

# THE GREENERSIDE

ISSUE 3: 2018 / VOLUME 47

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

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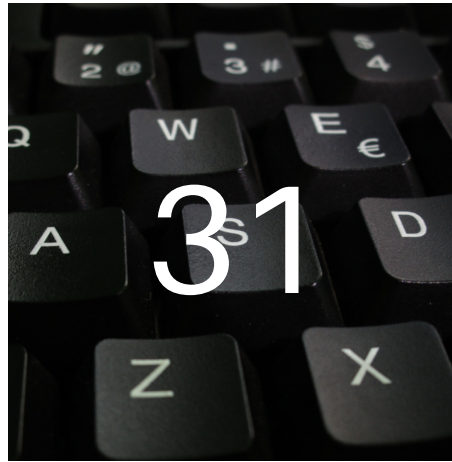
# Contents

## DEPARTMENTS

- 03** President's Message
- 07** Member News
- 22** 15 Questions
- 29** Through the Decades
- 40** Who Are They?

## ON THE COVER

TPC Jasna Polana,  
Princeton, NJ. Site of the  
2018 GCSANJ Chapter  
Championship



## GCSAA NEWS

Our Field Representative, Kevin Doyle shares about the GCSAA government affairs.

## Legislative Update

A legislative summary from our Government Chairs.

## Hudson Farm

A recap of a great golf-free day supporting a worthy cause.

## The Ask

We can all use some words of wisdom after this season!



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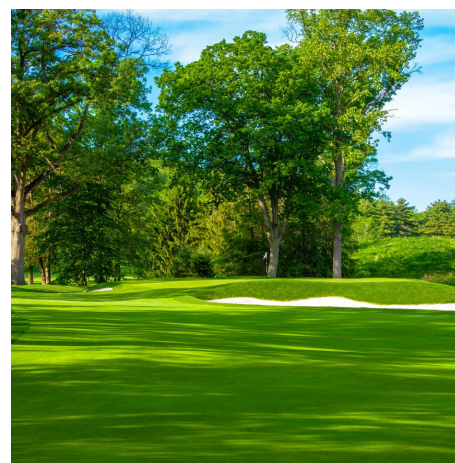
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Maureen Sharples

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Russell Harris, Chapter President  
Gallop Hill Golf Course*



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## I'M GLAD THAT'S OVER...

Oh wait it's not. All I can say is "wow" when it comes to the trials and tribulations of the 2018 golf season.

This season has to be one of the worst on record in New Jersey, we've seen dead turf, tired turf and a lot of exhausted and worn out superintendents. Years like this leave us questioning everything from our abilities, our programs, our philosophies and even our future in this industry.

As I write this letter the weather is a balmy 46 degrees finally giving me the chance to step back and plan my recovery, a process I'm sure the majority of you are going through as well. As I look forward and try and identify the things that will make me and my properties better, one thing that comes to mind is my friendships and networks within our industry. I personally rely very heavily on my peers and friends for advice and education and just sometimes the best lesson is an hour spent at lunch to forget about work for awhile.

As we near the closing of the season, remember we all have the opportunity to do just that. The NJ Green Expo is coming up in December which is a great opportunity to educate and reacquaint ourselves with great leaders of the industry and to simply hang out and learn from the brightest minds in turf. The opportunities that Expo provides are endless and I urge all of you reading this to attend as well. Maybe just maybe, we can put this year behind us and move forward together with a clear perspective from the education and experience gained.

Please remember none of us are alone in our struggles, whether you have 3 million to spend or \$300,000, the weather and conditions did not discriminate this year. So book your trip to Atlantic City to hit the reset button, have some fun, and learn something new along the way.

Sincerely,  
RUSSELL HARRIS  
Chapter President



# FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Maureen Sharples*

## THE VALUE OF PARTNERS

As our events for 2018 come to end, I want to take the opportunity to thank our generous and incredibly supportive Sponsor Partners. This year the funds from the Sponsor Partner program helped us host 10 very successful member events, contributed to valuable cutting edge Rutgers research and directly supported a handful of members with personal needs.

Our partner program is comprised of 19 companies with over 60 members. These companies not only dedicate funds for our efforts but participate regularly in our events and serve on our Board of Directors and many committees. Most importantly their presence and input holds great value.

Personally, it has been a pleasure getting to know and developing friendships with many of our partners. It is evident that they are passionate about our chapter and our goals. From the surface you may think they are simply trying to sell a product/service or grow their customer base, but the reality is that these men and women work to help you and your course succeed while making great strides to ensure the golf industry flourishes in New Jersey.

As winter approaches and you begin to plan for next season, considering early ordering options and exploring new products, please think about lending support to those vendors who lend their support to us throughout the year. What better way to grow the business of golf in New Jersey?

MAUREEN SHARPLES  
**Executive Director, GCSANJ**



### *Let's Connect*



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## ➔ GROWING FAMILIES

Nate Spence of Trump National Golf Club Bedminster and his wife Lesley welcomed their second child, Grady Edward Spence on September 8th.



(Ken Anson)



(Dan Kilpatrick)



## ➔ MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Ken Anson is the new Golf Course Superintendent at Fox Hollow Golf Club, Branchburg, NJ. Ken had previously been the Assistant GCS at Due Process GC.

Ryan Tretter is the new Golf Course Superintendent at Linwood Country Club. Ryan had previously been the Assistant GCS at Hollywood Golf Club.

Tyler Otero is the new Mid-Atlantic Sales Director of Harrell's.

Shannon Horn is the new Golf Course Superintendent at Watchung Valley Golf Club.

Dan Kilpatrick is the new Golf Course Superintendent at North Jersey Country Club. Dan was formerly the GCS on the Lower Course at Baltusrol GC.



