

FOREGROUND

VOL. 56 NO. 2 Published by Hudson Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association May 2019



**Tim Garceau
and**

Haworth Country Club

to host

28th HV Cup Tournament



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Association Motto

To promote interest and good will in the Association, encourage good relations between members and the clubs they represent.... And to keep up with the current developments in turf and related work.....

Bill Smart

HVGCSA Mission Statement

The Hudson Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association exists to inform, educate and serve members within the Hudson Valley and surrounding areas.



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President's Message



Well, here we go again with the crazy weather. I will admit that I'm getting a bit rain-fatigued. Let's hope it's not a repeat of 2018.

Our first meeting of the season was at Columbia Country Club with the NEGCSA, some of the HV members made the trip up to Tom Neibling's place

and were treated to a great day. Considering all the rain we have had, Tom and his crew had the course in excellent shape. Thanks to Tom, Andy Eick and the NEGCSA for hosting this year's joint meeting.

*The **Hudson Valley Cup** is next week at Haworth Country Club. Tim Garceau is looking forward to hosting this event. So, let's all come out and support Tim. All proceeds from this event goes towards scholarships.*

***Scholarships:** The 2019 scholarship applications are now available on the website.*

See you all at Haworth!

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[Due by September 30, 2019](#)
5. Must submit a written article outlining your experience at GIS for the Foreground Newsletter.

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Stronger Together

Tim Garceau & Haworth Country Club to Host The 2019 HV Cup Tournament

By: Kevin Collins

On Monday May 20th Tim Garceau and Haworth CC will host the 28th annual Hudson Valley Cup tournament. It is the HVGCSA's premiere fundraising event for scholarships and turfgrass research. The tournament was the brainchild of long time and recently retired HVGCSA member Dan Madar and it's still going strong. For those of you that haven't had the pleasure of playing Haworth CC, you're going to love it. The layout is challenging and long with water on 11 of the holes, an excellent venue for a scramble.

All About Tim

Tim grew up in Wood-Ridge, NJ and traveled to Colorado to earn his B.S. degree in Landscape Management from Colorado State University in the early 1980's. Tim was employed as a manager for Chem Lawn Services in Denver for seven years until a buyout forced Tim to look elsewhere to put food on the table.

Tim applied for and was hired as an assistant superintendent at the Pete Dye designed Plum Creek Golf Club in Castle Rock, Colorado. Golf maintenance was new to Tim but he caught on quickly. During his time at Plum Creek, Tim met USGA Agronomist Tim Moraghan who suggested to Tim, if he really wanted to go places in the industry, to go to a club that was going to host a major. In short order Tim applied for and was hired as an assistant working for Ed Walsh at Ridgewood CC in New Jersey, host of the 1990 USGA Senior Men's Open.

So, what was the Ridgewood CC/Ed Walsh experience like? "It was like being in the Marines', Tim laughed, "I wouldn't volunteer to go through that again but I'm really glad I did it. Ed was amazing at being organized and a great communicator. I learned that there were no excuses for not getting the job done. The buck stopped with you. Ridgewood was a gateway for getting a superintendent's position and Ed was so supportive in making sure that happened."

At Ridgewood, Tim worked with an All Star cast of assistant superintendents (Matt Severino, Chris Strehl, Rick Evans, & Mike Juiliano) who not only managed to survive the "Ridgewood CC Marine Boot Camp" but, like Tim, moved on to bigger and better things.



Next stop was Orange County Golf Club (now West Hills GC). Tim ran the show there from 1992-1995 until the next opportunity presented itself.

In 1995, The Tuxedo Club came-a-calling and Tim jumped on board. Tuxedo was a promising opportunity with a full membership, wonderful Robert Trent Jones Sr. tract, and a healthy budget. The course had its issues with questionable soils and lots of environmental stress but Tim was ready for it and, for 16 years, Tuxedo was a joy to behold playability-wise and aesthetically.

