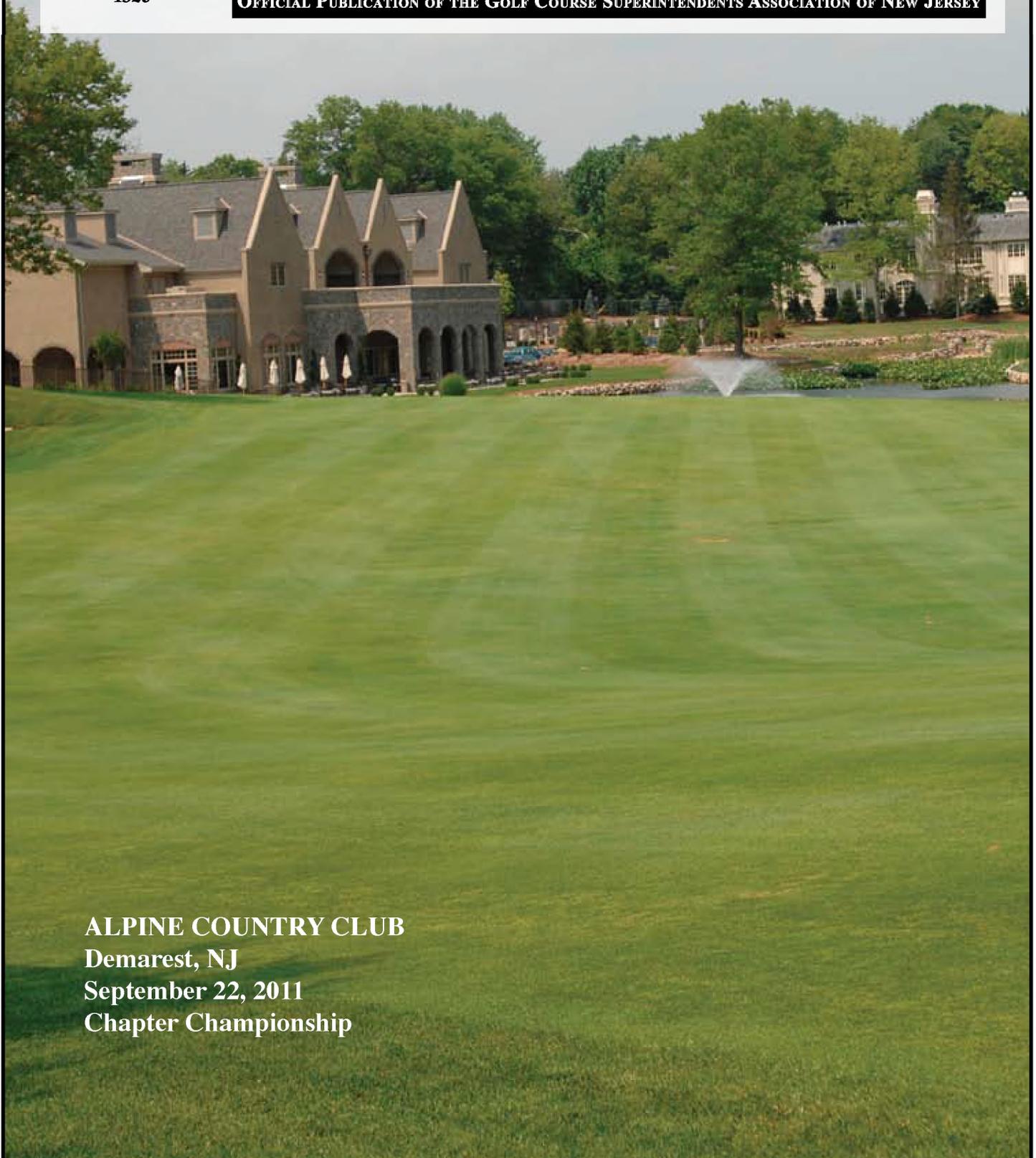




THE
GREENERSIDE

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY



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Go to our website for entry form and submit today or contact GCSANJ Foundation at 866-427-2651 for more details.



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COVER PHOTO
Alpine Country Club, Demarest NJ
Courtesy of Steve Finamore, Superintendent

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Welcome New GCSANJ Members!

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President's Message

Paul Dotti, Arcola Country Club



How many of us were relieved that first morning it was in the upper 40s and lower 50s with the daytime highs around 65? I know I breathed a sigh of relief. My fairway turf struggled more after August 20th than any time during the summer with the constant rains. Late August is when we usually look to start prepping for the fall, but not this year. We were lucky if we found a few days of dry weather in August to get our aerification done. For some unfortunate ones, their golf courses were inundated with silt and damage from severe flooding, and the cleanup will take some time to bring their courses back to normal. But superintendents can persevere through many things and this is another obstacle we will overcome. At this time of the year we are usually exhausted and spent from grinding through the summer months. I know, believe it or not, early order programs start in a few weeks and salesman do not like stopping in when we are all a little cranky still to push for ordering product for the 2012 season, so we start the pile of programs on our desk that we will go through when we get a spare moment.

Hopefully many of you can get away in the next few months for some great events. Our championship is September 22nd at Alpine CC, a great golf course that I am sure Steve Finamore will have in great shape. I am sure he will have the greens rolling great for the event, especially now that he is angry the Red Sox are out of first place. We also have a round table meeting at Rock Spring on September 28th regarding Organized Labor. This is going to be a great opportunity for you and your club officials to get educated on this serious issue facing our clubs in the state. We then have the RTJ in October at Metedeconk and Ryan Oliver always has the place in great condition for this event. We then have Expo in Atlantic City in December which the GCSANJ and NJTA have partnered up to have a great educational and social event.

The GCSANJ's success is solely based on its members' participation. In order for us to provide education, golf and social events at affordable prices, we need our members to attend these events. A lot of time and effort go into planning these events and over the past few years we have seen attendance starting to slip at almost every type of event. This is not just something that is happening in New Jersey -- it is happening everywhere. We all know we are in a tough economic climate and have been for some time and we ourselves or our clubs may not have the money to attend such events. We are also spending more time at our jobs now and this is true of our members at our clubs,

Continued on page 24

From Your Exec Director

Cece Peabody, MAT, CMP
Executive Director



There's a commercial on TV where a father is putting his son into a bucket of plaster to make permanent socks, because their regular socks don't stay on their feet. At one point, the son, while being held mid air so the paste can drip back into the bucket, echoes the father's words about their socks, and says "I'm sick of it!"

I laughed but I completely understood their frustration. I bet all of us are sick of things that have thrown our lives and jobs out of whack. Seems like none of us in NJ are immune. But I do find that the best way to get over being 'sick of it', is to reach out -- there are over 610 members in this NJ chapter, and who would know better how to listen, offer advice, or take one's mind away from the present situations? Give it a try...it feels good to share.

As our year winds down, it is time to think about your **membership** in this chapter. Did you attend at least one event? How many members did you meet? Did you try something different at your course that you learned from a fellow member? I am hoping that your answers are positive and that you will be ready, willing, and able to renew your membership for 2012. It is all the more important to stay connected in a world when all things seem disconnected....your next best idea to make your job better could come at a time when you least expect it...talking with fellow members. Watch your mailboxes as the membership renewal forms will be mailed the first week of November.