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## NJSGA FATHER & SON CHAMPIONSHIP

➔ Chapter Vice President Jeremy Hreben and his father, Joseph Hreben competed in the New Jersey State Golf Association's 96th Father & Son Championship on July 18th. New Jersey National Golf Club in Basking Ridge, NJ hosted the competition.



A wide-angle photograph of a golf course. In the foreground, there is a large, mature tree with vibrant red autumn foliage. To the right, a large, flowering tree with pink blossoms is visible. The golf course itself is green and well-maintained, with a path leading through it. A person is sitting on a bench in the middle ground. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a 'Harrell's Soil Calculator Report' showing various soil analysis results and product recommendations.

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## ➔ NEW MEMBERS

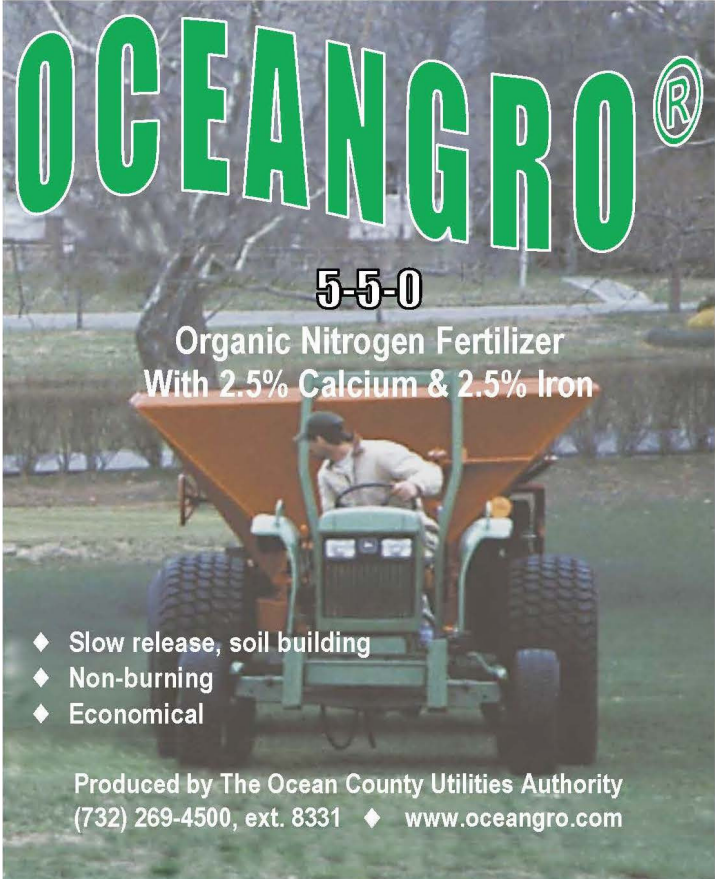
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# A TRIBUTE TO TIM MCAVOY, CGCS

## 1954 – 2018

By Ken Kubik

Tim passed away suddenly on August 17, 2018. He had been the GCS at Fox Hollow GC for thirty-seven years. Tim excelled in whatever role in life he played and was humble about it. His life roles were numerous: as a GCS, father, grandfather, athlete, mentor and a friend. Tim proudly expressed his love of God, Family, and Country. Once you got to be a friend of Tim you had a loyal friend for life. When with Tim you were guaranteed a conversation that was animated and with an abundance of conventional wisdom. Tim was well read and thus a source of pertinent and well-resourced information. Tim is missed, but his spirit lives on because of the positive mark he left. A life cut short much too soon, but well lived!





## ➔ ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Matt Ceplo, CGCS of Rockland Country Club and Audubon International Board Member tags a Monarch Butterfly to be released for migration to Mexico.

For more information about the tagging program visit [monarchwatch.org](http://monarchwatch.org). To create a Monarch Butterfly habitat at your course visit [monarchsintherough.org](http://monarchsintherough.org)



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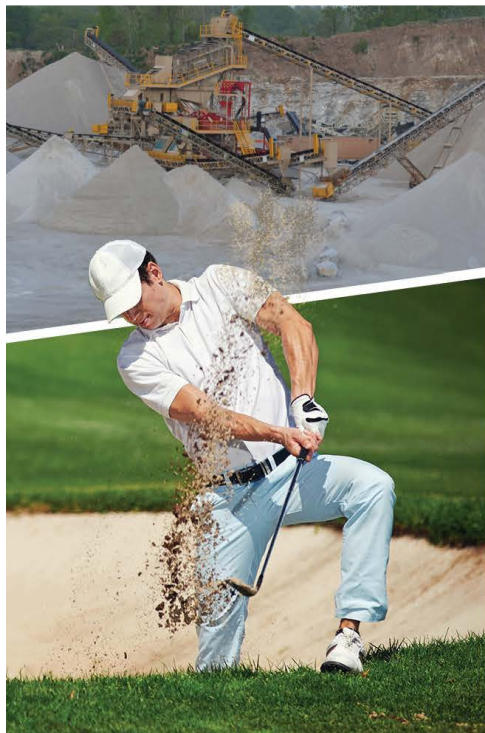
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Mt. Tabor Country Club: Mount Tabor, NJ  
NJ National Golf Club: Basking Ridge, NJ

