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Cover: Westchester Country Club.

Site of Winter Seminar. Don't miss it! See page 5 for details.

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President's Message

Be Proactive— Not Reactive!



The transition from fall to winter is something I've always looked forward to as a golf course superintendent. It not only signals the end of a demanding golf season, but also offers time to reflect on our accomplishments, as well as areas for improvement. It's vitally important that we continually scrutinize our operations and ask ourselves what we can do better—on the course and in our club relations.

If you've taken a look at some of the more recent job notices that have come out, you've probably noticed that clubs are looking for superintendents who take a proactive approach to the job, who go that extra mile. You'll find in these job notices requests for superintendents with "a passion to exceed member expectations" or "a commitment to ensure maximum member and guest satisfaction" or "the drive to take the course to the next level and beyond."

Heed What You Hear

In order to "exceed member expectations," we need to know, first, what our membership expects from us. Don't assume you know what these expectations are; they're often not obvious. You need to make a concerted effort to keep the line of communication between you and the Green Committee direct, clear, and well worn. Pathways that aren't well worn lend themselves to weeds, grasses, and even small trees. Goals and visions become obscured. In other words, you lose sight of what your members' thoughts and expectations are.

You see the aftermath of this kind of problem when you go for a job at another course and the club officials you're meeting with begin venting about the outgoing superintendent and his or her maintenance practices. You'll hear things like, "the water in the ball washers always smells" or "the bunkers are never raked in the proper fashion" or "the divot mix containers on the tees are always empty."

These remarks usually reflect a serious lack of communication between the superintendent and the membership by way of the Green Committee. Or worse, they show that the superintendent heard the



Will Heintz
MetGCSA President

concerns but just didn't take them seriously.

You may think a particular concern is insignificant in the scheme of things, but if membership rumblings over an issue are registering 2 or 3 on the Richter Scale, you've got to give it immediate attention. It takes only one or two disparaging remarks from the right person to change the whole complexion of your job.

Flushing Out Problems

The best preventive medicine I've seen in all my reading is to actively—and regularly—seek feedback on your performance. The most common approach, as Jim McLoughlin suggests in his October *Golf Course News* article "Real Job Security," is to request a season-ending evaluation meeting. "Your discussion should focus on what went well that season, what didn't, and what needs to be done better next season," writes Jim, who also points out that while this procedure won't guarantee job security, it will help to defuse issues that regularly lead to job dismissal.

Another approach, particularly if you sense things at the club are beginning to go sour, is to invite a group of superintendents—perhaps those on our Club Relations

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Feature

Career-Happy: Are You or Aren't You?



Tim Johnson works for a prestigious golf club, earning one of the highest salaries in the area. The club scooped him up six years ago, when he was just 30 and still gung-ho on doing whatever it took to make the course picture-perfect. Back then, he'd work every day, long after the typical quitting time. Now, with a wife and two children, he's begun to resent his 24/7 summer schedule, which prevents him from spending time with his family when they have the most time to spend with him. Lately, Tim's feeling he's paying too high a price for the salary and position that were once so attractive to him.

Bill Restin, a 29-year-old superintendent, has quickly elevated himself in the profession and is highly regarded by his club manager and green chairman. But despite his success, he's never really enjoyed the day-to-day duties and responsibilities of his job. The camaraderie of the profession and the high praise he frequently receives from the membership have kept him from calling it quits. But even so, Bill has begun to feel something profound is missing from his life.



family responsibilities. Then later, when they become dissatisfied with their career choice, they're afraid to take a new tack that might temporarily eat into their financial security.

If one of these patterns sounds all too familiar, you've probably taken a false turn somewhere along your career path. Hopefully, you haven't been in the field long so you can more easily get back on track.

The test below is designed to give you a

reading on your career—or job—satisfaction. What you learn about yourself and your career choice may lay the groundwork for pursuing a more perfect match.

Measuring Your Career Satisfaction

Respond to each statement below with a 0 for not true; a 5 for somewhat true; and a 10 for absolutely true. A space has been provided for your answers.

Where They Went Wrong

Tim and Bill are not real people, but their lives are typical of many superintendents—and managers in all types of professions—who are attempting to force a fit with a job they're not well suited for. According to Clinical Psychologist and Career Counseling Specialist Harry Gunn, studies show that more than 60 percent of Americans feel they're stumbling along the wrong career path. Part of the problem, Gunn feels, is that matching a person's desires and abilities with a job track is no easy task. It takes forethought and long-range planning—a preliminary step too many people overlook early on in their career, when it really counts.