I'm still meeting members I haven't met this year...If I have not met you yet, please make sure to introduce yourself when you see me at a meeting.

Remember to visit our website and our Facebook page for the latest events and registration forms.

Stay well - stay healthy - stay happy.

Cece

Mendham Golf & Tennis Club Keeps Getting Better

June 20, 2011 Event

by Shaun Barry

For the second year in a row, the GCSANJ decided to try and hold a June monthly meeting. We had taken a break from scheduling June because, in previous years, attendance had dipped precipitously and it no longer was fair to our member who was hosting the meeting or to the clubs that had given up their course for our use.

Chris Boyle, CGCS, sits on our executive board as vice-president, which shows his dedication to our profession and to GCSANJ. In 2010 he approached the golf committee requesting the opportunity to try and host the June meeting that year. He and Ian Kunesch had some ideas that they thought would help make the meeting successful. They were correct. It was so successful that this year the golf committee approached him to see if he and the club would consider hosting our June meeting again. If he had said no I think we would have scratched the idea of having one, but he checked and told us everyone would be pleased to have us again in 2011. Chris however is a smart guy, and he knows how I beg Ed McSeaman every year to host the District III meeting, so he added the caveat that we should not look Mendham's way in 2012. (That was not a problem but I hope Ed doesn't read this part of the report. I don't want him getting any ideas.)

June 20th was the date chosen for the event and it turned out to be a fine choice. The weather was great but not as great as the course. Last year everyone remarked at the wonderful conditions and they were right. As hard as it is to believe it could be done, Chris and his staff were able to improve on those conditions. Mendham could have hosted any golf event other than The Open Championship and that is because they only play that tournament on links courses.

Carmen Magro drew his presentation from his tremendous base of knowledge of having been a supt, educator and a company agronomist. He spoke about things that need to be considered when we have to apply water so it is done accurately and judiciously. He is a fine speaker and I am sure everyone learned something that will help in their jobs. Upon completion of his presentation, everyone enjoyed a lunch that was sponsored by **Atlantic Irrigation** (Fred Rapp) and **Bayer ES** (Jeff Weld). Sponsoring Dinner was **Syngenta** (Lee Kozsey). Thank you gentlemen. Your kindness helped to keep costs at the same low level as last year.

At a golf committee planning meeting, Joe Kinlin suggested that we have an event where players would represent their universities. It would be for "bragging

rights" only but "bragging rights" can be pretty important especially if your university wins. It turned out to be interesting just to see how many universities have trained our members. As expected we had the largest number from Rutgers (18). PA State and U. Mass had 5 each. With 3 were Cobleskill, Ohio State, and Glassboro/Rowan. Michigan State had 2 and the rest of the group had one each. They were Alabama, Bloomfield, Davis and Elkins, Delhi, Del-Val, Guelph, Lake City, Murray State, Syracuse and Tenn. Tech. I need to brush-up on my geography to locate all of these schools. In the end the competition was decided on numbers. Both the numbers the players shot and the number of players on each team. Each university needed 5 players to be entered into the competition. That narrowed it down to PA State, Rutgers and U. Mass and when one of the U. Mass players had to leave early they were out of the event. That left 2 schools and Rutgers emerged as "**The University Champion Golfers of the Year.**" Winning on the gross side of this event were *Paul Dotti* (76), *Frank Tichenor* (83), *Jason Morgan* (88) and *Chris Boyle* (88). On the net side *Mike Mylet* led with a 70. He was joined by *Paul Dotti* (71), *Frank Tichenor* (77) and *Jason Morgan* (78- MC). Congratulations Rutgers and I hope you will try to defend your title in 2012.

In the real serious competition, the one where you can win prizes, we had some great scores. *Tom Grimac* continued his winning ways by shooting a gross score of 73. He was followed by *Nicholas LeViere* (75). *Ken Mathis* won low net with his 68 and *Paul Dotti* placed second with a 71.

All of our skill prizes were sponsored. Helping out with the closest to the pin prizes were **DryJect**, **Grass Roots**, **John Deere Golf** and **Wilfred MacDonald**. Our winners were *John Barrow* (9ft 8ins.- his first skill prize ever. Congrats John), *Matt Ceplo* (23ft 3ins), *Cece Peabody* (15ft 8ins) and *Eric Westervelt* (1ft 3ins).

Some of our long drive sponsors actually had planned on doing that at Forest Hill in May but when Frank had to cancel due to an unplayable course, we carried those sponsors over. Heading that group with 2 sponsored long drives was **Pavelec Brothers GC Construction** and they were joined by **Storr Tractor** and **Syngenta** with 2 also. **Double "D" Turf** also helped the cause with his sponsorship. Our longest hitters were *Vince Bracken*, *Paul Dotti*, *Scott Hall*, *Tim McAvoy* (twice), *Mike Mylet* and *Andy Schuckers*.

Continued on page 6

Mendham Golf Event...

continued from page 5

Not everybody gets into the skins, but when you win one, it adds to the enjoyment of the day. We had 5 winners. They were *Robert Arnts, Mike Brunelle, Matt Ceplo, Ken Mathis and Frank Tichenor*. Someday I hope to find my name on that list but that would require a miracle. Those do happen but not to people with bad golf swings, so I will just congratulate everyone on some great play, some wonderful shots, and I hope you had a memorable time at Mendham, but also at a GCSANJ monthly meeting.

Thanks again to Chris and everyone at Mendham for their professionalism and their constant smiles. It once again was a pleasure spending a day in "Paradise" where life slows down, egos and problems get checked at the door, and golf is "King"... (sorry Elvis) 🏌️



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and click on the link... **LIKE US!**



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Toms River Continues a Winning Tradition

August 18, 2011 Event

by Shaun Barry

I am not sure how many years in a row Toms River Country Club has hosted the District III Championship, but it is well into double-digits. The only constant factors have been our friend *Ed McSeaman* and that the weather or nature has had some effect on preparations or play. To nobody's surprise nothing changed. Ed and Nancy were there early, meeting and greeting people, setting up the registration area and getting the ice and containers ready for the water and soda provided by *Tim Kerwin* from **Reed & Perrine**. They also had to prep the beer caddy just in case anyone would require some refreshments while they were out on the course. This part of the day was arranged through the generosity of *Joe Kennedy* and **Grass Roots**. Ed was torn between driving the cart to provide "hydration" for any thirsty golfers or choosing to play golf for the first time in a couple years. Ed gave up the chance to win any of the prizes and he opted to drive so others could survive. Shortly before the majority of our group started to arrive, it became apparent that this part of the planning stage was ready so Nancy said good-bye and Ed got back to the job at hand which was making sure the course was ready.

Leading-up to the event, the course was drenched from rain and soaked by a high-tide on the river. Pretty normal stuff for Ed and our meeting, but that is when nature got his attention. It started out by having several police cars arrive on the property asking if the club had a beach. Ed answered yes but nobody was there. The police didn't seem to listen to that part of the response because they said that you have to get the people out of the water because there was a shark in the river. Ed told them how to get to his island green, but he knew someone was playing a joke because this is Toms River and "JAWS" would never have been filmed here. He went out to see what was going on, and while expecting to see the guys playing a few holes, he was surprised by seeing the fin of a 6 ft shark. This was no joke and this was in the area where a few years ago one of our members walked out into the river to speak with the 3 "pirates" who were anchored and making lots of noise. Good thing that shark was busy elsewhere that day.