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Paramus Golf Club: Paramus, NJ  
Pinch Brook Golf Course: Florham Park, NJ  
Rolling Greens Golf Club: Newton, NJ  
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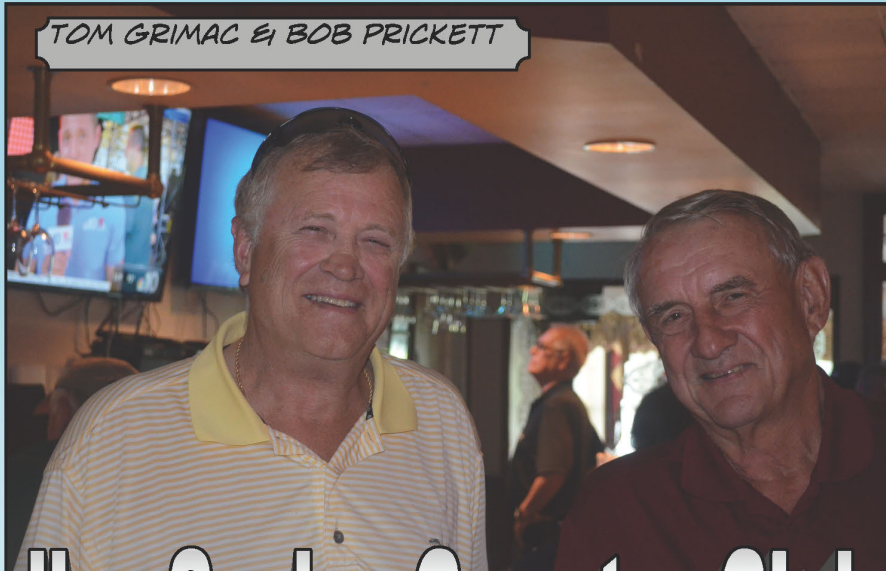
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Brandon Perrine- Host with Bill Weldon, Chuck Szczurek and Peter Bedrosian



# NEW JERSEY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Mark Kuhns, CGCS and Keith Bennett, CGCS

**The legislative hustle and bustle of Trenton and beyond may potentially affect GCSANJ members. Here is a run-down of some of the most pertinent issues we are facing.**

Current legislation in the State aims to make neonicotinoid class insecticides restricted use in New Jersey. This would mean that only licensed applicators would be able to purchase and control the application of these chemicals. While this would not greatly affect many in the golf industry, the concern with this bill is the lack of science and research going into the conclusion that homeowners are over-applying and therefore hurting the environment and the chemistry should therefore be banned. Furthermore, proponents of these types of bans will not stop once the chemistry is restricted use; this is just the first step to a full ban of the products in question.

Also, in Trenton are new minimum wage bills appearing in both the Senate and Assembly. Currently, the bill looks to increase the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour with regular increases over the next few years. As this was a major focus of Governor Murphy's election platform, it is almost a guarantee that something along these lines will pass. The big question coming up is what sectors will be exempt from the higher minimum wage and will agriculture (with golf possibly tied in) be one of them. A good conversation at the Association level would be whether anyone is able to hire labor for less than \$10 per hour before any changes to the minimum wage and see how the current effective minimum wage varies throughout the State.



In legislative activity outside the Garden State, a federal appeals court in August ordered the EPA to ban chlorpyrifos. Beyond being used to control ABW larvae in New Jersey, chlorpyrifos is widely used in ag applications. The Justice Department appealed the ruling in early October, claiming the court violated the law by imposing a ban that should come from the EPA. The court will have the choice to rehear the petition by the entire circuit court or the three-judge panel that made the initial ruling. Until the new ruling is handed down, current registrations and label tolerances will remain in effect. We are keeping our ears open, but at this time it is believed that chlorpyrifos will be available in 2019 with no guarantees beyond that. Currently in New Jersey, there is legislation pending in the State Senate and Assembly looking to ban chlorpyrifos use within the state. While the NJGIC has had good results deterring chemical bans thus far, chlorpyrifos is a hot issue that will continue to receive press.



On the international level, tariffs being imposed on goods from overseas, mostly China, will have a direct effect on New Jersey superintendents. Although fertilizers are included on the tariff list, much of the fertilizer we use in turf is sourced from other countries and should not be largely affected. However, we will have to see how other industries with affected supplies might affect the prices of our suppliers. Pesticides will more likely be directly affected depending on source locations of active ingredients. The situation is still unfolding and negotiations between countries are ongoing but affected pesticides will include many whose active ingredients are produced in China, including some products which are formulated and packaged there. At the time of writing, the situation is still very fluid, and we would rather err on the side of caution and be vague on details than provide bad information. Updates will be provided as new information is available through the New Jersey Green Industry Council.

## ABOUT NJGIC

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## HUDSON FARM HOSTS GCSANJ FOUNDATION

*By Shaun Barry*

Since the GCSANJ Foundation was created in 1994 it has depended upon the support of the GCSANJ for a majority of its donations. The next major source of revenue was the RTJ Invitational hosted by Metedeconk National. That event was hosted and run by Steve Cadenelli CGCS and the Sambol Family who owned the course. They appreciated Steve and they understood the importance of superintendents. They wanted to give back and because of Steve's connection with the GCSAA they chose to donate to the GCSAA Foundation which is now the EIFG. After the family sold the course to the members, the club still hosted the event but they didn't want to run it.

At that point the GCSANJ Foundation stepped-up and ran the event. It became the major fundraiser for the Foundation and allowed the Foundation to do more and become less dependent upon the GCSANJ. Eventually interest in this event lessened and it was discontinued.

Needing another source of income the Shootout was started. It adds to an increasing number of events that have helped support the Foundation. In June 2019, Navesink will be hosting the Shootout. The field will be limited, so plan on signing up early.

In 2017, Les Carpenter started working at Hudson Farm and he spoke to Tyler Otero about the Foundation having a non-golf event. It would be at a world class facility for shooting sporting clays. Tyler and Les brought it up at board meeting. There were many concerns expressed because many were non-shooters. We carefully looked at the numbers and it was concluded that if our members didn't sign up as we hoped, we wouldn't lose a lot of money assuming we had the support of our affiliate sponsors. We decided that it might appeal to some of our members who didn't attend golf meetings. That is exactly what happened.

