

THE Greenerside

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Anthracnose: One club's battle

By Todd W. Raisch

BACKGROUND

It was 6:00 a.m. Saturday, August 18, 2001. The previous afternoon, while attending the PGA Championship in Atlanta, I received a call from my assistant. He informed me that following aerification, several greens had taken a severe overnight turn for the worse. At the time I thought, "How bad can it be? I just stood on those greens on Wednesday night and they were fine." I knew we would take a hit while aerating but I saw the whole aeration/overseeding process as a new beginning, the end to an otherwise miserable summer. I couldn't have been more wrong. As I pulled along 6 Center green, my heart almost stopped. What was by all comparisons one of our best greens, with only a minor infection of anthracnose earlier in the week, was gone, and I mean GONE. There were no patches of yellow blades or even tan colored leaves that were melting out. It skipped those phases and went straight to dirt overnight. To quote my green's chairman, it was "defense grade anthracnose." By my estimate, less than ten percent of the green remained . . . that was the low point.

As we all know, the disease anthracnose has run rampant up and down the East Coast the last few years. The Ridgewood Country Club (RCC) in Paramus, New Jersey, has certainly been no exception as we have battled this disease for several years.

RCC is a 27-hole facility located in the northeast corner of the state. Designed by A.W. Tillinghast in 1929, RCC is a parkland golf course and extremely wooded. The annual bluegrass greens are original, although they have been modified slightly in the last decade to include a consistent five-inch layer of an 85/15 rootzone mix. Prior to our devastating summer in 2001, the greens were abused as a matter of routine. They were mowed at an effective height of .100" eight to ten times a week, topdressed regularly throughout the season, fed with one to two pounds of N/M per year, rolled a minimum of two times weekly and watered only when on the verge of death. This was all done in the name of playability.

Later that afternoon, I pulled the club president and the greens and grounds chairman out of the grillroom to

discuss the problem. As we stood there, we all knew things had finally gone too far and that major changes were needed in our program. We had been fighting this disease for three years, and it was obvious that temporary changes in mower

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height and an abundance of fungicides were not going to fix the problem.

Regrassing and reconstruction were discussed. Ultimately, we settled on a complete overhaul of our management strategy. They committed to finally taking a serious look

Continues on page 4



In this issue

From the editor's desk.....	2
President's Message	3
Drought Information.....	7
A day in the life of	8
GCSANJ News	11
GCSAA News	21
Thank You.....	22

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From the editor's desk

Free hats

I was reading a copy of a long-defunct, very obscure New Jersey newspaper last month and came across a headline that read . . . "Lawrence Berra Makes NY Yankee Debut."

But it was the article below the one about the future Hall of Fame catcher that caught my eye. "NJ Greenkeeping Superintendents Association Opens Door to Commercial Salesmen."

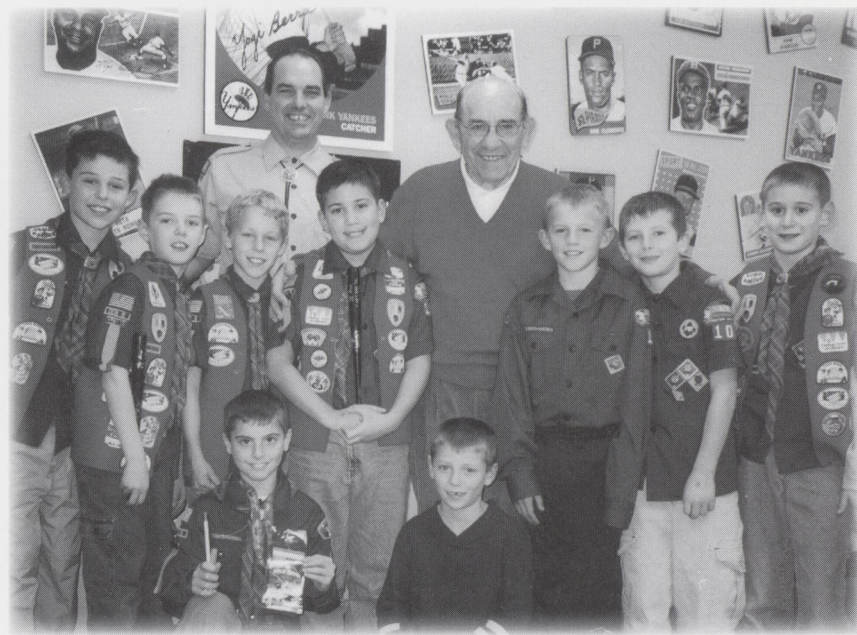
The year was 1946. The salesmen were allowed to attend meetings and play golf. By 1947 the men were allowed to join the Association as associate members. Forty long years later commercial salesmen were given representation on the Board.

Their contributions to our Association are many. Some noticed—some not. They give their time, their knowledge, their friendship . . . and money. Money for scholarships, money for seminars, money for *The Greenside*, and don't forget the free hats.

Maybe someday, some young scribe looking for something to write about will read the headline of an obscure award-winning newsletter. "GCSANJ Thanks Vendors for the Financial Support."

Thankfully yours,

Doug



Yogi Berra opened the door to his museum for a photo-op with Den 8 of Pack 104. The editor and Yogi both suffer from "Catcher Mask Hairline Rub" from their playing days behind the plate.

President's Message

John O'Keefe, CGCS, Preakness Hills CC

It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

The times we live in, whew! Believe it or not, the passing of our friend Mr. Rogers made me sit and reflect on life, and I thought I would share a few ideas with you.

The travel industry is going bankrupt, which doesn't seem to concern a large majority of citizens because they're afraid to leave the house anyway. Business in general is grim, the surplus in the U.S. budget has vanished and the threat of war and terrorism looms large in our lives. Gas prices, insurance premiums, high unemployment, public safety, I could go on and on.

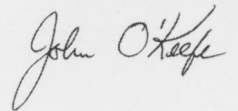
Duct tape? Who would have ever imagined the new importance of duct tape in our lives? I always have a roll or two around, just because I'm a man and that's what men do. The fact that it could actually save my life in a chemical attack just blew my mind. I actually think the whole idea came from the minds of the duct tape manufacturers.

And now for the good news: family, friendship, camaraderie, association. It's the stick-to-it and the stick together attitude that's keeping us all going. Never before have we needed each other for support as businesses and as people.