Thankfully the rain stopped and the wind changed and the tide didn't cause any additional damage, so although the course was wet, it was ready for us. The only concern was the weather forecast. It didn't look good. As I was getting there *Lance Rogers* let me know that radar showed we were going to get "hammered" in 30 minutes. Whatever was there went either north or south, and we only got a few sprinkles during registration. By the time we got ready to head out to play the sun was shining brightly. I was glad to know that the weathermen got it wrong. What a shock.....:-)

Just before the carts started moving, we pulled two 50/50 ticket winners. *Jim Cross* bought some extra tickets because his assistant *Coby Mattison* couldn't be there so he wasn't sure which tickets did win, but he who pays for things should be considered the winner. Our second winner was *Ken Kubik* and he donated his money back to the GCSANJ Foundation. Normally I don't allow that because we don't want people to stop supporting the 50/50 if they feel obligated to give back. This however is Mr. GCSANJ, so when he makes a decision, I am smart enough to smile and say thank you Ken.

We only had one more piece of business to do before we started play and that was to introduce *Skip Cameron*. It turns out that *Jim Pelrine* was celebrating a very important birthday this day, and Skip arranged to have a plaque made to honor our great friend, and he also had the chef at the club make a wonderful birthday cake to celebrate this occasion. I was supposed to start singing "Happy Birthday" but not with my voice. Consider that my present to you Jim. We all wish you many more birthdays spent with us playing golf and having fun.

Because of the special birthday celebration, we got started a few minutes late, but it was good to get to the first tee and start playing. After making a 9 on the first hole, I was hot and tired and thirsty and ready to head for the showers. My playing partners wouldn't let me go. *Harry Harsin* had come up from FL to be here and he needed something to laugh at, and since *Kevin Driscoll* is hitting it so well these days, I was what Harry needed because *Bill Murray* wasn't going to fill that roll. I continued my "good" play and kept Harry entertained all day. There is one thing that I need to address and that is the hole locations. Somebody sent Ed a list showing where I wanted them to be located...:-) He didn't want to use these locations, but since he thought that the request was coming from me, he followed the list. Who could have done this dastardly deed?

Continued on page 8

Toms River Continues

Nobody confessed and I know I had nothing to do with this. Fortunately it only affected me. Nobody else had any problems. I did putt off the green (several times I am afraid). They were perfect and I just need to learn how to putt. If only the “claw” worked better.

We met our “hydration expert” on the third tee, but we couldn’t convince him to follow our group. Ed was taking his job seriously and he was there to serve the whole field. It wasn’t too long however before work called and he turned this job over to staff members and they chose a great place to get us coming and going. Unfortunately a strange thing happened on the back nine. The kegs must have been defective because they were soon both empty. I know we didn’t drink that much because we were all drinking water. Within 5 minutes Ed was able to replace these defective kegs with better ones and the problem was resolved. And some people wonder why we keep coming back to Toms River...

Every once in a while the weather continued to look threatening, but when we were hit with a rain shower we knew it would be quick because the sun kept shining. Five minutes later it was over and we played the backside without concerns even though we could hear the thunder. Ed assured us it was going to stay north of us and it did.

...continued from page 7

Maybe he should become a weatherman also.

Once play was ended, scores were posted quickly because people were ready to enjoy dinner. They were not disappointed. As *Jim Cadott* stated -- he felt that the always wonderful dinner “was moved up a notch” and Ed concurred. The quick posting of scores allowed me to get the results done quicker than usual, so I was able to start enjoying all the great choices. I wasn’t disappointed. This was such an unusual occurrence -- *Bob Dickison* came over to see if I was ok. I answered yes but asked why he was asking and he said he couldn’t remember ever seeing me eating dinner with everyone else. It is great having a friend with a wonderful “dry” sense of humor.

The evening was wonderful. The storm stayed north. There was a gentle cooling breeze and *Jeff Brown* once again was playing and singing in the background. It could have been a scene from a movie.

Ed was introduced and he thanked his staff which was mostly new this year. He and the club replaced over 30 people from last year. That was most of their staff, but Ed knew what he had to do and he did it. It turned out beautifully and it gave him the chance to hire *Maribeth O’Neill*. We know her husband as Harry Harsin’s adopted

Continued on page 9

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Toms River Continues

son aka *Pat O'Neill*. Her many years at Navesink and Beacon Hill give her the wisdom and experience needed to make Toms River better than it has ever been before, and she knows and does what Ed expects. That is a good team.

The golf prizes were almost an after-thought because the evening was so perfect. People were enjoying great food, drink and conversation. If we didn't have any, not a single person would have noticed, but we did have some -- so here are the results.

Brian Minemier came up from District 4 and won low gross sponsored by **Wilfred MacDonald**. He shot a 79. In second place was another fellow from District 4 and that was *Phil Juhring*. He had an 80. **Storr Tractor** sponsored low net and that was won by *Lance Rogers*. His 70 did the trick. In second place was *Bill Murray* who played with a bad back and ended up with a 72. **Storr Tractor** also sponsored 2 Closest to the pin contests while **Fisher & Son** and **Grass Roots** covered the remaining par threes. Winning these were *Charlie Dey* (4ft 6ins), *Phil Juhring* (16ft 11ins), *Bill Murray* (12ft 1in- the only person who hit this green) and *Jeff Weld* (2ft 2ins).

Our longest drive sponsors were **Black Lagoon Pond Management**, **DryJect**, **Double "D" Turf**, & **Fisher & Son**.

...continued from page 8

I chose the wrong hole to have two of these contests because I forgot how far some of these gentlemen can hit the ball. Several people drove it right down the middle of the fairway and into the rough. My only salvation was *Jim Cross* who reminded me I hadn't said that it had to be in the fairway. A technicality to be sure but I went with it. The actual winner will never be known but we made a final decision based on where people remembered their shots ended up. A long story to let you know that *Jim Cross*, *Mike Ross*, *Pat O'Neill* and *Bill Murray* were deemed winners. Bill however was the only one who parlayed his drive into making an eagle. Because he was in the skins that eagle gave him a double skin. *Phil Juhring*, *Joe Kinlin*, *Lance Rogers*, and *Mike Ross* were winners also with one skin each.

