

WINTER 2021-2022/ VOLUME 60

THE GREENERSIDE

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Annual Awards

Learn about the 2021 Distinguished Service Award and Member of the Year Award recipients.



Timeline

A timeline of Dr. Bruce Clarke's remarkable career.



Book Review

Donovan Magugian shares wisdom from uncommon books.

ON THE COVER

Atlantic City Country Club
Mark Beaumont, Superintendent



The Ask

What's your favorite restaurant in New Jersey?

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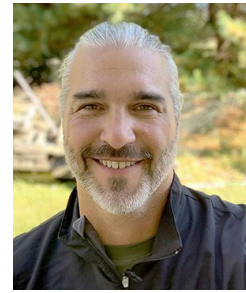
Maureen Sharples

GCSANJ Newsletter is published four times a year.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Jeremy Hreben, CGCS, Chapter President
Indian Spring Golf Course*

.....

I am grateful and excited to have been elected as your chapter president. As a board member for the past several years, I have had the opportunity to learn from great past presidents. Joe Kinlin, Russ Harris, and Gary Arlio have all taught me different aspects of being a successful leader. I hope to make them proud.

I pride myself on being an active member of GCSANJ and other professional associations. I enjoy attending meetings, volunteering to help on various committees, and overall participation as much as possible. As members, I now call on you to be active and volunteer your time and knowledge for the betterment of GCSANJ. This is, after all, your association.

We have a lot to look forward to in 2022, including fun golf and non-golf events. We already kicked off 2022 with an ice hockey match hosted by our foundation between GCSANJ and PAGCS. Unfortunately, we did not come away with the win, but we all had fun. I am sure we will make up for the loss at the War at the Shore on April 11th.

To increase member participation and see new faces, you have elected several new members onto the board. I am excited to introduce Rob Wagner, Mark Miedler, Pat Quinlan, Paul Ramina, and Drew White. We held a strategic planning meeting in December, and the excitement and energy from the new members and the board's current members were exhilarating. I am sure this energy and spirit will flow over into our events, and you, as members, should see the results.

I am looking forward to an exciting 2022. Let's make your association the greatest it can be.

Sincerely,

JEREMY HREBEN, CGCS
Chapter President

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Maureen Sharples

The off-season is a great time to work on projects and initiatives put on the back burner in the height of the season. Coming off the heels of the Green Expo and the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show, professional development and fresh ideas from your peers may be at the top of your list.

Our Class C and BMP committees have worked hard in the off-season to provide some new events and programs to take advantage of while your schedule is flexible.

James Surico of North Jersey Country Club serves as our Class C Liaison to the Board of Directors. He has put together a phenomenal committee of his peers who will be hosting two Assistant Superintendent Roundtable & Networking events. These events will feature small group discussions with golf course superintendents from around the state, covering various topics, including management styles, budgeting tactics, and agronomic practices. The first one is March 9th at 5:30 p.m. at North Jersey Country Club, and the second one will be on March 21st at Union League National. The events are complimentary. Please visit the website for more information.

In March, I will be teaming up with newly appointed BMP Chair Jennifer Torres of Westlake Golf & Country Club and Kevin Doyle, GCSAA Northeast Regional Representative, to kick off the GCSANJ Facility BMP Road Show. We will be traveling throughout the state to offer workshops to help you complete your facility BMP manual. The workshops are free, and we expect all the attendees to leave the three-hour session with their completed BMP manual. We will provide you with a short supply list to bring to the event. Kevin and Jen will walk you through the template step-by-step, and I will be on hand to format your document and resize your logo and photos. Our first stops will be on March 14th at Essex Fells Country Club hosted by District 1 Director Mark Miedler and then on March 15th at West Lake Golf & CC hosted by Jennifer.

We are looking forward to working with our members towards completing this important project. If you have any questions about these programs, don't hesitate to contact me. Your feedback is valuable, so please reach out to me if you have any ideas or suggestions for other events or programs you would like our chapter to host.

MAUREEN SHARPLES

Executive Director, GCSANJ



Let's Connect



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msharples@gcsanj.org



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

2022 LPGA Cognizant Founders Cup

Upper Montclair Country Club

May 9-15, 2022

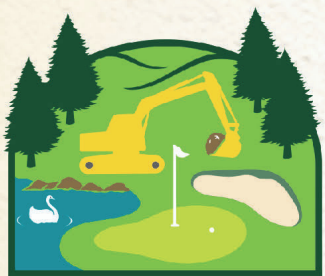


Upper Montclair Country Club is seeking volunteer turf professionals to support their efforts in providing tournament quality conditions for this great event. Golf's best professional players will visit Northern NJ for the 2nd straight year to compete in the prestigious spring event that honors the LPGA's 13 Founding Members.

Volunteers serve as an integral part of the success of any professional golf event. With this event quickly approaching, we welcome and would appreciate any help for AM and/or PM shifts. Please see the below link to sign up and be part of our team this May.



