

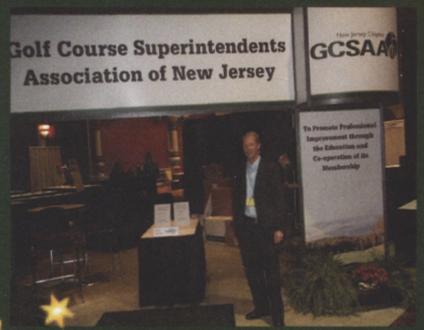
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THE GREENERSIDE

Fall 2011 • Volume 35 Number 4

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY



GCSANJ makes a big presence at Green Expo '11



RESEARCH

Members of the GCSANJ are stewards of the environment and with the increased demands for improved playing conditions, there is a significant need for more university research. Your membership to the GCSANJ helps support this valuable research of turfgrass, through our support of Rutgers University and other local institutions. The knowledge gained from research brings the Golf Course Superintendent, as well as golf course conditions, to a new level.

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

The GCSANJ has joined forces with allied associations to get a Golf Course Superintendent appointed, by the Governor of New Jersey, to the Water Supply Advisory Council. This appointed seat will allow golf course issues to be represented in the Statewide Water Supply Plan to the NJDEP. The NJDEP recognizes the importance that our industry has on economic growth in our state.



HISTORY

Greenkeepers in the United States were greatly influenced by traditions of England and Scotland and especially Old Tom Morris, Greenkeeper of St. Andrews from 1865-1904.

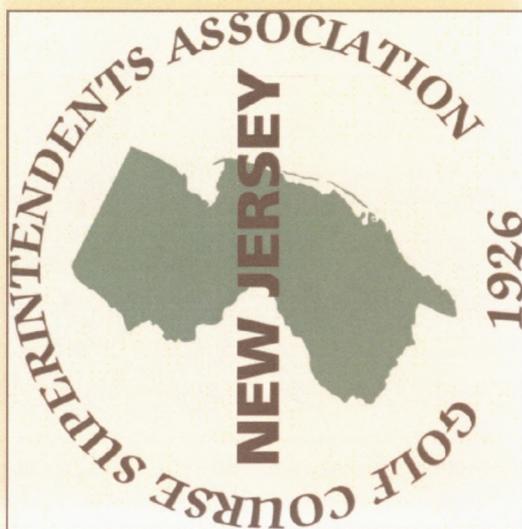
A Professional Golf Course Superintendent:

- Conducts business and personal relationships in a fair and honorable manner.
- Serves the profession, community and employer with pride.
- Seeks to keep current with new information, techniques and materials relative to turf and golf course management.
- Conducts oneself with environmental responsibility in turfgrass management.
- Becomes more valuable as a professional through education, training and networking with peers.

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PHONE: 866-GCSANJ1

GCSANJ

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GCSANJ.ORG



MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this association shall be to promote professional improvement through the education and cooperation of its membership.

The association shall stand dedicated as an advocate for the Golf Course Superintendent, and strive to demonstrate devotion to the industry, environment, the game of golf and the community.



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four times a year by the Golf Course
Superintendents Association of New Jersey

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COVER PHOTO
GCSANJ Booths at 2011 Green Expo
Courtesy of Matt Sweatlock, NJTA President
Montage courtesy of Lance Rogers

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Welcome New GCSANJ Members!

Dean White, Class A, Olde York Country Club
Charles Mason, Class A, Galloping Hill/Ash Brook Golf Club
Chris Van Winckel, Class C, Paramus Golf Club
Anthony Espe, Class C, Preakness Hills Golf Club
Christopher Aumock, Class C, Preakness Hills Golf Club
Brian Kemps, Class C, Preakness Hills Golf Club
Jeff Barr, Class C, Galloping Hill Golf Club
Michael Nicotra, Class AF, Turf Trade
Benjamin Stover, Class SM, Rumson Country Club
Robert Mathias, Class C, Brooklake Country Club
Clinton Smith, Class C, Rossmoor Golf Club

President's Message

Paul Dotti, Arcola Country Club



Another new year is upon us and that means we have a few months to recharge our batteries before we are met with new challenges from the upcoming season. We are all well aware of the weather we faced the past 2 seasons and hopefully Mother Nature's resolution is to be nicer to people this year, especially golf course superintendents. The winter is a great time to attend educational opportunities provided by the GCSAA and the GCSANJ, and also participate in the annual Shop Tour where we have an opportunity to see how our peers run their operations. It is also a time to spend more time with the family and possibly get away for a few weeks.

When I reflect back on 2011, the GCSANJ has made some changes in how we have normally done business with joining forces down at Green Expo and creating our own "member hospitality" get-together at the GIS. While both of these changes were initially met with apprehension, they both turned out to be very successful events, and ones that we hope to continue for years to come. Another issue that comes to mind from 2011 is the numerous superintendent positions that opened in NJ over the past 12-18 months. For a few of them, I received several phone calls from fellow Superintendents who were upset about how the processes transpired. As an Association, there is little we can do to prevent this from happening as in most cases the Superintendent is unaware his job is in jeopardy until it is too late. When we are contacted, it is usually to help in guiding the club on how to go about filling the position and other times it may be to help with exit strategies and severance packages. In some cases, our Club Relations Committee was called to investigate the reasons for termination and usually this provided little information or closure. The honest truth is that these decisions are made by the powers that be at these clubs and there is nothing we can do as an Association to prevent it. We have looked at ways to offer up services through our Club Relations Committee but it is usually not used because most individuals do not know they may be in jeopardy. In most cases the reason for separation usually refers back to conditions, politics, personality conflicts, finances or sadly, even age. During this unfortunate time, the hope is that the Club has the decency to compensate these individuals for all their years of service, hard work and sacrifice.

While we have discussed this issue on numerous occasions at the Board level and at the end of the day we reached the same conclusion that there is little we as an Association can do for these individuals when it is too late.

...continued on page 6

From Your Exec Director

Cece Peabody, MAT, CMP
Executive Director



THIS and THAT

It's a New Year...what do you plan to do better than last year? I start off great but I'm not very good at making resolutions that are different than ones that most make....eat healthier, exercise more, lose weight, work smarter, save money, enjoy more time with family and friends. My intentions are good but the follow through fades along the way. How are you at making and keeping resolutions?

Want to see a good mystery movie? See "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo". I read the trilogy last summer and couldn't put the books down...just loved seeing the words put into action....it's not a movie for kids though, so don't even think about it.

Lessons learned from friends and family:

- Give more than you take.
- Share as much knowledge as you can.. you'll learn even more in the process.
- Take a minute more, even though you are busy, to give a smile, a hug, an encouraging word.
- Practice listening when someone is talking with you...put your phone or ipad or ipod down.

When you go to a meeting this year, introduce yourself to at least 5 people you don't know. We're a large chapter and you get more out of the education and golf by knowing more members....so get out there and meet and greet. Tips, tricks, management ideas, how to use software, how to handle issues at your course....so much comes out of being part of conversations with other members.

This is the final issue of the GreenerSide for 2011. Because we were part of the successful Green Expo in AC, we wanted to include more pictures from that event. Hope you enjoy this issue and have a very healthy and happy 2012!

GCSANJ Adds Much to the Success of 2011 Green Expo

December 6 - 8, 2011

by Shaun Barry

If you have been to any trade shows in the last few years, you would have noticed a very disturbing trend. This is not just in the turfgrass industry but has been the same for almost every industry. Smaller shows with fewer exhibitors and attendees. The future doesn't look very bright but here in NJ we saw a different scenario. Green Expo had been sliding and something needed to be done and something was done. Green Expo Chairman *Chris Carson* asked for help and he got it.

That help came in the form of a renewed partnership between Green Expo and the GCSANJ. It wasn't an easy decision for the GCSANJ. They had a wonderful conference that was located in northern New Jersey at the beautiful Crystal Springs Resort. It was always on the calendar in early November and had great speakers and great attendance. Brad Sparta was very involved in the GCSANJ Education Committee and he was able to help get special deals for rooms while arranging some golf for those who were brave enough to challenge the weather and themselves. It was a first class meeting with a wide range of well-known speakers and there was an opportunity for a limited number of table-top booths. It highlighted the organizational skills of all of the people on that Educational Committee and it worked.

The only potential downside to this event was that it made it hard for some of our affiliates to support both events. They had to choose one over the other and nobody wanted to do that. The result is that because of limited funds and time each event started to lose people and exhibitors. Both events would survive but the smart thing was to do something to stop the slide. A conversation was held between GCSANJ past-president *Bill Murray* and current president *Paul Dotti* and the decision was made to throw all of their efforts behind Green Expo. It was sad to see the Crystal Conference end, but it performed a great service and will not be forgotten.

The GCSANJ Executive Board met with the Executive Board from the NJTA along with Chris Carson. All of these meetings were cordial and positive with both sides trying to be fair. Green Expo needs everyone helping and with the new partnership arrangement, that is exactly what happened. The part of the schedule that was hosted by the USGA now became an opportunity for the GCSANJ to decide on speakers and topics. The USGA once again did a great job with their presentations and they were joined by superintendents and educators chosen by the GCSANJ to address the Golf sessions that ran for from the beginning to the end of the show. There was something for everyone. Record attendance was set in some sessions. It doesn't hurt to have people like *Bob Farren CGCS* from Pinehurst addressing the group.

The education part of Green Expo however has not been the problem. In the past years our trade show was in the Mark Etes Arena which is a very large area. The number of booths had grown smaller because traffic on the floor almost became non-existent. With fewer people stopping at booths it became harder for exhibitors to justify attending. Moving this part of Green Expo upstairs into the ballrooms has been well received. Everything now was on the same floor and attendees were inspired to go into the trade show for a visit. Once they entered they seemed to want to stay.

When anyone entered the trade show, they were greeted by three main booths stretching almost the full length of the entrance. It was more impressive than any entrance that I have ever seen at a GCSAA National. The GCSANJ was located on the left and their new booth really looked nice and very professional. In the center was a booth for the NJTA and on the right was a booth for Rutgers. Once you stepped past these booths you entered a room that was filled with old and new exhibitors and the floor was filled with superintendents and people from every part of our green industry. Almost every booth had many potential customers speaking with or waiting to speak to an exhibitor. There was a buzz that hasn't been heard in a long time. Attendees were making their way to booths or stopping to get something to eat or drink while others made their way to see what the NJ Green Industry Council had secured for their Silent Auction.

In addition to two days of a great trade show and three days of education, people had the opportunity to attend hospitality suites hosted by *Fisher & Son* or another hosted by *Seeton Turf Warehouse*. These two rooms gave people a destination on Tuesday evening; on Wednesday evening everyone gravitated to the Mix and Mingle hosted by *Grass Roots*. Everyone was welcome at each of these functions and all of the rooms were filled to capacity. There weren't too many dining opportunities within the hotel but Atlantic City does have many excellent restaurants. If you were looking for a destination to meet a large and friendly crowd after others were tucked away in their beds, a trip to the Irish Pub is always a good choice. You will meet someone that you know and this year that was possible even if you got there around 5:00 am on Thursday morning. I am told that there was a very good discussion on turf (?) issues going on somewhere around that time. The sad thing is that there were no pictures to prove this story, but I believe that it continues a tradition that goes back to when some of us were young enough to walk home when the sun was coming up.