Many thanks Ed to you and your entire staff -- both on the course and in the clubhouse. Their work is very professional and they work well as a team and they seem to be enjoying themselves. That comes from good leadership. I am not sure how you do it and why you do it, but thanks for hosting this and all of the previous events. Your generosity has never been matched in the history of this association. It is something to be proud of and if you want to keep adding to that amazing list I am sure we will be able to help by attending another meeting in 2012 as long as I don't have to wear the kilt.....:-) ☺

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2011 CALENDAR

Check calendar for updates and signup info.

www.gcsanj.org

Wednesday, October 12

District IV Event

Shore Gate Country Club , Ocean View, NJ

Tuesday, October 18

RTJ Invitational

Metedeconk Natl Country Club , Jackson, NJ

Tuesday, October 25

Class C Championship

Crestmont Country Club , West Orange, NJ

December 6-8, 2011

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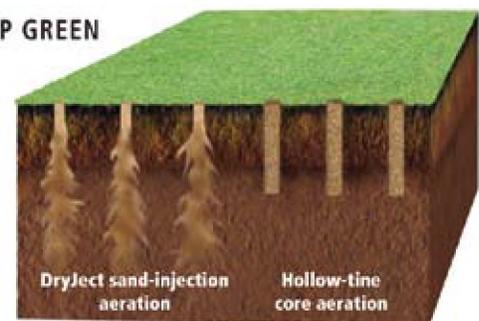
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GCSANJ JUNE MEETING



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IAN KUNESCH AND JOHN ALEXANDER AWARDED RUNNER UP PLAQUES FOR STANLEY MATCHES BY PRESIDENT PAUL DOTTI



GCSANJ Member *news Chris Boyle, CGCS*

The summer of 1989 began like most summers for a typical college student -- returning to your home town after finals, rekindling friendships with high school classmates, and working a summer job to have some spending money in your pocket. As **Chris Boyle** was mopping floors and stacking fruit in the produce department of the local grocery store in his hometown of Vernon, NJ, he ran into *Brad Sparta*, an old friend one evening. (Brad is now the superintendent at Ballyowen Golf Club). They talked for awhile, and Brad told Chris about his new job at Great Gorge Country Club on the grounds staff, and that there might be more openings that summer. Chris got a job there, and the rest, as they say, is history. After working for only a month or two for Dave Brubaker, the superintendent, Chris had discovered the exciting new world of golf course maintenance, and decided to make a career out of it.

Back at Rutgers in the fall, Chris began preparing for this career by focusing on classes that would best

prepare him for being a superintendent. A degree in environmental planning and design, with a minor in plant science would be the result 3 years later. Additionally, Chris worked on the turf research farm his senior year with Dr. Funk and Dr. Murphy. After graduation in 1992 and with the help of Dr. Hurley, one of Chris's professors at Rutgers, Chris was heading out to the real world. Eight hundred miles south, he ended up at the guard shack and green iron gates on Washington Road, at the Augusta National Golf Club, where Chris would spend the next 2 years. Following a short stint with a golf course construction company and major renovation projects in Tulsa, OK and Louisville, KY, it was time to head back to New Jersey. Chris ended up working for Ed Walsh at Essex County Country Club for his first position as an assistant superintendent from 1995 – 1997. After 8 years of hard work and preparation, Chris was ready, and accepted the position of superintendent at **Mendham Golf and Tennis Club**, in Mendham NJ. Nearly 15 years later, he is still happily employed there.

Continued on page 18

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- ▶ Screening for Neotyphodium Endophytes
- ▶ Fungicide Resistance Screening
- ▶ Other Services Available by Contract

For more information please call us at 732/932-9140 or visit the web for sample submission instructions and forms at:
www.rcrc.rutgers.edu/plantdiagnosticlab.



www.rcrc.rutgers.edu/services

The Rutgers Soil Testing Lab

The Rutgers Soil Testing Laboratory performs chemical and mechanical analyses of soils.

The following services are routinely performed:

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- Level 1** Fertility Test: Nutrients, pH, recommendations
- Level 2** Problem Solver (soil/plant suitability test)
- Level 3** Topsoil Evaluation

Greenhouse

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

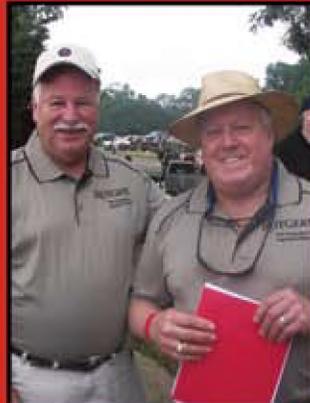
*Organic matter content would be determined by loss-on-ignition for golf course greens, as described by USGA guidelines.

For more information please call us at 732/932-9295, or visit us on the web at:
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RUTGERS FIELD DAY



RUTGERS FIELD DAY



Rolling Greens GC Welcomes Districts I and II

August 24, 2011 Event

by Shaun Barry

For at least the last 4 years, Ian Kunesch has offered his course as a site for a district meeting. When this topic came up at a GCSANJ board meeting, Andy Schuckers grabbed his cell phone and contacted Ian while the meeting continued. Within 3 minutes Ian had responded and a date was picked, a general menu was selected and a price established. District I was all set. Andy suggested that maybe District II would consider joining them and there could be a competition. A few days later that was arranged and "The War in the Woods" info hit our website.

In retrospect, we should have picked a different week. We changed the date to accommodate some aerification schedules but missed how "The Barclays" tournament would draw so many volunteers who couldn't attend the district meeting. If we do this again next year, that will be a major consideration. 28 people were able to play and of that number one came from district 4, two came from district 2 and three came from district 3. That leaves 22 members from district 1. That is a very impressive number and portends a good future for this meeting in the years to come.

I am sure many of the attendees came because of their friendship with Ian and that it was going to be an inexpensive and casual meeting at a course most had never played. This day met and exceeded expectations. Andy, Cece and Ian ran registration and set-up teams. Lunch was outside under the tent. Food was plentiful, fresh and tasted great. A good way to start the day.

In an effort to accommodate the people who were only able to attend lunch, the 50/50 was picked just as we gathered at the carts. There were 3 winners and just like he did at Toms River, *Ken Kubik* won the big prize. And just like he did there, he donated the money back to The Foundation. I once again tried to get him to keep the money but I have found that it is hard to say "no" to Ken especially when it comes to an opportunity for him to be generous. Thanks again Ken and if you keep winning and donating, The Foundation may not need any more fundraisers. *Ron Carusi* and *Ian* were the other winners.

Soon everyone was out exploring the golf course. Ian had explained that he had to fire his entire staff and they were replaced by 2 fellows plus himself. Definitely not a bloated payroll here. Knowing that his help and funds are limited none of us expected the conditions we had just seen at Plainfield CC. We were correct but what we did find were terrific conditions. Everything was cut and tournament ready. The new flags looked great and although "winter rules" were allowed, I never touched the ball in the fairway.

The greens were amazing. They looked great and were firm and fast and true. Even I made some putts. If you picked the correct line you were making the putt. I don't think *Ken Duggan* missed anything outside 15 feet and he tried to tell us he was a 20 handicap. Maybe...but he is a single digit putter on these greens.

The course is not long but it is quite a challenge. *Jay McKenna* looked down a couple holes and immediately thought of Bayonet GC out in CA. In both cases the tree-lined fairways looked like people would have to walk single-file on their way to the green. A great look but when you are spraying the ball the strokes add up very quickly. At least they did on my card.