**Visit gcsanj.org/post/umcc-lpga
to fill out the Volunteer Form.**



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Brandon Baker

Class C, Riverton Country Club

Nicholas Paratore

Class C, Solider Hill Golf Course

John Geltzeiler

Class B, Eagle Oaks Golf & Country Club

Kelly Shields

Class C, Baltusrol Golf Club

Thomas Utter

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- Harry Turner, Rams Hill Golf Course



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MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Jonathan Heywood is the new golf course superintendent at Sleepy Hollow Country Club.

Nicholas LeViere is the new golf course superintendent at Morris County Golf Club.

Michael Williams is the new golf course superintendent at Brigantine Golf Links.

Jay Ewan is the new golf course superintendent at Stone Harbor Golf Club.

Eric Junkins is the new golf course superintendent at Hidden Creek Golf Club.

NEWLYWEDS

Donovan Maguigan, golf course superintendent at Springdale Golf Club, married Jennifer Angeli on January 22nd.



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SAVE THE DATE

Assistant Superintendent Roundtable Session

Wednesday, March 9th

North Jersey Country Club, Wayne, NJ

(Class C Members Only)

Facility BMP Workshop

Monday, March 14th

Essex Fells Country Club, Essex Fells, NJ

Facility BMP Workshop

Tuesday, March 15th

West Lake Golf & CC, Jackson, NJ

Assistant Superintendent Roundtable Session

Monday, March 21st

Union League National, Swainton, NJ

(Class C Members Only)

MGA Green Chairman Seminar

Thursday, March 17th

Garden City Country Club, Garden City, NY

War at the Shore- GCSANJ vs. PAGCS

Monday, April 11th

Atlantic City Country Club, Northfield, NJ

For more information or to register for chapter events, please visit gcsanj.org.



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THE GCSANJ FOUNDATION HOLIDAY PARTY

By Shaun Barry



The GCSANJ Foundation hosted its Annual Christmas Party at Bar Anticipation in Lake Como. This location has hosted our event for many years. They always go above and beyond to provide great food, and their friendly staff is very accomodating to our guests. Bill Murray and Dave Mishkin have a great relationship with everyone there, and it's the reason we go back year after year.

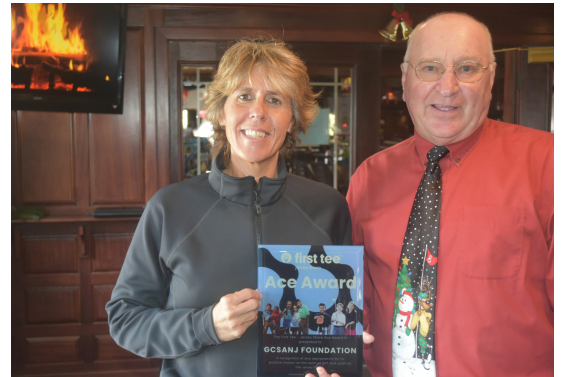
The Foundation trustees held their Annual Meeting before the party. Tyler Otero stepped down as president, and we thank him for his service. Keith Bennett has taken over the role as Foundation President. Pat Husby stepped into the role of Vice President and will also continue his duties as Secretary. Jim Cadott is very comfortable continuing his role as Treasurer.

Covid concerns seemed to affect attendance, but it did not reduce the number of toys donated to be Christmas gifts for local children in need. Several of our members brought up to five gifts. They, like the Foundation, are all about giving back and trying to help as many people as possible.

The First Tee of the Jersey Shore joined us at the party and made a plaque presentation to honor the GCSANJ Foundation for supporting their work. Bill Murray accepted their Ace Award plaque on our behalf.

The 50/50 went well but not every winner abided by our instructions not to give back their winnings. There is no charge for anyone for the food. This is another example of the Foundation trying to give back. We, however, had two anonymous donations that covered all of our refreshments.

Everyone enjoyed getting together and forgot about the issues of the day for a few hours. Our holiday party happens every December and is open to every member & their guests, so hopefully, you will join us at our next party.





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2021 Shaun M. Barry Distinguished Service Award Recipient

JOHN J. O'KEEFE, CGCS

By Doug Vogel

Congratulations to John J. O'Keefe, CGCS, for being named the 2021 Shaun M. Barry Distinguished Service Award winner, the highest honor bestowed upon a member of the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of New Jersey. For over 37 years, John has served the GCSANJ with great honor and irreproachable integrity.

John's New Jersey career commenced in 1986 soon after being named the golf course superintendent of The Preakness Hills Country Club in Wayne, New Jersey. The New England native became active with the GCSANJ from day one, volunteering his time with any committee that needed help. John worked his way up through the ranks as a member of the Board of Directors culminating in being elected President in 2003.