Interestingly, in studies Gunn has conducted with managers across the country, he's found that nearly 80 percent lack the skills required to do their job well, and a good number are mismatched in *both* desire and ability.

Gunn has identified three common patterns that lead people to enter into—or stay put in—a career or particular job they're not well-suited for.

1. The "It's All I Know" syndrome. All too often, people are persuaded to pursue a particular career purely because they haven't thoroughly explored other alternatives. In the case of the superintendent, some have worked on a golf course and for lack of anything better, they fall into the business. Others pursue it as a career because a family member is a golf course superintendent, so they launch into the field with little thought on their natural abilities or interests.

2. The "Make It Big Fast" syndrome. This hits some turf professionals early in their careers. They grab the first assistant's job they can out of school, and then seven years later, they find themselves stuck in the same position with little hope of securing that high-paying superintendent's position. But inertia sets in, and they decide to slog it out, unhappy that the profession seems to offer little potential for growth.

3. The "It's a Living" syndrome. This strikes when a superintendent has succeeded in reaching a reasonable salary level, feeling compelled to make more money because of

Section 1

1. I'm satisfied with the money I make. _____
2. My financial situation will probably improve. _____
3. In my field, I'll continue to be paid an amount consistent with my abilities. _____
4. I can earn more money if I work harder and/or more creatively. _____
5. The income potential in my field continues to look good. _____

Total: _____

Section 2

1. I like to think about work, even after-hours. _____
2. I find the job fun. _____
3. I believe my work is important to society. _____
4. I look forward to going to work. _____
5. I feel my career allows me to grow personally. _____
6. My job enhances my personal life. _____

Total: _____

Section 3

1. I am usually able to set my own work pace and direction on the job. _____
2. My job gives me the opportunity to try out my own ideas. _____
3. There's great variety in my job. _____
4. My job is so satisfying that I often want to take on extra projects. _____
5. The fringe benefits are adequate. _____
6. There's just enough pressure at work to keep me on my toes. _____
7. My job allows me enough free time to pursue outside activities. _____

Total: _____

Section 4

1. I have a sufficient amount of contact with other people. _____
2. I'm often able to exchange ideas with others. _____
3. I know my bosses appreciate my efforts on the job. _____
4. I meet an ample number and variety of people through work. _____
5. I feel that my people skills are constantly improving as a result of my work. _____

Total: _____

Section 5

1. I'm making adequate advancement through my career. _____
2. My career will continue to provide ample job flexibility in the future. _____
3. I'll be able to reach my career goals in my present field. _____
4. My career won't run dry of challenges. _____
5. I'm in a growing field. _____

Total: _____

“Many managers, even those who are financially successful, are deeply dissatisfied with their lives because they simply do not feel good about their jobs.”

– Harry Gunn, clinical psychologist and career counseling specialist

Score Analysis

Add up the numerical value of your answers in each section, and study the evaluations that follow.

Section 1: Financial Rewards. If you scored higher than 30 in this section, the financial rewards of your career probably measure up to your expectations. A score of 25 to 30 indicates your needs and income are moderately well matched, while 25 or below can signal trouble. Your needs and salary—or potential salary—are so far out of line that your performance and working relationships may begin to suffer, if they haven't already.

If you're deliberating a career switch, be sure to examine whether your income will continue to improve at a suitable rate in that field. It's also a good idea to understand pay and raise structures in the industry you're considering, advises Gunn. Some fields are more apt to allow you to determine your earnings by the effort you put into the job: how hard you work; how ingenious you are. Others are bound by rigid pay structures and give only scheduled increases, regardless of any contributions above and beyond the call of duty.

Section 2: Psychological and Emotional Rewards. It's vitally important that you enjoy your work and feel that what you do is useful, Gunn contends. Many managers, even those who are financially successful, are deeply dissatisfied with their lives because they simply do not feel good about their jobs.

If you scored 35 or higher in this category,

you're probably well suited psychologically to your career. A score of under 35 indicates that you're not particularly pleased with what you're doing.

Section 3: Working Conditions. This section sizes up how well your working conditions match your goals and personality. Are you a self-starter, for instance? Do you want to determine your own work schedule? Do perks and competition spur you on to greater productivity and enhance your job enjoyment?

