

# Bud Quandt witnessed, made history

BY KIT BRADSHAW

Charles L. "Bud" Quandt has been the superintendent at Pasadena Yacht and Country Club for 23 years and he is proud of Pasadena and its history.

Since opening as Bear Creek Golf Course in 1924, this course near the intracoastal waterway in St. Petersburg has had the legends walk her fairways.

"Walter Hagen and Joe Kirkwood were the first professionals at the club, which was built by Mr. Van Cleet and opened right at the height of the first golf boom," Quandt said. "Within a year there was a famous match between Hagen and Bobby Jones. Jones lost to Hagen, 7-6, and suffered one of his few defeats."

Pasadena also had the presence of two famous "Babes."

"Babe Zaharias once challenged Babe Ruth here. She said she could outdrive Ruth standing on one leg. Zaharias got up to the tee at 18, stood on her right leg and hit the ball 240 yards. Ruth's drive came up 15 yards short."

Until 1964, Pasadena was a stop on the men's professional tour. From 1975 to 1989 it was an LPGA tournament site until lack of sponsorship money caused it to be dropped.



## Bud Quandt

**Superintendent** of Pasadena Yacht & Country Club, St. Petersburg for past 23 years.

**Age:** 63

**Graduate** of Arsenal Technical H.S. in Indianapolis. Has attended turfgrass seminars throughout his careers.

**Previously** superintendent at Seminole Lake C.C. in Pinellas County.

**GCSAA** 25-year club member; FTGA member for 14 years. Member of West Coast GCSA and held all offices.

**U.S. Navy** in World War II.

**Family:** Widowed; Daughter, Sigma; son, Dorsey "Butch" Quandt.

"In 1972, architect Bill Dietsch completely renovated Pasadena," Quandt said. "In 1985, the Arnold Palmer (golf course design) people rebuilt the 18th hole when we moved the clubhouse to its new location. The course has changed a lot since the early days," said Quandt.

"Now we have condos, townhouses and single-family homes around it and we have a marina as well."

Quandt has been involved in many innovations in golf course management the last 20 years. Because of his efforts throughout his career, Quandt received the FGCSA President's Award in 1990.

Previously he received the FTGA's Wreath of Grass Award in 1976, the Horticulturist of the Year award from the University of Florida in 1976 and was named Pinellas County Golf Superintendent of the Year for 1987.

He was the co-chairman (along with Bud Pearson) of the first WCFTGA scholarship and research golf tournament.

And just this past September he hosted the 28th annual scholarship tournament at Pasadena.

Quandt has been on the agricultural advisory committee for the Southwest Florida Water Management District for several years and has seen changes in the effluent quality standards that have taken place and its subsequent benefit to golf courses that are the end users.

"We've come a long way. They now

require the effluent to be treated to a third stage, which is much better than before," he said.

Even though Quandt has kept up with changes in the Industry — and has been instrumental in incorporating these changes at his course — there is a faint yearning for an earlier, simpler time.

"I think some of the real joy in our jobs was going out on the course, where you could see what was going on and just enjoy being outdoors.

"Some of that is lost now... there's so much paperwork and budget work that the younger superintendents may be missing the pure beauty of the courses they are working to maintain."

*President's Award  
for  
Lifetime Achievement  
1990*

*Carl McKinney  
Bud Quandt  
Bob Sanderson  
Paul Turcotte  
Adam Yurigan*

*1991  
Tom Mascaro  
John Hayden  
Harvey Phillips  
C.R. "Bud" Pearson  
Carl Smith*

## TURFGRASS QUIZ

### Answer:

*Turf has been repeatedly scalped by misadjusted mowers.*

*An inexperienced mechanic didn't know how to adjust height of cut.*

*The problem was amplified by a day-dreaming mower operator who never looked back to see his path of destruction.*