Continued on page 34

President's Message *Continued from pg 4*

But there are a few things we should be doing as Superintendents moving forward:

1. Communicate, communicate, communicate! Promote ourselves as much as possible at our own clubs through blogs, emails and newsletters.
2. Get involved with your Association on the Board or on a committee where you get the opportunity to network with many people in the golf business such as the USGA, NJSGA, NJPGA, Club Managers Association, Club Owners etc. I know time is valuable to all of us, but the time required to be involved with the Association is not substantial.
3. Remember and adhere to the ethics of our Association and instill these ethics into our Assistants, who are the future of the industry.
4. The GCSANJ will continue to look at ways to promote our profession through our Public Relations Committee, but again, we have to promote ourselves first at home.

While the Board has spent much time on this topic over the past few months, the reality is the golf world is no different than the business world or even the sports world. In the business world, employment decisions are often made strictly on dollars and cents. In the sports world, coaches are often let go after a bad season or two, even though they may have had numerous good seasons before, and the bad seasons they may have been effected by injuries or not having the right personnel.

The superintendent position is no different, where we can have many great seasons but a bad year or two can be all it takes and sometimes it is due to issues we cannot control such as weather or budget restraints. I will always remember this analogy I learned years ago..... A doctor can go out to the waiting room and tell a family that he did everything in his power to save a loved one but his efforts were unsuccessful and the family members will shake his hand and thank him for his hard work. A Superintendent can go to his membership and tell them he or she did everything in their power to save the 12th and 16th greens but with 3" of rain on a 100 degree day and too many trees around the greens led to their demise, in many cases that individual has a high chance of losing his or her job. We are in a high pressure business and even more so now with the bad economy, which is why communication is vital as is seeking help when things may not be the way they should be. Do not wait until it is too late, communicate early and often.

In closing, the GCSANJ has set forth bylaws and ethics that we expect our members to adhere to. We offer quality education every year for our members to better themselves. We offer social events and have vacant positions on our Board and committees each year where members can become involved and network amongst their peers and other associations. We offer a club relations committee that is here to help our members when taken advantage of. We have a foundation that helps our members in the time of need. The GCSANJ does as much as possible to help its members and it is to our benefit if we take advantage of them.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in 2012.

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Alpine CC Continues to Set a Championship Standard

September 22, 2011 Event

by Shaun Barry

As I start to write this article, my GIANTS are getting ready to play a little football against Dave Pease's PACKERS. It will be a sad day for one of us as it was for Darrell Marcinek whose BRONCOS got destroyed by Steve Finamore's PATS last night. Since Steve is also a BRUINS fan, he has had some good luck when it comes to his sport's teams. When it comes to Alpine CC, he performs even better than the teams he supports. It seems like he wins every year as he keeps conditions at the highest level no matter what happens. When he hosted our Championship last September, conditions could not have been better. If we ever have another meeting there, you should immediately write the date on your calendar and do it in ink. It is always a course not to be missed.

Steve had volunteered his course and I jumped at the offer. Events held in the northern part of our state are usually more expensive than our other meetings but you do get what you pay for and Steve always gets involved in the process. He met with me and their manager and we came up with a great schedule of events all centered around the golf course and the food. When we were able to incorporate the generous support from **Atlantic Irrigation, Bayer ES and Downes Tree Service**, our cost dropped to a very acceptable number. We did have to include a fee for the caddies but our final number was almost \$100 a person less than what many MET meetings are on a regular basis. Thanks for all of your help Steve, and please let everyone at the club know how much we appreciate their efforts.

Since this was our Championship, there were many prizes and thankfully we had another large group of dedicated affiliates who stepped up to be sponsors and that is another major reason why our meetings are so reasonable. I will include the name of each sponsor in parenthesis after I list each winner.

Our closest to the pin winners were *Steve Finamore* (DryJect) 2ft 2ins, *Brian Bontemps* (**John Deere Golf/LaCorte Equipment**) 26ft, and *John Alexander* (**Syngenta**) 3ft 6ins. Winners of the long drive contests were *Paul Dotti* (**Downes Tree Service**), *Mike Golden* (**Downes Tree Service**), *Jim Cross* (**Wilfred MacDonald**), *Jeff Sutphen* (**Pavelec Brothers**) and *Bill Murray* (**Storr Tractor**).

At this event everyone has a chance to win something because they are competing against people who fit into different flights. The C Flight winner for superintendents was sponsored by **Storr Tractor** and *Dave Pease* shot a net 73 to defeat *Lance Rogers* (80).

The superintendent B Flight was sponsored by **Grass Roots** and this was won by *Wendell Beakley's* net 72. *Mike Brunelle* was second with a 75. **Pavelec Brothers** sponsored the superintendent A Flight net winner. *Matt Ceplo* fired a 73 to edge *Jim Swiatlowski* (76). Once all of the flight winners have been determined, we review the scores to see who has shot the lowest net score and they win the *Dr Henry Indyk Cup*. That was sponsored by **Downes Tree Service** and was won by *Wendell's* fine 72. The one trophy however that every superintendent hopes to win is the *Sherwood Moore Cup*. This year it also was sponsored by **Downes Tree Service** and goes to the low gross score from all superintendent flights. That honor went to *Matt Ceplo* who shot an 80. Many time winner *Tom Grimac* (85) and *Tony Hooks* (85) were tied for second but Tom won on a match of cards. The last trophy to be presented is the *Dr Paul Sartoretto Cup* which goes to the affiliate with the lowest gross score. *Shaun Barry* won but because he was the only one who entered a score onto the sheets. There were plenty of people who were lower but they never posted their score. That is the second time this has happened but hopefully it won't happen again. *Fred Rapp* was the affiliate with the lowest net score (78) and he was followed by *Brad Simpkins* (89). When you look at the winning scores you can get an idea of how difficult this course is and why I never miss an opportunity to challenge it even though I know that I am going to lose badly.

We did have a skins contest. *John Alexander* and *Mark Wittlinger* had 2 winners and *Matt Ceplo, Josh Kopera, Ian Kunesch, Dick Neufeld* and *Fred Rapp* walked away with one each.

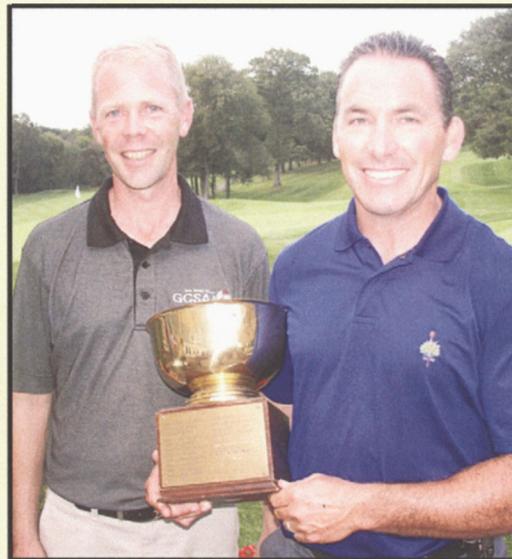
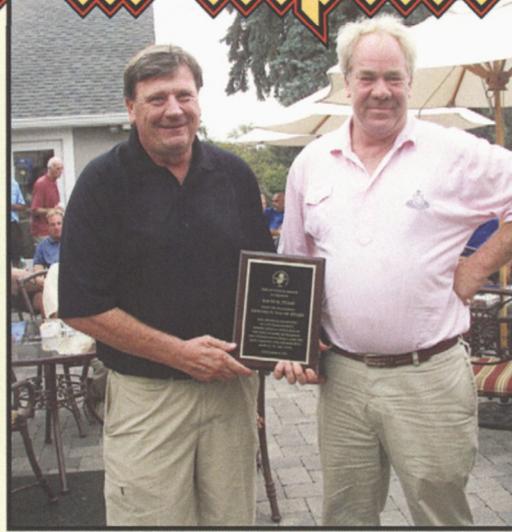
This event concluded our monthly meeting schedule for 2011. It was a year that offered our members many chances to get an always needed break away from their normal routine. Breaks like this are some of the best days that any of us can have. We get the chance to play some great golf courses, but most importantly, superintendents get a chance to meet with their peers and discuss what they are dealing with. There is no price that can be put on that experience and should not be missed. Our meetings were under-attended this year but hopefully, if you are new to the association, you will find the time to join us and get to know your neighbors; and if you have been a member but haven't attended a meeting recently, 2012 will be a great year to renew friendships. The meetings will be great and the only thing needed to make them successful is you. Hope to see you there.

PS: Sorry Dave. Better luck next year....

Championship at Alpine CC



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2012 CALENDAR

Check calendar for updates and signup info.

www.gcsanj.org

February 7 - Tuesday

Winter Shop Tour

Pine Valley Country Club , Pine Valley NJ
Trump National Golf Club, Philly PA

March 6 - Tuesday

Spring Education Seminar

Royce Brook Golf Club, Hillsborough NJ

April 19 - Thursday

Joint Meeting with Philadelphia GCSA

Ballamor Country Club , Egg Harbor Township, NJ

December 4-6, 2012

37th Annual Green Expo**

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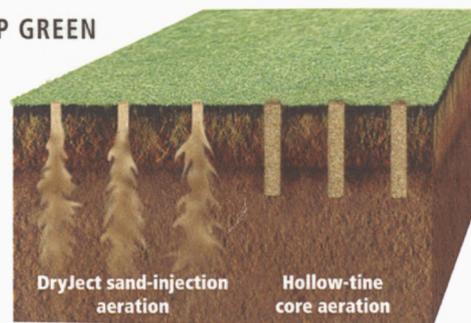
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Annual Meeting

November 10, 2011 Event

by Jim Cadott

It has been almost ten years since the GCSANJ held an annual meeting that included full reports from each committee followed by a buffet lunch and nine holes of golf, and that is why this year's meeting was considered successful.

This event is the best opportunity for each member to come, listen, and even debate what their opinion is of how the association is operating; so if you unfortunately did not attend, then you missed your chance to inform yourself and voice your thoughts.

Back in September, Monmouth County GCM, *Dave Pease*, voiced his opinion on how the association has strayed from hosting a meeting of this format, so he was called out on the carpet and chosen to host this "throwback" event. Dave did not blink, and with the help of *Ron Luepke* and *Tim Mariner*, November 10th was chosen, and both the caterer and golf course were ready.

President *Paul Dotti* presided over the meeting with approximately 65 attendees. Executive board reports came from President Paul Dotti, Vice-President *Chris Boyle*, Treasurer *Jim Cadott*, and Secretary *Lance Rogers*. This slate of officers was voted without any challenges from the members.