We limited our field to 40 shooters and we had 40 people sign up. DryJect NJ and Grass Roots Inc. sponsored the pig roast and LaBar Golf Renovations and Mitchell Products sponsored the beverages. We also had every shooting station sponsored. Our affiliate partners were the reason we made a profit, but our major source of revenue came from Mr. Kellogg who owns Hudson Farm. He asked Les for a summary of what our Foundation was all about. Les explained our history and how we use our funds. As a result of what he heard and his relationship with Les, Mr. Kellogg wrote a check from his Foundation in the amount of \$10,000. That was amazing and I am confident that we will return as a way to say thanks.



Maureen Sharples showed up to help if needed, but the club handled all the registrations. She and I drove around between stations to say hello and to take pictures. She recovered from my driving and I think she would do it again but I am not sure. LOL.

.As expected, we had several non-golfers and one member brought five guests. The coolest group was Michael Campbell and his sons Collin and Ethan. Dad and sons seemed to be really enjoying everything about the event. They all listed themselves as beginners, but I think they will be doing this many times in the future. They, like the rest of the field, showed great skill and enthusiasm when it came to the pig roast. What a delicious way to end the evening

The field was almost equally divided according to skill level. We had 16 beginners, 11 intermediate shooters and 14 experienced shooters. We had one shooter hit 49 out of 50 clays and another with 48 out of 50. On the other end of the spectrum we had several shooters hit less than 10, but I think the level of enjoyment was the same for everyone.



## Hudson Farm

When asked if everybody enjoyed themselves and would they return if we did this again in 2019 the response was unanimously positive. If we do this again it appears that the field will fill up quickly.

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# GCSANJ Foundation Hudson Farm Sporting Clays Shoot



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# 15 QUESTIONS WITH TODD RAISCH, CGCS

By Maureen Sharples

INTERVIEW

Todd Raisch, CGCS is the superintendent at Ridgewood Country Club and the Editor of The Greenside. I put him in the hot seat to discuss his recent success hosting The Northern Trust, his career, and some of the lessons he has learned along the way.

**1. Tell us a little about where you are from?**

I'm from Dayton, Ohio. My dad was a superintendent as well...school superintendent that is, which means I always took a bunch of crap when he wouldn't call a snow day.

**2. How long have you worked at Ridgewood Country Club?**

23 Years. I came here as an assistant straight out of college in January 1995 and in a strange twist of events was sitting in the superintendent's chair 21 months later. I was very lucky. Ridgewood has a long history of Buckeyes on staff going back decades.

**3. What are some of the major changes you have seen since you have been there?**

4,000+ trees for starters. We've done 2 master plans with architect Gil Hanse. Those encompass bunker rebuilds, green expansions, drainage, fairway expansions, new tees, etc. We've also completed a new irrigation system and greens and grounds complex.

**4. What are your biggest on course challenges?**

Like many others, labor has become our number one issue. We have been down 4-6 employees all year long. We have great assistants, but I'm concerned where the next great batch is coming from. Also, if I never saw another annual bluegrass weevil in my life, it would be too soon.

**5. What are the unique aspects of Ridgewood?**

I have found this by far the most difficult question to answer. Ridgewood is definitely a world class club that holds a special place in the game. It may have a famous name, one that shows up in rankings and on television once in a while, but in most ways it is just like everyone else's club. We lose grass. We have staffing issues. Members complain about aeration and green speed here too. Cool club, yes. Unique, no.



**6. What do you love about working on a golf course?**

Most importantly, I just like being around the game. My first love in golf is architecture, so having the opportunity to spend my time at a classic Tillinghast course and working closely with Gil Hanse for 20+ years has been very fulfilling. I'm not a born agronomist. Grass growing is not what I'm best at, but I love the puzzle that is trying to figure out what fits best at RCC. I have had some epic discussions (sometimes arguments) with guys like Tom Weinert, Adam Moeller, James Hempfling and David Oatis over the years working on this never ending puzzle.

**7. What are your interests outside of work?**

Traveling is a huge part of my life whether with family or other superintendents. I love to see new places and experience different cultures around the world. When my knee isn't acting up, I enjoy hiking. I go in spurts of reading a lot...two books this week already!



**8. Tell us about your family.**

My wife Susan and I have been married 21 years. A lifelong political junkie, she was working on Capitol Hill and roommates with my cousin when we met. Elly (19) is a budding animator and attending Sheridan College near Toronto. Halle (15) is a dancer and a sophomore at Ramsey High School. Dad was thrilled to have Halle volunteer all week at the Northern Trust.

**9. Why did you become a superintendent?**

I loved golf and was working at Worthington Hills CC in Columbus while I was pursuing a degree in finance at Ohio State. While there, the superintendent kept bugging me about going into turf. I thought he was crazy. I had seen the movie Wall Street one too many times and thought I was going to become Gordon Gecko instead. He prevailed, ultimately convincing me that my business degree would serve me well in our profession. The day after I graduated I went to see Dr. Karl Danneberger at OSU and signed up for turf school.

**10. Who is your mentor and what is the best piece of advice you've received?**

I think in equal ways all of the superintendents I've worked for had big influences on me. Marty Szturm at Worthington Hills, David Heroian at Myopia Hunt Club, Terry Buchen at Double Eagle Club and John Gasper at Ridgewood. Probably the piece of advice from one of them that has stuck with me the longest came from Buchen though, "sometimes the best way is the hardest way, the longest way." When we are trying to justify a shortcut, I'll often think back to that comment. In a general sense, the best piece of advice came in a parable where the moral of the story was that being a good superintendent comes down to 90% drainage and 10% common sense...and if you don't have any common sense, just add more drainage. That line seems very appropriate this year!

**11. What did a typical work day look like THIS summer?**

This summer has obviously been pretty hectic since June 1 when construction began for the Northern Trust. I think I took one day off all summer to play golf with my brother where I'd normally try to take at least Sundays off in a non-tournament year. This isn't our first go around with the Tour, so I didn't stress about the build out as much as in years past. That's a good thing as there was plenty of stress being provided by Mother Nature instead. It's very difficult trying to peak in mid-August.