This was a time of great GCSANJ constitutional turmoil. John and his Board had to make some

hard, unpopular decisions about our association management, a topic that was dividing the GCSANJ. But John was a strong leader as president and had the respect of all the members. His delegation skills were his trademark. He solved the management issue, oversaw the GCSANJ's communication upgrade with an online presence, championed the resurrection of benevolence, and tasked his board with upgrading our education offerings.

No article written about John would be complete without a mention of his overall service to the golf course maintenance industry. He has served on boards, committees, and industry advisory councils on the local, state, and national levels for his entire career. If it helped his fellow superintendents, then John was all in. Included are past presidencies of the MetGCSA, the Tri-State Turfgrass Foundation, and the Environmental Institute for Golf.

John reached a career milestone when he had the distinct honor of serving his peers as the 79th President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

John has been a great mentor to his employees, a great friend to his fellow superintendents, and a great ambassador for our industry.

"John is a good person and a wonderful family man," offered a testimonial on his behalf. "He's a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and his list of awards and distinctions speak for themselves."

John O'Keefe's continuing devotion to his fellow New Jersey greenkeeping family is without question, too. To this day, he proudly serves the association as the Chapter Delegate to the GCSAA and volunteers on our scholarship committee.

Thank you, John, and keep up your continued important work for the GCSANJ. It is greatly appreciated.



The O'Keefe Family at Preakness Hills CC



Shaun Barry and John O'Keefe

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2021 Member of the Year Award Recipient

PATRICK H. HUSBY

By Donovan Maguigan

When was the last time you took a run and gave it your all? Did you ever get up and run four hours later, then run again four hours after that, continuing that for forty-eight hours? On March 21st of 2021, this year's Member of the Year Award Recipient Patrick Husby did just that and ran his way to raising \$16,200 for the GCSANJ Foundation.

Pat channeled his #Resolute fitness into lacing up his shoes at 8 p.m. on March 21st and ran four miles, every four hours, for forty-eight hours, tweeting video thanks to the 150 supporters who donated to the foundation in his honor along the way. When interviewed for The Greenside in March, he said their support motivated him to continue, "I knew I was not going to let down the over 150 colleagues, friends, and family that had contributed to the GCSANJ Foundation during a pandemic when we are all trying to make ends meet. That was

my biggest fear heading into this challenge. Letting anyone down, falling short of expectation, failing."

This challenge, called the David Goggins 4x4x48 Challenge, was developed by a former Navy Seal turned ultramarathoner and author of the book "Can't Hurt Me: Master Your Mind and Defy the Odds." While physically taxing due to the mileage, the challenge is also a strain on the body due to the interrupted periods of recovery and rest. Pat's forty-eight-hour challenge was driven by the sounds of Iron Maiden and Megadeth paired with heaps of support from Twitter's many superintendents, industry friends, and association members who followed along as he tracked his progress. In between legs, while Pat recovered and refueled, he continued to push himself with additional fitness challenges, including extra push-ups and sit-ups in honor of donations. Burning

approximately six hundred calories for each of the four-mile segments to which he averaged a sub-eight-minute per mile pace. Pat sustained himself with pasta and hard-boiled eggs, shared on Twitter, of course.

Providing support for the foundation requires the will to be philanthropic and generous, but to place your body in a state of extreme endurance places Patrick in a class alone. Dedicating two days of one's time is enough of a challenge, but to push your physical limits to the brink in the name of supporting a cause requires a stone-cold determination. Joe Kinlin, past president of the GCSANJ, recalled his impression of Pat's dedication and endurance with the challenge, "In a profession that consumes so much of our time, Pat always seems to find time to challenge himself physically while selflessly giving to help others. I often question if he is human, but never question his humanity."

Husby, a Rutgers University graduate, is the golf course superintendent at Due Process Stable, where he joined their staff in September 2021. Prior to Due Process, Pat was at Navesink Country Club, Suneagles Golf Club, Eagle Oaks Golf and Country Club, and Hamilton Farm Golf Club. He is also currently on the Board of Directors for the GCSANJ Foundation and a 16-year member of the GCSANJ.



Pat and his family after he ran a 50k.



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TAKE IT BACK TO THE FIRST TEE

Dr. Bruce Clarke
Through the Years



Bruce Clarke and former Graduate Student James Hempfling evaluating research studies at Hort Farm 2 in 2016.
Photo credit: USGA

1986

Bruce continues his research, teaching, and outreach program to support the state's Nursery, Greenhouse, Landscape, and Turfgrass Industries. In addition, Bruce had state-wide disease diagnostic responsibilities for all plants except fruit and vegetables.

1988

Their second child Katie is born, and Bruce is promoted to Associate Extension Specialist.



Christopher and Katie Clarke

1989

The GCSANJ, Tri-State Research Foundation, and other groups provide over \$100,000 to work on summer patch. Dr. Peter Landschoot is hired as a post-doc, and later Dr. David Thompson, who together with Dr. Clarke developed a set of Best Management Practices that are still in use on golf courses today.