In 2012 Tim moved on to Haworth CC in Haworth NJ. Tim adds, "The town is known for two things and two things only. Brooke Shields was born there and I work there. Case closed".

Continued.....page 7



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Tim Garceau & Haworth CC....cont'd

Tim was hired at Haworth by GM Yung Chung Li, aka Y.C. Li, aka General Li. Tim and the General enjoyed a close relationship until Mr. Li retired at the end of the 2017 season. New GM Emily Kuo and Tim have followed the example that General Li set and work very well together.

Tim lives in Warwick, NY with his sweetheart Judy Colby. Judy is also the horticulturist at Haworth (at least 2 days a week). Tim's daughter Sarah, 27, graduated Clemson University with a Master's degree in Finance and lives and works in South Carolina. Tim's son Austin (I've met him, he's a real wise-ass like his old man) holds a Master's Degree from North Carolina State and works in the Medical Field in Ashville, NC.

The Golf Course



Designed by Alfred Zikorus, Haworth opened for play in the spring of 1967. It's a private club and financially healthy with a golf membership of around 350.

In 2001, the golf course was completely rebuilt and renovated under the auspices of renowned Architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. The rebuild featured USGA greens, extensive drainage, and the fairways, tees, and greens were converted to creeping bentgrass. In 2011, the greens were shelled-out and re-grassed once again to A1-A4. One of the immediate challenges Tim faced was how to keep them healthy. With the lack of

air movement and sunlight (lots of trees), it was a tall order. Changes that Tim made included an aggressive aeration and top dressing program, permanent and portable fans, and tree removal (where feasible). And....it worked.

In 2018, Tim completed a full bunker renovation. With 64 very large bunkers on the property it was a massive undertaking. The project was completed in a little over three months.

Tim describes Haworth as a "parkland" course. There's not a lot of elevation changes but there's a lot of "movement" in the fairways and greens. Haworth provides 5 sets of tees for players of all skill levels. Also interesting is that the course has five par 3's and five par 5's. It plays over 7000 from the tips, or black tees.

Tim's favorite hole is #2, a 385-yard par 4 soft dogleg right with water in play. The approach shot is to an elevated undulating green. Par is a good score on this little tester!

Tim looks forward to having his peers down for the HVC. We'll see you on the 20th.

Kevin Collins

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Early Detection is a Life Saver

My Prostate Cancer Story

Last year at our October Meeting at Beekman GC, I spotted Rick Krok, Storr Tractor Irrigation, on the putting green. I had not seen Rick all season and asked where he had been. He let me know he had been diagnosed with prostate cancer earlier in the year and had surgery in April. Surgery was successful and he was doing well. This was his first time out to play golf. He also let me know that our mutual friend, John O'Keefe, from Preakness Hills CC was also diagnosed with prostate cancer and was scheduled for surgery soon. Later that week, I went for my annual physical, same routine as always including blood work. All good!

One week later I got a call from the doctor. My PSA readings were an issue, steadily going up over the past 3 years, a warning sign of prostate cancer. I needed to see a urologist for a biopsy. Had the biopsy 3 weeks later (very unpleasant) and 2 weeks after went back for the results which were positive for prostate cancer. Luckily, not highly advanced. Okay, now what do we do next? Options for treatment include radiation seed therapy, cyber knife external beam radiation therapy, or laparoscopic surgery to remove the prostate gland. Big decision! Options vary depending upon age, side effects and lifestyle. After speaking with the urologist, Rick Krok, Ken Krausz, and John O'Keefe, my wife and I decided that surgery was the best option for us.

Our main goal was to get rid of the cancer and hopefully not have to deal with radiation or chemotherapy. We also wanted a hospital and surgeon that specializes in this area. We were fortunate to have health insurance that led us to Memorial Sloan Kettering in NYC. This is where Rick had his surgery as well. We met with the surgeon, Dr. Toujier, and his staff. After having some additional tests, including an MRI, we set up a date of 1.5.19 for the surgery.