We are very proud to have our member, Mark Kuhns, CGCS, elected to the Board of Directors of GCSAA. Mark's involvement will benefit our Association in so many ways. Congratulations, Mark!

It is in times like these that being part of an association of peers is so important. Our Association tries to do whatever it can to stay current with materials and information to keep you on the cutting edge and hopefully helps to find some solutions to your problems. That is just the foundation of what our Association is all about. What we truly are is a group of people who share and work together. That is our strongest asset. We're your neighborhood. If you don't take advantage of living in our neighborhood then you're missing out. The real benefits come from each other—from challenging each other, from asking questions and listening to each other. It's easy to pay your dues and be a member, but do you really belong? In this business climate, if you don't belong you are missing out. We are here for each other to lend that proverbial cup of sugar or whatever your need may be. Get involved. The great response to our recent educational seminar at Baltusrol is a good start. Keep the attendance up at all of our meetings.

Anthropologists have been reporting on "cocooning" for the past few years—the phenomenon of neighbors not knowing neighbors, people just coming home from work and vegetating. Get out and enjoy your GCSANJ neighborhood.



GCSANJ District 2 Spring Summit 2003

- Date:** Sunday, May 4, 2003
- Time:** 10:30 a.m. SHARP
- Place:** Newark Bears Riverfront Stadium
450 Broad St., Newark, NJ
- Particulars:** Come out and enjoy a tailgate party with the District and support the Newark Bears baseball. Tickets are only \$7.00 at the ballpark, BYOB is in effect and all food will be supplied by your gracious directors. The grill gets lit at 10:30 a.m. and first pitch is at 1:30 p.m. All GCSANJ members, guests and family members are welcome and encouraged. *Spread the word!*
- Look for the GCSANJ banner on top level of the parking garage, directly across from the stadium.
- To RSVP or for more information contact Greg at 973-762-0914 or Brian at 646-644-6551.

Calendar

- April 26, 2003** **Golden Gloves Fight Night**, Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, N.J. Host: Alliance for Environmental Concerns. Contact Nancy Sadlon at 732-563-9252.
- April 29, 2003** **April Monthly Meeting**, Harbor Pines G.C. Host: Rick Broome, CGCS. Contact Judy Policastro at 973-379-1100.
- May 4, 2003** **District II Summit**, Newark Bears Riverfront Stadium, Newark, N.J. Contact Brian Remo, CGCS, at 646-644-6551 or Greg Nicoll, CGCS, at 973-762-0914.
- May 6, 2003** **8th Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Golf Classic**, Roycebrook C.C. Host: Trent Inman, CGCS. Contact Dick Caton at 856-853-5973.

Anthracnose: One club's battle

Continued from page 1

at the shade problem on our greens as well as evaluating the expectation level we had for green speed. I committed to reviewing our entire cultural program to see where compromises had been made from the ideal and to fix them regardless of expense or labor.

STARTING OVER

My first call was to Rob Finnesey of Tree Tech Inc. Tree Tech is licensed to use the Sunshader software from ArborCom to define the effects specific trees have on sunlight infiltration. The Board of Directors agreed in September 2001 to run the program on all 27 greens and then consider the removal of any offensive trees. I was pleasantly surprised when the Board took a very aggressive stance on removal. Only about a dozen of the recommended trees were not removed. The density of our turf has never been better than it was in 2002, and I am certain that this controversial move was the biggest reason for our success. Ironically, after getting over

the initial shock of the removals, we found that upwards of 80% of the usually tree-sensitive membership applauded their newfound views.

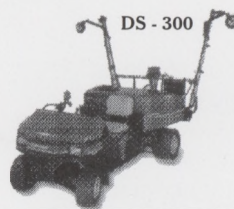
Late that fall, the Board of Directors also laid down new guidelines for playability for 2002 and beyond. Green speeds were no longer going to ride the stimpmeter roller coaster, i.e., 11' on the weekends, 10' during the week, 13' during member-guests. We were going to keep a consistent 9'-9.5' throughout the week regardless of what was being contested or who was playing. Should we be successful in 2002 with our changes, they would consider slightly higher speeds, but still keep it consistent from day to day.

With these two major issues no longer in the way, I felt confident that regardless of the fine-tuning we did in our cultural practices, we were well on our way to being successful in 2002. Nonetheless, we were not going to take any chances.

Continues on page 5



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Anthracnose

Continued from page 4

2002

Our changes began quickly as we pulled the aerifiers out in early March. We used $\frac{3}{4}$ " knifing tines that leave only a tiny slit and do not affect playability if the greens are rolled immediately. This procedure was completed monthly during the heat of the season. We were very fortunate to have such a cooperative intern corps this year as they spent several nights aerifying instead of sleeping. I'm a big believer that air is the most underutilized resource we have available to us. Just seeing the overly green grass that persists for three to four days around these slits made me a believer. The USGA recommends that for healthy greens 20% of the green surface area should be affected yearly. To put that in perspective, consider that the normal twice yearly aeration with $\frac{1}{2}$ " tines of 2" x 2" spacing will only affect 9.82%. In 2002, we affected nearly 40% of the surface area through a combination of knives, conventional aeration, the Graden and the Verti-drain.

Next came nematode tests. During the summer of 2001, I spoke with Dr. Robert Wick of the University of Massachusetts about the correlation between nematodes and anthracnose. While we did have several greens with higher than threshold numbers of the ring and stunt varieties, it was the root-knot variety that peaked his interest. Just the fact that we had some so late in the summer indicated that we might have exceeded threshold numbers in the spring when they are most active. Sure enough we had a few greens with root-knot approaching threshold or slightly over the limit. Since the numbers were not extreme, we chose to take notice of those greens and monitor them closely rather than apply a nematicide.

Plant protectants became important in early April. Growth regulators were applied to control seed head. A fungicide program was started as well at this time. Traditionally, fungicides were not applied until the first summer patch spray went down in May. In past seasons, however, anthracnose had over-wintered on some of our greens, and we were not going to allow it to get a foothold so early in the season.

It was at this time that Dr. Bruce Clarke of Rutgers University approached RCC about participating in a one-year study on the effects of fungicides and their combinations on anthracnose. Thirty-eight treatments replicated four times were conducted in 3' x 9' plots on our practice putting green. Phosphorus-based products as well as chlorothalonil began as the backbone of our 2002 program, but Dr. Clarke showed that six chemistries were working well. Interestingly, the study showed several products that many assumed to be good on anthracnose were not working at all. Also, one-third of each treatment received additional nitrogen, and the results

clearly showed this had a positive effect in reducing the severity of the disease. The complete results of the study can be seen at www.turf.rutgers.edu.