Paul Dotti gave the members a 'state of the association' address that basically reflected all the attendee's opinion that the association is in good working order, thanks in large part to the time and effort of the entire board of directors and the executive director, *Cece Peabody*. Treasurer Jim Cadott provided the fiscal numbers for 2011, explaining that we may be over budget by 1 or 2 percent, but still remain very strong with savings in the bank and a lean budget for 2012. The goal of the board of directors is to provide the membership with the best services possible while advancing the profession.

Other committee reports included *Shaun Barry* speaking for golf and following with an update on the GCSANJ Foundation. Communication chairman *Frank Tichenor* provided us with Greenside highlights for the year and the ever changing website, giving thanks to his committee and Cece once again.

The club relations report was given by Dave Pease and included a laundry list of activity that has kept himself and the entire committee very busy. Dave stressed ethics and the need for each member

to re-evaluate what these ethics mean to themselves and the entire association. As the meeting headed towards lunch, Dave was asked to wrap it up and off to the buffet it was.

For November 10, the weather was mild and a group of approximately 24 golfers decided to take advantage of Hominy Hill's invitation to play 9 holes. Although results were not official, it seems *Mark Peterson* took home the low gross with a front nine score of 38. Jim Cadott won low net honors with a net score of 37. Host Dave Pease also took home some crystal by winning the senior division with a net score of 45.

Once again, business and pleasure were mixed beautifully for the annual meeting. Thanks again to Hominy Hill and the entire staff and we hope to see even more members next year.



L to R: Lance Rogers, Sec; Jim Cadott, Treasurer; Chris Boyle, VP; Paul Dotti, President



Dave Pease, Club Relations Committee, emphasizing importance of Professional Ethics in our industry.



Distinguished Service Award: Glenn Miller

by Jim Cadott

One of the duties of all past presidents of the GCSANJ is to vote for the Distinguished Service Award recipient for that year, so with years and years of experience assisting their decision, it is quite the achievement to be chosen for this award by such a respected group of individuals.

The DSA recipient must have been a member for at least 25 years in the GCSANJ and has served the association above and beyond what is asked of them for that time. Glenn Miller not only reflects what you would look for in a DSA winner, but still continues to serve the association years after "retiring" from the board.

Presently, Glenn sits as the president of the GCSANJ Foundation after years of being the treasurer. As the membership knows, the Foundation is quite an active group and Glenn has always been right in the middle of it all.

When presenting the DSA award to Glenn, Bruce Peoples summed up this year's winner in three words...."commitment, consistency, and class." Glenn's commitment to the association has been evident ever since his boss, Jim McNally, told him in 1980 that if you want to make a difference, then get involved. Glenn took that advice and was elected to the board of directors in 1987 and eventually worked his way up to serving as president in 1997 and 1998. In the meantime, Glenn became one of the founding members of what is now the GCSANJ Foundation.

Serving on the board for 10 plus years and keeping busy with the fledgling foundation did not stop Glenn from taking on one of the most critical issues of our future, water and drought management. In 2001, along with Mickey Stachowski, the duo persuaded the NJDEP to re-evaluate the importance of golf courses and the professionalism of the people that manage them in times of drought and water emergency. The leeway in our decision-making factors in a drought that we enjoy today, can be traced back to the hard work and perseverance of

Continued on page 16



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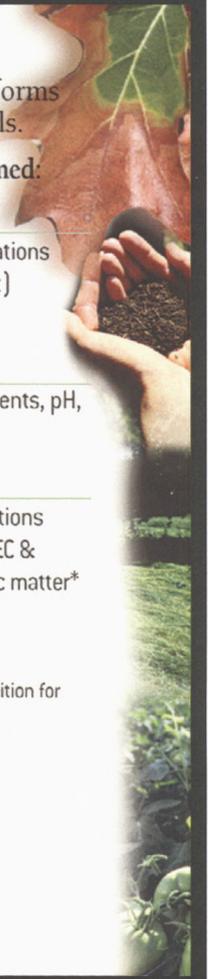
Saturated (Organic) Media Extract Analysis: Nutrients, pH, electrical conductivity, inorganic nitrogen

Sport Turf

- Level 1** Fertility Test: Nutrients, pH, recommendations
- Level 2** Complete Test: Nutrients, pH, estimated CEC & cation saturation, soluble salt level, organic matter* content, soil textural class
- Level 3** Sand Root Zone Test

*Organic matter content would be determined by loss-on-ignition for golf course greens, as described by USGA guidelines.

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RTJ Event Continues to Support Turfgrass Research

October 18, 2011 GCSANJ Foundation Event

by Shaun Barry, GCSANJ Foundation Executive Director

The Robert Trent Jones Team Invitational was held on October 18, 2011. To many of you it may just be another thing on the GCSANJ calendar of events that you don't have the time to attend or don't see the value in attending. That is a shame because this really is something that all of us should try and attend because its only goal is to give all of its proceeds back to support turfgrass research. Nobody gets paid to help run this. It is a GCSANJ Foundation event and the directors and officers are all volunteers. They are giving their time to help their peers and that means you are included in that group.

This was the 23rd edition of the tournament and it went off without a hitch. *Steve Cadenelli CGCS* and the *Sambol Family* started this event with the Metedeconk National running everything. The foundation started hosting things 4 years ago when the club decided that we would have a better chance to reach more people. They were right but it hasn't been easy. In its heyday, teams came from all over the East Coast and the field was full. Steve had so many friends that his major concern was about having to turn teams away. When we took over, the event was down to 12 teams. We had an immediate spike up to 27 teams and then the economy hit us hard. We went back to 15 teams but things got better when we added affiliate teams to the field. This year we had 20 teams with 9 of them coming from affiliates and associations. Since we only used 18 holes that was a good number but our goal is in the 33 to 35 range for 27 holes so we can maximize our efforts to raise funds.

We continue to try and keep our entry fee as low as possible. When this tournament started, it cost \$1,500 a team and 23 years later it is at \$1,600 a team. We aren't able to raise as much money as was raised in the past but we don't want cost to be a major factor in whether a team can attend or not. Put it in your budget if possible and come and join the fun while helping to support turfgrass research. We also decided to give every player \$75 in shop credit so they can get something that they want and not have to take what we chose. That has been quite a hit the last 2 years. Hopefully we can continue to do this in the coming years.

Ryan Oliver continues to amaze us with course conditions. This is a hard course but he had the

fescue cut down, the tees were up and the flagsticks were in some of the easiest spots on the greens. Don't get me wrong. Plenty of balls were lost and I am sure there were a few 4 putts but this was an extremely fair set-up and one that everyone could play and enjoy. No more US Open conditions. Thanks for listening Ryan.

Registration went smoothly because of all of the pre-planning by the foundation. *Lance Rogers* prepared the promotional piece and form for the teams while *Fred Rapp* created the sponsorship form that went out to our affiliates. *Jim Cadott* and *Bill Murray* suggested that we get new signs and Jim made that happen. They looked great. *Dave Mishkin*, *Ryan Oliver* and *Bruce Peeples* got there early which only left President *Glenn Miller* unable to attend. This is a dedicated group of people and their efforts showed.

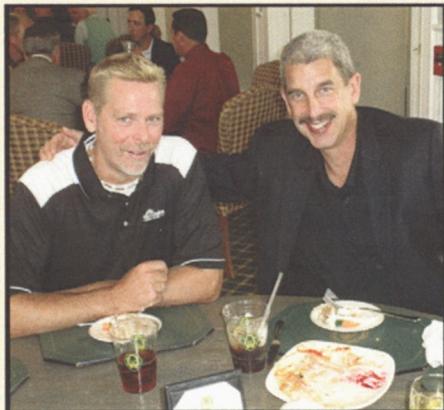
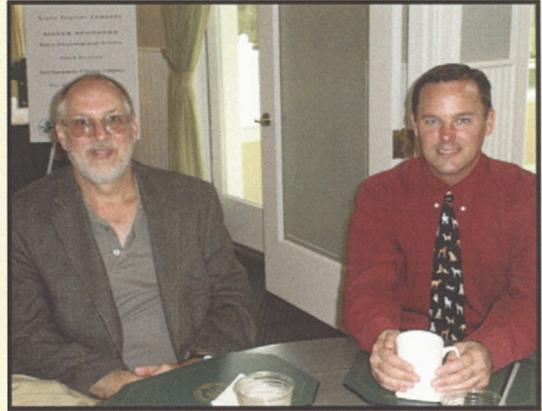
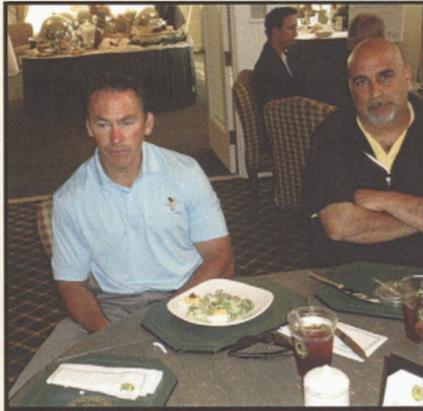
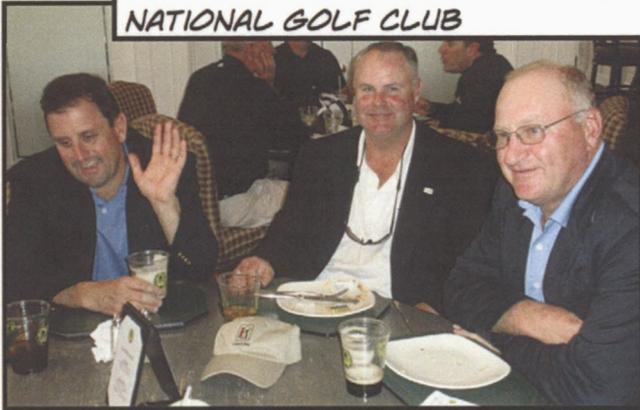
Everyone enjoyed the brunch and the practice area and then they were whisked away to start their round. It was a beautiful day weather-wise and the fore-caddies that are included in the entry fee were very helpful to every group. Some of our past winners returned to the winner's circle but that was no surprise to anyone while the majority of teams were content to just enjoy a day in "paradise." It took only a few bad swings for my group to realize it was going to be a pleasant but long day. I may have done more than my share to help the guys to come to that realization. Sorry guys.

Tavistock CC has a national reputation for having great players in their club. They are also blessed with a wonderful superintendent (*Tom Grimac*) who keeps the course in tournament condition and is still able to maintain his terrific golf game. Together they make a wonderful combination. As good as they are however they ended up tied with *Marty Sommerfeld* and Eagle Oaks for low gross team. Tavistock won on a match of cards but Eagle Oaks was our low net team on another match of cards. This time it was with *Fiddler's Elbow*. Having two superintendents on the team was a good idea for Fiddlers. I guess *Dave McGhee* and *Mark Loos* do know how to play this game. Taking second place in the gross competition was *Brian Minemier* and the Burlington CC team. Great playing on the part of all of these teams. You will find an expanded list of all of the winners on page 16.