Recovery: Surgery was successful, all post-op tests came back negative, and 12 hours later they had me out of the hospital and heading home. The first week home was real tough, the second week better, and every day after better and better. It has been 3 months now, and thank God, I'm doing almost everything I had been doing before surgery. Now it is blood tests every 6 months to check PSA levels and hopefully no future issues.

Support System: I cannot stress the importance of having my wife, Mary, with me during this whole ordeal. She was the one taking notes and paying attention while the doctors went through the process, keeping all the medical records, appointments, and bills organized, being supportive in

all ways she could. I could not imagine going through this without her. I am blessed having the support of friends like Rick, Kenny and John, who had been through this, for being there to talk and listen. I am blessed to have the support of my employer, Wilfred MacDonald, Inc., who gave me the time and support I needed as well.

Prostate cancer is one of the most common cancers in men, second to skin cancer. It is very slow growing but left unchecked can spread to lymph nodes and bones. Risk can be 10% for men in their 50's and increase up to 70% for men in their 80's. The intent of this article is to make the reader aware of the importance of having an annual physical exam including blood work and skin checks. Problems found early are the most treatable and have a high rate of survivorship. I had no symptoms when I was diagnosed, sometimes it is too late when symptoms are the reason you go to the doctor. The intent is to also stress that if a problem does surface, always have a spouse or close friend or relative with you when you meet with doctors, so much goes over your head and is not processed, being the patient. Also, do not hesitate to call on others that might have had or are experiencing the same problem. We are all here to help and support one another and you are not alone.

Bill Luthin

Upcoming Events

HV Cup

Haworth Country Club
May 20th

NEGCSA Member Guest

Leatherstocking, Cooperstown
June 26th

NYSTA Challenge

HV August Meeting
Links at Union Vale
August 19th



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Last Meeting.....Recap



Matt Topazio / Ben Babbage / Brett Belden

As I just watched the news forecaster who stated it has rained 22 of the last 25 days, you couldn't tell in the way Columbia Golf and Country Club was prepared for our event on May 6th. Host superintendent, Tom Niebling, and his staff worked miracles to have the place in fantastic shape amidst this gloomy spring. On this day, one of the best this early 2019 season, we did see the sun and

70 degree temperatures. There were moments our foursome was out on the course, we heard nothing but the songbirds. What a cool, tranquil place to spend an afternoon in the country.

I believe Columbia is in its centennial year, pretty cool. Tom has been there about half of those years, well a good portion of them anyway. About forty guys showed up for a truly fun format for most guys' first round of the year, a two man scramble. It helps to have a partner that at least shows up on time, hits the ball on his own hole, and makes a putt once in a while. We won't go any further than that.....

Here are the results from a great afternoon on a scenic day:

- 1st Place:** Jim Seaman and Todd Czepiel.....65
- 2nd Place:** Chris Strong and Matt Lapinski..... 68
- 3rd Place:** Mike Defuria and Mike Miranda.....69

Long Drive: Josh Yerdon
Closest to the Pin: Larry Kosh

The theme from most guys, they were glad to be away for the day. All of us are going through what we thought we left behind in 2018, a wet mess! It's always great to see our brothers from the Northeast GCSA. They are close to a "final vote" that could potentially merge them with the Finger Lakes, Central NY, and Western NY, to create the NYGCSA. Thanks also go to Andy Eick, Jim Seaman, and Craig Cochran for taking care of the days' events.

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Past President HVGCSA



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Hudson Valley News of Interest!