Two other major changes in our protectant strategy included raising our gallons of water per thousand square feet

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from 1.1 to 2.25. Dr. Clarke was adamant about this change to make the fungicides more effective. We also removed Primo from our greens program. This was a little more difficult for me to do. I am a big believer in Primo for all of the obvious reasons. However, it was not difficult to recognize

Continues on page 6

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One club's battle

Continued from page 5

that there was a direct correlation between the use of Primo and anthracnose on our greens. I do not believe that Primo causes or even enhances the disease, but I do believe it limits your ability to grow out of a problem when it arises.

As stated before, our goal for green speed was between 9' and 9.5'. We accomplished this by raising the height of our mowers to .115", but switching to solid rollers. Trueness of roll was still very important. We did roll every couple of weeks throughout the season. We also continued our topdressing program for smoothness and thatch control with weekly applications from May through early June and then again in the early fall. Throughout the summer we applied topdressing on a monthly basis.

We did make some other changes such as raising our fertility a bit, carefully watching our greens late in the day for moisture stress and moving our normal fall aeration from August to October to prevent a repeat of the previous year. We did overseed our greens during the first week of August. This was accomplished by running the Graden with 2mm blades across the green, dropping the seed with a spreader, then brushing with a horsehair brush one time across the

Graden lines. We had an unbelievable take, the best we have ever had, with very little stress to the green.

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

2002 by all measures was a very successful year for RCC. We did see anthracnose develop on a few greens in late June, but it never took hold. I was concerned early in the year what the response would be to the slower green speeds. To be honest, some of the better players did complain, but without question the overall membership enjoyed the change, especially since the ball still rolled true.

For 2003 and beyond we do anticipate raising the greens speed to between 9.5' and 10.0', but we will continue to not ride the roller coaster. We will probably aerate a little less, but otherwise stick with the same plan we used in 2002.

The summer of 2001 was one that I would never wish on anyone. It was tough on my staff, the membership and me. I do believe that I lived to tell about it because of some very good communication between the Board of Directors, the membership and myself. It began three years ago when the club president asked me to begin shaking hands and answering questions on the Golf Shop patio during weekend mornings. Although I didn't care for it at first, I have done it religiously since, and it has paid huge dividends. I am very comfortable with the membership and they with me. As soon as things began to go south in June of 2001, I immediately informed the Board what was happening and what we were doing about it. I invited Dr. Clarke and Dr. Jim Murphy of Rutgers to speak to the Board. A few weeks later David Oatis of the USGA spoke to them as well. By the time the worst hit in August, the membership had received numerous letters from my chairman explaining the situation, what the experts said and that there was very little we could do at that moment. As a consequence, I received overwhelming support from the membership and the opportunity to straighten things out in 2002.

Todd Raisch is a proud new father and superintendent of the Ridgewood C.C. I

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Drought Information

By Mickey Stachowski

Recently I looked at the NJDEP Drought Web Page (njdrought.org) and was annoyed when a pop-up message came across the screen. After I read the message I wasn't annoyed any longer for it stated:

"On January 8, 2003, Governor McGreevey rescinded the Drought Emergency. All restrictions are lifted. See Commissioner Campbell's Administrative Order and the Governor's Executive Order for details."

Sometimes those pop-ups serve a good purpose.

Governor McGreevey's Executive Order No. 44, issued on January 8, 2003, clearly states that the abundant rainfall across the state this fall and early winter contributed significantly toward the eradication of the precipitation deficit, restoration of stream flows and the replenishment of water supply storage in the State's reservoirs. It further states that EO No. 11, issued on March 4, 2002, is hereby terminated in all six New Jersey drought regions.

Commissioner Campbell's Administrative Order 2003-01 supersedes the previous 12 AO's and stipulates that EO No. 44 has terminated the state of water emergency throughout New Jersey based upon substantially improved climatic and water supply conditions, while underscoring the need for continued vigilance to achieve stabilization of available water supplies through efficient management and prudent use of the resource, in addition to "continuing voluntary water conservation practices." AO 2003-01 designates the

Coastal South and the Southwest Drought Regions to be in a Drought Warning, which includes the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, Salem, and parts of Mercer and Monmouth. Under a Drought Warning there are no mandatory restrictions.

Both the EO and AO make reference to compliance. They state that the NJDEP shall strictly enforce the terms and conditions of all water allocation permits and water registrations. Recently the NJDEP has targeted certain industries

With water supply emergencies declared in '95, '99 and '02, we need to work with the NJDEP to get better water restrictions in the future.

with blanket inspections and subsequent violations and fines. Our industry could come under this kind of scrutiny in the future. Everyone should make sure that their records and meters are in order in such an event. It's time for our industry to continue to set a good example with the use of the state's water.

It has come to my attention that under the past drought there was confusion as to what could or could not be watered. It is unfortunate that people who called the Drought Hotline were given misleading or wrong information, but, if you read each AO that was issued it stated that the new AO supersedes all previous AO's. In the future we hope that the NJDEP can resolve this situation to keep this from happening again.

With water supply emergencies declared in '95, '99 and '02, we need to work with the NJDEP to get better water restrictions in the future. The Alliance for Water Conservation, a group of green industry representatives, has been working behind the scenes to get these results. In February 2003, the AWC will present to the NJDEP a document titled "Long Term Strategies for Improved Water Use Management" that will address this issue. It is our intention that the NJDEP will be able to use this as a template in future droughts. The restrictions for golf courses will seek a reduction of your monthly allocation or allotment with no limitations on timing or location of water application.

Mickey Stachowski is the GCSANJ Government Relations liaison and superintendent at the Fiddler's Elbow C.C. ♣

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A day in the life of ...

By Dick Neufeld

As I cram yet another empty coffee cup into the foot area of my passenger seat, it melts into the array of returned and misordered (or misdelivered) parts that have collected over the past week. My trailer has a five gang mower on it that I swear was used to mow fairways at the 1945 U.S. Open, with several tie downs holding it due to the fact that it has no brakes whatsoever. But that's OK because I only had to give the customer \$10,000 for it in order to *clinch* (?) the deal. The boss is going to be so proud of me. A sleety rain begins to fall, covering the road with a slick layer of black ice, and I notice my knuckles turning a slightly brighter shade of white. Another day in golf and turf sales paradise.