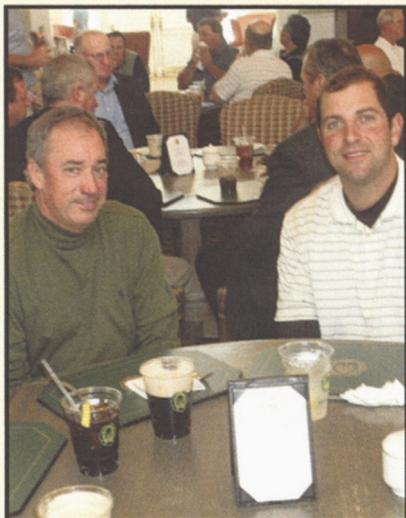
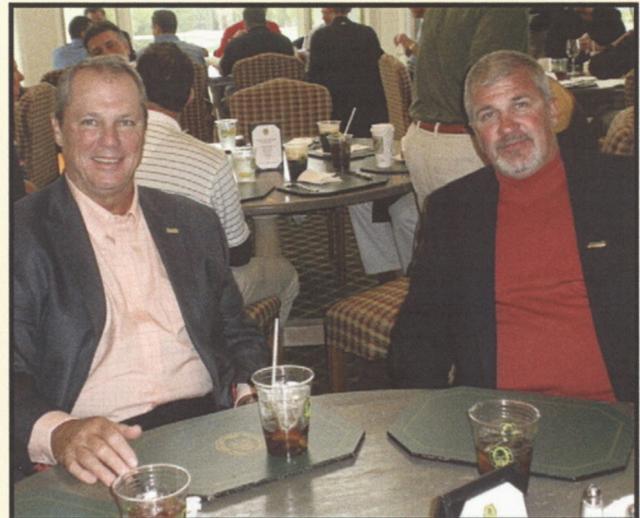
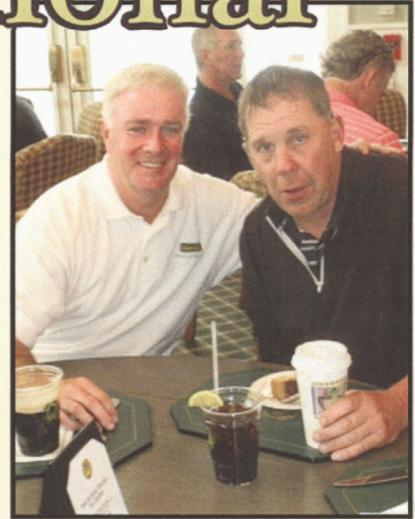
23rd Annual RTJ Invitational



HOST RYAN OLIVER AND METEDECONK NATIONAL GOLF CLUB



RTJ Invitational



In spite of the fact that we start this event a little bit earlier than we have in the past several people feel comfortable enough to stay after all of the presentations. This year there were almost 20 participants who left in the dark because they were still enjoying the day. That reflects very nicely on how they enjoyed the competition and also how much they felt welcomed by Metedeconk National. John and Mike run the pro-shop and the scoring and prize-giving with the precision of a Swiss watchmaker. They also greet everyone with a smile and a hello. They are very good at their job and it is evident in every aspect of the day.

I did mention how important our affiliate teams and associations were to this year's success. They do bring many superintendents who hopefully will bring their own teams next year. They also have to pay more for the chance to help. Sounds crazy but they do donate so they can help. In that group we have **Atlantic Irrigation, Bayer ES, EIFG/GCSAA, GCSANJ, Grass Roots, Morris Golf, NJTA, Rutgers, Shreiner Tree Care** and **Vic Gerard Golf Cars**. All of these brought teams or parts of a team and helped us reach our minimum number of 80 players.

Storr Tractor was our Gold Sponsor while **Bayer ES, Finch Services, Morris Golf, Turf Equipment & Supply Co** and **Vic Gerard Golf Cars** reached the Silver Sponsor level. In the final group, at the Sponsors level, we had **Aquatrols, Atlantic Irrigation Specialties, GCSANJ/EIFG, Grass Roots, James Barrett Associates, NJTA, Red Sky Associates, Rutgers University, Shreiner Tree Care Specialists** and **Wilfred Mac Donald**.

If you have been working in this state for more than 6 months you will recognize every one of these affiliates, and associations. They are there every time that we ask for help and they are there to help you also so give them a call when you need something or send in your application and join these associations. You won't go wrong with any of them.

Thanks for everyone who participated this year and I hope you will return. If you haven't been part of the RTJ please give us a chance to impress you with this event. You will enjoy the day while you are helping to raise money to help all of us in the long run. See you in October. ☺

2 BB of 4 Team Competition
1st Place Gross: Tavistock CC - 138
Tom Grimac, Rick Hughart, Mike McLaughlin, Jamie Slonis
2nd Place Gross: Burlington CC - 139
Brian Minemier, Mike Mack, Tim Lutz, Anthony Manto

1st Place Net: Eagle Oaks G & CC- 128
Marty Sommerfeld, Wendell Dix, Andy Bott, Dan Hughes
2nd Place Net: Fiddlers Elbow CC- 128
Dave McGhee, Mark Loos, Ryan Buckley, Kevin Gleason

1st Place Non-Club Division: Vic Gerard Golf Cars - 128
Bill Lynch, Jay Antonelli, Mark Mielder, Bill Turcott

1st Place Super-Pro: Spring Brook CC - 64
Robert Carey & Tony Santillo (Tony made 6 actual birdies. That is playing.)

Superintendent Competition:
1st Place Superintendent Gross: Tavistock CC
Tom Grimac - 76

1st Place Superintendent Net: Burlington CC
Brian Minemier - 77-4-73

Skill Contests:
Closest to the Hole:
Jim Cunningham - 1/2 inch
Jim Cross - 7 ft 6 inches

Longest Drive:
Brad Helcoski
Jamie Slonis



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Member of the Year: Chris Boyle



these two members. In 2002, Glenn and Mickey were named co-members of the year. This is still the first time a past president has been given a member of the year award.

Glenn became superintendent of Manasquan River Golf Club in 1985 and remained there for 26 years. In his tenure at MRGC, he has directed the club through a perpetual renovation era lasting 15 years, all the while satisfying the busiest private club membership in the state with “tournament” conditions on a daily basis. Did somebody mention the words consistency and commitment?

In the end, what truly sets a member apart when a DSA award is given to them is how that person carries himself amongst his fellow members and in their everyday life. Our members have seen how Glenn conducted business when it came to the association, but few have seen why Glenn lasted 26 years at MRGC. His adaptability and willingness to work with an ever demanding membership, always remaining professional, has earned him respect among the vast majority of MRGC members. Even in the face of a career change, Glenn has shown true class that very few people in his situation would have displayed.

When you look at the list of the past recipients of the DSA, you see some very impressive names that have shaped our profession and association into what they are today. Glenn Miller is another impressive name added and the reason being that he has always been committed to the GCSANJ, consistent in his work ethic, and carries himself with class amongst his family, his colleagues, and his friends.

Congratulations Glenn !!!



When Paul Dotti called me and asked if I could put something together for this year’s recipient of The Member of the Year award I was a little confused. He had told me that I knew the person better and longer than any of the members of GCSANJ. Once he told me who it was I asked if I could do the presentation for the award.

I have known this person for almost 37 years. We attended school together from kindergarten until we graduated together from high school. During that time we were very good friends and played baseball and basketball together, worked a summer on the same job, and maybe we had a girlfriend or two in common over the years. Seriously, we have spent a lot of time together during those younger days.

After high school, he went on to Rutgers and I went off to East Stroudsburg but we remained in touch. After our freshman year of college we ran into each other early that summer. He asked where I was working and I told him at Mountain View Golf Course which is now Great Gorge Country Club. He asked if I could get him a job there and Dave Brubaker hired him. We worked there for a few years with many of our high school friends, most notably, Scott McBane, now Superintendent of Galloway National.

Upon his graduation from Rutgers, he stayed and worked for Dr. Murphy on some research projects at the hort farm. Then in August of 1993 he headed south to Augusta National. After spending two years there, he headed back home looking for a job in the golf industry. He landed an assistants job at Essex County Country club working for Ed Walsh.

Continued on page 19



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AWARDS

continued from page 17

After working there for two years he got his break. He was offered the Superintendents job at Mendham Golf and Tennis Club and has looked over the place for the last 14 years. He has served the members of the GCSANJ as a district director, secretary, treasurer, and now Vice President of the association.

Personally, he and his wife are currently a foster family and have had three children in their house in the last two years. They love these children as if they were their own and remain a fixture in these children's lives after they have been placed back with their biological parents. Truly a selfless act.

This person has been a golf partner, travel companion, colleague and most importantly a friend of mine for all but 5 years of my life. Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to introduce to you the recipient of the 2011 Golf Course Superintendents of New Jersey Member of the Year, Mr. Christopher Boyle.

Presented by Brad Sparta

David Richards retired from the Somerset County Park Commission on September 1, 2011 after 33 years of service. Dave's position was as Golf Course Superintendent at Warrenbrook Golf Course. **Tammy Stephens** is the new Golf Course Superintendent at Warrenbrook as of November 1. Her prior position was as superintendent of the Meadow/Academy at Neshanic Valley Golf Course.

Bruce Peebles has been hired by The Boston Symphony Orchestra to be their Grounds Supervisor at Tanglewood in Lenox, Massachusetts. He will be moving back to The Berkshires in February. We wish Bruce continued success and we will miss him.

Jim Thomas (Deal GC) and his greens chairman Derrick Scenna trained together and ran the 26.2 mile NYC Marathon. They raised nearly \$9000 for Team for Kids Charity,

Jennifer & **Jeff Truskowski** (Canoe Brook) had a girl, Brianna, on Sept 19, 2011. She weighed 6 lbs, 7 oz.

Rob Schipper (Canoe Brook) and wife Sarah had a girl, Brynn. Shewas 21 1/2 inches long and weighed 9 lbs.

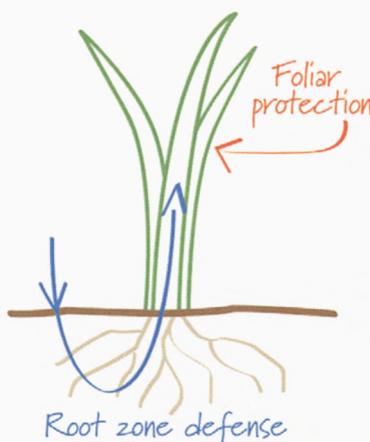
Dr. Ed & Katie Liszka brought 6 yr old brother Eddie and 3 yr old brother Grant, a new brother Marshall on 11/27/11. **Ken & Ginny Kubik** now have 8 grandchildren, 5 boys & 3 girls.

