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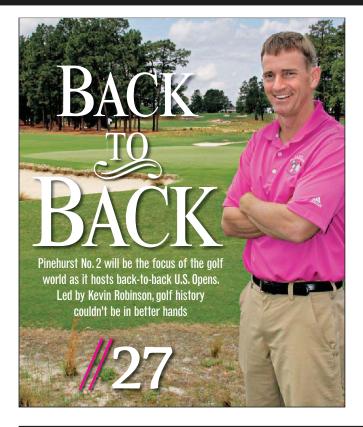


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"I asked what was next on the agenda for his birthday. He didn't know, but he knew what he wanted to do for his 13th birthday: 'Come back here.'"

SETH JONES, Editor-in-Chief

Happy birthday, Nathaniel

n the past four weeks I've been on both Augusta National and Pinehurst No. 2. But it was two miles from my front door, at a driving range/pitch and putt, where I saw something I don't get to see often.

But I'm guessing you do. It's 9 a.m. on a Monday. Jeff Burey, a former pro at both Pinehurst and Prairie Dunes, and I are standing there chatting when in walks Bill and Nathaniel Huffman. Nathaniel is celebrating his 12th birthday, and the one thing he asked for was that his dad take him to the driving range so they could smack some range balls.

Jeff's eyes lit up when he heard he had a first-timer in his pro shop. Nathaniel's head was on a swivel, soaking it all in. Bill, a twice-a-month golfer, smiled, recognizing he had brought his son to a friendly place for beginners.

As Jeff sent the Huffmans out with the jumbo bucket

of balls (\$12.50), he stopped Nathaniel one more time to hand him a junior sized 6-iron. "This is for you," he said. "Your own golf club, for your birthday." Nathaniel smiled in awe.

As I finished up my lesson, I walked over to see what Nathaniel thought of his first golf experience.

"It was fun, I liked it a lot — I think I hit it pretty far," he told me. I asked him what was next on the agenda for his 12th birthday. He didn't know, but he knew what he wanted to do for his 13th birthday. "Come back here," he said.

I get to see a lot of maintenance shops around the country, get to interview a lot of really great superintendents, sometimes equipment manufacturers even trust me to operate their machinery. But seeing Bill and Nathaniel out there, father and son, enjoying a moment like that? For just a little bit it took my mind off the business side of the game, and reminded me about the pure enjoyment of the game.

It's something I hope you get to see often, because for me, it gave me a little extra focus. It was a nice reminder that this game is great for reasons beyond making a buck, or beautiful fairways, or the well struck 5-iron. Moments like Nathaniel's 12th birthday, which he'll probably remember for the rest of his life, make it especially great.

Happy birthday, Nathaniel. I hope you find many fairways in your golfing days. **Update:** The question I've been asked by readers most often recently is a fun one: did I ever sell my Z28 Camaro I wrote about a few issues ago?

It's bittersweet to report that yes, after reposting my 2002 Camaro on Craigslist this spring, it quickly sold.

It went on two test drives: A father and son who were looking to buy it as a replacement car for the Mustang that the 17-year-old had just totaled (both the Camaro and I trembled at the thought of this kid driving my car) and a guy about my age who had owned a few other Camaros and was looking to get back into one.

With the guy my age, he asked me if I minded him romping on it as we entered the interstate. I told him to go for it, this wasn't a minivan.

So he gave it everything, pushing both of our eyeballs a little deeper into our heads than God ever intended. *Sold*. A few minutes later this guy's dad showed up with an envelope full of cash.

A handshake later he's asking me if I'd like a ride home. There was a steakhouse nearby. I had him drop me off there.

Buddy, let me tell you, that was the most bittersweet steak of my life.

But good news: I've since put my 1964 Impala in a friend's garage to get some work done. My days of driving a badass car aren't dead... yet.

Email Jones at: sjones@northcoastmedia.net.

