club going to a lot of effort only to find out that we didn't need them.

I remembered that **Keith Kubik** had told me that Dave Reece was interested in hosting a meeting sometime so he was my first call. I had to check and see if "sometime" could become "this" time. As luck would have it I called him on the number that he never uses but for some reason he checked the answering machine and when he did there I was asking for his help. He called back the next day and he was really interested. We discussed our needs and he went to work. Within a few days I was meeting with their management and we had a site, a date and a price. Suddenly the sun was out and all was right with the world.

Dave was now going to get his chance to see what his peers would think about the course and its conditions. It would also give him the chance to meet many of our members. Dave just finds it hard to get away to meetings and so he doesn't know a lot of our folks. Having said that, I did notice he was able to go and play Bandon Dunes for a few days. It turns out that this was a business meeting or at least that is what I think he said. I may have to join him for his next business meeting there because that is some special place. It is not to be missed.

On the day of the event I got there early and **Cece** wasn't very far behind. She, however, showed some good common sense and set up her table inside the clubhouse to avoid the cool temperature we were greeted with. We did registrations outside so everybody could see us and when they entered the club they met Cece and all of the merchandise that we had for sale. **Kevin Driscoll, Phil O'Brien** and **Wendell Beakley** were there helping me but there were a few hints that inside the warm clubhouse would be a better place to conduct our work. Once they realized that there was a reason why I was sitting in the sun they moved their chairs and the shivering stopped.

Before we started to enjoy the beautiful lunch sponsored by **Cleary Chemical, Downes Tree Service** and **E/T Equipment** everyone gathered at their tables to listen to **John O'Keefe, CGCS** speak about the GCSAA and what was happening with them and what we could expect from them. This may have been John's first official speaking engagement as a GCSAA Board member but he did a great job. Having been president of two superintendent associations and one foundation is pretty good training for his new position. Everyone listened and learned and then they used lunch to fuel themselves for their exploration of this fine golf course.

The first tee was reserved for Dave and he was joined by members of his staff and the club. It was **Richard Cotton, Ryan Dougherty** and **Randy Welsh** completing that group and even though they had a great time none of the winners came from these fellows. I am afraid that they were still concentrating on course conditions and not really relaxing a lot. If that is the case it is too bad because the course was

Hawk Pointe to the Rescue

just marvelous. They had done their jobs well and this should have been a time to enjoy their efforts. Hopefully they did because I know we did.

On the course everyone found more sponsored contests than usual. The reason for that is easy to explain. We sent out a form requesting sponsors for our normal meeting months but the board later decided that we would not take a chance on having meetings where the attendance could be low and so we would have fewer meetings. This meant that the sponsors who normally would be there for June and September needed to be placed elsewhere. That was done with this meeting having 12 long drive contests. **Storr Tractor, Syngenta and Wilfred MacDonald** were given two contests each and **Atlantic Irrigation, Cleary Chemical, Dry Ject, E/T Equipment, Shearon and The Terre Co.** sponsored one each. Walking away with a nice \$75 gift certificate from these contests were **Tom Bavero, Ken Kubik, Rick Krok, Cece Peabody, Mark Peterson, Marie Pompei and Jim McNally.** **Jim Cross** did even better because he won 2 of these events and then we have Mr **Paul Dotti.** This well known long hitter won 3 times. That might have to show-up on his tax returns.

The closest to the pin contests were on all 4 par three holes and once again **Vic Gerard** sponsored a gift certificate along with their normal donation to the closest superintendent which is the use of one of their utility vehicles for a month. For the third time in a row **Jim Cross** won both prizes. He hit it 3 ft. even and he can't wait for the next opportunity. The three other contests were all sponsored by **Dry Ject** and taking the honors were **Chris Boyle** (9ft even), **Keith Kubik** (4ft 8ins) and **Doug Larson** (9ft 8ins).

The gross competition was even more important than usual. We have two spots open on the gross side of our Met Team Championship team. That event is at Winged Foot CC in October. It has been determined that the two players with the lowest gross scores from this meeting or the Championship meeting at Tavistock will become part of the team. It is not a combined total but rather a single score only. If you

didn't play at Hawk Pointe you can still qualify with a good round at Tom Grimac's course. After their winning scores here **Paul Dotti** (76) and **Doug Larson** (77) are in the lead. If there are lower scores at Tavistock then they could be bumped out so I suggest that they show up at this meeting and try and improve on their fine play. I know there will be many of our guys looking to fill the open spots. We also had two low net winners and they were **Ralph McGillian** (69) and **Phil O'Brien** (71). **Mark Peterson** was able to win two skins while **John Alexander, Jim Cross, Joe Kinlin and Ralph McGillian** captured one apiece.



While we were preparing to present the plaque and the flag to Dave, I was able to watch the folks at the tables. Everyone seemed to be wearing a smile. They had just played a great course in superb shape and they had enjoyed a fine meal sponsored by **Shearon.** If there is ever a reason to smile that was it but there was more. I watched Dave meet and greet what will be many new friends and his generous and joyous personality seemed to fill the room. You can't help but be happy when you are around Dave and it showed by how many people stayed after the meeting was over. It wasn't a rush to the door but rather a rush to shake Dave's hand. It was neat to watch.

Thanks for everything Dave and please let everyone at the club know how much we enjoyed the day. Hawk Pointe is a special place and we hope to return but we also hope to get to Spring Brook so Bob Carey can show-off his gem. 🏌️

GCSANJ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The GCSANJ scholarship program has been revamped. Great efforts were made to keep the applicants anonymous from the judges. The process started when the applications were received at GCSANJ headquarters. All applicant's names were blacked out and sent to the scholarship chairman. Copies were made of the applications, and a rating system developed. All applications were judged based on Grade Point Average, extracurricular activities, essay, and overall presentation. The high and low score ratings were eliminated and averaged. The averages were ranked high to low.