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Metedeconk Hosts Third Long Drive & Skills

Competition September 26, 2011 Event

This probably was a bad year to host anything. Most people just couldn't tear themselves away from work for any reason. We still decided to offer everyone the opportunity to have a little fun while trying to kill the ball and also show some finesse with the other parts of the game. As a result we only had 9 participants but that means everyone finished in the top ten. Way to go guys.

Ryan Oliver asked to host the event and he did a great job. He supplied a grill with a chef and more burgers and dogs than some restaurants have. Lance brought some drinks to add to Ryan's and we were ready to have some fun. In the past we did have a putting contest but to that Ryan added a 125 yard closest to the pin shot and he brought out the "Flop Shot Wall." We started with this first. You had about 8 ft to flop a shot over a 10 ft wall that looked like 15 ft. Once you were able to do that your best shot was measured to see how close it came to the cup on the other side. Bill Murray looked like he has hit this shot before because he hit it to 1ft 6ins. Matt Dobbie ended up at 2ft 8ins and Rob Johnson was 4ft 1in.

Mark Peterson got it to 5ft 9ins and he was followed by Lance Rogers (10ft 9ins), Jim Cross (12ft 11 ins) and Ryan Oliver (15ft 11ins). The other contestants tried unsuccessfully to go through the wall and were left without a score. Bill Murray also won the closest to the pin shot with one that got to 12ft 6ins. Mark (17ft 3ins), Matt (18ft 3ins) and Jim (18ft 4ins) were the only other ones who hit the green. The putting contest ended-up in play-off between Bill and Matt and Matt won when Bill three-putted the last hole. In the end it didn't matter and Bill won the skills contest for the second year in a row.

The long-drive contest was lots of fun to watch. I think some of the guys may still be dealing with back issues. Our first round was an elimination round and there were some pretty long-drives. We took the top 7 players into the second stage. Ryan was leading with a drive of 293. We used that one because he hit one straight through the fairway which was about 311 yards. Jim Cross (272), Rob Johnson (263), Bill Murray (261), Matt Dobbie (255),



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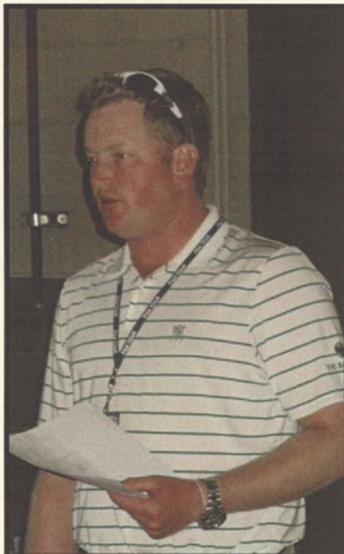
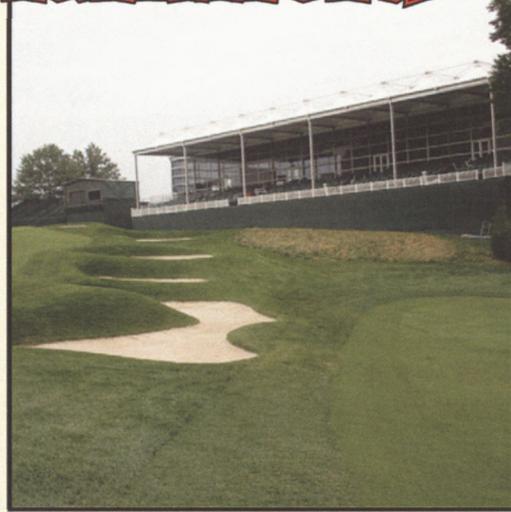


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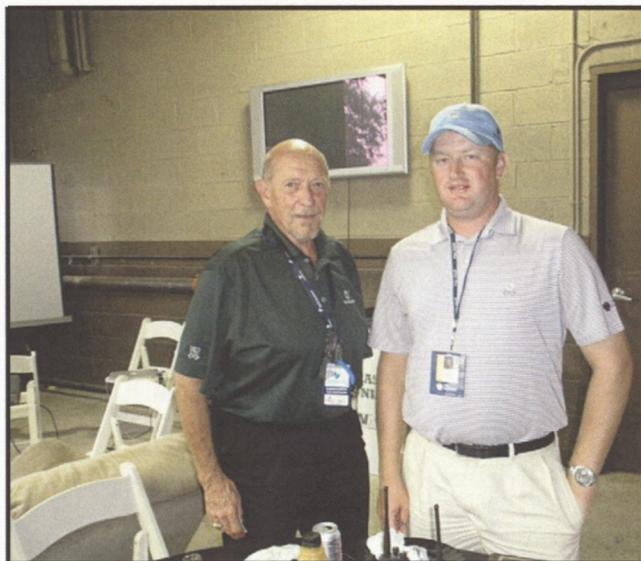


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Third Long Drive..continued

September 26, 2011 Event

Murray (261) Matt Dobbie (255), Mark Peterson (242) and Lance Rogers (233) advanced. At this stage the fairway got narrower and a winner would be one who could hit it long and straight. We ended with a tie and that took us in an extra round. Ryan and Bill both measured a drive at 253 yards. The final was a bit anti-climatic because Ryan couldn't keep any drives in the fairway. Bill had 4 of his 5 in the fairway and he ended-up with a winner that was 245.

Congratulations to everyone for coming out to support this fun event and I hope to see a few more in 2012.



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Team Championship

That title is not the one that I had planned. It was going to be more like “The GCSANJ Three-Peats at Galloway National.” It seemed like a strong possibility because **Scott McBane** had offered up the course for NJ to have a practice round and they took advantage of Scott’s gracious offer. Even first alternate **Frank Tichenor** made the trip so he would be prepared if he had to be pressed into service. That did not happen so the same team that had won two years in a row headed out to make it three in a row.

If you have played Galloway National you will remember what a wonderful course it is but if you make a mistake or two at the wrong time, there is a big number in your future. Since it was windy, that possibility was increased and our guys did make a few mistakes that did cost them. They finished in 6th place while our brothers across the Delaware River won fairly easily. **Andy Drohen** had low gross with a 76 and **Chet Walsh** and **Joe Owsik** paired together for a gross 70. Both scores were by far the best of any of the teams. Only **Bill Murray** and **Chris Boyle** and a team from Central PA beat their 70 with a net 69. That is the 4th time in 5 years that Bill and Chris have had the low net score. The one time that they didn’t they were second. Pretty amazing partners. Bill also won the Net Division long drive. Scott McBane won the long drive in the Sponsors Division so that gave the GCSANJ two out of three.

Our policy for this event is that when our team wins, that group gets invited back to defend. Once they don’t win, the non-playing captain assesses the results and makes a decision on who remains and how many spots will be open. At this point that means Bill and Chris will be invited back for sure and possibly one or two others. Now that that has happened we will find a location and open it to our members. There will be a small entry fee and the winners will be chosen only on their gross score. We have had lots of success doing it this way and that will continue. Watch the GCSANJ calendar and in a few months the date and location will be posted.

Our congratulations go out to Scott and his staff. Their course is absolutely one of the best in the state and the world. Without the great conditions that they give every day that couldn’t be said. It was an honor to the GCSANJ for this event to be played on such a beautifully conditioned course and for all 15 associations to truly see the real New Jersey. Thanks Scott.

by Mike Weber

The Class C championship was held at Crestmont Country Club in West Orange, NJ. At first I was a bit hesitant to have the tournament in late October, but it could not have turned out to be a better day for golf.

We were fortunate enough to start our morning with **Tim Moraghan**, *Principle of Aspire Golf Consulting*, who talked to the assistant superintendents and some vendors within the association about their careers and aspirations. Tim wanted to go about it by having an open discussion to keep everyone involved, which I thought was a great idea.

We discussed interviewing techniques, resume tips, networking, and anything along the way that would help assistant superintendents with their future and success. I think I can speak for everybody in saying the topics were well received and very interesting.

The golf course, a Donald Ross design, was exciting and challenging to play. You should definitely bring your “A game” before you play over there (I found out the hard way). Thanks to **Pete Pedrazzi** and his staff for having the golf course in spectacular shape for us.

The day only got better when we ate lunch at the club. The lunch setup included a carving station, some homemade pizzas, and an assortment of other appetizing dishes. The general manager, Mark Shan, was a pleasure to work with and apparently did not want us to leave hungry! Thank you to Mr. Shan and the staff for all your hard work.

It was a great day to get away from our respective courses for some education, golf, and to see some old friends. We had a good turnout and everybody really enjoyed the day.

Thank you to the GCSANJ for having it, and also to everybody involved for making the event happen. Last but not least, I want to thank **Kemper Sports**, **Syngenta**, **La Corte equipment**, **Storr Tractor**, **Seeton Turf** and **Grass Roots** for sponsoring the event.

Class C Gross Winner:
Burke Bishop: 89

Class C Net Winner:
Chris DeSalvea: 73

Longest Drive:
Mike Weber
Ken McGrady

Closest to the Pin:
#4- Steve Kopach- 16ft 6ins
#8- Larry Cunningham- 13ft 1in
#11- Jeff Sutphen- 10ft 1in
#17- Sean Norris- 28ft

2011 Bob Leslie Cup Matches

by Shaun Barry

The Bob Leslie Cup matches always seem to have a dominant team that finds a way to win year after year. When this tournament was started many years ago that team was *Tom Grimac* and *Bob Prickett*. I am guessing here but I think they won 5 times before they stop entering and that probably was to give the other teams a chance to win.

Kevin Driscoll thinks the fact that his team did beat them was too painful and they were embarrassed and that is why they stopped. Whatever the reason was they were an amazing team. Too bad we didn't have the Stanley Cup back then because they would have been hard to beat.

Our current dominant team is *Wendell Beakley* and *Bill Murray*. They also find a way to not lose and when they have the opportunity to win they take it. They were on the ropes several times this year but they ended-up each time with the win. They came into the finals having won this event 2 years in a row and were looking for a third.

Their opponents were *Shaun Barry* and *Dave Pease*. Not the best players but handicaps are a great equalizer.

The finals started at Pine Barrens. After nine holes of playing in the rain with the temperature going down to 39 degrees, the match was all even and it was decided to finish it at another day.. Three of the guys were playing over their heads and it was doubtful that this would continue. The final nine holes were played weeks later at Laurel Creek and the stronger team won on the 15th hole.



The winning team was Bill and Wendell taking their third straight and unless something changes they will be favorites again in 2012.

I hope you can find a partner and give these fellows something to think about. They won't be afraid of anyone and they are terrific champions who deserve every victory that they have had.

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2011 Stanley Cup Matches

by Shaun Barry

The official name for this is The Terry Stanley Cup. Terry was a former GCSANJ member who made a friend of everyone that he met but unfortunately was taken from us too early. He was a terrific golfer who was able to beat Fuzzy Zoeller many times during their college days so it was a natural to name our gross match play event after him.