Driving to my first appointment, I plan my attack for the day. Today will be different. Today I will be the aggressor. No more Mr. Nice Guy. Hardball is the word for the day.

Confidently I drive into the country club, past the clubhouse, past the paddleball courts and back to the "SHOP." As

I approach it begins to get cloudy and an impending gloom begins to unfold in front of me. I pull in and say my hellos to the staff and proceed to enter the building. Immediately I am confronted by a cranky mechanic, who's been awake since 2:00 a.m., telling me of a better way for our company to design a particular piece of equipment. After a ten-minute

Continuing on with my daily itinerary, it doesn't get any better with a stop at my next customer, who informs me of the deal I lost because of the meeting I missed due to a flat tire on my trailer at a most inopportune time.

sermon, I reply, "Sounds good to me. I'll call the factory and have them change that right away. Have a hat." I pick up the parts that are being returned and head for the super's office. With a little less confidence I walk into his office, and he begins to "bust my chops" about a utility vehicle that I sold him two months ago. He tells me the transmission is making a sound that's reminiscent of a meat grinder grinding down pea gravel, and the electrical system has more shorts in it then a Sears catalogue. After which he goes on with a story about how he was driving around the golf course in it when a member flagged him over to complain about how the pine tree on the left side of #5 should have the branches cut up a little higher. As he approaches the member, the tranny starts to act up and won't allow him to stop. Swiftly turning the steering wheel to avoid him, he drifts by the foursome and looks back to make sure everybody is all right. He breathes a huge sigh of relief and turns around to see himself plunge straight into a pond. The geese resting in the pond flutter away to a new retreat, and he climbs out, mumbling to himself, "That pine tree is 20 yards off the fairway you hacker." At this point my Hardball is feeling more like a fresh meatball with extra sauce. Nobody told me that I would need a degree in psychiatry for this job.

"This will be covered under warranty, right?" he says.

"Ahh—of course," I answer back reluctantly, loading the machine onto my trailer.

"Oh, and I need it back by tomorrow."

When is that appointment for my root canal?!!

Continuing on with my daily itinerary, it doesn't get any better with a stop at my next customer, who informs me of the deal I lost because of the meeting I missed due to a flat tire on my trailer at a most inopportune time. Graciously, I tell him, "Well, you can't win them all." And I plod away to my truck and drive on.

After a few more stops and a few more minor calami-

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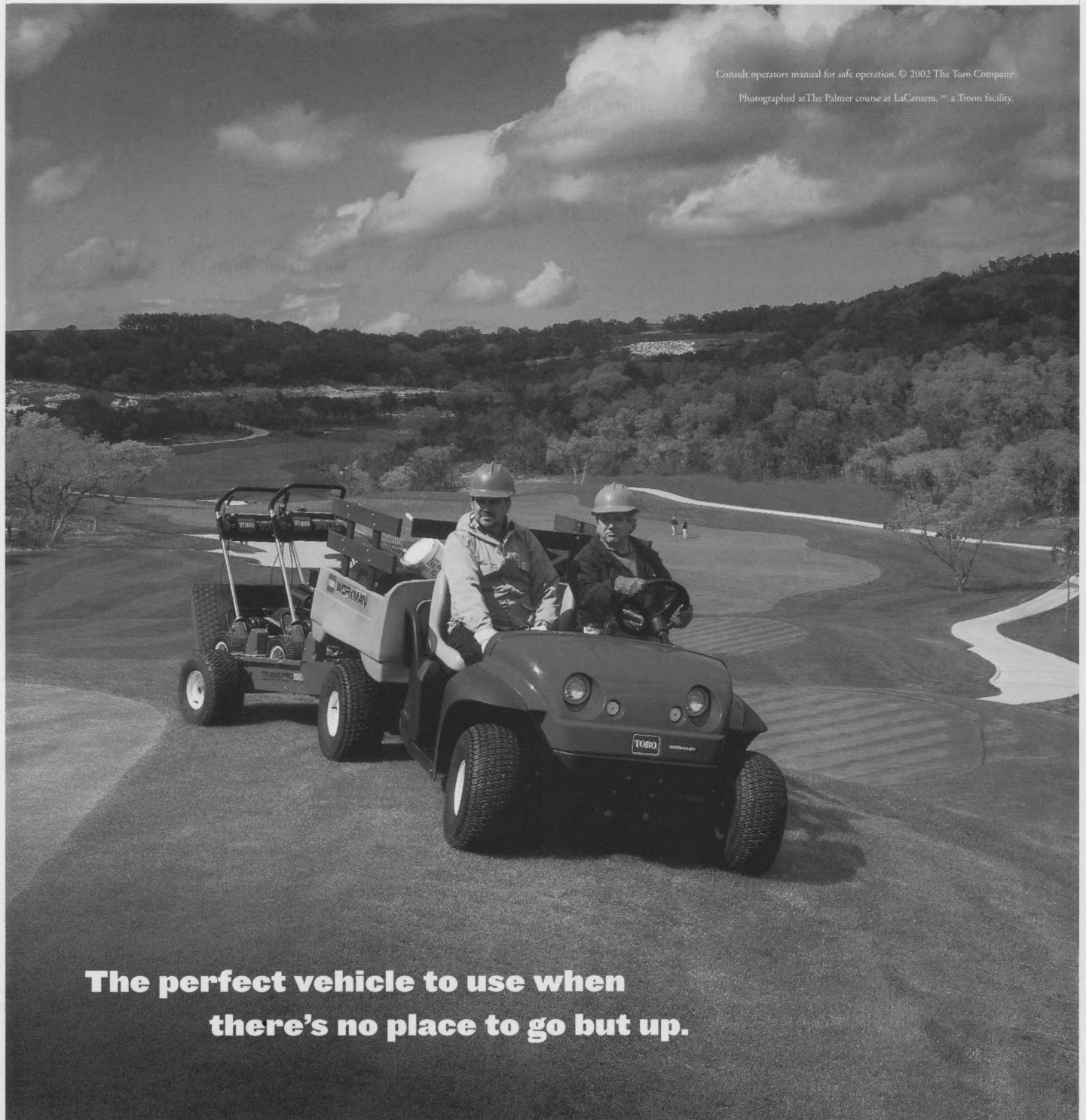
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Count on it.

A day in the life of ...

Continued from page 8

ties, I find my stomach growling, which means that a stop at a roadside deli is in order. I place my order for a sandwich and grab a drink, when my cell phone rings. It's my general manager informing me that the latest incentive program had expired before I closed that deal at so-and-so country club, so my commission would have to be adjusted accordingly.