If these factors are important to you, a score of 40 or more is the tip-off that you and your working environment are a superb fit. If you came in under 40, you might want to step back and scrutinize your career choice.

Section 4: The Interpersonal Aspect. Here, we're exploring the people side of the equation. If you scored 30 or below, you probably don't mind the often solitary nature of the job of superintendent. A score of 30 or above, shows you may be better served by pursuing a job or field that involves more people contact—or making a concerted effort to put yourself in front of the membership and other club staff.

Section 5: Job Potential. Job potential is another vital element in your career choice. If you scored 30 or above in this section, there's probably sufficient growth potential in your field. A lower score, however, signals cause for concern.

Your present enjoyment and satisfaction are of little long-range value if the job isn't

leading you down your desired career path. Similarly, if you feel the field itself doesn't provide adequate advancement potential or an ample variety of job opportunities, you'll end up nowhere fast.

In the End

Understand that a particularly high or low score in any one category does not, in itself, give you a definitive reading on your career—or job—satisfaction. A consistently high score in all five sections, however, is a sign that you're probably on track. Similarly, if you score low in every section, you'd be well advised to challenge all your major career assumptions.

Before making a radical leap to something new, however, it's wise to attempt to make an adjustment in your current position or even change jobs within the same field. “A hasty career switch, just to escape from a painful situation, often leads to unhappy results,” warns Donald Whyte, a vice president of the Chicago-based Hay Career Consultants.

Whyte has counseled many executives through tough career calls. To keep them on the straight and narrow, he makes it a practice to challenge clients even after they think they've reached a fully jelled career decision. “More often than not, their response is to step back and give their decision more thought,” he says.

When it comes to plotting new or alternate career directions, you can almost never overevaluate your options, says Whyte. There's just no easy path to a new career. But you're less apt to take a wrong turn if you consider all your possibilities—inside and out.

“A hasty career switch, just to escape from a painful situation, often leads to unhappy results.”

– Donald Whyte, a vice president of the Chicago-based Hay Career Consultants

Upcoming Events

2005 Met Calendar of Events in the Making

Here's a look at our preliminary 2005 Meeting Calendar. Several sites are still yours for the taking, so please think about hosting an event! To secure a golf meeting, don't delay in calling either of our Tournament Committee co-chairs: Tom Leahy at 914-941-8281 or Chuck Denny at 914-669-5959.

Business Meeting

March

Date and Site OPEN

Two-Ball Qualifier

Monday, April 25

Trump National Golf Club
Briarcliff Manor, NY

Superintendent/Manager Tournament

May (Date TBA)

Rolling Hills Country Club, Wilton, CT
Host: Glenn Perry, CGCS

Invitational Tournament

June (Date TBA)

Fairview Country Club, Greenwich, CT
Host: Mike Mongon

Education Meeting

July

Date & Site OPEN

Poa Annual Tournament/First Round of Met Championship

Monday, August 15

Oak Hills Park Golf Course, Norwalk, CT
Host: Glen Dube, CGCS

Golf Meeting

September

Date & Site OPEN

Superintendent/Green Chairman Tournament

October (Date TBA)

Century Country Club, Purchase, NY
Host: Kevin Seibel

Annual Assistants Championship

Date & Site OPEN

Met Area Team Championship

Date & Site TBA

Annual Meeting

November

Date & Site OPEN

Educational Events

MetGCSA Winter Seminar

Wednesday, January 12

Westchester Country Club, Rye, NY

Host: Joe Alonzi, CGCS

Don't miss this year's Winter Seminar trade show and exciting round of speakers and educational topics. The lineup:

- The Care of Trees **Dr. Rex Bastian** will talk about shade tree risk assessment and management.
- ArborCom Technologies' **Herb Waterous**, CGCS, also a former MetGCSA superintendent, will discuss how to develop a golf course shade management program that combines on-site observation with computer modeling.
- **Dr. Pat Vittum** of the University of Massachusetts will offer important insight into the latest biological and chemical control strategies for annual bluegrass weevil.
- **Dr. Steve Hart** of Rutgers University will discuss the fundamentals of Velocity herbicide in controlling *Poa annua* and *Poa trivialis* in cool-season turfgrasses.
- **Dr. Stacy Bonos**, also of Rutgers, will guide superintendents in selecting the right bentgrass, offering insight into the strengths and weaknesses of current cultivars and improved disease resistance with new cultivars.
- The educational session will close with **Rick Fletcher** of Cleary Chemical Co., who will talk about the critical role of phosphorous in turfgrass growth and help guide you in determining whether phosphite fertilization is right for you.