As usual we didn't have a large number of teams playing but they are all strong and quite capable of winning the whole event. It was hard to get the matches played because of the difficult year but a series of well fought matches came down to the finals that was played at Baltusrol GC. Mark Kuhns CGCS was very pleased to host the finals and if possible he would like to do so every year. I hope that happens because that would be an incentive to find a partner and enter the tournament. I think Mark is even thinking about trying to play because he might just know a few breaks that nobody else can see.

The team of Beakley and Murray had won two years in a row and looked almost unbeatable. As it turned out they were able to win for the third year in a row. Their opponents were Chris Boyle and Jeff Smolha. It was a spirited match especially since Jeff knew the course from the years he had spent working there. That however still wasn't enough to beat Bill and Wendell but I know everyone enjoyed the challenge and all will be ready to try again in 2012.



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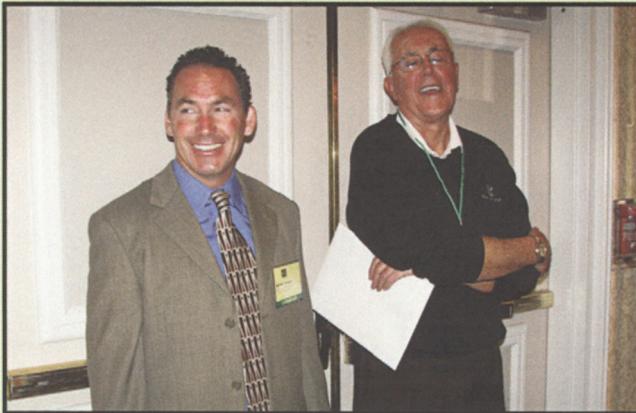
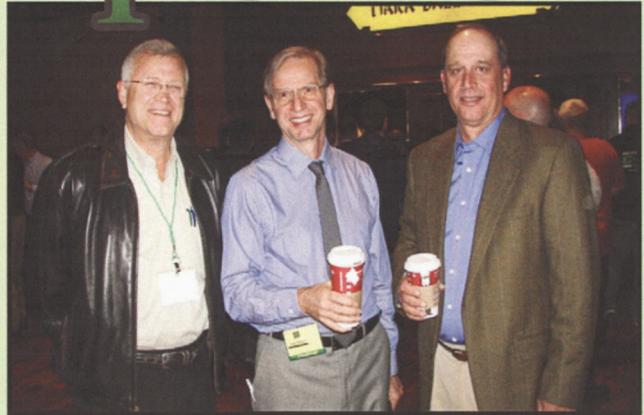
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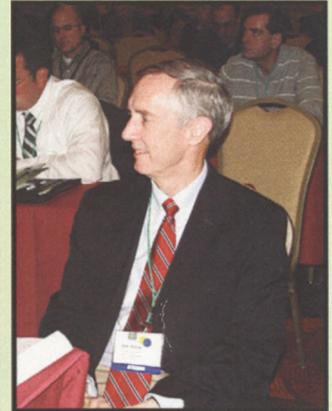
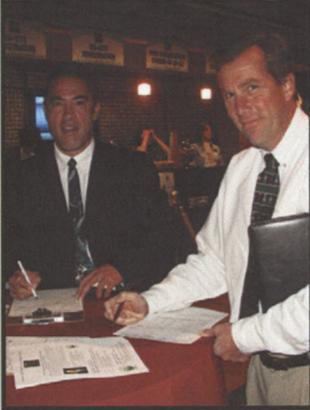


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Green Expo 2011

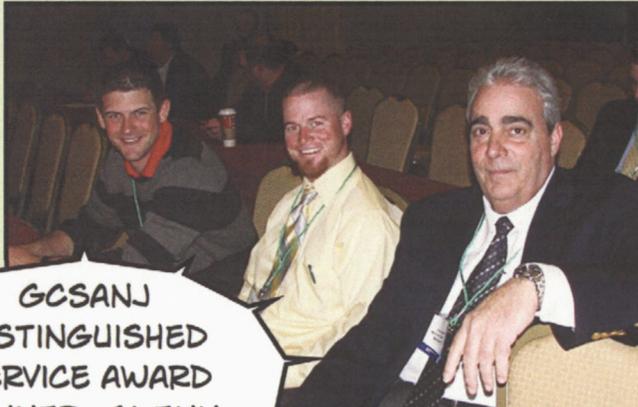
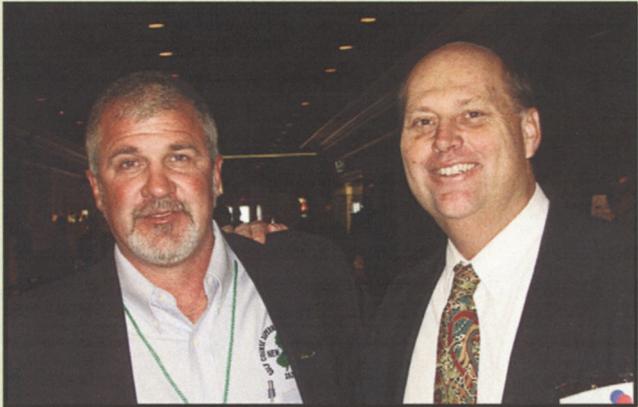
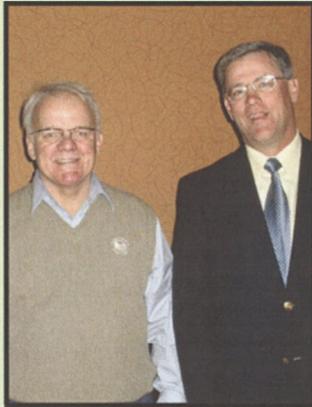


More Green Expo



GCSANJ MEMBER OF THE YEAR, CHRIS BOYLE

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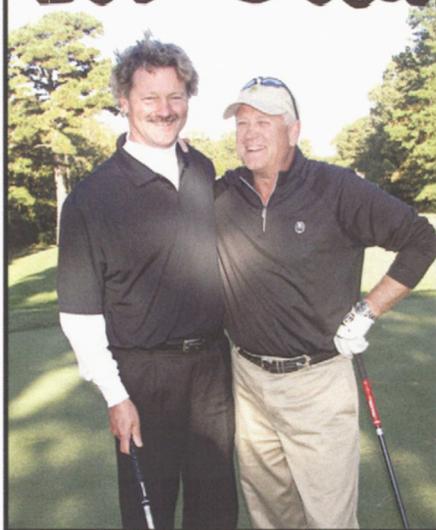
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SCOTT MCBANE

GCSANJ Adds Much to the Success of 2011 Green Expo

December 6 - 8, 2011

...continued from page 5

At the end of the trade show everyone from the Green Expo committee ventured out to speak to the vendors to get some feedback. It was almost universal that this show now was one not to miss. The superintendents were there speaking with them and that is what was needed. The new partnership has had an immediate and positive influence. So much so that more than 50% of last year's exhibitors have signed up and paid for their booths already. We may run out of room this December, but I know Cece will do her best to accommodate everyone.

If you missed the event this year, please put it on your calendar for 2012. In addition to all the great speakers and trade show you will be able to be there when the winners of the GCSANJ DSA (Distinguished Service Award) and MOY (Member of the Year) awards are presented. This year *Chris Boyle* was surprised when he received the Member of the Year Award but he shouldn't have been. He has done so much for us and it was nice to say thanks. Following that was the DSA and that went to *Glenn Miller*. Like Chris, he was in shock but when *Bruce Peebles* read some of the things that Glenn has done it was evident that Glenn belongs on that list of winners.

It is also very important to review the list of our sponsors. The main goal of Green Expo, as I see it, is to help fund and support Rutgers as they do research that will help everyone. They also strive to provide educational opportunities for anyone who wants to better understand all facets of the turfgrass industry. They aren't trying to pump out superintendents. They only want to provide information to these students so when they have completed their studies they will be better prepared to understand the requirements of their job and hopefully will become better members of the course's staff. These are two very admirable goals and Rutgers is assisted in reaching those goals because of these sponsors. These companies have donated funds that Rutgers would have not gotten because Green Expo would have had to pay for these expenses from any profits that they made. That is a great savings that will go directly to Rutgers so let's make sure to say thanks to the sponsors and please support them when you have the opportunity.

This was an exciting experience. It felt like having the only stock gaining in value while all of the others are on their way down. With the synergy coming from the efforts of all of the partners running Green Expo, that growth looks to continue for years to come and will be an example of what good partnerships can do. Join us this December and be part of a true success story.

SPONSORS 2011

We gratefully THANK our Green Expo SPONSORS for their investment and support.

Arysta LifeScience

(Golf Education Session, Wednesday AM)

BASF Corporation

(Dinner in the Trade Show, Tuesday)

BAYER

(Lunch in the Trade Show, Wednesday)

Bunker Border by Ames

(General Event Sponsor)

Grass Roots Inc.

(Mix and Mingle Reception Host, Wednesday)

Lebanon Turf

(Coffee in the Core, Tuesday)

Morris Golf

(Lunch in the Trade Show, Wednesday)

Plant Food Company

(GCSANJ 18-Hole Challenge)

Storr Tractor Company

(Awards Luncheon, Tuesday)

Syngenta Professional Products

(Trade Show Grand Opening, Tuesday)

Tree-Tech

(Assistant Superintendent Career Workshop, Wednesday)

How Allied Associations Help Others and How You Can Help Them

by Matthew Weaver, CGCS

I hope to briefly explain which organizations in our area are having a direct funding and impact on university research, scholarships and philanthropy in our area. The following is not in order of importance but I will start from national organizations down to more local funding.

Hopefully you will consider supporting all or some of the following. Now more than ever these organizations need our support so they can continue the great work they are doing.

GCSAA Environmental Institute for Golf

For many years the EIFG has been funneling research dollars to university's to conduct research. They fund environmental programs, webcasts (which are now free to GCSAA members), and outreach programs. They also provide about \$100,000 annually for scholarships available to students.

The past two years they were unable to provide new funding for new research projects. With recent positive news the EIFG is sponsoring about \$40,000 annually for five new research projects spread throughout the nation. Many of these projects had funding matched by local associations.

In 2009 they were funding about \$280,000 of research projects and in 2010 about \$180,000. Obviously with the decline in the economy the EIFG has pulled back the reigns but it appears that the EIFG is now on the rebound and will hopefully start in its recovery period.

How you can help: When you get your invoice for dues from the GCSAA you can make the recommended donation or any donation you or your club is willing. You can also go to www.eifg.org to donate at any time.

USGA

The USGA has always been a strong supporter of research and they fully understand the importance to the golfer. The USGA is funding about \$800,000 annually of research nationwide and will continue in the future. Again their funding levels have dropped the past few years but obviously the largest contributor to turfgrass research.

How you can help: Make sure your club is a registered USGA Club Member \$110 per year. You can check if your club is a member on the USGA website. You can also support them by joining as an individual member.