The evaluations were given to the GCSANJ Foundation. At this stage, their only action was to check the numerical calculations leading to final rankings of the applications listed on a spreadsheet. They also did this without knowing any of the names of the applicants. T's were crossed and I's were dotted, and the Foundation determined the number of scholarships to be awarded and the amount of each reward. Upon completion of this process, the Foundation contacted GCSANJ headquarters for the names of the individuals applying for a scholarship.

The scholarship committee believes that this new system will go a long way to eliminate any chance of or the appearance of impropriety in the scholarship program, and build confidence that monies awarded are going to the most deserving and truly qualified individuals. I would like to thank all those who participated in the scholarship program and those on the scholarship committee for your help and input.

Bruce Rickert, CGCS
Scholarship Chair

Scholarship Committee

Wendell Beakley
Fran Oswik
Gregg Armbruster
John Topakas
Dale Heckman
Dr. Bruce Clarke
Scott Bosetti

CONGRATULATIONS 2008 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

Kyle S. Beakley

Alison Ceplo

Joseph Guanill

Diane Kathleen Miller

Ellen Deeples

Ronald J. Richter Jr.

David A. Rickert

Philip Rudich

Stephanie Wirth

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2008 • BLACK BEAR GOLF CLUB, FRANKLIN NJ

5th Annual Crystal Golf Classic Scramble at Black Bear Golf Club sponsored by Plant Food Company

9:30 - 10:30 AM **Registration**
 11:00 AM **Shotgun**

Lunch provided at the turn

Followed by Cocktail and Awards Reception sponsored by Seeton Turf Warehouse

Awards sponsored by Grass Roots at Black Bear Clubhouse.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 • MINERALS HOTEL, COPPER ROOM

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:00 AM – 4:45 PM **Education Sessions**

8:00-9:15 AM □ *Dr. John E. Kaminski, University of Connecticut*
 • **Identification and Management of the Patch Disease**

9:15-10:00 AM □ *Dr. Steve Hart, Rutgers University*
 • **Update on Herbicides**

10:00-10:30 AM **Break ~ Visit Vendors - Gymnasium**

10:30-11:15AM □ *Dave Doherty, ISTRC*
 • **Physical Soil Properties and What They Mean to You**

11:15-12:00 PM Annual Meeting

12:00 1:00 PM **Lunch - Gymnasium**

1:00 - 2:00 PM □ *Dave Doherty, ISTRC*
 • **The Sealing of our Greens and What We Can Do About It**

2:00- 3:00 PM □ *Dr. John E. Kaminski, University of Connecticut*

 • **Dollar Spot Management**

3:00 - 3:30PM **Break ~ Visit Vendors - Gymnasium**

3:30 - 4:45 PM □ *Dr. Karl Danneberger, The Ohio State University*
 • **Intra and Inter-Seeding: The Dream Lives On**

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5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Cocktail Hour sponsored by GCSANJ • Meet the Vendors

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Check our website for updates
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008 • MINERALS HOTEL, COPPER ROOM

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:00 AM – 4:15 PM **Education Sessions**

8:00-9:30 AM □ *Dr. Karl Danneberger, The Ohio State University*
 • **Sustainability: A Global Perspective**

9:30-10:00 AM **Break ~ Visit Vendors**

10:00-11:00 AM □ *Dr. Nathaniel Mitkowski, University of Rhode Island*
 • **Turfgrass Nematodes, an Increasing Problem in the Northeast**

11:00-11:45AM □ *Marie Pompei, F. M. Brown's Sons, Inc.*
 • **Low Maintenance Grasses for the Golf Course Use**

11:45-12:45 PM **Lunch**

12:45 - 1:45 PM □ *Mark Fine, Fine Golf Design Inc.*
 • **A Review of Bunkers, Pits, and Other Hazards**

1:45 - 3:00 PM □ *Herb Stevens, Grass Roots Weather*
 • **Global Warning: Fact or Fiction**

Vendor Displays • Pesticide Credits • GCSAA CEU's

Adjourn

GCSAA Education Points and
 NJ & NY Pesticide Credits TBD
Check our website for updates
www.gcsanj.org

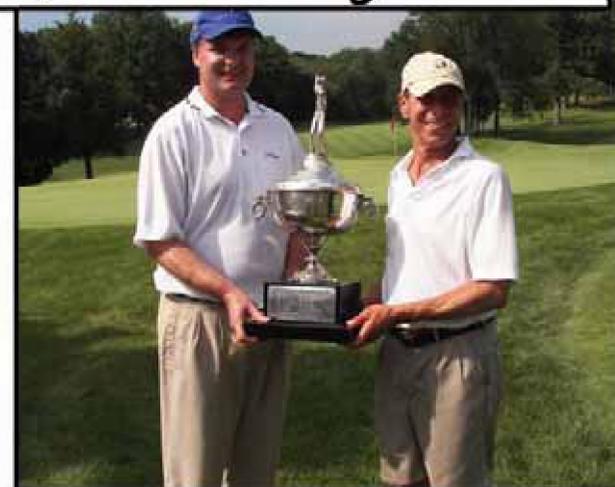
Congratulations from GCSANJ



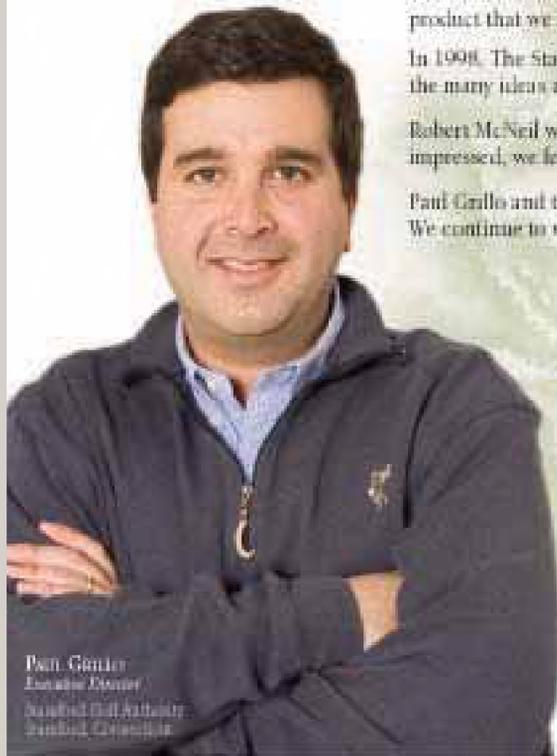
NJ State Amateur at Little Mill Country Club



NJ State Open at Alpine Country Club



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ROBERT MCNEIL WORKS.