1983

Ellen and Bruce welcome their first child Christopher.



Bruce diagnosing plant diseases in 1985.

1982

Bruce completed his Ph.D. in Plant Pathology and interviewed for jobs at Texas A&M, the Department of Agriculture in Bermuda, and Rutgers University. After careful consideration and with family in the Garden State, Bruce accepted a job with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service as an Assistant Professor of Ornamental and Turfgrass Pathology. He is mentored by three pioneers in the Rutgers Turf Program, C. Reed Funk, Henry Indyk, and Ralph Engel.

1971

Bruce grew up in Cresskill, NJ. In high school, he learned about the game of golf as a caddie at Montammy Golf Club in Alpine, NJ.

1973



Bruce graduated high school. He loved the outdoors and was interested in plants, so he enrolled at Cook College (formerly the College of Agriculture) at Rutgers University.

1977

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Forest Management and, after taking several courses in plant pathology, accepted a graduate assistantship from the Department of Plant Pathology at Rutgers.

1978

Bruce married his college sweetheart Ellen Vernachio at the Rutgers Kirkpatrick Chapel on June 11, 1978.



Bruce and Ellen Clarke on their wedding day.

1990

Bruce is offered a job in the private industry. He decides to stay at Rutgers after the University changes his appointment to 100% turf pathology and creates a new position for a plant disease diagnostician (filled by Dr. Karen Kackley and later by Rich Buckley). The ornamental portion of Bruce's responsibilities are transferred to a new ornamental extension specialist position filled by Dr. Ann Gould.

1993

Bruce is appointed Director of the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Pathology. A responsibility he had until December 31, 2020, when Dr. Jim Murphy became the new director of the Center.



Bruce at the 2010 Rutgers Turf Research Golf Classic.

1995

With the help of a dedicated group of people from Rutgers and the turf industry, Bruce oversees the first Rutgers Turf Research Golf Classic. This event has become the most successful turf research fundraiser in the world and has generated over 2 million dollars to date.



2016

Dr. Clarke receives the 2016 USGA Green Section Award.

2017

Rutgers hosts the 2017 International Turf Research Conference (ITRC) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick, NJ, with Bruce overseeing the event as outgoing President of the International Turfgrass Society. The ITRC is held every four years. This was only the second time it was held in the U.S. Rutgers raised more than \$500,000, including donations from the GCSANJ to host the event.



2017 ITRC Planning Committee

2021

With the help of colleagues at Rutgers and the turf industry, Bruce oversees the 3rd Turfgrass Economic Survey showing that the industry has grown to 4.9 billion dollars.

Bruce finally achieves his goal to speak in every state in the U.S. when he is invited to speak in Anchorage, Alaska, the last state on his list.

2015

Dollar Spot on fairways becomes an increasing concern on golf courses in the U.S., particularly in the fall months. Bruce and his colleagues and graduate students at Rutgers use the same approach that worked for anthracnose to develop BMPs for dollar spot. Their work with disease predictive models and quantifying dollar spot populations with molecular techniques funded by the GCSANJ, GCSAA, USDA, NJTA, and Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation continues today.

2020

Ellen and Bruce's 1st grandchild, Anna Mary, is born during the early months of the pandemic.



Denali National Park in Alaska.

Present

Bruce retires from Rutgers after 40 years of dedicated service. In addition to spending more time with family, traveling, and consulting, he plans to continue to be involved with the Rutgers Golf Classic, teaching in the 2-yr Professional Golf Management Program, and helping several of his graduate students finish their graduate degrees.

2005

Ralph Geiger, a long-time supporter of the Rutgers Turf Program, contributes more than 2 million dollars to establish an Endowed Chair in Turfgrass Science. Bruce becomes the first Ralph Geiger Endowed Chair and retained this recognition until 2011, when Dr. Bingru Huang and later Dr. Jim Murphy receive the honor.

2001

Bruce oversees the construction of the Ralph Geiger Education building at Hort Farm II, with donations of more than 1 million dollars from the turfgrass industry.

The same year, with the help of colleagues at Rutgers and the turf industry, Bruce oversees the 2nd Turfgrass Economic Survey showing that the industry has grown to 3.2 billion dollars.

2012

Bruce becomes the Chairman of the Plant Pathology Department and restructures the department with the help of his colleagues. Bruce steps down from this position after the restructuring was completed in 2014.



Hort Farm II

2000

Anthracnose becomes one of the top three diseases of annual bluegrass putting green turf in the U.S. Bruce and his colleagues and graduate students at Rutgers and 12 other universities in the U.S. and Canada embark on what would be a 20-year research effort with grants from the GCSANJ, Tri-state Research Foundation, NJTA, GCSAA, and USGA.

1999

With the retirement of several faculty in the Plant Pathology Department, Bruce becomes chairman of the department. He later becomes vice-chair of the Department of Plant Biology after the Plant Science and Plant Pathology Departments are merged in 2001.