"Hold the extra mutzy on that sandwich," I groan to the man behind the counter. I'll have to save that for another day. My Hardball was softening by the second.

I get in my truck and start driving and eating and talking on my cell phone, when all of a sudden the guy in the left lane ahead of me has his left turn signal on and proceeds to make a right hand turn. Needless to say, you never have enough paper napkins to clean up that much oil and vinegar.

At this point, I decide that I have had enough punishment for one day and contemplate a stop at the office. Should I or shouldn't I? It would be nice to joke around with my

workmates while I finish up some loose ends.

I turn up the music and get into cruise mode, and slowly drift away with the endless highway.

As the music goes on and on and on . . . my wife is finally able to wake me up, telling me that the music alarm has been on for ten minutes. Sitting up, I realize that it had all been some kind of weird nightmare that finally came to an end.

I showered, got dressed and had some orange juice, quite relieved that it had been a dream.

Starting up my truck, I pull out of my driveway as a sleety rain begins to fall, covering the road with a slick layer of black ice.

Dick "Nice Guy" Neufeld is a John Deere sales representative with E/T Equipment Co. ♪



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GCSANJ *news*

MEET TOM SAUNDERS

I would like to thank all the Class C members of our Association for electing me as their representative on the GCSANJ Board of Directors. I will attempt to keep you well informed, and I hope to become a resource to you all.

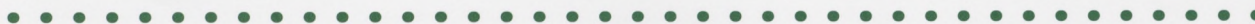
I am employed by RDC Golf Management at Forsgate Country Club, which is a 36-hole private facility in Monroe Township. I started working at Forsgate C.C. in September 1979. I became the assistant superintendent in 1983, and I graduated from Rutgers Professional Turf Management School in 1984. I have assisted Robert Ribbans, CGCS, since 1986, and I work closely with two capable second assistants, Valerie Lawrence and Geoffrey Kleid. I oversee day-to-day operations, manage a staff of 30+ employees, organize and

monitor equipment repairs and deal with all employee issues.

My goal as Class C Representative on the GCSANJ Board of Directors is to get more assistant superintendents involved with our Association. I am currently forming a committee consisting of assistant superintendents to work on the Class C golf tournament and the assistant superintendents education seminar. I am also looking for volunteers to help Shaun Barry with registration at each month's superintendents meeting. It would be a good chance to meet superintendents from around the state and a great opportunity to network with those superintendents. If anyone would like to contact me to discuss any of these issues, I can be reached at 732-656-8925 or vikefan@nni.com. Thank you.

Thomas Saunders ¶

Continues on page 12



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Continued from page 11

OBITUARIES

Roy C. Bossolt

It is with great sadness that *The Greenside* learned of the passing of longtime GCSANJ member Roy C. Bossolt on October 31, 2002.

A 1935 graduate of Rutgers University, Bossolt first found employment as a Bergen County agricultural agent. He went on to be affiliated with the Terre Co. in 1946 as sales manager for 34 years. He became a partner in 1962 before retiring in 1980. He was instrumental in the formation of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association in 1970. He served the NJTA as president in 1974 and was inducted into the NJTA Hall of Fame in 1980. He was chairman of the Paramus Shade Tree Commission for 32 years and was honored by the town when they dedicated the Roy C. Bossolt Shade Tree Nursery in his name. ☐

A tree will be planted in Roy's memory in front of the Fritz Behnke Museum located at the Paramus Golf Club with a donation from the GCSANJ. Bossolt joined the Association in 1948.

Schuyler "Sky" Bergen, Jr.

Longtime GCSANJ member Sky Bergen passed away on February 28, 2003, after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. He was 77.

Bergen started his career as a salesman for the Dogett-Pfeil Co. He went on to sell for Vaughn's Seeds (now known as National Seed Co.) for over 35 years before retiring in 2000. Sky was a fixture at GCSAA conventions and will be remembered for his reports to *The Greenside* with his list of every GCSANJ member who attended each year. He was also the master of ceremonies for the 25 Year Award during the GCSANJ Annual Meeting. Bergen joined the Association in 1958. ☐



DISTRICT III ELECTION RESULTS

By Shaun Barry

William (Bill/Liam) Murray continues the long line of U. Mass graduates who have come to this state and have gotten involved with the inner workings of the GCSANJ. He graduated in 1975 and spent lots of time with some people that you will recognize. Eric Cadenelli, Charlie Cross, John O'Keefe, Dave Pease and Bruce Peeples, just to mention a few. He worked at Shorehaven C.C. (Conn.), Trenton C.C. (N.J.) and Ardsley C.C. (N.Y.) before he was reunited with Mr. Pease at Shark River G.C.

Bill enjoys being here in New Jersey, but he also finds the time to head overseas to play golf. His membership at Lahinch G.C. in Ireland "forces" him to travel to that wonderful little island in search of another "hidden gem." These trips have helped his game, but he has also been able to learn from what he has seen, and this is shown in the changes he has made at Shark River.

Continues on page 13

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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 12

His love for golf and for the spirit of the game carries over into his professional life, and he will bring this enthusiasm to the GCSANJ Board. He hopes to bring a different perspective to the Board, but he will always be motivated by what is good for the Association. Feel free to contact him with any questions, problems or suggestions because that is why he has gotten involved. **I**

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD TO TPC AT JASNA POLANA

The TPC at Jasna Polana was named a 2002 Environmental Leaders in Golf Award winner at the GCSAA's 74th International Golf Course Conference and Show. Superintendent Roger A. Stewart, Jr., CGCS, was recognized in the Private Facility Category.

The Environmental Leaders in Golf Award recognizes

golf course superintendents and their courses for overall course management excellence in the areas of Resource Conservation, Water Quality Management, Integrated Pest Management, Wildlife/Habitat Management and Education/Outreach. In addition, these categories are based on four criteria: sustainability, criticality, originality and technology implementation/use.

Congratulations to Roger and his staff for their achievement. **I**

MORE ACCOLADES FOR TPC AT JASNA POLANA

The Champions Tour (Senior PGA) voted the TPC at Jasna Polana as the Best Conditioned Course during the 2002 tournament season. The efforts of Roger Stewart, CGCS, and his crew were cited for their work during the Instinct Classic held on May 17-19. The tour plays on over 40 courses

Continues on page 14

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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 13

during the year. Once again, congratulations to Roger and his staff! 🏇

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathleen and Dave Dubee welcomed the arrival of Ryan David on January 2, 2003. Big brother Jack reports that he weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and that he is very handsome. Dave is a partner with the Greenwood Tree Experts.