Paul Grillo
Executive Director
Stamford Golf Authority
Stamford, Connecticut

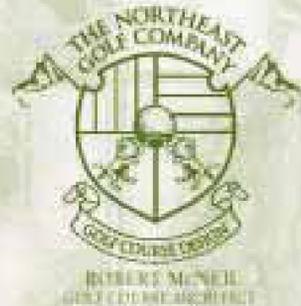
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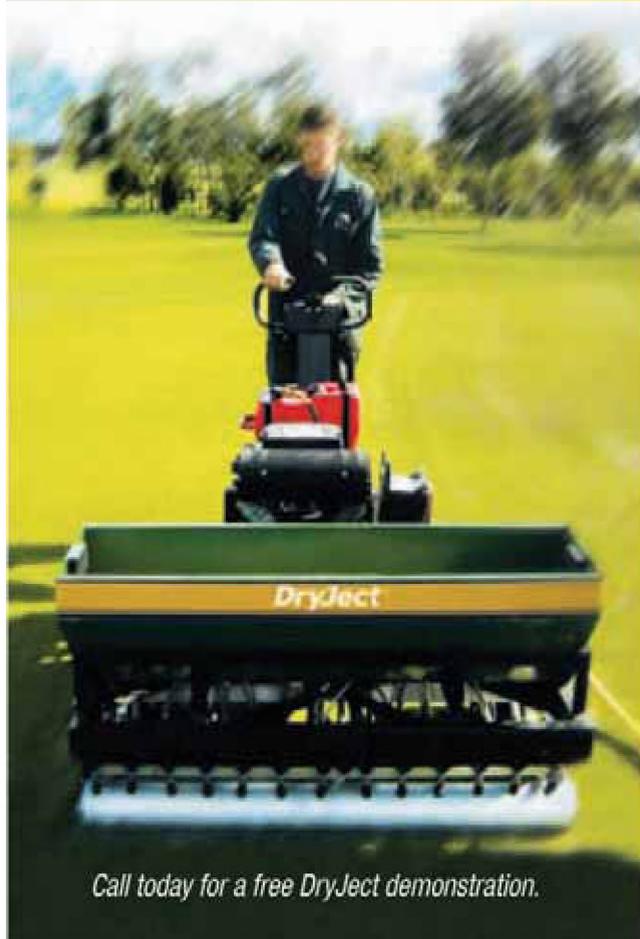
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The Barclays – A Week of History

by Doug Vogel

Four distinguished looking gentleman approached the GCSANJ Hospitality Area at the Ridgewood Country Club looking for Todd Raisch CGCS. Todd was out on the course but I said they could leave him a message and I would be sure to get it to him. Three of the four were superintendents and they loved the idea of the hospitably area. They were very appreciative of the complimentary beverages from the cooler “behind” the curtain. Tuesday was, after all, a sneaky hot sunny day. “Come back for dinner” I told them, “Todd will be here around 5 p.m.” The youngest looking of the group shook my hand and said “just tell Todd we know the place well and we’ve never seen conditions like we’ve seen here today!”

This was a common observation reported throughout the week at Ridgewood. Raisch and his crew had the course in spectacular condition for The Barclays – the first tournament in the PGA playoffs for the FedEx Cup. The tour players, Ridgewood members, fellow superintendents and even PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem were impressed. “Nearly 100% of the players are satisfied with not only the venue but the conditions of the course” Finchem told Raisch. “And that never happens.”

In an unprecedented act, Finchem visited the maintenance facility and addressed Raisch and the crew. “We couldn’t have been more appreciative of the efforts of the maintenance crew” offered Finchem. “This kind of work doesn’t get done by just punching a ticket. It gets done because of your passion. You guys have done a fantastic job and on behalf of the players, I thank you for your efforts”.

Todd had a lot of help maintaining these conditions during tournament week. The list of industry volunteers was impressive. No less than twenty-five superintendents volunteered their time showing a huge sign of respect for both Todd and our association values. Many GCSANJ and METGCSA past presidents were involved, nine to be exact, helping Todd with whatever task he asked of them. One in particular had an emotional attachment that none of the other volunteers could match.

Former Ridgewood superintendent Ed Walsh was absolutely overwhelmed on his return to his former course. “I loved it. It was a terrific experience to go back to see what Todd had accomplished. The course had never looked better, that’s coming from a guy who worked here for seventeen years. I was so proud to be there.”

The week of hard work was made a whole lot easier for those involved by having the GCSANJ Hospitality Area situated right in the middle of the maintenance facility. Having been a huge success at Baltusrol for the 2005 PGA Championship, Todd felt strongly that his volunteers and guests had a similar place to relax. Ken Kubik was put in charge and spent over seven months working out the details with Raisch. It was just as successful as the tournament. Elliott Lewis, an international hospitality expert, claimed it was better.

Three hot meals a day, comfortable leather couches, entertainment in the form of WiiFit Tiger Woods Golf, Plasma Televisions, a real time PGA Tour scoring kiosk, and 24/7 supply of coffee and cold drinks. All of this was made available to the volunteers and GCSANJ members courtesy of our industry vendors (see Thank You ad).

The real benefactor of the Hospitality Area was the golf industry itself. Profits from the donations were given out to three very worthwhile causes. On Wednesday night, John O’Keefe CGCS accepted a check on behalf of the GCSAA Environmental Institute of Golf. Shaun Barry, Mickey Stachowski and Lance Rogers for the GCSANJ Foundation; and Chris Carson, Dr. Bruce Clarke, Dr. Karen Plumley and Keith Kubik for the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation.