**12. After experiencing heavy rain and high temperatures, how did you adjust your game plan leading up to The Northern Trust?**

Compliments of the PGA Tour, some of our local vendors sold a whole bunch of chemicals to RCC. We did lose some grass to the extreme weather, so there was quite a bit of plug work going on in our fairways. We were constantly using our deep-tine machine in our wet areas. We were moving fans all over the course to stressed greens and wet tees. We had ropes and stakes throughout the course diverting traffic. It was a very challenging year, but fortunately we got to tournament week in very good shape.

**13. It took a large team of staff and volunteers to pull off The Northern Trust with great success, what tactics did you use to delegate and manage such a large operation?**

First and foremost, Ken Kubik takes a huge amount of stress off my plate by running our hospitality program for our 150+ staff and volunteers. Our management team of David Zollinger, Andrew Shaul, Ryan Hartmann, Rocco Weir and Kathy Scotellaro have all worked multiple tournaments for RCC, so they are well seasoned. The same goes for many of the volunteers who year after year lead the same teams. Lance Rogers and Joe Kinlin on cups. Mike Brunelle, Jamie Devers, Russ Harris and Jim Swiatlowski on fairways. Josh Kopera and Chuck Nowicki on detail crew. Travis Pauley and Tyler Otero on bunkers. Paul Dotti at the range and rolling. These guys keep coming back every year making the week, especially the start of it, go so much more smoothly.

**14. What does the recovery process entail after an event like The Northern Trust?**

A lot of sleep. As for the course, we go into October with the repair. It's usually a struggle to get the Tour contractors to move at the pace we would like. Our most important member guest is in early October, so we are always pushing them. Unfortunately, the restoration will go deep into October this year. They build over two tee complexes and our short game facility, so those areas are not back in play until the following spring. The good news is that the Tour pays for a contractor to repair the course, so the staff is only left with watering duties.

**15. And just for fun, list four things we don't know about you?**

1. I have been in the Oval Office twice.
2. I somehow survived 142 yellow jacket stings in the 9th grade.
3. The nickname many of my peers and friends refer to me as goes all the way back to college where Bob Carey and I would play Nintendo golf for hours upon hours. "TR Superstar" was my screen name.
4. I have been to 48 countries and hope to get to 50 by my 50th birthday in February.



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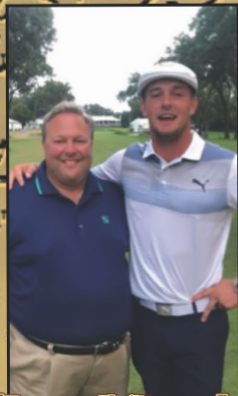
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## The Northern Trust at Ridgewood Country Club



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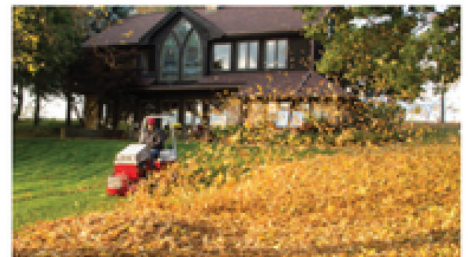
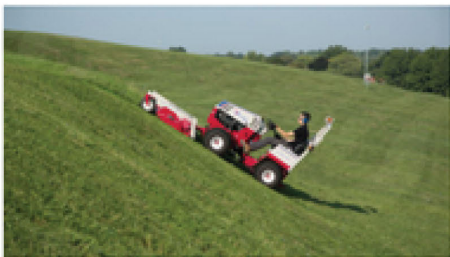
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# GCSANJ THROUGH THE DECADES

## PART EIGHT

By Ken Kubik, Grass Roots Inc.



- **1928:** Galloping Hill GC is designed by Willard G. Wilkinson in 1928. Willard previously worked for A.W. Tillinghast's firm. Johnny Farrell the golf pro at Baltusrol GC wins the 1928 US Open. The members of Rock Spring Club begin play of full Raynor and Banks design eighteen holes, Bill Monohan, GCS. The first Rutgers Turf Short Course is held in 1928 with 54 students.

- **1938:** Major Jones GCS of Baltusrol GC wins contest for naming a new variety of seed developed at Rutgers Experimental Station. Major Jones served in the British Army during World War I. The Great New England Hurricane in September causes widespread flooding on golf courses throughout the Garden State. The storm likely produces the second highest rainfall total in New Jersey history.

- **1948:** Wives and girlfriends are invited for the first time to the April association meeting and are entertained by the talk on "Soils and Man." The first Greenkeeper/Pro Tournament is held at Montclair GC, Carlton Treat GCS. Al Rathjens, Sr. GCS at Spring Lake GC is president of the association. His son Al Rathjens, Jr. GC Raritan Valley CC would follow in his footsteps 37 years later as president.

- **1958:** Prominent golf clubs such as the Olympic Club and Winged Foot GC advertise job openings with the NJ association because of the professional and talented reputation of its membership. Spring Brook CC hosts the second of five NJ State Opens, Lou Wortman Jr., GCS.

- **1968:** "The NJ Golf Course Report," a one page glossy is sent to the association members, Don Marshall, GCS Montclair GC editor. Mr. Marshall is also the president of the association. The year is noted for being a difficult year for management of golf turf due to desiccation, spring flooding, high heat and severe pest infestations. Architect, Hal Purdy speaks at the May meeting on golf course modernization with emphasis on cart paths. The association members take a tour of the Anheuser-Busch brewery in Newark.