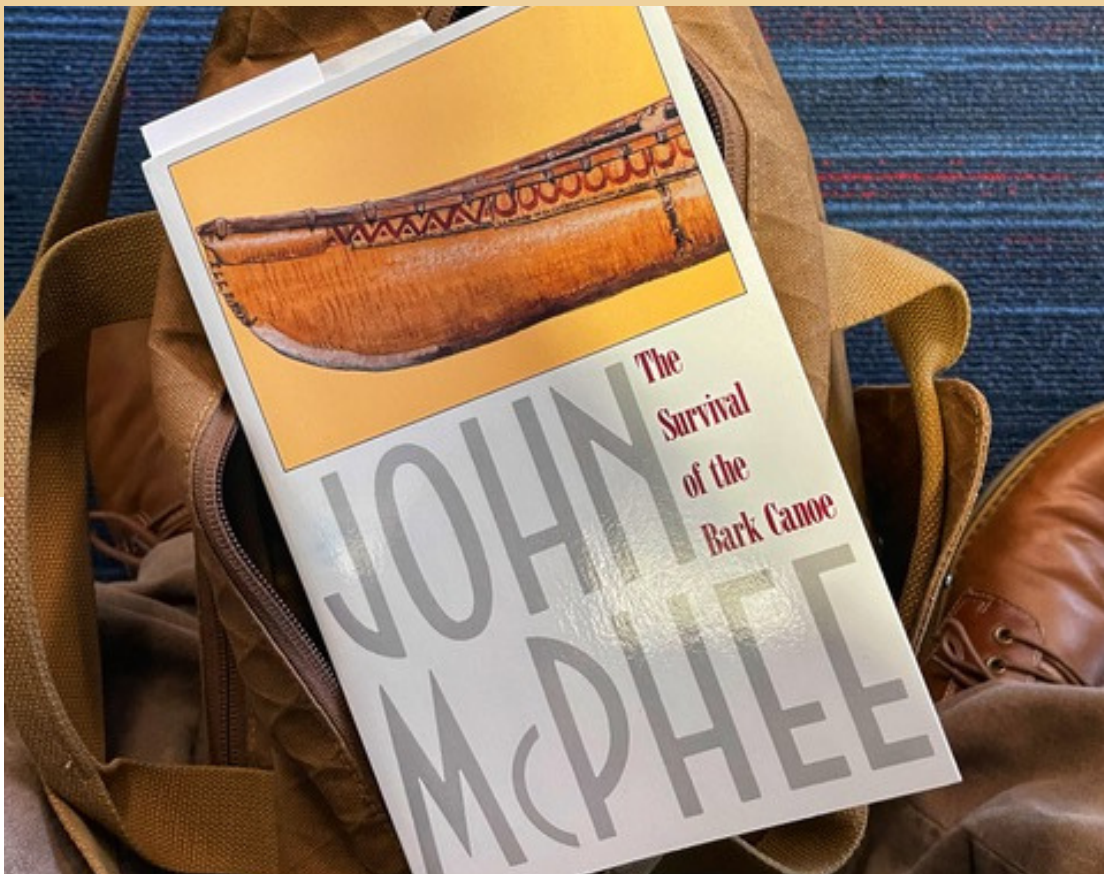


The Clarke Family in Hawaii.

WISDOM IN UNCOMMON BOOKS

By Donovan Magiugan

The Survival of the Bark Canoe – John McPhee



It's not uncommon for me to be reading multiple books at the same time, whether it is an audiobook, an e-book, and sometimes a printed book (or as Brian from Family Guy says, "The internet made of trees."). In a given day, I spend around one to two hours total reading, and I manage to churn through 25-40 books a year. The topics are widely varied from finance, history, comedy, Stephen King horror, and everything in between. The most important thing that I have learned from years of reading this much is that you should read the books that you want, and you will be able to take valuable lessons from everything you read when you enjoy the subjects.

Looking for the perfect book to read on a non-stop West Coast to East Coast flight with no available wi-fi? Try the book about the possible last tradesmen constructing canoes out of birch bark with no fasteners, nails, or screws. That book is *The Survival of the Bark Canoe* written by John McPhee.

The decision to read this book came from prior reading John McPhee (Princeton professor at the collegiate home of my course, Springdale Golf Club) and a mention by Nick Offerman in his new book, *Where the Deer and Antelope Play*, where he describes the book's plot: "...the development of the birch bark canoe by the indigenous tribes of the Canadian North Woods, who could walk into the forest with a knife and a little fire and paddle out in an eighteen-foot canoe. The history of the canoe has been a favorite subject of mine [...] which started when I read John McPhee's wonderful, *The Survival of the Bark Canoe*." It's hard to pass up a recommendation from Nick Offerman, who celebrates the life of simple pleasures like woodworking, scotch, and walking in the woods.