Even with all of the swings the round went quickly and soon everyone was sitting around talking and smiling. Nobody was worrying about their score. They were looking at the great looking steaks on the grill and couldn't wait to get started. Before dinner *Andy* did present the winners. *Ian* had the low gross score of 71 but it was decided that his local course knowledge disallowed him from winning a prize. Andy is pretty tough it seems but Ian didn't protest. Taking Ian's top prize was *Grover Alexander* who shot a 74 beating his brother John by 1 shot. His prize was donated by *Storr Tractor*. Storr also donated the low net prize won by *Ken Duggan*. His 63 edged *Ken Kubik* by 3 shots.

There were 3 closest to the pin contests and all were sponsored. **Grass Roots, Storr Tractor and Wilfred MacDonald** donated the prizes. Winners were *Gary Arlio* (2ft 6ins), *Jeff Weld* (3ft 8ins) and *Steve Kopach* (10ft 6ins). Hitting the longest drive was *Jeff Sutphen* and this was sponsored by **LaCorte/John Deere Golf**. Our other winners were from the skins contest. *Dave Dudones* made an eagle but at "The War in the Woods" it only got him a single skin. Another example of how tough these guys are.....:-). Joining Dave were *Gary Arlio, Eric Carlson, Steve Kopach, Lee Kozsey and Jeff Smolha*.

Not everyone was able to stay for dinner but those that did enjoyed a wonderful meal. It was the perfect way to end the day. Everything tasted just right and there was plenty for seconds if you had the room. The conversations were great with lots of smiles and laughter. The biggest smile however belonged to Ian. You could see how pleased he was with how the day went and that he was surrounded by friends and colleagues. It was a day that I don't think he will forget.

Many thanks Ian from all of us for all of your efforts and your staffs' efforts. It was just a wonderful day away from the normal daily stress and I hope we can do this again so more people can enjoy your course and hospitality. 🙏



“Making a Difference”

Each summer I have the opportunity and the privilege of working with our youth in a week long project through an organization known as Reach Workcamps. Reach Workcamps is a non-denominational, Christian organization devoted to helping communities throughout our country that are most times below the poverty level of existence.

Reach Workcamps, known as Reach to all the veterans was the vision of Mike Brown 20 years ago. He wanted to reach out to communities within our own country that are often forgotten or ignored. His vision is still the same today as twenty years ago, but the capacity to help has grown a 100 fold.

This year’s trip for me along, with my oldest daughter, Amanda, was to the thriving metropolis of Peterstown, West Virginia, population 462. We ventured there with about 450 others from all over the country to spend a week together working on 37 different projects as the hand and feet of Jesus. Not only were new friendships developed, but we are always emotionally moved by the community. The people of Peterstown are lacking only one thing, that is the financial stability the rest of us may experience on a day to day basis. However, what they may lack financially, they make up with in spirit for each other and their community. It only takes a few minutes to understand their faith in God and in each other once you meet any of these very proud people.

The youth from around the country are all high school age and interestingly enough; pay \$400 each to go to a Reach Workcamp. So you have high school age kids going off to work very hard for a week and they pay to do this as well. All the proceeds are then used to purchase the necessary materials for each of the projects.

Benefits to the youth....

In most instances, a workcamp is a life changing event for these teenagers. They learn through their hard work that real, hurting, loving people live behind what seems to be an immovable barrier of poverty. They learn new skills by doing construction type projects. They enhance their self esteem by making new friends and engaging in relationships with their residents. Teenagers will have a week long opportunity to examine their personal values as they are touched by an evening program that includes a very powerful message with a drama.

Benefits to the adults....

Adult leaders have the opportunity to develop stronger relationships with their respective youth groups and with their residents at each of the projects. A better understanding of construction projects that they can take home to their own homes and communities.

I can assure you that this experience is very hard work but so richly rewarding for me personally, along with an opportunity to continue to build a stronger relationship with my adult daughter. If you are looking for a life altering experience along with an opportunity to meet some very gracious people and communities, please consider volunteering in any of these worthwhile organizations.

Reach Workcamps is only one of many organizations whose mission it is to help those in need in our own communities. Once you start, it will be difficult to stop. Volunteer today and MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

Dave Schell

BASF Turf & Ornamentals

Phone: 410-420-0568, Mobile: 410-800-8762, Fax

David Schell has been with BASF 3 years now and spent the last 31 years in the turf and ornamental industry as an end user, a distributor rep and now as a manufacturing rep. Dave resides in north east Maryland in the same county he grew up with my wife Karyn and youngest daughter Morgan. My oldest daughter, Amanda lives outside of Baltimore in Owings Mills, and is in her 3rd year of teaching 1st graders in the Baltimore County school system. I have participated in Reach five years out of the last nine when my schedule can accommodate the week away from the golf business.

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Ammonium Polyphosphate 10-34-0	9 oz	3.1 Gal
Phosphite 30 0-0-27	3 oz	1.0 Gal
AdamsEarth® Biostimulant	3 oz	1.0 Gal
Flo Thru™ Plus Soil Penetrant	4 oz	1.3 Gal

Nutrients per Application	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potassium	Sulfur	Boron	Copper	Iron	Manganese	Zinc	Humic Acid	Carbo	Amino Acids
Lbs per 1,000	.140	.308	.120	.002	.0003	.0004	.0068	.0004	.0004	.079	.019	.272

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- **AdamsEarth® Biostimulant:** Feeds soil microorganisms and improves stress tolerance and nutrient assimilation. High rate of help take turf out of growth regulation.
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GCSANJ Member *news* Chris Boyle, CGCS

Chris began serving on the GCSANJ Board of Directors in 2002. He has been on numerous committees, and is currently the Vice President. The support of his Club has been instrumental in allowing Chris to be so active in the GCSANJ. Chris also has to thank his wife Jenna for her patience and support. They have been married for 9 years now, and enjoy the slower pace of life living just outside of Newton in Sussex County.

As if having 4 Jack Russell Terriers, 2 cats, and some chickens wasn't enough to keep them busy, they have recently decided to add to their family. Chris has a 12 year old son from a previous marriage, and a few years ago they became licensed foster parents with the state of NJ. Having children of their own was always in their dreams and reaching out to help some children who were in need seemed like a good way to meet that dream. They have shared their home with three children since becoming licensed and currently have a 16 month old girl they received directly from the hospital at 3 days old. It has been a very rewarding experience for them, and they anxiously anticipate that next phone call from DYFS for the placement of another child. 🐾

continued from page 12

The Boyle Family

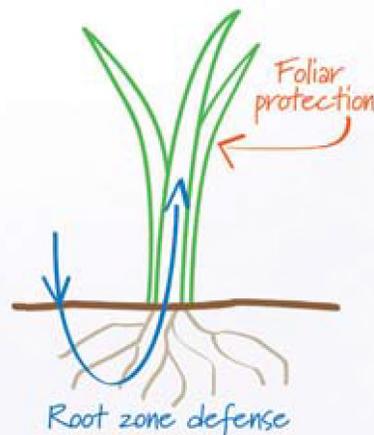


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™

BLOG - BLOG - BLOG

by Frank Tichenor, Forest Hill Field Club

Superintendent A: *Did you hear about Seymour over at Road Kill Golf Tennis and Polo club? He got let go last week.*

Superintendent B: *Really? He has the best greens around.*

Superintendent A: *Yea I know, they said something about not being on the same page as the membership.*