Call or email Education Chairman Glen Dube for further information. Phone: 203-838-4960. Email: Glendube@aol.com.

The 8th Annual New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show

Monday – Thursday, March 7 – 10

Rhode Island Convention Center,
Providence, RI

The annual conference and show's educational sessions will bring you cutting edge turfgrass management tactics and techniques, while the three-day trade show will offer you easy access to the latest in equipment, products, and supplies offered by more than 400 exhibitors. Call the NERTF Office at 401-841-5490 for further information.

President's Message continued from page 1

Committee—to tour your course and give you an honest appraisal of your operation.

It's not a bad idea for all of us to do this on an annual basis, just to keep our own perceptions in check. Is our operation—and the condition of our course—really as good as we think it is?

Let's face it. None of us are immune to problems; we live them everyday. I remember, in one of my first few years as superintendent at Hampshire Country Club, I was attending the Westchester Classic and bumped into one of my members. It was a beautiful sunny day. I was having a great time watching the tour pros—until this member said to me, "Will, we have the worst greens in Westchester." My heart sank to my shoes, but it was a necessary wakeup call.

When you *are* in the midst of battling poor member perceptions, you might want to take things a step further and invite the supers critiquing your course to join you at a Green Committee meeting to share their findings and help hash out ways the club might support you in making any necessary changes. I'll bet that in addition to identifying needed changes in maintenance practices, they'll be able to point to some voids in resources or staffing.

Take the Good With the Bad

It's important that we all learn to accept criticism, as hard as it may be, and to benefit from it. We need to know—and stay in touch with—the things that really bother our employers about us and our operations. We need to stay in touch with superintendents from area clubs—the clubs our members visit and compare to our own. If we keep our ears to the ground—and act on those subtle, but persistent rumblings—we can't help but make our facilities better, our members happier, and our jobs more secure.

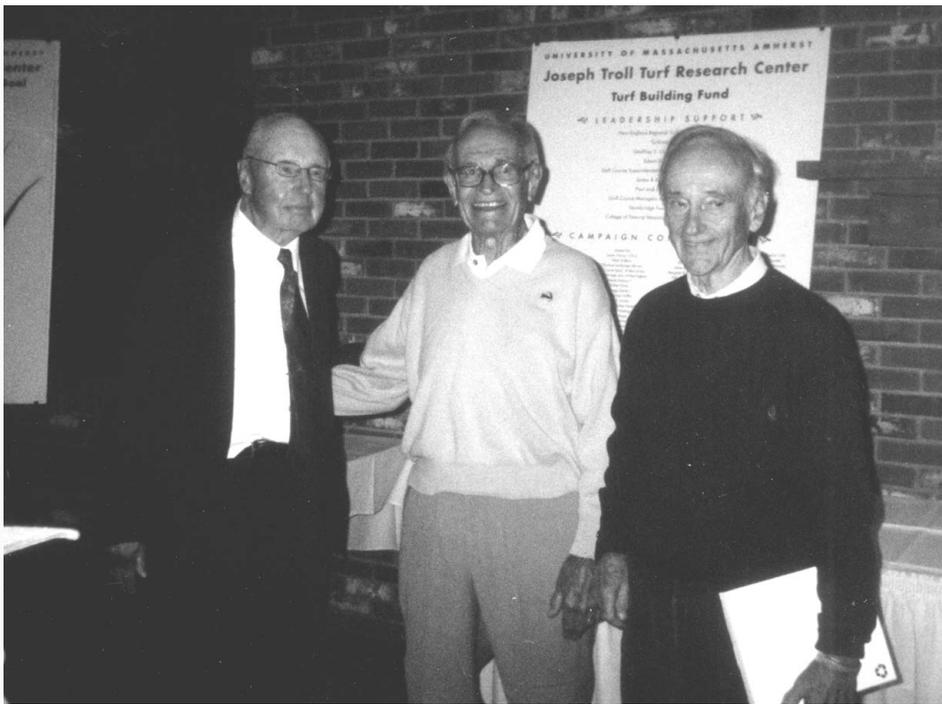
In this off-season time, get some rest, challenge your intellect with the great assortment of educational seminars available to us regionally and nationally, mend some fences in the house (if need be), and take a better look at yourself and your surroundings. Anticipating problems—before they become issues among your membership—is what being proactive, and successful in the long run, is all about.