The highlight of the week was seeing the entire Raisch family watching the final holes together in the comfort of the hospitality area. Two little girls were climbing all over and hugging their exhausted dad. Their grandfathers, themselves exhausted from working all week, looked on with appreciative smiles. Todd’s wife Susan gathered up the girls because the men still had some more work to do. On Monday the girls will have

The Barclays – A Week of History

their father back to climb on and hug for the entire day.

As I left the course for home, I ran into the four guests who had been previously looking for Todd. They were standing off by themselves in the shade of the mighty oaks along the eighteenth fairway.

“My friend, when you see Todd, give him our best. Tell him Paul, Bill, Bob, and Albert say – Job well done!”

And with a wink and a nod they were gone. 🙄



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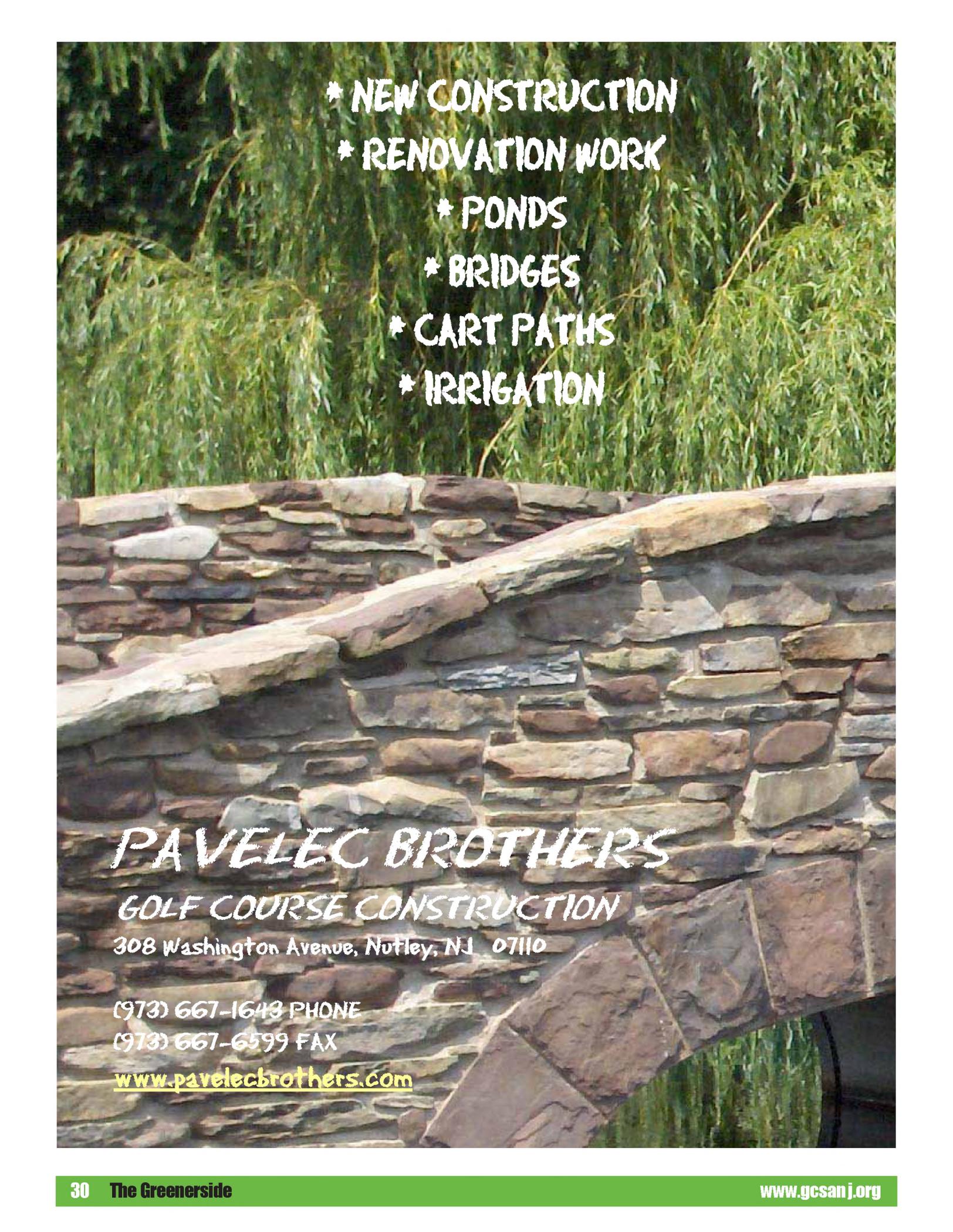


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The Green Keeper

by Edgar A. Guest

He's on the job at break of day and when the stars come out,
There's always trouble on the course for him to fret about,
He starts the gang to work at dawn and follows them around
Then listens to committeemen whose wisdom is profound,
They talk of "bents" and "fescues" in a way that makes him squirm

For they acquire much knowledge in one brief official term.
His task is one that calls for tact, for lacking that it means
Next year there'll be another man brought on to keep the greens.

The members seldom know his name, or have a smile for him,
They only wonder why it is the course is not in trim.
They only rave and rage and rant while hunting for a ball
And wonder why the greensman hasn't cut the rough this fall,
And when they find a cuppy lie or footprints in a trap
"The course is in rotten shape!" declares each gloomy chap.
And yet my hat is off to him, now winter intervenes,
I want to pay my tribute to the man who keeps the greens.

He's on the job from dawn to dusk, a million pests to fight,
'Tis his to see that every green is watered well at night.
The weeds attack his finest work, the drought destroys his grass,
The rain beats down the tender shoots, but still the players pass
And still they play the game they love, a happy golfing clan
Who never stop to count the odds against a single man.
And so I wave my hand to him, who toils in sturdy jeans,
The best old friend all golfers have - the man who keeps the greens.