Susan and Todd Raisch want the world to know of the birth of their beautiful little girl. Halle Spires Raisch entered the world at 8:45 a.m. on January 30, 2003. She weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. and was 19¾" long. Mother and daughter are doing fine, and Todd has not stopped smiling yet. Todd is the superintendent of the Ridgewood C.C. 🏇



These two handicappers look like they know something—about horses.



Keeping alive a GCSANJ tradition dating back to the 1950s, District III tried their luck with the ponies at Freehold.

DISTRICT III HOLIDAY HOEDOWN

GCSANJ District III held its annual holiday gathering at the Freehold Raceway on January 15. Thirty-five people were there for good food, good friendship and maybe a winning pony or two! A 50-50, run by GCSANJ Secretary Roger Stewart, CGCS, of TPC at Jasna Polana and Bill Murray,

Continues on page 15



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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 14

Shark River Golf Club, raised \$250 for the Foodbank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties!

One apology—our District III Affiliate members were inadvertently left off the mailing notice. Fortunately, a few found out about the annual gathering from other members, and their company was most welcome.

Mickey Stachowski, Fiddler's Elbow C.C., District III director, organized the entire event, but was unable to attend. Maybe next year the new District III director can run it, and Mickey can feed a few ponies himself! Thanks to all who participated. ¶

MINUTES – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – JANUARY 2003

Meeting Date: January 16, 2003

Meeting Location: Gieger Building, Hort Farm II, Rutgers University

Roll Call:

Present – John O'Keefe, Bruce Peeples, Roger Stewart, Mickey Stachowski, Brian Remo, Brian Minemier, Tim Kerwin, Greg Nicoll, Dr. Bruce Clarke, Gregg Armbruster, Shaun Barry, Jim McNally, Gary Arlio.

Absent – Ed Mellor, Paul Dotti

Meeting Call to Order: 12:26 p.m.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: John O'Keefe

Motion to approve: John O'Keefe. First: Jim McNally, second: Mickey Stachowski. Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

Announcements and Benevolence: John O'Keefe

1. Thank you note from Michelle and Jack Poksay for donation to NJTA Foundation in his name.

2. Thank you letter from Richard McCormick, president of

Continues on page 16

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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 15

Rutgers University, for \$20,000 donation for Gieger Building Fund.

3. Thank you from GCSAA for final payment by GCSANJ to the Beauty of Golf Campaign.

4. GCSAA has requested GCSANJ and its members help them identify new courses being built in our area so they can be contacted to encourage hiring GCSAA members as superintendents.

5. Received letter from Pat Campbell requesting independent voting status with GCSAA.

6. Received letter from Valley Crest Golf Course Maintenance informing us of their intent to solicit golf course maintenance contracts from clubs in our area. GCSANJ will send letter to A, B, C and AF members informing them of Valley Crest's intentions. GCSANJ will send letter to GCSAA indicating our disagreement with allowing Valley Crest to use GCSAA membership status as a marketing tool. GCSANJ

will send letter to Valley Crest indicating our displeasure and disagreement with their marketing tactics and urge them to seek other avenues to get their company's message across to perspective clients.

Treasurer's Report: Jim McNally

1. Jim McNally and John O'Keefe met with Rick Alampi about the duties and responsibilities of the treasurer. They also discussed the markup Alampi & Associates charges on goods and services. Rick Alampi volunteered to conduct a three-hour training session including strategic planning and ways to increase revenues.

2. New budget format should be in place by the February BOD meeting.

3. Jim McNally requested copy of liability insurance from GCSAA.

4. Discussed the possibility of sending all meeting announcements and employment announcements by e-mail or fax. It was decided to send a letter to all members asking them to choose between e-mail, fax or mail, emphasizing e-mail or fax.

Communications: Greg Nicoll

1. Greg Nicoll met with Doug Vogel to discuss his role as liaison to the BOD for *The Greenerside*.

2. Greg Nicoll to meet with Alampi and publisher of *Greenerside* for orientation of process.

3. Next *Greenerside* will come out late after the GCSAA election.

4. Need directors to contribute information articles about their respective districts.

5. Greg Nicoll will contact Steve Kopach about website and some ideas he has to enhance the website.

Government Relations: Mickey Stachowski

1. All watering restrictions due to the drought have been lifted by Governor McGreevey.

2. Meeting with AWC to finalize binder to be presented to DEP concerning changes to the restrictions in the future.

3. Will put notice in *Greenerside* informing our members restrictions have been lifted.

Golf: Shaun Barry

1. Continue working on firming up meeting locations for 2003. April 29 – Harbor Pines, May – possibly Cedar Hill, June – possibly Hamilton Farms for Invitational, July 14 – Apple Ridge.

2. The GCSANJ Foundation will contribute one to two

Continues on page 17

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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 16

foursomes to the outing to benefit the Children's Institute in Verona and Autism research May 19.

National Delegate: Jim McNally

1. Passed around letter and brochure Mark Kuhns sent to delegates.
2. Motion: Roger Stewart – GCSANJ cast full compliment of votes for GCSAA candidates for president, vice president and Mark Kuhns for director. Second by Bruce Peeples, motion approved by unanimous vote.
3. Motion: Roger Stewart – GCSANJ vote in favor of proposed changes to GCSAA By-law. Second by Gary Arlio, motion approved by unanimous vote.

Special Events: Brian Remo

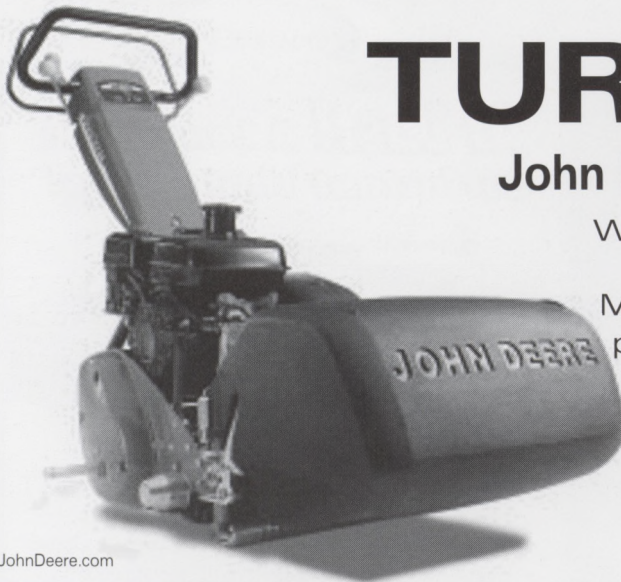
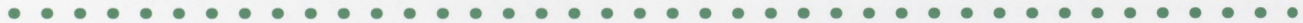
1. Working on possible GCSANJ family event in May to include softball tournament, barbecue, etc.