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NEWS, NOTES AND QUOTES

//CELEBRATING SUSTAINABILITY

BEAR TRACE, JACOBSEN HOST EARTH DAY EVENT

BY JOHN WALSH // Contributing Editor

What a way to celebrate Earth Day — on a golf course showcasing the environmental stewardship of Paul Carter, CGCS, and his crew at The Bear Trace at Harrison Bay just outside Chattanooga, Tenn. The Audubon (and now GEO) certified course is a shining example of sustainable golf course maintenance. Various segments of the industry,

Jacobsen president, David Withers (left), Bear Trace superintendent Paul Carter (middle) and Bob Martineau from the TDEC celebrate Earth Day.

media, government officials and staff of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) attended the Jacobsen hosted event to celebrate this example.

Bear Trace has implemented many sustainability initiatives, from plant and animal habitat projects to maintenance equipment emission reductions. Additionally, Carter, director of agronomy, naturalized more than

50 acres of the course to minimize maintenance and changed the turfgrass on the greens from bentgrass to Champion ultradwarf bermudagrass, helping to reduce the course's annual chemical use and budget from \$39,000 to \$8,000.

In March of 2013, Carter purchased a fleet of all-electric Jacobsen turf maintenance equipment (except diesel

> fairway and rough mowers), including bunker rakes, utility vehicles and greens rollers. Since then, the course has saved more than 9,000 gallons of fuel and posted more than 175 days of emission-free operation. Carter and his crew also have saved about \$30,000 in maintenance costs as a result of not having as many gas engines.

"On normal days, especially the weekends, the only machinery used on the course is completely electric," Carter says.

One of Carter's ultimate goals, though, is to install solar panels on the maintenance and golf car buildings so the crew can generate as much, if not more, power than they use to charge the equipment at night.

"I'd love to be completely off the grid at some point," he says.

To read more about the Bear Trace go to golfdom.com/category/onlineexclusive.

//IHMS UPDATE

GCSAA PREZ GETS NEW GIG

GCSAA President Keith Ihms, CGCS, recently accepted a new position as the golf course maintenance manager at Bella Vista Village in Bella Vista, Ark., according to the GCSAA.

Ihms was elected president during the 2014 GIS in Orlando. Shortly afterwards, he announced that he had left his position as director of grounds maintenance at the Country Club of Little Rock. We spoke with Ihms about his departure from the CC of Little Rock at the end of March in

last month's issue (The **Golfdom Conversation: Keith Ihms.)**

According to GCSAA bylaws, the president of the association must be a working superintendent. Ihms had six months to find a new job before



Keith Ihms

having to relinquish his presidency. It took Ihms only a month to find a new position.

Bella Vista Village, located in Northwest Arkansas, features six 18-hole and two 9-hole golf courses.

//SUPER SUPERS

MANGUM TO ENTER GEORGIA GOLF HOF

Ken Mangum, CGCS, Atlanta Athletic Club, has been named one of the four inductees in the class of 2015 for the Georgia Golf Hall of Fame. He will

become only the third superintendent member of the HOF, established in 1989. Mangum joins Palmer Maples, Jr., CGCS (retired) and Mark Esoda, CGCS from Atlanta CC. Mangum will be the



Ken Mangum

host superintendent this summer for the U.S. Amateur Championship. In the past he has hosted the PGA Championship in 2001 and 2011, the U.S. Women's Open Championship in 1990 and prepared the golf course for the U.S. Junior Championship in 2002.

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Starter

//ONLY ONLINE

So many stories!

This month's issue of *Golfdom* is packed to the brim. We had so many stories earmarked for this month, that we had no choice but to expand them onto the website. Here are three articles that we will be featuring under the online exclusive section of **golfdom.com**:

Staying green with pigments

Tray Maltby, the director of golf course grounds at Reunion Resort,



Tray Maltby

manages three signatures courses: the Palmer, Watson and Nicklaus courses. Each course has its own distinctive style, but all three feature Tifeagle bermudagrass greens, Tifdwarf bermuda collars and approaches and 419 bermuda on tees, fairways and roughs. After years of overseeding to keep turf looking green for the Snow Bird clientele, Maltby is giv-

ing "liquid overseeding" — coloring the turf with pigments through winter months — a try. Read more about Maltby's experience with pigments online at golfdom.com/category/online-exclusive.