** From the January 1923 issue of The USGA Green Section Bulletin*

Quotes About GCSAA

Quoting Previous Old Tom Morris Award Winners

Byron Nelson

"I think the job the superintendents have done is the biggest improvement in golf today. The demands have caused it, yes, but also the education that the superintendents have now in agronomy and such (is critical). What I like is that golf course management has become so good universally."

Tom Watson

"In this day and age, a golf course superintendent must be an educator, scientist, agronomist, economist and a good people manager. If you put all this together with a love for a piece of earth, then you've got a good golf course superintendent."

Robert Trent Jones Sr.

"To golf course superintendents around the world I owe a great debt, and every architect owes a great debt. We can only continue to provide these great golf facilities with well-educated professionals to maintain them."

PGA TOUR pro and course designer Hale Irwin

I think one trend that we have had little discussion about in the industry is the way in which golf course superintendents across the country have made our playing surfaces really, really good.

Golf legend Arnold Palmer on GCSAA and its members

"The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and all Golf Course Superintendents are probably the most important single entity that we have in golf...The conditions and the golf course's beauty, the environment, the wetlands, everything depends on their perseverance and their knowledge and the work that they do to maintain the golf courses."

Arnold Palmer in *Golf Magazine* Q&A

Q: What are the biggest changes you've noticed in the game in 45 years?

A: The conditioning of golf course is so much better today. The one place everybody enjoyed going to so much was Augusta because it was always immaculate. But today, you have those impeccable conditions everywhere .

From The Buckeye state to “The Barclays”

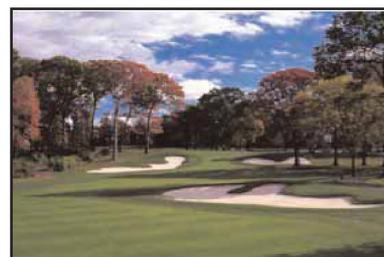
The prestigious Ridgewood Country Club will be back in the spotlight as they get ready to host “The Barclays”, the PGA Tour’s first event of the FedEx Cup Playoffs from Aug 19-24th, 2008. Hosting an event is a lot of work, however, its business as usual for Golf Course Superintendent, Todd Raisch, CGCS. Todd is embarking on his 12th year at the helm of Ridgewood Country Club. Todd’s career in golf is similar to a lot of us in that his father introduced him to the game. They attended the 1983 Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village GC. Todd was so enthralled by the game he took up golf the very next day. Growing up in Dayton, Ohio and being so close to Muirfield Village, Todd has always had a love for the game. When it was time to go to college in 1991, Todd enrolled in where else, The Ohio State University, where he double majored in Business Administration/Finance and Agronomy. Todd took a job at Worthington Hills CC in 1991 because as he said, “He needed the money”. He worked for Golf Course Superintendent, Marty Szturm, who Todd says was his biggest influence in the business. Marty pushed him to be a golf course superintendent. Todd worked at Worthington Hills from 1991-92 and then interned at the historic Myopia Hunt Club and worked for Dave Heroian. Upon graduation in the fall of 1994, Todd took a job as the spray tech for Terry Buchen at the Double Eagle Club. He stayed there for a year before joining Ridgewood Country Club to become the 2nd assistant in January of 1995. Todd quickly moved up the ladder and in January of 1996 he was made 1st assistant, and worked for John Gasper. In November of 1996 John moved on to Oak Hill, and Todd was named the Golf Course Superintendent at Ridgewood Country Club.



Todd has overseen many projects since being at Ridgewood CC. In 1995 the club embarked on 9 million dollars in renovation projects which included rebuilding

all the bunkers, tee and driving range renovations, a new irrigation system, new drainage in the greens, and the removal of almost 2000 trees. Anyone who played Ridgewood in the 80s and early 90s will definitely see the difference in the golf course.

When I asked Todd what his proudest accomplishment is at Ridgewood CC, he told me that the bunker renovations was his most satisfying achievement. This is due to the fact that the staff at RCC did all of the renovations. Led by Chris Walick, they began in the fall of 2002 and basically did one hole at a time finishing in 2006. Anyone who knows golf can see that Todd restored the Tillinghast style of bunkers. Todd’s biggest challenge may have come when his maintenance facility burned to the ground in 1997. It took a few years, but Todd’s break room, interns quarters, locker room and offices were completed in 2000. In the spring of 2005, the mechanics area, cold storage and supply room were completed at the cost of 1.5 million dollars. Anyone who has seen this area would be impressed that Todd really did an excellent job of overseeing the construction. Todd will now be embarking on the The Barclays, a PGA Tour event. Hosting events is nothing new to Todd, he had the Senior PGA championship in 2001 and is looking forward to the challenge of The Barclays tournament. He will be the first to say that he does not do it alone. Todd over the years has been supported by not only his staffs, but especially his wife Susan and his children Elly (9) and Halle(5).



Continued on page 38



PGA Tour Commissioner, Tim Finchem with Todd Raisch, CGCS

2008 Barclays Championship
 GCSANJ Hospitality Area
Ridgewood Country Club
 August 18th-24th, 2008
 Host Superintendent - Todd Raisch, CGCS