Superintendent B: *Wow, they had great conditions, they just rebuilt all of the front nine bunkers in house, installed a new 15 row irrigation system also in house, and he was doing it all on a \$150,000 operational budget.*

Superintendent A: *I bet old Seymour would still have his job if he had started a blog.*

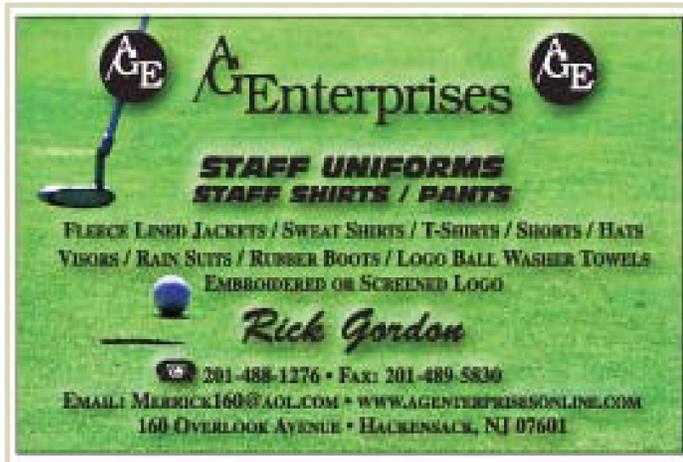
Superintendent B: *Boy isn't that the truth. Since I started mine, the club gave me a \$100k bonus, I get weekends off, and they doubled my budget!*

Ok I may be stretching the truth a bit there, but as you well know you can have great turf, but if your communications skills are weak you will have issues.

Blogging can help. When I started mine roughly a year and a half ago, it was more of an experiment to see if membership was actually listening to what I had to say and to head off the guys at the round table. You know the group. The group that sits around in the grill room and complains about everything in the club. The group that takes a little bit of truth and twists it to the point where it is unrecognizable. I would think there is a group like that at every one of your courses.

What my blog has evolved into is a place where members can go to see what is happening on the course and what the green staff is doing with their dollars. The name 'blog' is actually an abbreviation of 'web log' so it is in a sense a journal. I can look back on it and see when I was having problems, be it disease, insects, or whatever. It is a place to highlight problems and sell solutions.

Continued on pg 20



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BLOG - BLOG - BLOG

...continued from previous page

You may be saying to yourself “I don't know that much about computers let alone setting up a blog”.

Look, I am on the wrong side of 40, and if I can do it, anyone can. You all have email right? Do you text? Get on the internet? Have a smart phone? Use an iPad? Sold on the idea? Here is the next step.

First thing to do is to **find a provider**. Sites such as *blogger*, *wordpress*, and *live journal* are among the more popular sites. Simply visit these sites and sign up for a free account.

The next thing you will need to do is **design work**. All of these sites have many templates to choose from. A word of advice is to look at what other people are doing and see if that fits in your plans. I look at other superintendents' sites quite often and at times incorporate what they are doing into my own blog. If they have a good idea why not use it?

Think of what type of information you want to get across to the reader.

Do you want the current weather featured?

Do you want twitter feeds?

How about the names of your staff or green committee? It's all up to you.

Once you have a design you need to decide if you want this to be a **public or private blog**. Mine is public but I know of quite a few that are private. Again your decision.

Finally, **start posting**. Begin with a few posts to test how things are working and once satisfied bring it to your intended audience.

While it may sound like a fair amount of work, it really isn't. Start off small and slowly build your content. With a smartphone you can blog on the fly. How many times have you been out on the course and seen something and said to yourself “that would be great to share with the membership”, only to be distracted on your way back to the office?

Well with a smartphone you can snap a photo, write a few quick comments, and send it to your blog in a matter of seconds. Now that isn't too much work is it. If only old Seymour had blogged. ¶

Please feel free to reach out to me for any questions or advice for your blog.

Frank

www.fhfcgreendepartment.blogspot.com

The blogs below are some of my favorites:

<http://minikahdagrounds.blogspot.com/>
The Minikahda Club

<http://farmsccsuperintendent.blogspot.com/>
The Farms Club

<http://greatebaycc.blogspot.com/>
Greate Bay Country Club

<http://mgcgreens.blogspot.com/>
Madison Golf Club

<http://mstachowicz.wordpress.com/>
Dedham Golf and Polo Club

<http://geccgcm.blogspot.com/>
Glen Echos CC

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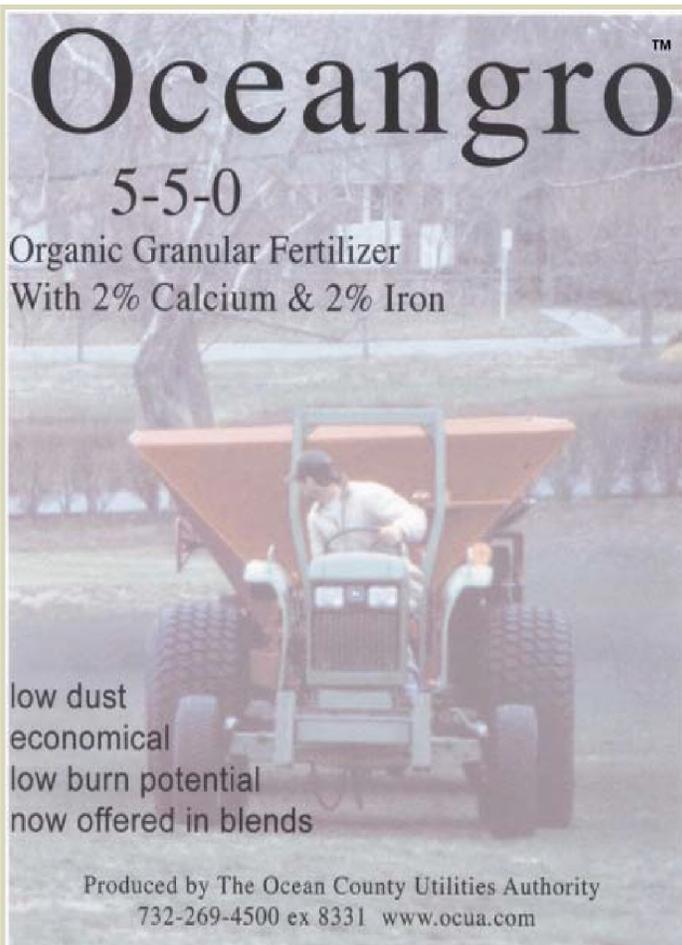
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President's Message.. continued from pg 4

they do not sneak away a few days a week to play golf anymore, we mostly see them on the weekends now.

Also, our kids are getting older and that means they are involved in sports or other hobbies that require more of our time. It is imperative that we all support our organization so it can better support you.

Speaking of support, our Membership Services Committee is a valuable resource that you can use if you are in need of advice or support at your course. This is a service that of late is starting to get some usage and can really help you during difficult times. Over the past 2 years with the hot 2010, this past winters ice woes and now this summers' hot July and wet August, many of us have had some difficult times. Often times this service is used after the fact when little can be done to help the Superintendent, so please do not hesitate to contact the GCSANJ if you are in need of assistance.