With warmest regards,

Will Heintz
President

Joseph Troll Turf Research Center Fundraiser a Great Success

by Will Heintz



At the Joseph Troll Turf Research Center Fundraiser, striking a pose with Dr. Joseph Troll, retired UMass professor of agronomy (right), are Geoff Cornish, golf course architect, and Sherwood Moore, CGCS (center).

Photo by Gerry Kunkel, superintendent, Pine Hollow Country Club.

On Tuesday, October 5, more than 150 golfers teed off at Hickory Ridge Country Club in Amherst, MA, to support the building of a new turf research center dedicated in honor of Joseph Troll, for his many years of service to the turfgrass industry.

The tourney participants, along with 25 sponsors, raised more than \$40,000 for the center. In addition, matching funds of \$20,000 from the State of Massachusetts will push the proceeds to more than \$60,000.

Perfect weather, along with great course conditioning, made for a wonderful day. Hickory Ridge owners Cathy and Doug Harper were generous in donating not only their course, but the carts for the day. And of course, Bob Ruzsala should be commended for organizing—and then painstakingly grooming his course for—this fundraising event. Special thanks, also, to Pelham Country Club Super Jeff Wentworth for representing the MetGCSA as our chapter liaison.

Worthy of the Honor

Before retiring more than 20 years ago, Dr. Troll served as a professor of agronomy and mentor to countless turfgrass students at the University of Massachusetts. The success of the UMass Winter School, a short course in turfgrass management that gained national recognition, is credited largely to Dr. Troll.

His outstanding personality and people skills led to his success in placing student interns at top-notch golf facilities. Later in their careers, many of these students went on to become superintendents at some of the world's most prestigious golf facilities.

Dr. Troll taught his students lessons beyond turf management. He emphasized that equally important to a superintendent's success is professionalism, hard work, effective communication, and public relations. There's a lot more to the profession, he would tell us, than growing grass.

He had many memorable "pearls of wisdom" and sayings like, "Dogs and Sailors . . .

Keep Off the Grass." This and others like it will come up, from time to time, in former students' conversations.

The construction of The Joseph Troll Turf Research Center is part of UMass's ongoing effort to maintain the high quality and standards of the university's turf program. According to Dean of the College of Natural Resources Cleve Willis, the university will also be hiring new turfgrass specialists and renewing its focus on research. "New England deserves the highest quality turf programs," Willis says, "and we intend to make that a reality here at UMass Amherst."

A few days after the tournament, I received a phone call from Dr. Troll, saying how great it was to see all of us and thanking us for attending. I told him that we wouldn't have missed it for anything. It was just a small token of thanks to someone who has had such a positive effect on all our careers.

Will Heintz, MetGCSA president, is superintendent at Centennial Golf Club in Carmel, NY.



Who's Who on the New MetGCSA Board

The November 10 MetGCSA Annual Meeting ended with the following members elected to the board:

MetGCSA officers seated, left to right: Treasurer Bob Nielsen, CGCS, of Bedford Golf & Tennis Club; Secretary Tony Girardi,

CGCS, of Rockrimmon CC; President Will Heintz of Centennial GC; Vice President Matt Ceplo, CGCS, of Rockland CC.

Back row, left to right: Chuck Denny of Salem GC; Tom Leahy, CGCS, of Sleepy Hollow CC; Glenn Perry, CGCS, of Rolling

Hills CC; Blake Halderman, CGCS, of Brae Burn CC; Glen Dube, CGCS, of Oak Hills Park GC; Past President Tim Moore of Knollwood CC; Kevin Collins of Aquatrols, Inc.; Dave Dudones of Westchester CC; Rob Alonzi of St. Andrew's GC.

Committee Chairmen at Your Service

We've provided a list—with phone numbers—of each of the MetGCSA's committee chairs. Please feel to contact any of them with questions, comments, or helpful suggestions.