By: Kevin Collins

In the last 2018 issue of “HV News of Interest” I mistakenly reported that Links Super Chris Strehl was suffering from “Dupuytren’s Contracture” or “Viking Hand”, a condition that can pull one or two fingers back in to a permanent bent condition. What Chris was really suffering from was advanced wrist osteoarthritis which occurs when both the bones and cartilage deteriorate in said wrist. Chris had a whole laundry list of wrist maladies including SLAC (Scapholunate advanced collapse), SNAP (Scaphoid non-union advanced collapse), Crepitus (Wrist crackling), along with joint locking, instability, and ruptured ligaments. Chris opted to have a surgical procedure done called PRC (Proximal Row Carpectomy) to correct the problem. It involves removal of the wrist carpal bones and cartilage. I don’t think the surgery helped. I shook his hand the other day and I accidentally pulled it off his arm. I gave him his hand back and he ran into his house. I felt really bad.

Had dinner the other night with Centennial’s Glen Dube. We were eating at The Red Rooster in Ridgefield, CT. and “The Dubes” ordered a pizza. He specifically asked the bartender to go easy on the cheese cause he’s lactose intolerant. Well.....the pizza comes out and, lo and behold, there’s too much cheese on the pizza so Glen sends it back. The pizza comes back a few minutes later with no cheese. It was a true “Road Trip” moment. The pizza was a little soggy. Glen believed that the chef licked the cheese off his pizza. He confronted the chef and he admitted to licking Glen’s pizza. Not for nothing but if I were “The Dubes”, I would have ordered steak.

At the recent MetGCSA meeting at Trump National, HVGCSA President Grover Ley Alexander confronted me about all the “fake news” I’ve been writing about him in the HV News of Interest. I told him that if anything I wrote was untrue I’d be happy to correct the record. He didn’t respond immediately but later on told me I could stick the HV News of Interest where the sun doesn’t shine. He also told me that he’s not going to rest until I am removed from the staff at “The Foreground”. I told him that nobody wants the job. He said, “Oh yeah, we’ll see about that”. Could be my last article. Stay tuned.

Lazy Swan GC superintendent Will Moriarty reported that a coyote recently killed all the swans at the course. The GM at the course started a contest with the membership, with a \$500 cash prize no less, to rename the golf course. Three suggestions made it into final consideration. They are “The Hungry Coyote GC”, “No Lazy Swan GC”, and “Dead Swan GC”. The final decision on the name change is forthcoming.

2019 Scholarships

Ernest Steinhofer Scholarship:

Eligibility Requirements:

Parent must be a member of the HVGCSA
Student may or may not be planning to enter a field related to golf course management.

Must be enrolled or accepted at an accredited institution of higher learning.

Winners cannot reapply for a period of one year.

[Ernest Steinhofer Application](#)

Bill Smart Scholarship:

Eligibility Requirements:

Presently involved in the golf industry.

Must be accepted to or attending an accredited Turfgrass Maintenance Program.

Recommended by Class A, B or Associate Member in good standing with the HVGCSA.

[Bill Smart Application](#)

DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2019

Any questions contact Susan

(914) 909-4843

REMINDER!

If you don't have a **USGA GHIN number**. You can now obtain one through HVGCSA. There is no fee. Please contact our office 914-909-4843 email sodowd@mgagolf.org



The Harrell's logo is located in the top left corner. It features a stylized 'H' icon composed of three vertical bars of varying heights, followed by the word 'Harrell's' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a teal background with a vertical ribbed texture.The background of the top half of the advertisement is a photograph of a golf course at dawn or dusk. The sky is a mix of soft orange, yellow, and light blue. In the foreground, a green fairway leads to a sand trap. A yellow flag on a black pole is visible in the middle ground. The overall scene is misty and serene.

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Kevin Doyle....GCSAA



Fresh off National Golf Day, the mantra that numbers matter could not be any clearer. Speaking to legislators regarding the size of the golf industry, economic impact, and membership numbers helped give our industry perspective to those who are not as knowledgeable as we are. At the

2018 delegates meeting and Annual Meeting, initiatives were undertaken to address these areas.