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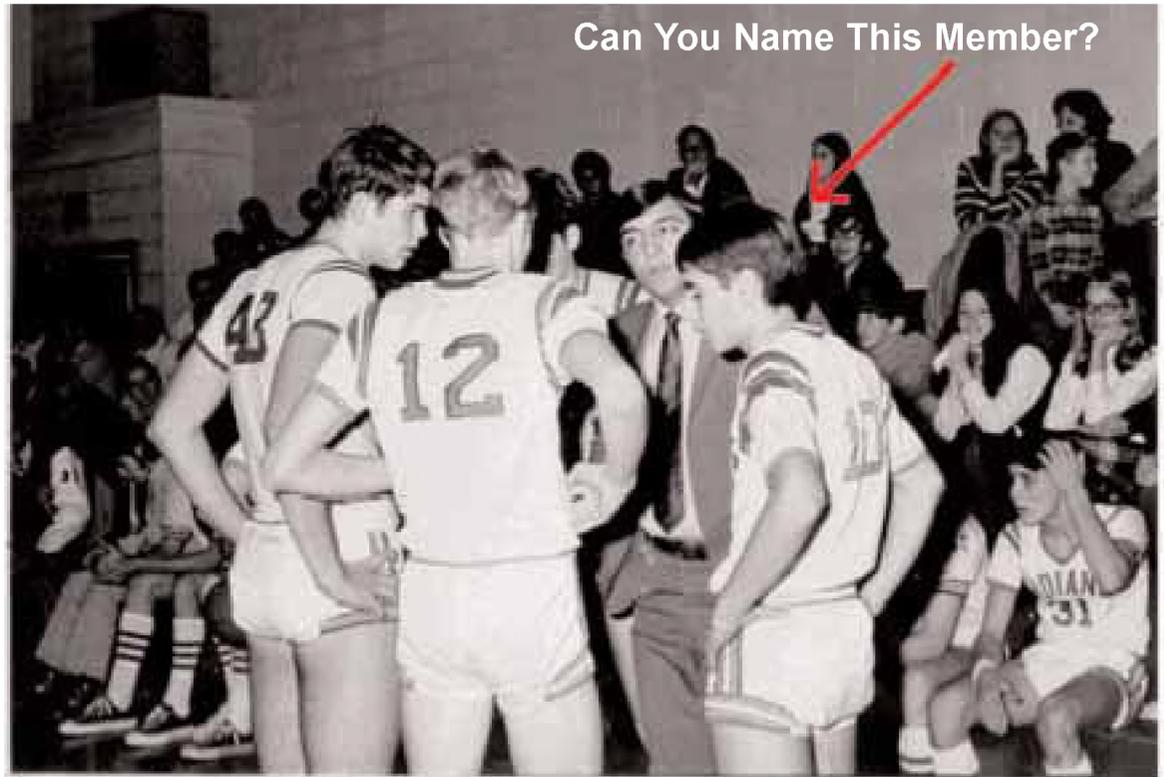


GCSANJ Member *news*

This member played JV basketball for the Indians. Picture was taken during the 1970-71 season. Look at those shorts!

This member likes to run along the Jersey shore, enjoys the "High Life" and the "Volunteers".

Answer will be in next issue.



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Schedule

9/20 @ Navy
 9/27 vs. Morgan State
 10/4 @ West Virginia
 10/11 @ Cincinnati
 10/18 vs. Connecticut

10/25 @ Pittsburgh
 11/8 vs. Syracuse
 11/15 @ South Florida
 11/22 vs. Army



by Shaun Barry

I am not sure how many times we have played Toms River CC but I do know it is in double-figures. The great thing is that everyone still looks forward to being there. **Pat O'Neill** calls it the best day of the year and I think that playing some golf with the likes of **Matt Dobbie, Mike Hocko and Joe Kennedy** every year at this meeting is a major part of why Pat feels this way. In addition to that group we also have another foursome that always gathers for this meeting. This group consists of **Skip Cameron, Bill Koonz Sr., Jim McNally and Jim Pelrine**. They come to play a few holes but mostly I think just they want to sit around telling stories and remembering the history and the people that made this association great. They also seem to know how to relax and I don't think they ever let a bad golf shot get in the way of their enjoyment of the day.

2008 turned out to be an unusual year for this meeting because the weather was not causing any problems. Ed has had to deal with so many issues that have affected the playability and the conditions of the course we were expecting a tornado or an earthquake. Something had to happen but it didn't. We finally got to see Toms River CC in its best light. It has always been great but this was absolutely the best conditions that we have seen. I played a few holes with Ed when he got a chance to get free and he could see things he wanted to be different but he must have been looking at things I couldn't see. Maybe I should have stayed out of the trees and the rough but whenever I crossed over a fairway or a green it looked perfect.

We had 50 players and on a nine hole course that was just perfect. The play moved so smoothly Skip's group almost played 18 holes this time. They did come to their senses and I believe headed to the clubhouse after 14 holes. The rest of us just enjoyed the feeling of being the only ones on the course. Our group changed from a twosome to a threesome and back to a twosome depending upon Ed's availability. The best indicator that there were other people on the course was when we came to the holes offering prizes to the skilled players. We saw names that we recognized written on the signs so obviously we were not alone. Since we didn't get a chance to write our names on these signs it is possible though that nobody else knew that we were there. Some things never change.

Vic Gerard once again sponsored a closest to the pin and once again **Jim Cross** won the prize and the use

of the utility vehicle for another month with a shot to 10ft 7 ins. This is his 4th straight win. How much longer can this streak last? I don't know but I am pretty sure he is glad that they continue to offer this prize. The three other holes were sponsored by Storr Tractor. Their prizes went to **John Alexander (16ft 4ins), Jim McNally (14ft 4ins) and Wendell Beakley (3ft 10ins)**. Wendell's shot prevented John from winning twice as he edged him by about 6 ins. The last group always seems to do that.

Storr Tractor also sponsored 2 long drive contests (for a total of 5 sponsorships at this meeting) and they were joined by **Atlantic Irrigation, Cleary Chemical, Syngenta and Wilfred MacDonald**. At the last minute we were also able to add **Black Lagoon Pond Management** as a sponsor. Winning these prizes were **John Alexander, Charlie Dey, Chris Hasbrouck, Bill Murray, Mark Peterson and Tom Tucci**. We had to withdraw the name of one of the winners because he had not signed-up with a donation to the foundation. It was a case of the rules are the rules and it was not a problem. We also had a similar situation with a couple of the fellows not putting their scores on the sheets. We only use these sheets to determine winners because we can't go looking for scores. Once again, everyone understood, but I hate having to do that. When all of the dust had settled our low gross winner was **Bill Murray (82) and Rick Krok (88)**. **Lance Rogers** actually had second low gross but his low net score gave him the larger prize and you can only win one of them. His net score was 69 and **Bill McAteer** had a 72. We had 5 skins and they were won by **Chris Hasbrouck, Bill Murray, Pat O'Neill, Fred Rapp and Jeff Wetterling**.