Awards Committee

Tim Moore, *Knollwood CC*
914-592-7829

Bylaws Committee

Matt Ceplo, CGCS, *Rockland CC*
845-359-5346

Club Relations Committee

- Joe Alonzi, CGCS, *Westchester CC*
914-798-5361
- Glenn Perry, CGCS
Rolling Hills Country Club
203-762-9484
- Peter Rappoccio, CGCS, *Silver Spring CC*
203-438-6720

Communications Committee

- Rob Alonzi, *St. Andrew's GC*
914-478-5713
- Glenn Perry, CGCS
Rolling Hills Country Club
203-762-9484

Education Committee

Glen Dube, CGCS, *Oak Hills Park GC*
203-838-4960

Government Relations Committee

- Glen Dube, CGCS (CT)
Oak Hills Park GC
203-838-4960
- Tony Girardi, CGCS (WaterWise Council), *Rockrimmon CC*
914-764-5010
- Tom Leahy, CGCS (NY)
Sleepy Hollow CC
914-941-8281

Long-Range Planning & Steering Committee

Tim Moore, *Knollwood CC*
914-592-7829

Membership Committee

Tony Girardi, CGCS, *Rockrimmon CC*
914-764-5010

MetGCSA Merchandise

Dave Dudones, *Westchester CC*
914-798-5360

Scholarship & Research Committee

- Matt Ceplo, CGCS, *Rockland CC*
845-359-5346
- Tri-State Turf Research Subcommittee*
- Matt Ceplo, CGCS, *Rockland CC*
845-359-5346
- Tim Moore, *Knollwood CC*
914-592-7829

- Bob Nielsen, CGCS
Bedford Golf & Tennis Club
914-234-3779

Social & Welfare Committee

- Chuck Denny, *Salem GC*
914-669-5959
- Tom Leahy, CGCS, *Sleepy Hollow CC*
914-941-8281
- Bob Nielsen, CGCS
Bedford Golf & Tennis Club
914-234-3779

Special Events Committee

- Glen Dube, CGCS, *Oak Hills Park GC*
203-838-4960
- Kevin Collins, *E/T Equipment Company*
914-271-6126

Tournament Committee

- Chuck Denny, *Salem GC*
914-669-5959
- Tom Leahy, CGCS, *Sleepy Hollow CC*
914-941-8281
- Blake Halderman, CGCS, *Brae Burn CC*
914-946-1074

Web Site Committee

Tony Girardi, CGCS, *Rockrimmon CC*
914-764-5010

The Ryder Cup 2004 Through the Eyes of a Volunteer Superintendent

by Peter Rappoccio, CGCS

Silver Spring Superintendent Peter Rappoccio with his son and Ryder Cup assistant host Peter Jr.



The 2004 Ryder Cup, held at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, MI, was truly the greatest show in golf. Despite the failure of the USA team to get the job done, the PGA of America and the Oakland Hills Country Club staff put on a first-class show.

More than 500 million viewers from around the world enjoyed the beauty and difficulty of the Oakland Hills course—not to mention some great golf from the European Team.

Steve Cook, golf course manager; Jeff Fentz, South Course superintendent; and Ben Messerly, North Course superintendent, directed a staff of 55 employees and 30 volunteers from around the country to provide superb playing conditions throughout the tournament.

A Labor of Love

I was one of the lucky ones to be chosen as a volunteer for tournament week. My primary assignment was to work with my son Peter—one of the Oakland Hills assistant supers and a MetGCSA member—doing course setup on the front nine. Pin locations were chosen by PGA Tournament Director Kerry Haigh. Despite Oakland Hills' notoriously tough greens, Kerry provided a fair test of players' ball striking and putting skills. Players were able to be aggressive and play their game—unlike the U.S. Open, where play resembled billiards instead of golf. Well done, Kerry!

My other duties for the week included fairway and tee divot repair; hand watering tees, fairways, and bunker sand; course cleanup; pin and tee marker retrieval after play, and equipment transportation.

The staff started at 4:30 a.m. and ended between 8 and 9 p.m. Oakland Hills did a fabulous job of providing for all the needs of their crew and volunteer staff. The main equipment storage area of the maintenance facility was converted into a staff lounge, complete with carpeted dining area, couches, and several large televisions to view the action between work assignments.

A Tourney Beyond Compare

Forty thousand golf fans packed the course daily. The combination of natural terrain and 14 sets of large bleachers, and several jumbo television screens made viewing the play enjoyable. The fans were well behaved and very respectful of the abilities of the world's best golfers.