During the GCSAA Annual meeting, there were a few items on the ballot which required a membership vote. There were two new association membership classes up for vote: Facility Membership and Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent, as well as a bylaw change needed to make those happen.

Both membership classifications were voted through by the chapter delegates and are now official classifications of GCSAA. If you are not familiar with the new classifications, they are as follows:

Facility Membership

To be eligible, a facility must not have had a GCSAA member in the last three years, and the facility's green fee must be below the 50 percent median in their region (regions will be based on GCSAA field staff regions). Dues will be \$200 a year for the facility and its employees, who will have access to GCSAA resources, but will not receive individual membership benefits such as term life insurance, Class A eligibility, board eligibility, voting rights and tournament entry benefit.

Facility Membership is geared towards golf courses across the U.S. which do not currently employ a GCSAA member. The Facility Membership will target lower budget facilities to offer the facility employee(s) limited benefits and privileges. The Facility membership will be in the name of the facility, and not in the name of the individual member.

Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent

The Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent Membership is for individuals who want to support superintendents and

the game of golf but do not qualify for any other membership category. Friends will not receive traditional membership benefits such as access to restricted areas of the GCSAA website, voting rights, insurance benefits or tournament entry.

The Friend of the Golf Course Superintendent classification will target golfers, potential advocates, teachers involved in First Green field trips and supporters of the game and industry to name a few. This classification will help create GCSAA brand awareness and allow us to promote the profession to a new audience.

If you have a colleague that might benefit from the Facility Membership or know potential advocates for our profession and game who would enjoy a Friend membership, please visit GCSAA.org and sign them up or contact me for assistance in doing so!

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

Member News

Members on the Move

Jesse Bulaga

Was at Southern Dutchess Golf Club
and is now at Falkirk Golf Club

Congratulations!

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Samantha welcomed their first baby
Michaela Rae, on February 25th

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GCM's Most Valuable Technician Award

GCM's Most Valuable Technician Award is designed to honor the best and brightest golf course equipment technicians in the industry, the men and women who play such a key role in keeping the tools of golf course maintenance up and running. The award is presented annually in partnership with Foley Co. Nominations are narrowed to a field of three finalists by a team of industry judges. GCM readers then review the qualifications of the finalists and vote online for their favorite.

2020 Dog Days of Golf Calendar

[Submit your entry today »](#)

Submissions for the 2020 Dog Days of Golf Calendar will be accepted through **Aug. 1, 2019**. From the submissions, 14 dogs will be selected. Owners of the selected dogs will be notified in September, and the calendar will be distributed with the November issue of *GCM* magazine.

LebanonTurf has been supporting golf course superintendents and their chapters through the Dog Days of Golf Calendar for more than a decade.

Upcoming Webinars

June 12 @ 10 a.m.

[Economy vs. Agronomy: The Business of Turfgrass Management](#)

John R. Bladon, PAg, ISSP, and Matthew Gourlay, CGCS

July 17 @ 10 a.m.

[Retaining Your Recruits](#)

Bill H. Maynard, CGCS

Aug. 22 @ 10 a.m.

[Topdressing 101: Organic Matter Management](#)

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HUDSON VALLEY CUP TOURNAMENT

28th Anniversary



Haworth Country Club

May 20, 2019

*Thank You
to our Sponsors*



- Host:** Tim Garceau, GCS
- Location:** 5 Lakeshore Drive, Haworth, NJ
- 10:00AM** Registration
Locker Rooms Available / Range Facilities Open
- 10:30 AM** Lunch (BBQ)
- 12:00 PM** **Golf:** Shotgun Start
Format: Scramble 4-Man Team
Dress Code: Proper Golf Attire
****Handicaps required at signup**
- 5:00 PM** Dinner Reception & Awards
Open Bar - Draft Beer & Wine
- Fee:** \$180 - Early Registration
\$200 - **After Deadline May 15, 2019**
\$60 - Dinner Only

To Register: Click [HERE](#) or call (914) 909-4843