- **1978:** The GCSANJ continues to be active volunteers as they handle transportation for the LPGA Coca-Cola Golf Classic held at Forsgate CC, Tom Schultz, GCS. Joe Flaherty CGCS, Baltusrol GC is president of the GCSANJ eighteen years after his father Joe Flaherty, Sr. GCS at Manasquan River GC served as president. In May, "The GCSANJ Newsletter," edited by Paul Boiselle, GCS Fiddlers Elbow CC makes its first appearance.

- **1988:** Dave McGhee, Sr. CGCS Fiddlers Elbow CC is inducted into the NJTA Hall of Fame. Robert "Red" Dickison, CGCS Upper Montclair CC is chosen as the recipient of the GCSANJ "Distinguished Service Award." Armand Le Sage, GCS White Beeches G & CC and Robert Dickison speak before the NJDEP on proposed changes to the Pesticide Control Code. Ilona Gray is hired by the GCSANJ to a paid position as Editor of "The Greenside". The newsletter again is awarded "Overall Best" by the GCSAA. Ed Walsh, CGCS Ridgewood CC is President of the GCSANJ. The GCSANJ spearheads the Summer Patch Research at Cook College – Rutgers University.

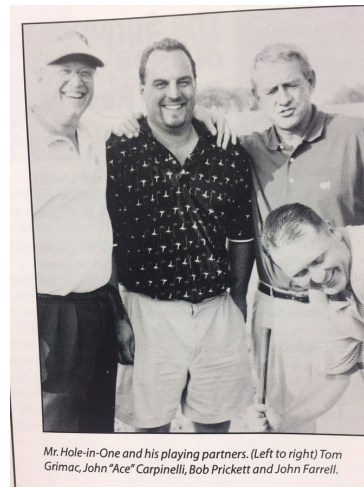


- **1998:** Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) become new tools for turf management. Brian Remo, Rock Spring Club, is named Class C delegate giving assistant superintendents a voice on the GCSANJ Board of Directors. Tom Grimaç CGCS, Tavistock CC, and Bob Prickett GCS Pennsauken CC again win the GCSANJ Two Man Team Championship. "The Greenside" newsletter again garners a Category 3 award from the GCSANJ, Ken Krausz CGCS, Paramus GC, editor. Glenn Miller, CGCS Manasquan River CC, is president of the association.

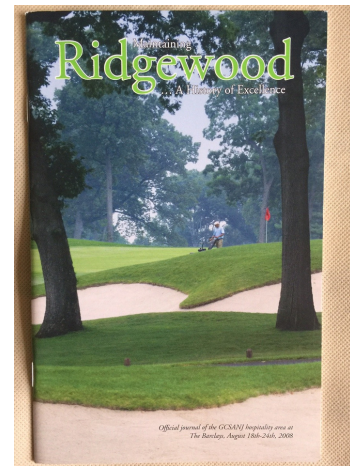


Ed Walsh, President, GCSANJ says thanks to outgoing Editor Jim Gilligan.

- **2008:** 20th Annual RTJ Invitational is held at Metedeconk National Golf Club, Ryan Oliver GCS. The 5th Annual GCSANJ Crystal Conference is held at Crystal Springs Resort. The Barclays Tournament, the 1st leg of the FedEx Cup is held at the Ridgewood CC, Todd Raisch CGCS. Tim Finchem, PGA Tour Commissioner, visits and thanks the ground department staff and volunteers. The 3rd Annual GCSANJ Summer Social is held at the Jenkinson's Pavilion in Point Pleasant Beach. NJ State Open is held at Alpine CC, Steve Finamore CGCS. The inaugural GCSAA Leadership Academy is held, Lance Rogers CGCS Colonia CC is the GCSANJ participant.



Mr. Hole-in-One and his playing partners. (Left to right) Tom Grimaç, John "Ace" Carpinelli, Bob Prickett and John Farrell.



Official journal of the GCSANJ Inaugural issue at The Barclays, August 18th-24th, 2008

- **2018:** Maureen Sharples assumes the position of Executive Director of the GCSANJ. Baltusrol GC hosts the 2018 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship. Medal play is held on the Upper and Lower Courses. Match play is held on the Upper Course, Jim Devaney GCS. Director of Grounds is Mark Kuhns, CGCS and GCS on the Lower is Dan Kilpatrick. The Northern Trust Tournament is held at the Ridgewood CC, Todd Raisch CGCS. This is the fourth time the course hosts the 1st leg of the FedEx Cup. The GCSANJ Foundation again will be the recipient of a substantial donation after expenses are paid from sponsorship monies received from our industry partners. The inaugural GCSANJ Foundation Sporting Clays Shoot and Pig Roast is held at renowned Hudson Farm, Les Carpenter, Jr. is the host.



**“History doesn’t repeat itself; but it does rhyme.”  
-Mark Twain (1835-1910)**



# GCSAA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

BY KEVIN DOYLE, GCSAA NE FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

**For the longest time newsletters seemed to teem with GCSAA government affairs news. With various acts and regulations consistently having an impact on our industry, it seemed all I would write about was legislative gloom and doom. While it may seem the change in administration has magically made the political nightmares disappear, I assure you that is not the case.**

## **WOTUS: should I stay, or should I go?**

The Waters of the United States 2015 rule set for enactment until a last-minute stay from the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals is back in the mix. As noted on the GCSAA website Advocacy page:

On Aug. 16, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina issued a ruling enjoining nationwide the Trump Administration's rule that delayed, until February 2020, implementation of the Obama WOTUS Rule. The district court's decision was based on procedural grounds – the court said the Trump delay rule violated the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) because EPA and the Corps didn't take comment on the substance of the Obama WOTUS Rule or the prior regulations that would stay in place during the delay of the Obama Rule.

The WOTUS 2015 rule is now in effect for 26 states, including every state in the Northeast region, Massachusetts included. There is an appeal pending and an often-updated blog on the Advocacy page expands on these critical updates. More to come as decisions are made.