We did not have any food sponsors for the meeting but we did have **Chuck Reynolds** from **Reed & Perrine** donate the cans of soda and water that was with the beer caddy. Between this and Vic Gerard's water on the second tee we were not going to get too thirsty. was a truly amazing day until Mother Nature decided to let us know we have this meeting at her mercy. It rained just as we started to go for the food but it stopped quickly. We were not so lucky with the next

Continued on pg 38

District III Returns Once Again To Enjoy Toms River CC

weather event. The sky started getting dark so we grabbed the microphone and started with the thanks and the prizes. Within a minute of finishing we were hit by a downpour. Even with this, the staff brought out coffee and cookies and we waited for about 30 minutes under the awnings. It wasn't the tornado or earthquake that I was thinking about but it sure had our attention especially with the lightning hitting all around us.

Last year we took a vote about returning and it was unanimous. This year **Pat O'Neill** just started a chant of "10 more years". There were no dissenters but I need to check with Ed and get his thoughts. I hope he agrees with Pat. He does such a wonderful job here and we are so welcome but we don't want to overstay our welcome. While you are making your decision Ed please tell everyone at the club how much we truly enjoy their hospitality and kindness for having us as their guests. Would you also take a moment and thank Nancy for her help and her special efforts to make this day perfect. I know she wants to make sure your friends see the course at its best as any good first assistant does. I think she needs a raise. 🙏

Note:

*During the registration process it was brought to my attention that **Ed McSeaman** has been giving us a gift every year and we weren't aware of it. Out on the course we get to enjoy some nice cold beer that somehow ends up in a Wilfred MacDonald beer caddy. In addition to that we have had the pleasure of listening to the sounds of Jeff Brown as he sings and plays the guitar during dinner and on into the night. These two have been donations that have come from Ed's pocket. We did speak just before dinner and Ed doesn't want anything for this. It is what he wants to do as a gift to his friends for attending his party. I do totally understand what he is doing and I can't and won't try and make him change (Ok I tried and failed). I do think though that we, through the foundation or the association might be able to make a donation in his name to his favorite charity. I think that will get us to a win/win resolution. I will keep you informed.*

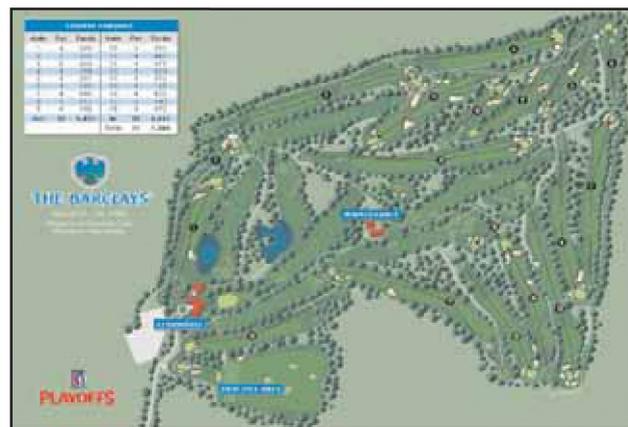
"...The Barclays"

continued from page 32

Also to his credit, a number of Todd's former assistants are now golf course superintendents at country clubs throughout New Jersey including, Bob Carey (Spring Book CC), Travis Pauley (Plainfield CC), Darryl Sparta (Passaic County GC), and Bob Wolverton (Bayonne CC).

Todd presently has a staff of 40 which is led by his first assistant Curt Chambers and his two second assistants Matt Celik and Andrew Shaul. Todd's staff will more than likely reach 90 with all of the volunteers helping him out during The Barclays tournament.

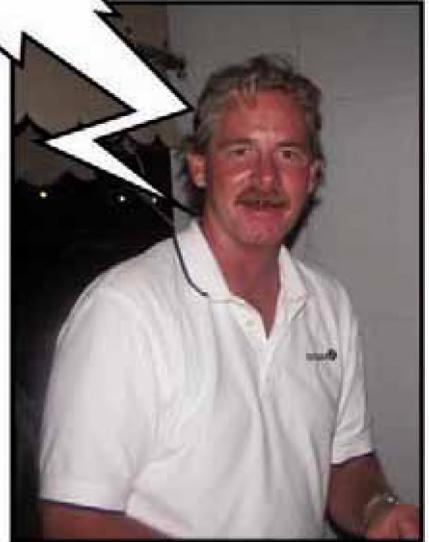
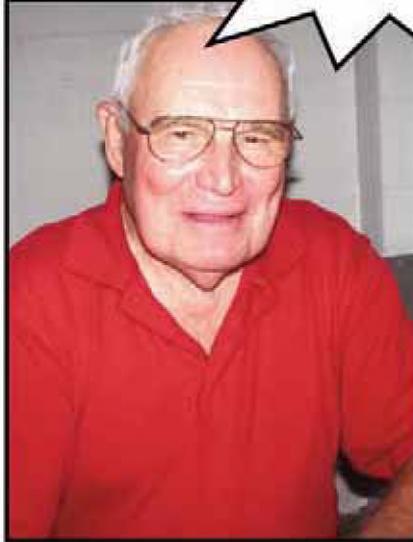
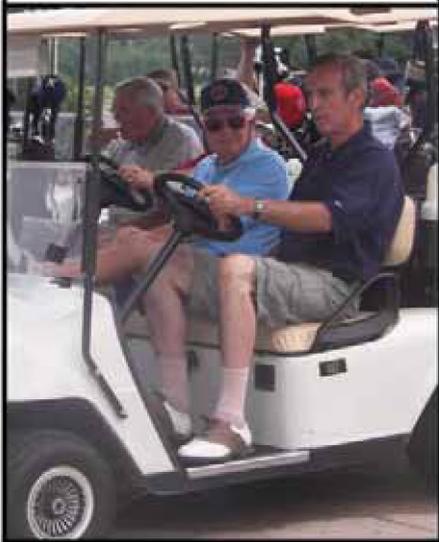
Several changes had to be made in preparation for this event including new tees which were added or lengthened on #3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, and 17. The overall yardage will play to 7,319 yards, and the par will be 71. All three nines will be used for the event which shows the quality and strength of all three nines. The maintenance for the event will be like any member-guest. The greens will be double cut and rolled. The tees, approaches and fairways will be cut in the mornings, and cups and markers will be moved. In the evenings the fairways will be cut again, and divots will be filled. When I asked Todd who he will be rooting for, he said his favorite is Phil Mickelson, but he would love to have seen Tiger Woods win it if he wasn't out due to injury recovery. I would like to thank Todd for taking time out of his busy schedule to talk with me and I hope the weather will cooperate during the event. Thanks Todd. 🙏