Tri-State Research Foundation

This organization has provided a four year average of \$27,000 year to directly support research in the northeast region. In addition they support the Rutgers Golf Classic. This year the foundation has dipped into its reserves to provide research dollars to Northeast universities. This is directly related to the foresight of decreased funding from national funding and the need to address some important research topics in our area. About fifty percent of the funding comes from local associations (GCSANJ, MetGCSA, CAGCS, LISGA, HVGCSA and golfing associations, MGA CSGA and MCMA ESGA NYSGA). The other half of funding is from individual club support of \$200 each year and vendor donations.

How you can help: Return request for \$200 donation sent by Tri-State Research in 1st quarter of the year.

GCSANJ Foundation

In past years the GCSANJ funded the foundation with \$25,000 to cover research and scholarships. After the economic drop the GCSANJ currently funds \$15,000 to the foundation. The remaining funding comes from a variety of golf and non-golf events, and direct donations.

The Foundation has benefited greatly from the hospitality tent at the 2005 PGA at Baltusrol. The Foundation has also received funds on a smaller level from The Barclay's at Ridgewood with expectations to receive funding from the Barclays at Plainfield.

The RTJ invitational is the primary tournament for foundation funding. The foundation runs the RTJ which supports the foundation and EIFG with proceeds from this event.

New to the revenue source are raffles - in 2011 a computer was raffled off and added a couple of thousand dollars to the foundation. A raffle in 2008 raised money that went directly to help a retired member's (Jim Gilligan) grandson who was dealing with brain cancer. We were able to raise approximately \$2,400 and the foundation added funds to get to the \$3,000 total.

Currently a 50/50 raffle is underway with a drawing date of April 20th 2012. Contact your district board member or officer to buy tickets \$20.00 each. Or show up at Bar Anticipation in Lake Como before the 5:00 p.m. drawing time.

How Allied Associations Help Others...continued

In 2011 the Foundation provided \$8,000 in scholarships to children of GCSANJ members. Previously the high was \$14,000 dedicated to scholarships.

The foundation is currently committed to \$17,500 in research at Rutgers. They also have committed to fund the Henry Indyk Fund (which the Tri-State Research Foundation is also funding) which will total \$10,000 over the next few years.

The GCSANJ Foundation structure is solid and members its members are extremely active and dedicated.

How you can help: Direct tax-deductible donations on GCSANJ website, Attend the RTJ Tournament, Rally for Ali Event, Raffles, and Christmas Party.

New Jersey Turfgrass Association

The New Jersey Turfgrass Association's mission is to promote the Turfgrass Industry and enhance the environment through education, professionalism, leadership, and our partnership with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

This group not only represents the golf industry but all turf industries in New Jersey. They conduct the economic impact study for the state of New Jersey and support scholarships and research only at Rutgers.

How you can help: Join the NJTA \$80.00 Attend the NJTA Expo in Atlantic City, Rutgers Field Days and Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic. You can also make tax-deductible donations directly to the NJTA Foundation.

GCSANJ

With your member dues the GCSANJ currently supports about \$22,000 of funding for the GCSANJ Foundation, Rutgers Foundation, Rutgers Scholarships and the NJ Green Industry Council.

How you can help: Continue to be a member of the association, sign up others on your staff, and participate in meetings, seminars and golf events.

As you can see every one of these organizations have reduced funding to scholarships, research and philanthropy in recent years. Now more than ever they could use your help. I know we all get caught up in the daily challenges we face and sometimes forget the bigger picture of what is going on around us.

While no one can attend all of the functions and support every event. Please try and do as much as you are able, and support the future of our industry. And as always please support and thank the generous vendors and affiliates who also give to these associations and foundations.

Rally for Ali Golf Tournament

April 27, 2012

Pebble Creek GC, Colts Neck NJ

"Who is Ali Deacon"? Ali is our youngest daughter; well, she is actually Amy's daughter and my stepdaughter and she has been a part of my life since she was eight and a half years old. Ali was a scholar athlete in high school who went on to attend Douglas College at Rutgers University. She worked for IDT telecom as a communication's engineer until they downsized in 2009, leaving her out of work and looking for a new position under a challenging economy. As young



adults we feel invincible, and when confronted with financial pressures the need to have health insurance sometimes becomes an afterthought. Ali was diagnosed with breast cancer in August of 2011. She has undergone extensive chemotherapy and is presently awaiting mastectomy surgery within the next two weeks. The fight she has in front of her is twofold: one, to get healthy and two, to cover the cost of being sick. The GCSANJ Foundation's "Rally for Ali" Golf Tournament is being presented not only to assist Ali in her fight, but also to bring awareness to breast cancer and to support the Foundation's efforts in assisting "Breast Cancer Research" and support systems such as "Just us Girls" for those who have been afflicted by this disease. Our family is greatly indebted and appreciative of the Foundation's effort to assist in this endeavor. The GCSANJ Foundation offers this opportunity to all with the hope that some day we may find a cure for this disease and to assist those in need.

With sincere thanks and gratitude,
Dave & Amy Pease

Dave Pease Wins the Inaugural ED WALSH Award

by Shaun Barry

After having read the title, most of you may be asking, "what the heck is The Ed Walsh

Award?" The answer goes back a few years to when Roger Stewart CGCS was on the GCSANJ board. He was quite proud of the Greenside and of the many articles written by our superintendent members. We all know about the *Leo Feser Award* given each year to a GCSAA superintendent in recognition of the best superintendent written article in GCM. Roger knew that not all of the great articles got into GCM but some did get into the Greenside. The idea for an award for one of our local articles was discussed at the board level and everybody agreed with Roger that it should be done and then he leaves the state for a new job and the idea floundered. Sorry Roger.....:-)

Once Frank Tichenor got on the board he became aware of our previous discussions. He knows of all the great work that Ed Walsh did for GCSANJ and especially for the Greenside but if you speak to Ed he is quick to point out how nothing would have happened without his committee. Ed was the perfect person for the award to be named after and a vote was taken and it became The Ed Walsh Award. Ed was humbled (yes that can happen) and very pleased and enthusiastic to choose a winning entry.

All of the potential Greenside articles were reviewed and Ed and the communications committee made a choice. There were two outstanding articles that came down to the final vote and Dave's "Grim Reaper" article was chosen.

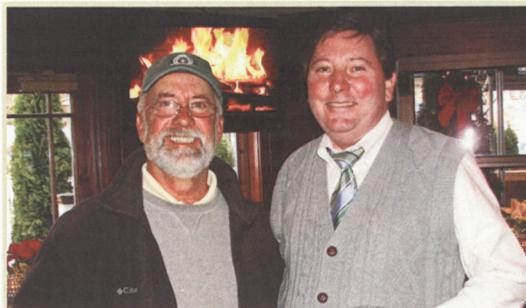
It was decided to give the award to Dave at the Alpine meeting. Ed tried to get down from Rhode Island but at the last minute he wasn't able to make the trip. That left the presentation to Frank and since we were able to surprise Dave it led to a great shocked look on his face. Dave did speak briefly but only because we told him that his award was for writing and not for speaking.....:-)

I know we already have a very strong article to consider for the 2012 award but hopefully everyone will use this award as an inspiration to share their thoughts through a Greenside article. Your participation will help to make our newsletter better.

Note: Our Chris Carson is one of only two supts who have won the Leo Feser Award twice. Now can he win the Ed Walsh Award.....



(L to R) December Christmas Party:
Fran & Frank (95 yrs old) Owsik and Fred Rapp



(L to R) December Christmas Party:
Dennis DeSanctis and Brian O'Gibney



Pat Husby accepting plaque for hosting the
LPGA SYBASE Match Play Event.

Congratulations to:

Tom Pepe on his marriage to Anna.

Mike Brunelle on his marriage to Jennie.

Condolences to:

Jamie Devers on the passing of his father

Please send your news to:
execdirector@gcsanj.org

The 22nd Annual Turfgrass Students Awards Banquet

Honors GCSANJ Members

by Shaun Barry

One of the highest honors that is presented every year at this banquet is the Professional Golf Turf Management School Award. It goes to a graduate(s) of the Turf Management School who has excelled in the profession. Recipients of this award have consistently displayed leadership, fellowship, high ideals and a desire to improve the profession.

Those are some pretty high standards and if any of the previous winners are an example of what this means you will know that each winner has been extraordinary. Some names that you might recognize are *Bob Dickison, Bob and Joe Alonzi, John Zimmers, Sean Hoolehan, Joe Bianco, Rick Holanda and Thomas Ritchie*. At the recent banquet **Ken Krausz's** name was added to that list and it was a very deserving choice.



Ken Krausz (2nd from left) with family.

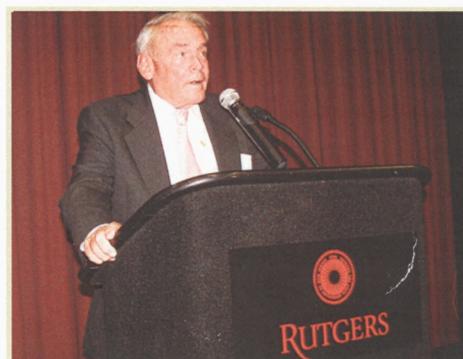
Many of our younger members may not know Ken because he has always been a quiet leader. He led by example and still does to this day. He became a certified superintendent in 1990 which marks the beginning of his 13 years on the GCSANJ Board of Directors. He was president from 1999-2000. He was GCSANJ Member of the Year in 1999, and he was editor and contributor to the *Greenside* from 1990-2002. He is a member of Old Tappan Volunteer Fire Dept. (since he was 16 years old) and the Paramus Volunteer Fire Dept. and has served as president in both depts. He has been secretary of the Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Association from 1999-2006 with a break during 2001-2002 when he became president of this association. He was one of the volunteers when *Extreme Makeover Home Edition* came to NJ. He has assisted in the 2 year turf program and has started a couple businesses. He did all of this while being a great husband, father, grandfather and friend. He never planned to win any awards but it is easy to see why he was such an obvious pick for the honor.

Our other GCSANJ member who was honored is **Joe Flaherty CGCS**. His honor came in the form of his giving the Keynote Speech. Joe has had a wonderful career with most of it being spent at Baltusrol Golf Club. He has seen the good and the bad of this industry and he has forgotten none of those experiences. Joe is a true straight-shooter. If it is black he will tell you it is black, and if it is white he will tell you it is white. I am sure he got the attention of everyone in the room with his speech.

He was very pleased to honor this class's achievements but he asked them to be prepared to be open to the many great opportunities that will come their way even if some of them are not in the golf industry. He also wanted to make sure that each graduate understood their value and that they should never sell themselves short. Their bosses were in their positions of authority because they hadn't and each one of us needs to do the same.

I hope everyone took something from Joe's speech. I know that I did. He and Ken are great examples of the amazing men and women of our association and our industry.