I have been fortunate to participate as a volunteer at the annual PGA Buick Classic at Westchester, as well as the '84 U.S. Open and the '97 PGA, both at Winged Foot. I've visited Congressional, Bethpage, and Augusta during their tournament weeks. And I can

honestly say none of those events can compare to a Ryder Cup. The tremendous effort—and obviously, funds—that went into supporting this tournament was impressive. They built what amounts to a small city, complete with an enormous golf shop, corporate tents, a small stadium for the opening and closing ceremonies, and the list goes on.

Fond Memories

The memories I have of the week are many—from the opening ceremonies on September 16, to watching the last putt drop on 18 that following Sunday. First, there was my moment of fame on Chinese TV, which happened quite by chance. My son Pete and I were by the first tee waiting to go out and syringe, when the TV cameraman, who was set up nearby, asked our permission to film an interview with us about the course and our role in preparing it for the tournament.

Then there was the standing ovation Pete and I received after changing the cup on the 5th hole on Friday. We were moving the pin location, with what was admittedly a bit of an anal approach, examining the pins from all angles to get them laser straight; double painting the cup, and finally, trimming the cup edge with small scissors. Then the cheers began. I think the fans just needed something to get excited about after the U.S. team got their butts kicked in the morning rounds.

Another benefit of working the Ryder Cup was having the opportunity to meet and work with superintendents from all over the country. But truthfully, the greatest thrill of the event for me was getting the chance to work with my son Peter. Watching him work and handle himself in that hectic environment made me a very proud Dad. The student taught the teacher a few things that week.

Peter Rappoccio is superintendent at Silver Spring Country Club in Ridgefield, CT.

MetGCSA Annual Assistants Championship Results

New Members

Please join us in welcoming the following new MetGCSA members:

Tina M. Farr, Class C, Mahopac Golf Club, Mahopac, NY.

Matthew Leverich, Class C, Greenwich Country Club, Greenwich, CT.

Members on the Move

Blake Halderman, CGCS, formerly superintendent at Trump National Golf Club in Briarcliff Manor, NY, has accepted the superintendent's position at Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase, NY.

Retired

Two long-time MetGCSA members have earned Life status:

Jim McNally, formerly of the Rock Spring Club in West Orange, NJ, has become a Life A member.

Al Tretera, formerly of Turf Products Corporation in Enfield, CT, has become a Life AF member.

Births

Congratulations to:

St. Andrew's Golf Club Superintendent **Rob Alonzi** and his wife, Ann Marie, on the birth of their daughter, Sarah Anne, on November 19.

Seawane Club Superintendent **Brian Benedict** and his wife, Mari, on the birth of their daughter, Grace Helene, on December 3.

Forty players braved the rain to compete in this year's Assistant's Championship on October 14 at the Country Club of New Canaan.

A special thank you to host Assistant Super John Mills and Superintendent Mike Reeb and all their staff for having the course in great shape. Thanks also to Club Manager James Connely, Head Professional J. Paul Leslie, and their staffs for providing an exceptional day all around.

Here's a look at the winning scores:

Two-Man Best Ball

Low Net Winners

- 61 Adam Poplowski
Old Oaks Country Club
- Brett Richards
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
- 68 Joe DeLauter
Woodway Country Club
- Jim Schell
The Stanwich Club
- 68 Donald Asinski
Pelham Country Club
- Shannon Slevin
Pelham Country Club

Low Gross Winners

- 79 Mike Brunelle
Bedford Golf & Tennis Club
- Matt Lapinski
Quaker Ridge Country Club
- 82 Andrew Agne
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
- Doug Vanderlee
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
- 83 Dave Dudones
Westchester Country Club
- Dennis Granaham
Westchester Country Club

Individual Stroke Play

Low Net Winners

- 71 Brett Richards
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
- 71 Scott Ingram
Bonnie Briar Country Club
- 74 Jim Schell
The Stanwich Club

Low Gross Winners

- 75 Adam Poplowski
Old Oaks Country Club
- 85 John Majchrzak
Country Club of Darien
- 87 Dave Dudones
Westchester Country Club

Closest to the Pin

Donald Asinski
Pelham Country Club 5'3"

Longest Drive

Mike Guinan
Blind Brook Club

Beat the Pro

- 1st Adam Poplowski
Old Oaks Country Club
- 2nd Ed Kaufmann
Scarsdale Country Club