## **EPA: active ingredient registration review**

EPA has continued the review of active ingredients currently registered for use within the golf market. I have been tasked with assisting in developing regionally specific information regarding the use of those products by our membership. Several university scientists and members have joined conference calls with the EPA, while others have given comments on use patterns and importance of products to their livelihood. GCSAA's government affairs department and your GA committee have been instrumental in turning this once-contentious regulatory relationship into a sounding board for industry input. Chlorpyrifos has been one such active ingredient in the spotlight. In August, the EPA was mandated by the courts to remove the product from sales in the US. In late September, the Department of Justice called for an appeal of that ruling, a judgement lauded by the USDA. For those battling resistant ABW's, this is a critical tool in the toolbox. Again, look to the Advocacy page for updates as this product soap opera continues.



## Michael Lee wins RISE 2018 Grassroots Excellence Award

GCSAA's Michael Lee, manager, government affairs, earned the 2018 Grassroots Excellence Award from Responsible Industry for A Sound Environment (RISE) at its annual meeting Sept. 25 in Amelia Island, Fla. Lee was honored for his work to engage GCSAA members in Maryland and Maine in responding to anti-pesticide bills working through state legislatures last spring.

Lee's proactive and strategic support and engagement with superintendents on the ground in those states lead to the defeat of the bills as announced by RISE staff at the meeting.

It takes a village to move the needle in the political arena.

With strong leadership in GCSAA's government affairs department, an active corps of GCSAA Grassroots Ambassadors (still spots left in New Jersey), and members participating in local and state initiatives, our industry continues to build momentum. For those who have participated in advocacy, thank you. If you haven't, consider a way to contribute because every voice matters.

Again, if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me.



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# GCSAA RESOURCES & NEWS

## GCSAA introduces member savings programs

GCSAA has partnered with Meridian One, which specializes in providing associations, chambers and other member organizations with best in class savings programs to offer their members.

Meridian One's family of affinity programs provide convenient services and valuable discounts to GCSAA members and their families. By leveraging the buying power of GCSAA members, Meridian One can offer programs to help members reduce their business expenses and increase productivity.

Through Meridian One, GCSAA members can receive instant savings on products and services from UPS, the UPS Store, Lenovo, Office Depot, Avis, Budget and Member Freight. See the full list of savings and learn more.



Hays, a leading national insurance and financial services organization, provides a variety of supplemental product and service offerings exclusively to GCSAA members.

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## UPCOMING WEBINARS

**-November 15th at noon**

**Water Matters for Turf Managers part of the ASCS Prep series**

**Beth Guertal, Ph.D. and Ashley Wilkinson**

**-December 6th @ noon**

**ABCs of Irrigation System Design part of the ASCS Prep series**

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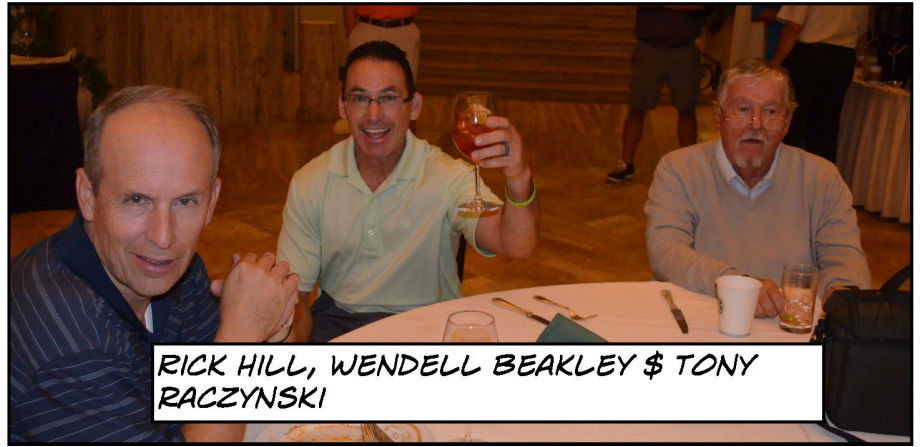


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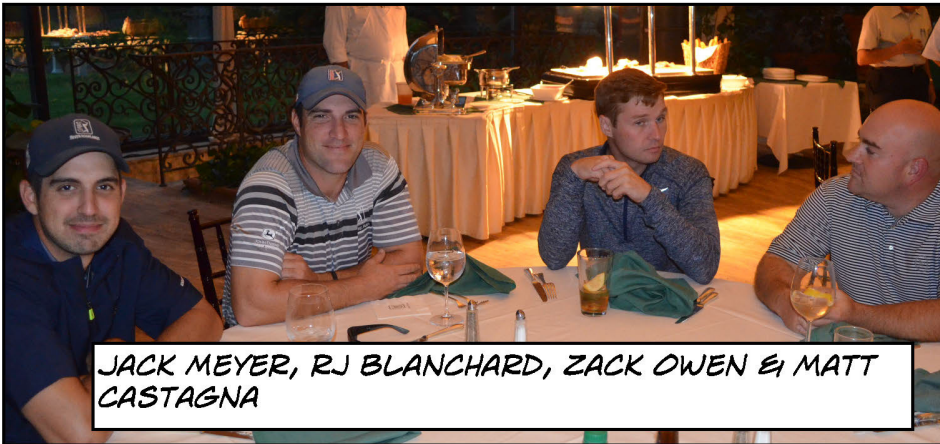