Growing grass is a small part of the big picture and when you listen to people like this that picture becomes extremely clear.



Joe Flaherty giving Keynote Speech



L to R: Chris Carson, Ken Krausz, Joe Flaherty, Mike Mongon

Rock Spring Roundtable

September 28, 2011 Event

by Matthew Weaver, CGCS

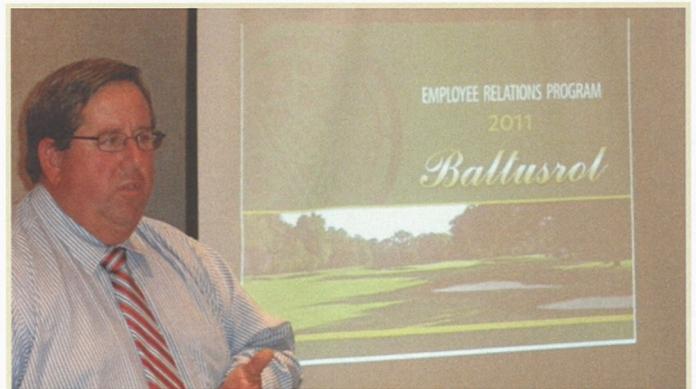
The fall roundtable was a great source of information for fellow superintendents. We were fortunate to have *Chad Pirnos* and *Michael Campbell* willingly hosted the event at Rock Spring Club. It was their suggestion for the timely topic of unions in the area. With the increase of union activity in New Jersey this roundtable was very informative for GCSANJ members. The focus of the meeting was not anti-union but rather how to best deal with employees and unions as they approach the club, and more importantly how to treat employees so they are unlikely to vote a union in. There are many legal issues and ways to handle these situations. But the bottom line is to be proactive listening to employees and their issues.

Mark Kuhns had a great presentation of how he rewarded and incentivized his employees so that worker satisfaction is off the charts and the union did not stand a chance coming into his operation. If anyone has a chance to hear this presentation in the future I highly recommend you attend.

Some important advice from the meeting.

1. Formulate a process so that grievances and concerns from employees can be heard in a way that will not threaten their position or result in retaliation.
2. Listen to your employees, look for ways to reward them and make them feel part of the operation.
3. If your employees are approached by a union seek council immediately.

Special thank you to **Mark Kuhns**, Baltustrol Country Club, **James Cooney**, Rutgers, and **Jeffery Corradino**, Jackson and Lewis LLP, for sharing their extensive experience and expertise.



The Barclays 2011 Recap

by Travis Pauley

Ask any superintendent in the Metropolitan Area about the week of August 14th and most would respond that it was a week of varying degrees of crisis management. Not exactly the description of how a golf course superintendent envisions their Advance Week preparations for the first leg of the PGA Tour's Playoffs. Unfortunately, that's about the best way I can state it.

Mother Nature would allow almost no advance preparations. Nine inches of rain fell Advance Week at Plainfield. Bunkers washed out four times. Aging clay drainage lines collapsed or blew water (and turf) out of failing joints, from the pressure exerted on them from the massive amount of rain. These blowouts required extensive sod repair Sunday before the event began. Four interns had to man several pumps around-the-clock for two days Advance Week on areas I begged the club to fix with new drainage last winter. This was the only time the PGA Tour had to rope and stake an entire golf course for crowd control without carts. Somehow, we managed to cut the greens 15 times advance week between rainstorms and hit our target green speed Wednesday of tournament week.

Much to my surprise, the greens actually began wilting Wednesday afternoon. Maybe the earthquake on Tuesday shook the water out of them. I was actually shocked and excited about Wednesday evening's green firmness readings. Those readings were similarly good for three hours or so Thursday morning. Then it rained some more. At that point, I knew any semblance of firm and fast was not meant to be.

More great news came on Friday afternoon from Commissioner Finchem and Hurricane Irene. The 2011 Barclays would be shortened to a 54-hole event, provided we could get 18 holes in Saturday. That evening, the video scoreboards came down, put in their specially built truck and driven to Pennsylvania at 4am Saturday morning to avoid the incoming storm. After Dustin Johnson holed out the last putt on 18, everyone ran for the gates. Contractors that built the hospitality structures and grandstands removed all the screening to allow tropical force winds to pass through the structures rather than carry them away. Extra anchoring was installed on as many structures as

equipment and time allowed. All course signage was gone before tropical force winds even started. Irene came and went, dropping 9.25" of rain with 45mph winds that night.

While touring the flooded golf course Sunday morning, the PGA Tour called me to say FEMA may commandeer the thirty-nine large generators powering the tent villages that were on the property. My first question was how did they expect to get the generators out? They explained they would be using the National Guard to extract the generators via any means necessary. This was not the news I wanted to hear with six-plus feet of water laying on many fairways. But after that morning's course tour, this was actually the worst potential news from Irene. We lost only four trees on our property perimeter, all of which were inconsequential. The flood caused shock and awe to those who ventured to the club Sunday but I knew it would be off the course within two days. Most importantly, no temporary tournament structures failed. That was my biggest fear looking out the front door of our office building with a hospitality pavilion towering sixty feet in the air. And later that afternoon, the PGA Tour called to say FEMA was not coming. Finally, some good news.

The temporary structure removal went very well and was finished on time by the third week in September. There was almost no additional damage during teardown. With Morris Associates' help, most areas affected by the tournament were repaired by the first week of October. Some temporary roads were left in place until Christmas week to assist this fall's installation of the large drainage I begged to have installed in 2010. The last of the sod work and repairs were completed the first week of the New Year. Today, I feel better about project progress for Opening Day 2012 than anytime in my previous seven winters.

A waterlogged and shortened event pales in comparison to the horrors experienced by many of our peers here in New Jersey and throughout New England. I cannot begin to thank all those that volunteered for The Barclays last August, especially in light of the weather events that transpired that week. Without your help we simply could not have put the event on with all the adversity thrown at us. I can assure you all involved appreciated your efforts.

The New Jersey Fertilizer Law: Update on Certification of Professionals

by Dr. James Murphy,
Rutgers University

On January 5, 2011 Governor Christie signed into law New Jersey Act, P.L. 2010, c. 112 (C.58:10A-64). The Act is intended to protect all New Jersey surface and ground waters from impairment by minimizing nitrogen and phosphorus pollution that may be derived from fertilizer. It addresses the application, sale, and use of fertilizer for turf. Both specialty fertilizers sold at retail for turf and professional fertilizer applicators making applications to turf are affected by this law. As defined in the law, "Turf means land, including residential property and publicly owned land, that is planted in closely mowed, managed grass, except golf courses or land used in the operation of a commercial farm". Please note that, while golf course turf is exempted from the fertilizer restrictions in this law, those individuals applying fertilizer to golf courses are considered professional fertilizer applicators and are required by law to participate in the certification program. Fertilizer applications to commercial farms are not affected by this law.

A "professional fertilizer applicator" is defined in the law as any individual who applies fertilizer for hire, including any employee of a government entity who applies fertilizer within the scope of employment. The law requires that a certification program for professional fertilizer applicators be established by the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Please note that this certification program for professional fertilizer applicators is not part of pesticide licensing administered by the DEP. Thus, the fertilizer certification program is separate from the pesticide licensing program and you will need to participate in both programs to legally apply both fertilizer and pesticide as a professional in NJ.

To become certified, the law specifies that professionals must receive training in the five subject areas outlined below and pass an exam which addresses these subjects.

1. the proper use and calibration of fertilizer application equipment;
2. the hazards involved in, and the environmental impact of, applying fertilizer, including nutrient pollution to the State's waterbodies;
3. all applicable State and federal laws, rules and regulations;
4. the correct interpretation of fertilizer labeling

information; and

5. the best management practices developed by the NJAES for nutrient management in turf.

An online program for Professional Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training is now available; type ProFACT.rutgers.edu in your web browser to register and begin online training. The website records and documents your progress in the online training. Once the training is complete, registered users will be qualified to take the online exam.

The exam is intended to certify that individuals possesses sufficient knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations, standards and requirements applicable to the use and application of fertilizer as required by law. The certification exam was available online at ProFACT.rutgers.edu on January 30, 2012. See the website for more background and instructions for the online training and exam as well as other program details.

The law allows two general classifications for professional fertilizer applicators: certified and trained. Individuals that make decisions on selection of fertilizer products and application rates and timings; calibrate and setup of application equipment; develop spill response protocol as well as make applications should become a Certified Fertilizer Applicator. For a professional to become a Trained Fertilizer Applicator, the individual must also receive training on the laws, rules and regulations, standards and requirements applicable to the use and application of fertilizer by a Trained Fertilizer Applicator. Trained Applicators can only apply fertilizer under the direct supervision of a Certified Fertilizer Applicator. Trained fertilizer applicators will need to receive annual training and registration with the ProFACT program. The details for training Trained Fertilizer Applicators will be released shortly and made available through the ProFACT website.

The law also requires NJAES to maintain a list of all Certified Fertilizer Applicators and make the list available on its internet website (ProFACT.rutgers.edu). A list of Trained Fertilizer Applicators along with the Certified Fertilizer Applicator(s) that supervise them will also be maintained.

Visit ProFACT.rutgers.edu for more information on the certification program.

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GCSAA Professional Conduct Guidelines

The following professional conduct guidelines are provided to encourage the highest standards of conduct among the membership of GCSAA. These guidelines are a companion document to the [GCSAA Code of Ethics](#). While the professional conduct guidelines may not be enforced with membership sanctions, these guidelines should nonetheless be promoted, practiced and encouraged by GCSAA members. Non-compliance of these guidelines should be noted, publicized and self-policed by fellow GCSAA members, officials and affiliated chapters to discourage future instances of such noncompliance.

In assessing one's actions, all superintendents should ask the question, "Would my actions meet with the approval of other superintendents?"

1. A member should always contact a fellow superintendent prior to visiting his/her course, regardless of the reason for the visit.
2. Applications for employment should only be sent to an employer if the applicant has contacted the current superintendent to determine whether the position is available, or if the applicant is responding to an Employment Referral Service announcement.
3. A member should only accept an interview for a job currently held by a fellow superintendent if the applicant has contacted the current superintendent to verify the position is open, or if the applicant has learned about the opening in an Employment Referral Service announcement.
4. Members should always adhere to the complimentary golf policies of other golf courses and always give as much advance notice as possible when seeking playing privileges at a fellow superintendent's golf facility.
5. Members should only accept a consulting assignment at a golf facility if the current superintendent at that facility is aware of such impending consulting activity.
6. Consulting recommendations for a facility should be made in the presence of the current superintendent or written recommendations should be carbon copied to the current superintendent.
7. Members should always conduct themselves in the highest professional manner at all golf-related events and other public events where the member is representing the golf course superintendent profession.
8. A member should not render negative opinions or comments about fellow members.

Members are encouraged to remind fellow superintendents about these courtesies through phone calls, electronic messages and letters. Peer reinforcement of these standards is encouraged.

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