2. Working on possible holiday party or dinner dance for 2003.
3. Brian Remo handed out BOD manuals for review of SOPs.

Membership and Roster: Roger Stewart

1. Reviewed GCSANJ Honorary Member list and Informed Member list for 2003. Roger Stewart to have final list for approval at February BOD meeting.
2. The BOD approved the following new members and changes of classification:
 - Oswaldo Mendez – Class C, District 2
 - Artie Cossean – Class C, District 2
 - Ewan McCauley – Class C to Class B
 - Bob York – Class AF

Continues on page 18



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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 17

Bylaws: Brian Minemier

1. Discussed possible penalty section of Code of Ethics. Brian to submit proposal.

Scholarship and Research: Gary Arlio

1. Reviewing scholarship applications.

Rutgers Liaison: Dr. Bruce Clarke

1. Dr. Clarke extended an invitation to BOD members to attend Rutgers Alumni Social at GCSAA Conference and Show, Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m., Westin Peachtree Plaza.
2. Encouraged GCSANJ members to check the new website at www.turf.rutgers.edu.
3. Analyzing data from additional economic surveys received.
4. Rutgers President Richard McCormick delivered opening address at Rutgers Turfgrass Symposium.
5. March 6-7 – Advanced Turf Management Short Course,

contact Rich Buckley.

6. May 6 – Rutgers Golf Classic, Roycebrook Golf Club.
7. July 31 – Field Day, Hort Farm II

Survey: Bruce Peeples

1. Cut-off date was December 14, 2002, but still accepting surveys.

Commercial Liaison: Tim Kerwin

No report.

Club Relations: Bruce Peeples

1. First committee meeting coming up soon. There are four committee members.

Public Relations and Merchandise: Brian Remo

1. Contacted several merchandise companies. The best

Continues on page 19

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GCSANJ *news*

Continued from page 18

so far is Miller Golf, but will search for other contacts at show.

1. Discussed presentation of awards to local tournament host superintendents such as amateur events as well as national events. Brian will look into it more.

Association Relations: Gregg Armbruster
No report.

Assistant Liaison: Gregg Armbruster

1. Sent notice out for committee volunteers.
2. Two have responded so far – Tom Saunders and Chris Drake.

GCSANJ Foundation: Shaun Barry

1. Current balance - \$44,714 vs. \$28,669 in 2002.
2. Tedd Vitale suggests that is too high a balance for the Foundation.
3. Shaun Barry said the Foundation is looking into ways to reduce the balance and will have to pay taxes this year.

Awards: Bruce Peeples
No report.

Nominations: John O'Keefe

1. Bill Murray, Harry Harsin and Ron Luepke running for vacant District III director position.

Education: John O'Keefe

1. February 24 Spring Education Seminar at Baltusrol.
2. \$100 per person, \$375 per table top.

3. 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

4. Drought and Water Issues

District Reports

District 1 – Gary Arlio: Favorable comments on Roundtable about budgets.

District 2 – Brian Remo: Winter Seminar at Friday's, West Orange, January 30.

District 3 – Holiday Party, January 15, Freehold Raceway Park, 35 people. AF did not receive mailing. Raised \$250 for Monmouth County Food Bank.

District 4 – No report.

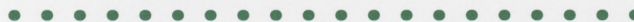
Old Business: John O'Keefe

1. Executive Committee to meet with NJTA on January 30 to address issues of common interest.

New Business: John O'Keefe

1. Jim McNally to meet with Alampi to discuss collecting

Continues on page 20



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Continued from page 20

money owed by companies who have pledged support for various fundraisers and activities.


2. Discussed concept similar to one used in Pittsburgh where vendors are asked for donations one time per year. Jim McNally will develop proposal.

Next Meeting: February 7, 2003, location TBA, 11:00 a.m. lunch.

Motion to Adjourn: John O'Keefe

1st – Brian Minemier


2nd – Greg Nicoll

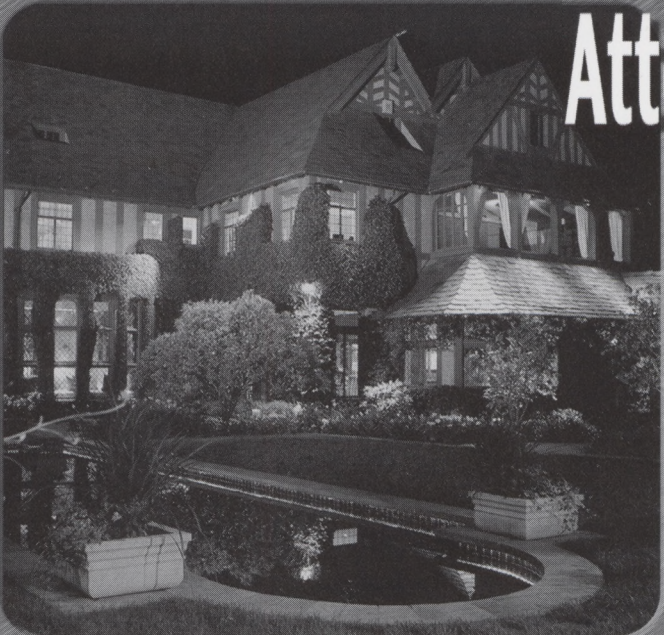
Meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m. 

Words of Thanks

After leaving Stone Harbor Golf Club last October I was heartened with the unselfish show of concern and motivating support given to me by my many friends and colleagues. These persons were a great help,

and I cannot thank them enough. To all of you - and you know who you are - THANK YOU!

Ken Thompson 



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GCSAA *news*

GCSAA CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS FOR THE GCSANJ

The 2003 Championship was held on Hilton Head, S.C., and although our numbers were small, we did have some very good scores. This is always hard to do since we know how little time our members have to prepare for this wonderful event. It would be better to have the field split into two groups, one from the northern courses and another one from the southern courses. Even though this would even the playing field, I know that our guys would have it no other way. They want to try and beat the best head-to-head.