Toms River- District III



THANKS ED,
THE COURSE
WAS SUPERB!



Quick Facts About Golf Courses

Presented by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

Next time a member or player on the course has a question for you...here are some great answers.

1. **A properly repaired ball mark heals completely in 2-3 days**, while an unrepaired ball mark takes 15-20 days to heal properly.
2. **A typical 18-hole golf course covers approximately 125 - 150 acres of land.** The total landmass of golf courses in the United States equals about 1/2 the state of Connecticut.
3. **A typical 18-hole golf course produces enough oxygen to support 4,000 to 7,000 people.**
4. **Golf courses nationwide combine to filter 13 million tons of dust from the air every year.**
5. **Who is the most important person at a golf facility?** According to a 1997 survey of 500 Golf Digest subscribers, the golf course superintendent was listed the most (48 percent). Other responses included the course/club professional 25 percent, club/course manager 14 percent, beverage cart or halfway house person 11 percent.
6. **Golf courses have a cooling effect during the hot summer months.** The average temperature on the golf course is typically 5- 7 degrees cooler than a residential area and 7 - 15 degrees cooler than an urban downtown setting.
7. **The infield of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway is home to four holes of the Brickyard Crossing golf course.** The remaining 14 holes outside the oval are accessed through a tunnel under the track.
8. **Golf courses delay play on frost-covered turf (especially greens) because stepping on frost-covered grass causes the frozen leaf cells to rupture.** The turf will turn brown and eventually die.
9. **The Old Works Golf Course in Anaconda, Mont., is the first golf course built on an Environmental Protection Agency Superfund Site.** Designed by Jack Nicklaus, the land served as a smelting location for the mining of iron ore. The golf course opened in June of 1997.
10. **Why do golf course superintendents aerate turf?** Because it reduces compaction on a golf course by removing soil cores from the ground, allowing the movement of water, air and nutrients to the turf roots. Highly traveled areas plus poor soil composition creates compacted surfaces.
11. **What is the origin of the stimpmeter?** In the early 1900s, a man by the name of Edward Stimpson was looking for a means to create more fairness in the game of golf. Specifically, he was looking to make putting surfaces on a particular course all relatively the same speed. He developed the stimpmeter to achieve this purpose.
By using this device, he could determine, for example, if the fourth green was the same speed of the 17th. The device is often misused and misinterpreted by the novice and avid golfer alike. It is best used to compare greens on the same course, NOT to compare greens from one course to another.
12. **How much has technology and research improved speed and quality of a putting green?** In the early 1960s, professional tour event superintendents cut putting green turf heights at about 1/4 inch. Today, the height of putting green turf for professional tournament competition is 1/8 inch or less.
13. **How do trees affect the quality of a putting surface?** All things being equal, a putting green with air circulating around it will be in better shape than a green with little or no air circulation. Trees tend to reduce circulation, thereby having a negative effect on putting green quality. Older, more mature trees adjacent to putting greens will negatively impact surface conditions because the tree roots will grow under the putting surface and disrupt the flow of water and nutrients.
14. **What is a golf course superintendent doing when he/she syringes a green?** Syringing is the process of spraying a light cover of water on a green during hot weather to reduce the temperature of the turf. This prevents putting surfaces from becoming "baked" and "dried-out," and having a negative impact on putting surface quality.
15. **What is topdressing?** It is the practice of spreading material over a putting green to level and smooth the surface. The material is generally sand and/or organic matter that improves drainage, controls thatch and maintains biological balance.
16. **Golf courses have a positive impact on the economy.** It is estimated that more than 25 million people annually spend 2.5 billion hours outside, playing one of the nation's 17,000-plus golf courses. The impact of golf facilities on the economy is \$20 billion annually.



GCSANJ Member *news*

In any organization there are many sidebars to our daily lives and we have had much to remember since our last Greenerside issue. Most of these have been highlighted on our website and although I am sure this will miss some events, it is important that we try and share the highs and lows of our members.

Ernie Rizzio and **John Farrell** passed away and **Scott McBane** and **Joe Kennedy** lost their fathers and **Steve Rudich** knows his mom is in a better place. **Doug Larson**, **Bob Dwyer** and **Phil O'Brien** also suffered the loss of their mothers-in-law. We discovered that **Glenn Gallion** has been dealing with cancer but he seems to be battling it successfully and **Mark Griff**'s appendectomy has not slowed him down at all. **Jim Gilligan**'s grandson Luke continues to inspire everyone with his progress and **Dave Pease** maintains his positive outlook as he returns to good health.

On the other side of the ledger **Dave Dudones** has added to his family with the birth of his daughter Avery Rae and **Doug Spencer** returned from Russia

with his new son Nicholas.

All of this info came from members and we hope that will continue. If we all share, then the chance of missing events will be lessened. Please remember to send an e-mail to the new address that Lance Rogers set-up for this use. That address is **gcsanjnews@gmail.com** and is there for you to use.

↓

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with the newsletter.

Bylaws and proposed changes are also
included with the newsletter.



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