With that, another season is almost behind us and now is the time to start to catch your breath. I hope to see you all at our upcoming events.

Paul Dotti, President, GCSANJ




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GCSANJ Member *news*

NOTA BENE

Cathy Futyma-Brown,
Vice President of Fertl- Soil Turf Supply,
passed away on August 19, 2011.

Clyde Ashton
passed away on September 7, 2011.

Dennis Parker
lost his Mom.

Fred Rapp
lost his Mom, Anne Merrill Rapp,
on September 1, 2011.

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Dennis Wrede, Cedar Hill Country Club Golf Course Superintendent

It began with a comprehensive enhancement plan developed by Golf Architect Robert McNeil for Cedar Hill Country Club in Livingston, NJ and has resulted in a transformation that's taken the golf course to a new level of quality and strategic challenge.

“In the fall of 2008 when the economic crisis was taking hold the club lost members. More than half of those that left are now back and directly attribute their return to the changes that we've made.”
Jeff Aidekman, Project Chairman

Dennis Wrede and Cedar Hill Country Club have been a Client of The Northeast Golf Company for 11 years. We continue to work together to improve the golf course.

Robert McNeil can be reached on 401.667.4994 • email: design@northeastgolfcompany.com
To learn more about our work with the Cedar Hill Country Club go to <http://www.northeastgolfcompany.com>

Robert McNeil
Golf Course Architect
American Society of Golf Course Architects
Associate Member

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Andy Schuckers, CGCS, Class A, is the new GM/Superintendent at Paramus Golf Club.

Bob Dickison, CGCS, is Superintendent at The Meadows Golf Club.

Dave McGhee, GM & Superintendent, has retired from Fiddlers Elbow Country Club.

Allen Rathjens is now at Harker's Hollow Golf Club.



NJSGA Open at Hollywood Golf Club. Plaque presented to **Michael Broome** (center). **Jim Cadott**, GCSANJ Treasurer, on left, and **John Murray**, President, NJSGA



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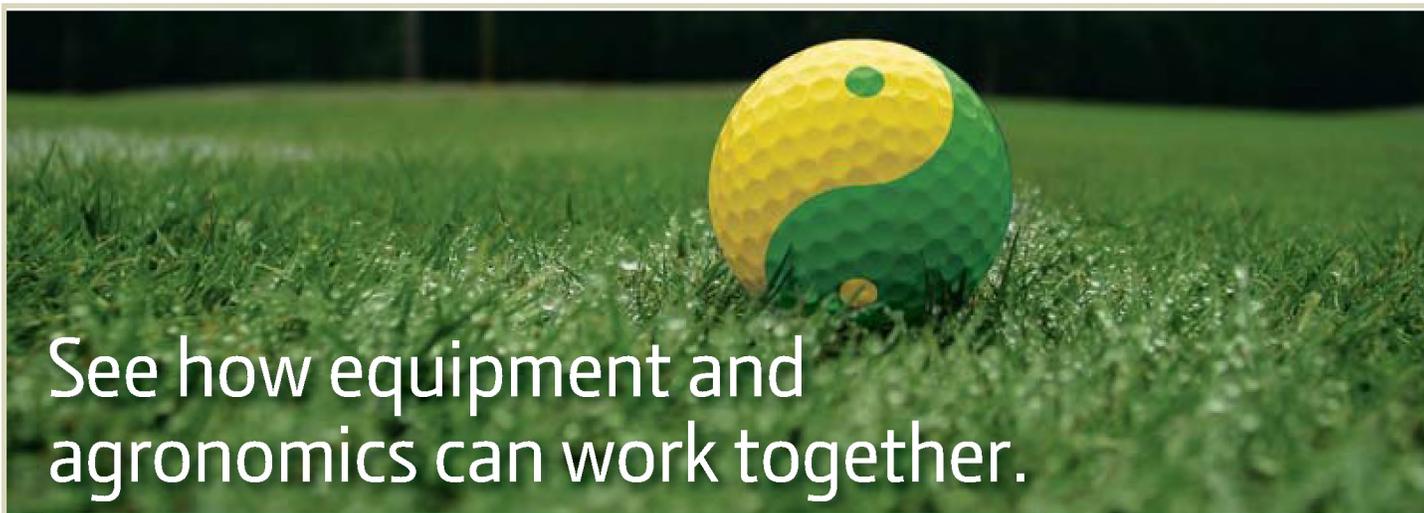


Top Picture: Dave Dudones and John Alexander ready for dinner at Rolling Greens Golf Club.

Above: Steve Kopach, Ken Duggan, Jeff Weld, Ian Kunesch, Grover Alexander, and Jeff Sutphen -- event winners at Rolling Greens

Top Right: Ed McSeaman (l) and Bill Murray... a kilt fashion show..

Lower Right: Maurice Cameron (l) helps Jim Pelrine celebrate a milestone birthday.



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Think Ahead.

Safe Child Playing Fields Act

Why do I need to concern myself with Senate Bill S-2610?

Information submitted by Dave Pease and Jim Cadott



The concern lies where children play the game of golf and pesticides are being applied.

The intention of this bill is to eliminate all pesticide usage where children play; parks, ball fields and golf courses.

- If you have any programs being implemented at your Club or Golf Course whether Private or Public such as Jr. Golf, pee wee clinics, First Tee, or High School programs, you are at risk of losing these activities and events. Your golf course is at risk for inclusion of all aspects of this bill.
- For further information regarding the Safe Child Playing Field Act S-2610, contact Nancy Sadlon at the New Jersey Green Industry Council • 732-563-9252 • nancy.sadlon@njgic.org
- **What do you need to do:** You need to discuss this most urgent matter with your Board of Directors, General managers and Club Professionals. As this bill is being fast tracked through the Assembly and Senate.
- GCSANJ has been diligent working with the NJGIC on opposing the bill as written and the unintended consequences this bill will have upon our industry.
- **UNIFIED INDUSTRY CONCERNS:**
 1. Unintended consequences of the bill – loss of ability to provide safe playing fields relative to turf quality (excessive crabgrass, stinging insects, hard surface situation when weeds take over, EXCESSIVE costs;
 2. Bills disregard for sound IPM programs that are currently working in the state - (Current School IPM Bill has merits, is working to limit pesticide use to only what is absolutely necessary based on monitoring and sound IPM procedures,
 3. Bills inclusion of ‘NJ Low Impact list’ that has significant limitations and no mechanism for updating with new products;
 4. Misrepresentation or misunderstanding of current turf management practices and associated health risks claimed by opponents – these are not justified;
 5. Industry/NJGIC proposed amendments include:
 - Expansion of the current School IPM Bill to the day care centers;
 - Focus on sound IPM programs for other areas, requirement of a Parks IPM program requirement in the bill;
 - New language on ‘NJ Low Impact Pesticides’ that allows for appropriate updating when new products are developed.

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Another Tough Year in the Books

A chronological look back at the 2011 season

by Adam Moeller, USGA

Is it already football season? For me, the fact that pigskins are in the air is the signal that another tough summer has come and gone and golf course turf is no longer on the brink of life and death. Between the weather challenges, busy golf calendar, and ongoing budget constraints, the past few years can easily become blurred together. The purpose of this article is to review many of the specific aspects that made 2011 another challenging but unique year for managing golf course turf.