As described by Offerman, the book tells the true story of Henri Vaillancourt, a young man who builds canoes solely out of birch and cedar harvested in the woods of New England and Canada. After traveling deep into the isolated remote woods for material, he uses no power

tools, screws, nails, glue, or any other modern tools to construct functional works of art. In a world of fiberglass and aluminum canoes, Vaillancourt remains the last vestige of time long past. The book combines McPhee shadowing the work on the canoes which include hours and hours of shaping and cutting using knives, and his following along with an expedition to the north woods of Maine to find suitable building materials while traveling in one of Vaillancourt's canoes.

Reading this book, I was able to take away several lessons that can be applied to working on a golf course:

-Dedication to One's Craft

Vaillancourt is obsessed with the construction of the canoes to the point where his movements, cutting, and shaving are exact and deliberate. His dedication mirrors ours as the daily maintenance on our course can become hardwired and muscle memory, with our minds able to detect imperfections and adjust.

-The Rewarding Value of a Physical Trade Skill

At the end of his work, the canoes are described as a work of art. At the end of our work, we have a large canvas to showcase the fruits of our labor. The golf course, happy golfers, and full tee sheets reinforce the value of what we have created.

-A Descendent in a Long Line

Unless you are on a new construction, superintendents came before you and there will be more after you. Like the passed-on generations of boat builders before, we carry the traditions and methods of our past ancestors.

Further Reading: Check out *Shop Class as Soulcraft* by Matthew B. Crawford. This book explores the merits of a skilled-based manual labor and its impact on the enrichment of our lives.

Donovan Maguigan is the golf course superintendent at Springdale Golf Club in Princeton and can be found on Twitter/Instagram at @McBuckeyeAT.



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15 QUESTIONS WITH DR. JAMES MURPHY

By Maureen Sharples

Dr. Jim Murphy recently sat down with The Greenside to discuss his new role as Director of the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science and more.

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

I grew up within one of the three major breadbaskets of the world in a small Illinois village (Manteno) about 50 miles south of Chicago. The village was established at the highest elevation (675 ft) in the county within the Kankakee River watershed. This slow-flowing river nurtured the largest inland wetlands in the United States — the Grand Kankakee Marsh. The marsh was home to an amazing diversity of plants, birds, fish, and animals that supported a local economy built around fur trade, hunting, fishing, and farming. After the Civil War, draining of the marsh converted the land into the highly productive corn and soybean farmland it is today.

2. How long have you worked at Rutgers?

I moved to New Jersey and started working at Rutgers in 1991.

3. What are the unique aspects of career?

The opportunities to travel internationally and engage with colleagues in other countries is a unique part of my career. The perspectives gained from experiencing cultures in Asia, southeast Asia, central Asia, Australia, Europe, Scandinavia, and the United Kingdom is something I didn't anticipate when I started my career.

4. What does a typical workday look like?

A typical day for me often is not typical. I have many roles and duties at Rutgers, which results in a lot of variation in my day-to-day schedule. I will say to as the years go on I spend more time working at a keyboard and computer display. So, I definitely enjoy when spring comes and I can get out on the farm to study the research plots.



5. What is your biggest professional challenge?

Currently, that would be recruiting and hiring an outstanding scientist and educator with strong leadership potential to be the next turfgrass pathologist at Rutgers University.

6. Tell us about your family.

My wife, Stephanie, and I were graduate students at Michigan State University. She has her Ph.D. in soil biophysics and is the director of the Rutgers Soil Testing Lab. Our daughter, Devan enjoyed competitive horse jumping as she grew up. She is working on a dual degree at the University of California-Davis and will be a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine as well as a Ph.D. when she graduates. Our son, Brandon enjoys playing hockey. He works as a physical therapy assistant.

7. What are your interests outside of work?

Watching my children grow and mature as adults. I'm a hockey fan. Grew up a Chicago Blackhawks fan and became a Devils fan after moving to New Jersey. Playing golf, which I need to do more. Fly fishing, finding those magical places of solitude and serenity on a stream, river, or lake, and then figuring out how to present a fly and get a fish to eat is an amazing experience for me. Hiking, especially mountain trails.



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

I have been fortunate to have many mentors throughout my career. I started my career with Dr. Paul Rieke at Michigan State University, who gave me the opportunity to study and learn turfgrass soil science. To this day, I use skills that I learned under his mentorship. Paul is one of the most genuine and caring persons I know, characteristics that I strive to emulate to this day. Dr. C. Reed Funk mentored me on what it took to be a successful faculty member at Rutgers University. I also learned more about turfgrasses from Reed than anyone else. Moreover, he honed my ability to continue teaching myself through keen observation and listening. And then there is Dr. Bruce Clarke; I learned from him that to truly be a team player you need to be a builder as well. Building makes the team stronger.

9. What is the best piece of advice or guidance you give to your students?

Pursue your passion. Having a sincere interest in what you do makes those pursuits fulfilling. Moreover, enjoying what you do gives you the motivation to problem solve during those times when little seems to go well.