In the Championship flight, Tom Ashfield and Ian Kunesch were our only two representatives. They were judged by their gross scores, and they held their own against the best superintendents in the country. Tom played well for most of the two days, and he finished in the middle of the field. Ian did show some flashes of brilliance, and if he was in mid-season form, he might have walked away with the title. He was able to finish in 14th place, and this was in a field of 114 players. 🏌️



Trent Inman, CGCS,
*led all of N.J.'s golfers
with a 4th place in his
Flight.*

Our highest finisher in all of the flights was Trent Inman, CGCS. He competed in the Second flight. He came in fourth on the net side and sixth on the gross side. Ian and Trent were the only GCSANJ members who made it into the top 15 of their flight, but I think we will do very nicely in San Diego next year when more of our members will be able to play. 🏌️

GCSAA CERTIFICATION LUNCHEON

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Certification Committee annually recognizes superintendents who have achieved certified status during the Annual Conference and Show, held this year in Atlanta, Georgia. Special recognition was given to Bob Dickison, CGCS, of Upper Montclair C.C. for his 25th year of certification. Bob and 11 fellow superintendents were presented with their 25-year pins by Old Tom Morris award winner Pete Dye. Also during the luncheon, first-year pins were given to Greg Nicoll, CGCS, of the Maplewood C.C., Trent Inman, CGCS, of the Royce Brook C.C., and Mark Hughes, CGCS, of the Baltusrol C.C. Congratulations, gentlemen! 🏌️

MARK KUHN'S ELECTED!

Mark Kuhns, CGCS, director of Grounds of the Baltusrol G.C., was elected to the Board of Directors of the GCSAA during the 74th International Golf Course Conference and show. Mark will make a great addition to the current Board, and the GCSANJ is proud to have helped elect him. Best of luck to you, Mark! 🏌️

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Thank you

The Education Committee would like to thank all the attendees at our 2nd Annual Winter Seminar. A special thanks to all the staff at Baltusrol Golf Club for the excellent service and facilities. We would also like to thank the following speakers: Dr. Keith Karnok (University of Georgia), Dave Oatis and Dr. James Baird (USGA), Jean Mackay (Audubon International), Bruce Crawford, Gary Sondermeyer and Dennis Hart (NJDEP), Mark Kuhns and Jason Grode (Baltusrol G.C.) and Dr. James Murphy (Rutgers University). Most importantly we would like to thank the companies for taking part in our mini-trade show.

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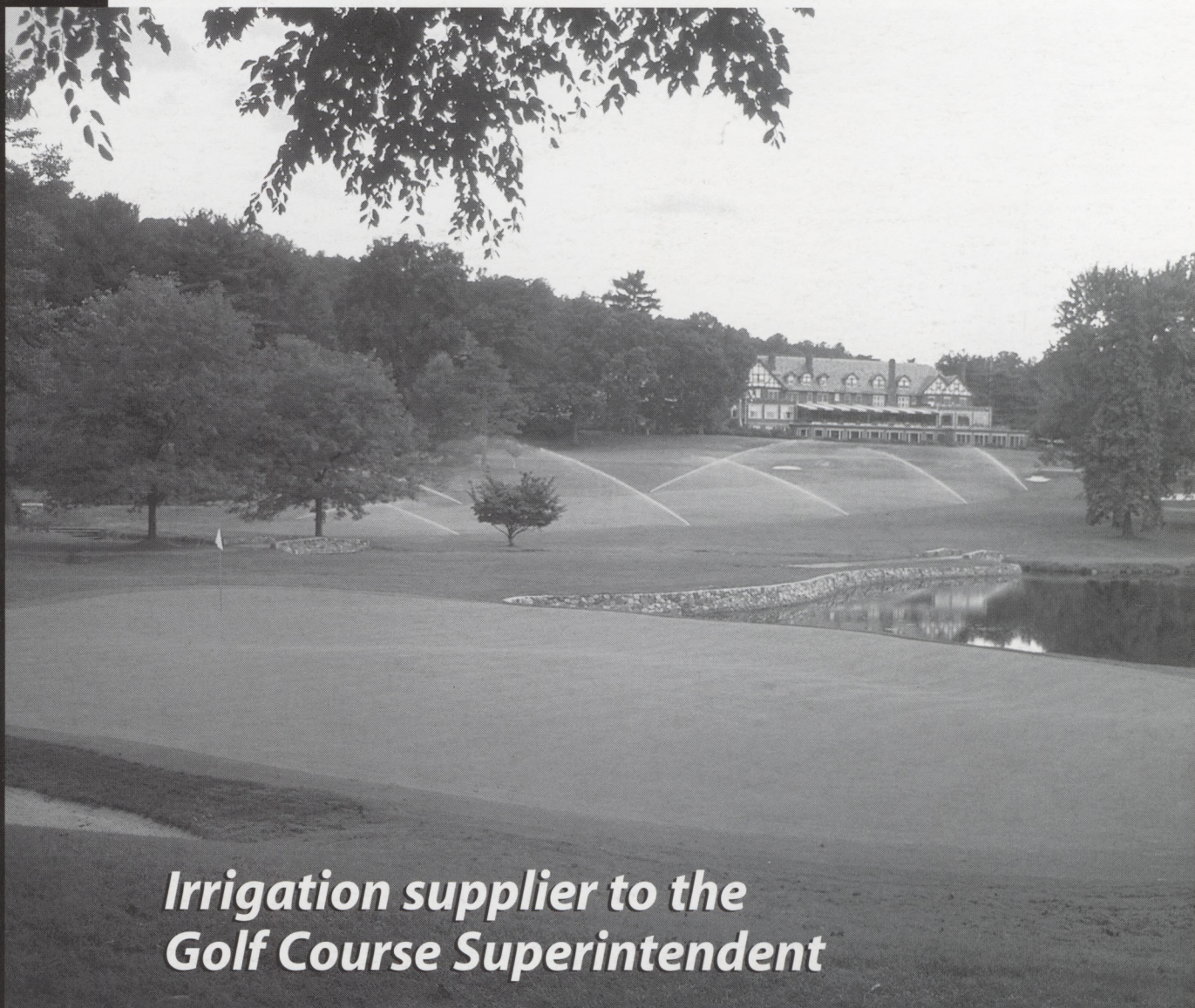
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