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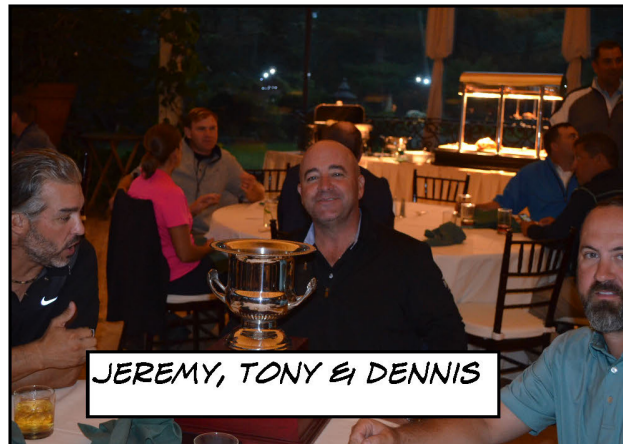
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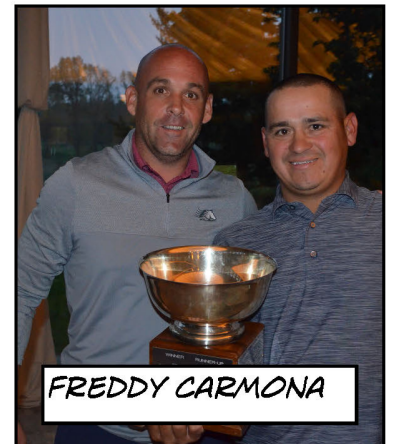
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"It's only grass. Enjoy life. The grass will be there tomorrow."

-Jeremy Hreben

"I learned a lot in a very short time when I worked for Chris Carson at Echo Lake. he told me 'not being prepared, is preparing yourself to lose.'"

-Rob Schipper

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**-JEFF WELD**

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**-Tim Gerzabek**





"My mentor practiced the following and my first GM put it into words for me. 'Treat everyone on your staff with respect and they will work with you because they want to, not for you because they have to.'"  
-Kevin Doyle

1. ALWAYS READ IT TWICE BEFORE YOU HIT SEND.

2. THE ONLY WAY TO DO GREAT WORK IS TO LOVE WHAT YOU DO. IF YOU HAVEN'T FOUND IT YET, KEEP LOOKING. DON'T SETTLE AND PUSH EVERY DAY."

-MATTHEW CASTAGNA

"'Keep your head down and good things will happen.' My current boss/owner, Robert Twomey from Matrix Golf and Hospitality told me that before I became a GCS but now I understand what he meant years later"

-Tom Higgins

*"There is never enough time to do it right, but there's always time to do it over!"* Make sure work is done right the first time. Words of wisdom from a colleague that I continue to agonize over!"

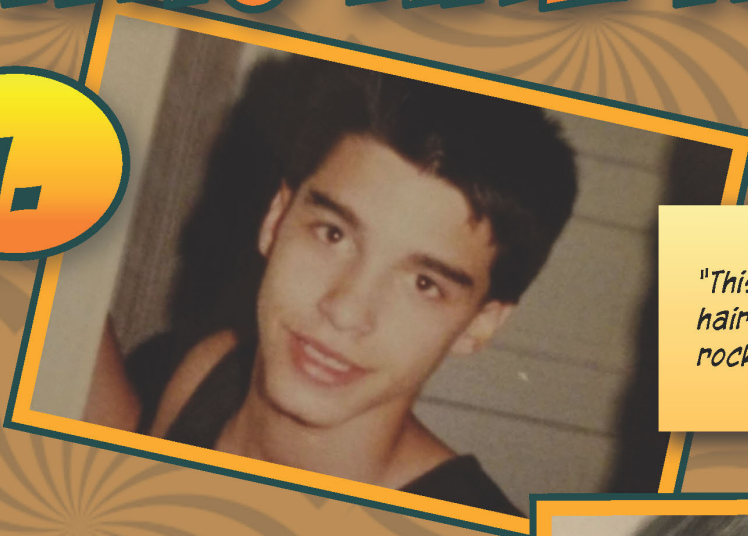
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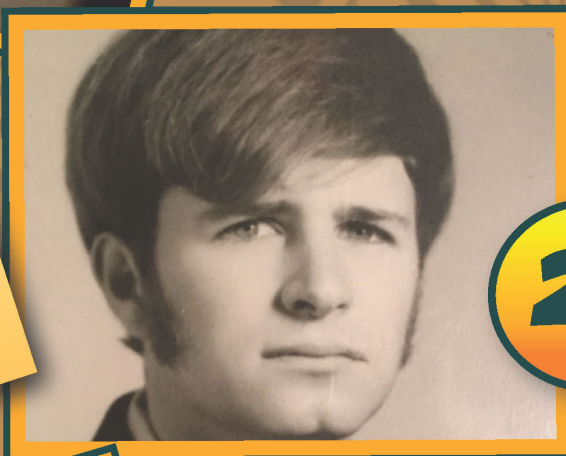
# WHO ARE THEY...

1.



*"This guy has always had great hair and back in the day, he rocked a pseudo mullet"*

*Rocked the sideburns, stayed out of trouble and always liked to take photographs. Guinness from the homeland is my favorite beer.*



2.

3



*Stud in the making! Athlete from South Jersey. Pay phones were still the norm as well as collect calls. "Not that I was ever in trouble"*

1) Jeremiah Hreben 2) Shaun Barry 3) Rich Sweeney





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At Grass Roots, we've worked tirelessly to earn the trust of the turf pros who count on us season after season. In addition to offering solid advice and proven solutions, we carry a full line of turf maintenance supplies from the leading manufacturers in the industry. Those products include plant protectants, fertilizers, grass seed, tools, golf course accessories, soils, topdressing, mulches, adjuvants and many other fine products.

Since Grass Roots opened for business in 1978, our top priority has been to serve our customers' needs first — which has allowed our business to thrive. We value those relationships as we move into our next decade together. New customers are always welcome to call and arrange a consultation. We'd welcome any opportunity to show you how the Best Service in the Tri-State can help your golf course, too.



Proud Platinum Sponsor of the GCSANJ

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