10. You recently took on the role of Director of the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science. What are some of your goals and aspirations for the Center?

My aspiration for Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science is to see it continue its excellence in generating and disseminating knowledge in turfgrass science. To that end, an important goal is to re-fill the now vacant turfgrass pathologist position with an outstanding scientist and educator. We expect to be advertising that we are seeking applicants for that position within the next few weeks.

11. What are some of the major changes or milestones you have seen since you have been there?

Major changes that I have witnessed at Rutgers include hiring Dr. Bill Meyer and the subsequent retirement of Dr. C. Reed Funk. The success of the transition in leadership of the turfgrass breeding program is a major reason for the continued success of the turfgrass program at Rutgers and was instrumental in the substantial growth in faculty that started in the 1990s. And more recently, we have entered another major transition with the retirement of Dr. Bruce Clarke.

12. At the turfgrass research field day this past summer, you were seen fly-casting on one of the turfgrass plots. Please share the story behind the photo.

About four years ago, my interest in fly fishing was revived. And about the same time, I learned that Marsha Benovenga was an avid fly fisher and Chair of the New Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Ever since, we share fishing adventures during the NJ Green Expo and Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Days, where Marsha works at registration. Marsha raves about her Orvis Helios 3 fly rod, and she was kind enough to bring it to field day so that I could experience how it casts. I agree with her; it has great casting action.



13. Food on the Rutgers campus is synonymous with Grease Trucks and Fat Sandwiches, do you have a campus favorite sandwich or place to eat?

Yes, the Grease Trucks and Fat Sandwiches are noteworthy, especially on the College Ave campus. I don't go to the College Ave campus too often, so don't have a favorite sandwich or place. And I definitely enjoy partaking when I get the chance.

14. Rutgers hosted the first-ever collegiate football game in 1869, playing against Princeton and establishing themselves as the birthplace of college football. What is your favorite Rutgers football memory?

I wasn't at the game but the 4th quarter comeback victory on national TV over then No. 3 ranked Louisville in 2006 must be the favorite. Numerous people, recognizing the block R on my shirt or hat, would approach me in airports after that game and tell me how much they enjoyed watching that game. It was a thriller.

15. List four things we don't know about you.

1. I learned golf from my dad and uncle. Dad played left-handed and I almost did; I still remember my dad telling me to make up my mind. I think he was tired of me using his clubs. To this day, I wonder if I should have played left-handed. Would love to play another round with my dad and uncle.

2. I held the record low score for my high school for a couple of years. Not sure I remember the score, but I think it was a 39 or 38 for a nine-hole competition.

3. My first vehicle was a 1970 Chevy C10 truck that my dad gave me. It needed an engine. My best friend, Dave, and I (mostly Dave) rebuilt an engine that I got from a friend of my dad. Drove that '70 Chevy C10 for several years and gave it to my brother. Love trucks. Still have the first truck that I bought.

4. Tried to "walk-on" the Western Illinois University golf team but posted a few shots too many to play at that level.

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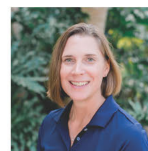
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GCSAA CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW RECAP

By Kevin Doyle, GCSAA Northeast Field Representative

In case you couldn't join us for the GCSA Conference and Show in San Diego, here are some snippets from Show and highlights for members here in the Northeast region. A total of 3,700 seminar seats were filled. In addition to education for superintendents, the event also included specialized education for assistant superintendents, equipment managers, students and more. The GCSAA Conference and Trade Show in-person total attendance was 6,500. The trade show covered nearly 114,000 square feet of exhibit space at the San Diego Convention Center and hosted more than 300 exhibitors.

Your 2022 Board of Directors

Kevin P. Breen, the certified golf course superintendent (CGCS) at La Rinconada Country Club in Los Gatos, Calif., was elected to a one-year term as president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) at the association's annual meeting on Feb. 10, held in conjunction with the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show. He is the 86th president in the association's history.

Other elected officers were Kevin P. Sunderman, CGCS, director of grounds at Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club in St. Petersburg, Fla., as vice president, and Jeff L. White, CGCS and superintendent at Indian Hills Country Club in Mission Hills, Kan.; as secretary/treasurer.

Board members Douglas D. Dykstra, CGCS, golf course superintendent at White Mountain Country Club in Pinetop, Ariz., and Marc E. Weston, CGCS, superintendent at Indian Hill Country Club in Newington, Conn., were elected to serve again, while Steven J. Hammon, superintendent at Traverse City (Mich.) Country Club, was newly elected to the board.

MELROSE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Support from the Kendrick B. Melrose Family Foundation, founded by the late Ken Melrose, former CEO and chairman of Toro Co., and longtime friend and supporter

of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), will give 12 GCSAA members the opportunity to attend the 2022 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show, Feb. 5-10, in San Diego, CA.