Spring

Just about the time the nightmares from the seemingly endless stretch of oppressive heat and humidity of the summer of 2010 were fading, spring 2011 was upon us. For many, the season started out poorly due to the abundance of winter damage on annual bluegrass greens. Far from an ideal start to the season! Turf management in the spring is never without challenges,

but the unending stretches of cool, wet weather seemed to add just enough frustration to golfers and superintendents alike that they actually seemed to be in complete agreement upon one subject: the rough was far too penal. For many, the concerns with keeping up with the rapid growth rate of the rough were relatively minor as the lack of root development in putting green turf was becoming more and more obvious as we progressed into mid May. Root Pythium disease seemed to be a common malady on greens which likely has left many feeling that a fungicide drench may be necessary next season.

Once Mother Nature turned off the overheads, annual bluegrass turf was being decimated by annual bluegrass weevil larvae, further adding confusion as to the best control strategies for this insect pest. Many superintendents who applied adulticide applications a little earlier than the traditional half green/half gold stage of the forsythia combined with

Continued on page 31

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Another Tough Year in the Books

larvacide applications seemed to have acceptable control. However, this program was far from bullet-proof, especially if there had been widespread use of the pyrethroid materials on the golf course in the past which likely has resulted in resistance issues to develop.



Winter damage was unfortunately common in northern NJ this year; a painful start to the season.

Summer

The first stretch of environmental stress came during the 2nd week of June. Many will remember that one of the reasons why our (USGA) target green speed, firmness, and rough difficulty were not attained at the US Open at Congressional Country Club was because of the 5-day stretch of 100 F heat just prior to the start of play. As many superintendents did during this first stretch of tough weather, maintenance inputs at Congressional were reduced and for the sake of keeping grass alive for the remainder of the summer.

The 2nd half of June and all of July brought back memories of 2010 for many superintendents. Syringing was being performed 7-10 times a day and turf was starting to show signs of stress in many locations, often in growing environments with shade, limited air movement, or both. The lessons learned from last summer, mainly alleviating stress with all measures necessary, were employed earlier this season and often reduced turf decline significantly as a result.

Continued on pg 32

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Another Tough Year in the Books

Many and perhaps all of these basic defensive management practices used to keep putting green turf alive during the stressful summer weather included:

- Raising the mowing height and reducing mowing frequency
- Alternating mowing and rolling and removing heavy grooved rollers
- Irrigating and syringing by hand as much as possible
- Spoon feeding nitrogen at 0.1-0.125 lbs per 1,000 sq. ft. every 7 days
- Using plant growth regulators every 5-7 days at conservative rates to preserve stored carbohydrates and allow for less frequent mowing
- Only mowing the cleanup pass when necessary
- Utilizing fans or portable blowers to improve air movement
- Avoiding the use of DMI fungicides with growth-regulating side effects
- Tighter plant protectant intervals and only using materials with a proven track record for turf safety
- Using venting aeration to alleviate subtle surface compaction/sealing and improve soil drying/soil oxygen status



The above-average summer temperatures required long hours of timely syringing to keep greens healthy.

Even with some of these defensive management practices in place, many of the same problems from 2010 occurred this summer, especially those with poorly draining soils that experienced repeated or severe hot and wet weather patterns causing wet wilt and rapid root mortality. Physiological decline also was prevalent on greens with limited air movement and shade due to extra environmental stress and more rapid loss of carbohydrate reserves.

Fans are an excellent option to improve air movement for pocketed greens.
(photo courtesy of Brett Chapin)

One tool that has really been a helpful addition to managing greens under stress (and in optimal periods) is portable soil moisture sensors. Many superintendents feel that this is an excellent way to ensure rootzone moisture status and irrigation requirements are as uniform as possible and thus water is applied as accurately as possible. As most already realize, more grass is killed every year due to too much water rather than too little and portable moisture sensors are a valuable component to help minimize the potential for this scenario to develop.

On the disease front, summer patch, anthracnose, Pythium, and fairy ring all contributed to turf loss on golf courses this season. Several reports of bacterial wilt and above damage threshold counts of nematodes also were making headlines among superintendents battling turf decline. However, the debate continues with the question; are these primary or secondary factors? In most instances, reasonable mowing and rolling inputs, a good nitrogen fertility and plant growth regulator program combined with appropriately timed fungicide applications, proper rootzone management and drainage, and an adequate growing environment are more than enough to keep free of significant disease. However, poor growing environments, poor drainage and poor water management can trump all traditional fungicide programs and disease or physiological decline can quickly move in. If turf problems seemed unpreventable this season, it is very likely that the growing environments and poor drainage are the main reasons and more fungicide inputs are not the answer. Many golf courses had a lot of success this season because they addressed these concerns via tree removals, fans, improving drainage (e.g. sand channel drainage, drill and fill aeration) in the recent past and they serve as good examples for those that have struggled the past two seasons.



Continued on page 33

Another Tough Year in the Books

In August and early September, Mother Nature turned on the overheads once again with many parts of the area experiencing the wettest August on record! Making matters worse, Hurricane Irene unloaded between 6-12 inches of rain to soils that were already saturated and rivers that were very close to flood stage, causing massive flooding and acres of turf loss. Silt contamination, salt-water flooding, and tree debris cleanup operations are being addressed and hopefully good weather patterns will allow for a timely recovery of the damaged turf. Unfortunately, a week or so after Hurricane Irene, another system moved into the area dropping another 2-4 inches of rain which delayed cleanup for many. In total, some courses received 25+ inches of rain in 3-4 week stretch so it has been more than challenging to maintain somewhat normal conditions.

Autumn

As we transition into fall, the cooler weather and shorter days are welcomed by everyone. As we reflect back on another challenging summer season, it is always important to ask the question “what could have been done differently to produce better golf conditions and more reliable turf?” In many instances, the solution lies in the growing environments in which greens are located. Sunlight, air movement, and a lack of tree root competition are often obvious problems that are overlooked (mostly by club officials and golfers) until turf decline has occurred. Most of the greens damaged from winter injury every year have shade issues so don't forget about the importance of sun during the autumn, winter, and spring months. Water management (i.e. irrigation and drainage) always can be improved as well. For some, this may mean installing sand channel drainage, a drill and fill aeration program, increased core aeration and topdressing inputs, or perhaps complete rebuilding. Others may be in need of a complete automatic irrigation upgrade and more qualified labor to accommodate necessary hand irrigation and syringing. Regardless of the specific deficiency, it is important to address it as soon as possible. After 2010 many hoped we wouldn't have to deal with turf stress of that level for a few years. 2011 was not quite as bad as 2010...but are there really any easy summers anymore? Each year presents a new challenge and preparing for difficult situations will lead to better golf conditions and more reliable turf. †



A green with very poor drainage and limited air movement that was inundated with heavy rain and hot weather declined severely.



Many golf courses that have improved putting green microclimates, drainage, and irrigation capabilities had a successful season.



Severe flooding and silt contamination caused acres of turf loss for courses adjacent to rivers following Hurricane Irene.



Salt-water flood damage on coastal courses was common following Hurricane Irene.

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