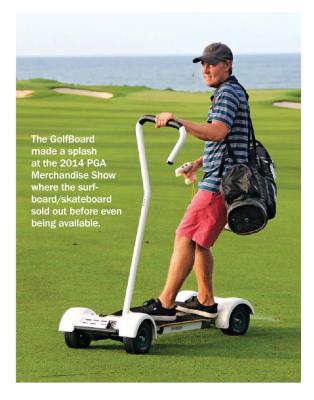
Trump National GC keeps ponds beautiful — naturally

The Potomac River is a site full of history. Apart from its place in the history books, the region is also home to Trump National GC. The course underwent renovations in 2009 that placed a focus on

the aquatic features. Trump National's director of grounds, Brad Enie utilizes Bioverse, a biodegradable sphere that releases live cultures of good bacteria, continuously, 24 hours a day for up to 30 days. Read more about this eco-friendly way to maintain the water at Trump National online at golfdom.com/category/ online-exclusive.

Surfing to a course near you?

The winner of best new product at the 2014 PGA Merchandise Show was the GolfBoard, a surfboard/skateboard for golfers. "Any superintendent who sees it is going to say, 'wow," says Jim Black, former superintendent, former Golfdom contributor and now communications director for GolfBoard. The first 500 Golf-Boards sold out before they were even made available. We'll have more details and the specs of the GolfBoard available at golfdom.com/category/online-exclusive in May.





BILL COORE, ASGCA

ARCHITECT, COORE & CRENSHAW

On the reaction of the maintenance crew to the drastic changes made to Pinehurst No. 2:

"They went from picking up pine cones everyday to letting the native vegetation grow... the crew came forward and said we are in full support. There are a lot of people who would not have been willing to make that change."

Augusta CC welcomes Jonesy
Augusta (Ga.) CC hosted the 2014
Golf Writers Dinner. Golfdom EIC
Seth Jones (right) was thrilled that loyal
reader Greg Burleson, CGCS at ACC, took
the time out of a busy week to say hello.

Easy going Dan Jenkins
Brandon Haddock of E-Z-Go (left)
and legendary golf writer Dan Jenkins of Golf Digest take time for a photo
at the GWAA dinner. Jenkins reminded
us that he wrote for this magazine back
in 1956. Good memory!

Colorado connections We were lucky to bump into Derek Rose (Eagle Ranch GC, Eagle, Colo.), Pete Tescher (Granby Ranch Ski and Golf Resort, Granby, Colo.), Glenn Samuelson (Cheyenne Mountain Resort & CC, Colorado Springs, Colo.) and Tyler Dickey (C&M Golf & Ground Equipment) at the Masters while watching players skip shots across the pond on No. 16. Check out pg. 52 for a Q&A with Samuelson.

Dream team Jacobsen's Tony Whelan, Mike Ligon and Troy Murray were scouting for fantasy golf picks on Wednesday at the Masters. Murray's fantasy team took top spot!

An eye for architecture

Kurt Huseman (Landscapes Unlimited), Baxter Spann (Finger Dye Spann Inc.), David M. Dale (ASGCA),
Forrest Richardson (ASGCA) and John Pugliese (Landscapes Unlimited), admiring the work of Bobby Jones and Alister MacKenzie.

California connections

Jeff Markow, CGCS (Cypress Point Club, Pebble Beach, Calif.), Carlos Zazueta (Escena GC, Palm Springs, Calif.) and Bob Klinesteker (San Francisco GC) take in a practice round at this year's Masters.



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