The Melrose Leadership Academy supports the professional development of GCSAA superintendent members, while the Melrose Equipment Management Experience provides professional development for GCSAA equipment managers. Both programs are administered through the GCSAA Foundation, the philanthropic organization of GCSAA.

NE Region participant in the 2022 Melrose Leadership Academy:

- Donovan Maguigan of Springdale Golf Club in Princeton, N.J.



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GCSAA LEARNING HUB

Goosegrass Control Options to Avoid Resistance

Fred Yelverton, Ph.D.

Mar. 10th @ noon

Get Ideas to Get Ahead: Tips from a Veteran CGCS

Don Garrett, CGCS

Mar. 29 @ 10 a.m.

Lowering the Cost of Managing Trees, Shrubs and Flowers

John Fech

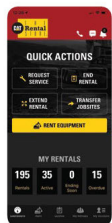
Mar. 23 @ noon

Be Precise! Reduce Water Use in Your Fairways

Chase Straw, Ph.D.

Mar. 31 @ 10 a.m.

To access the webinars, visit gcsaa.org/education/my-learning-hub



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Tom Weinert, Shawn Haverdink



Ben Stover, Phil Knudsen,
Nick Adams, Frank Horan



Frank Tichenor, Chad Broderick,
Jason Osterhoudt, Fred Parcells



Stephen Rudich & John Carpinelli



Jeremy Hreben & Ryan Tuxhorn



Pat McMahon & Shawn Reynolds



Josh Kopera, Ken Anson,
Sean Konsavich, Rob Arnts



Nick Alley, Sean Charles,
Kyle Hillegass, Brian Kahl



Jonathan Heywood, Phil Page,
Joey Wolff, Jay Ewan

TURFEST

METUCHEN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Hosted by Jason Osterhoudt



Todd Raisch, Russ Harris, Fred Rapp
Doug Vogel, and Rick Krok



Jennifer and Ricardo Torres



Drone Demonstration



The Finch Turf Team



Tim Reinagel and Paul Ramina



Storr Tractor Demonstration



Food Trucks and Vendor Tent



Keith Bennett, Paul Ramina, and
Jeremy Hreben



Jason Osterhoudt and
Corey Angelo's presentation

ANNUAL MEETING

GALLOPING HILL GOLF COURSE

Hosted by Russ Harris



Tom Pepe



Brian O'Malley and Jeff Barr



Lee Kozsey



Ken Kubik and Doug Vogel



Donovan Maguigan and Joe Kinlin



Darrell Marcinek and Russ Harris



John O'Keefe



Jeremy Hreben and
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-Jeff Barr, Galloping Hill Golf Course

"What is your favorite restaurant in New Jersey?"

"Il Capricios in Whippany is the best Italian in New Jersey. One of the best dining experiences, and an atmosphere that is from a scene out of The Sopranos. Nothing can beat grandma's home-cooked Italian, but this is as close as it gets."

-Nick Roberto, Textron E-Z-GO



"I have a tie. They are both strip mall gems and BYOB.

Nicola's Ristorante in Totowa. The vibe is consummately North Jersey Italian. Staff is knowledgeable, with typically 6-8 specials to add to the already good menu. Bread is served with Eggplant Spread & Bruschetta. Good meal presentation such as my favorites, Stuffed Artichokes, Pasta Orecchiette Alla Maria (sautéed broccoli rabe and white bean), Gnocchis, and Zuppa Di Pesce.

Tarentella Ristorante in Medford. Owner, Salvatore, makes his way to every table to check on your meal, and I have never had a bad one. I recommend Calamari Salad, Eggplant Parm, Veal Tarentella, Grilled Salmon with mussels and clams over capellini. You will leave with dinner for another night or two."

-Lou Bosco, Turf Equipment and Supply Company

"Anyone who follows my Instagram stories probably knows that my favorite restaurant in NJ is Brick Farm Tavern in Hopewell. It's a farm-to-table tavern located just north of Princeton. I love it, especially for the fact that the menu is different every time because it is based on what is available from their partner farms. It's hard to pick a favorite food from there that I have enjoyed, from the pork meatballs, short rib, biscuits & gravy, their farm burger, empanadas, and really good cocktails from the brewery and distillery next door. Too many great evenings there with my wife to count, and we even love the tavern so much that we chose to have our wedding there."

-Donovan Maguigan, Springdale Golf Club



"It is so hard to pick just one favorite food, and I feel our favorite restaurant changes with time. Currently, my favorite restaurant in New Jersey is Nettie's House of Spaghetti. An upscale take on a step back in time of fresh daily, homemade pasta and meats just like Grandma used to make. The meals are served family-style for everyone to share. They have the best olive-filled gin martini around! This place is fun and fresh without reinventing the wheel. A great place for best friends and family to share time while enjoying great food."

-Mike Tardogno, Tamarack Golf Course





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