

May Meeting at Trappers Turn Golf Club

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

Tod Blankenship, CGCS was our host for the May Meeting held May 14th at the Trappers Turn Golf Course. The day was beautiful and a good number of members turned out to enjoy it.

Our first speaker for the day was Mr. Seamus McGee author of the book "Hershey Hurricane" which celebrates the life of Henry Picard.

Picard is not known as the greatest player of the 1930's and 1940's but he had 26 PGA Tour wins including the 1938 Masters and 1939 PGA Championship. He was a near unbeatable four-ball player and he often teamed up with Wisconsin's Johnny Revolta.

Picard was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2006 and played in the 1935 and 1937 Ryder Cup Teams. Like most players of the time his career was interrupted by World War II.

Seamus explained how Henry has touched the games and lives of many of the great players of his time including helping Hogan with his swing and later taking over for Picard as Golf Professional at the Hershey Country Club.

Henry was given the name The Hershey Hurricane in 1935 due to his dominate play and movie star persona.

McGee explained how sound swing principals taught by Alex Morrison the "grandfather of the teaching professional" changed the game and produced great champions from Picard, to Hogan to Nicklaus.

Morrison taught Picard who taught Grout who was Nicklaus's coach and mentor.

The book is a nice read on golf history I would recommend for anyone in the business.

Next up was Robert Vavrek, Senior Agronomist, USGA Green Section discussing the roller coaster of spring weather.

Vavrek discussed how the up and down weather was changing the phenology of insects and plants and how historical dates for the timing of grub and poa seeding treatments should not be followed religiously. Higher populations of insects and poa annua seed heads should be expected.

Growing degree models, historical data and in the field observations should all be used to determine treatment times.

Vavrek also discussed the number of foreclosed golf courses and one visit he had where new owners were hoping to "flip" the property by getting in operational and then selling it. They wanted Bob's opinion on what needed to be down to get the previously closed course up and running.

After a lunch the group headed out to test our skills on Trappers Canyon and Arbor 9's. Trappers turn was designed by Andy North and Roger Packard in 1991.

The course was in great condition and all players had a great but challenging time. The format was a Shamle Bestball where both partners tee off, select the best drive and then play their own ball from that spot.



GROSS WINNERS

- 1st - Aron Hogden/Tryge Egkern 65
- 2nd - Bruce Schweiger/Jim Kerns 70
- 3rd - Kyle Kleinshmidt/Casey O'Connel 71

NET WINNERS

- 1st - Kyle Kleinshmidt/Casey O'Connel
- 2nd - Mike Werth/Mark Grundman
- 3rd - Josh Brosz/Frank Sexton

FLAG EVENT WINNERS

- Long Drive - Canyon 2 - Jim Kerns
- Closest to Pin - Canyon 7 - Mike Schmieden
- Longest Putt - Canyon 9 - Nolan Roberts
- Long Drive - Arbor 2 - Darren Armstrong
- Closest to Pin - Arbor 7 - Jim Kerns



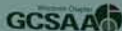
Mark Grundman putts on the Arbor-9 Par5 8th Hole while partner Mike Werth looks on with Todd Cramblit and Andrew Putzer

OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

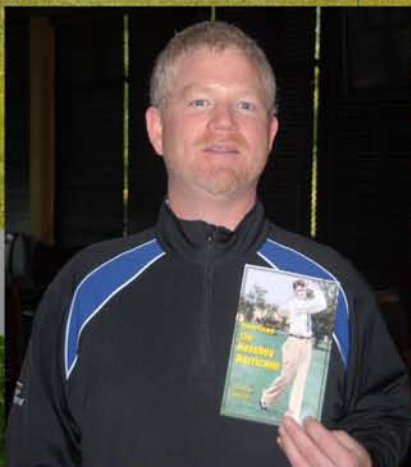
BASF - DHD TURF AND TREE - JW TURF - REINDERS - SYNGENTA

ARTHUR CLESEN - BAYER - BURRIS EQUIPMENT - MIDWEST TURF
 SPRING VALLEY - PENDELTON TURF - JOHN DEERE LANDSCAPES
 PREMIER GOLF AND UTILITY - AGRIUM AT - UMAXX

Proud Industry Partner of the WGCSA



5/14/12 MEETING AT TRAPPERS TURN



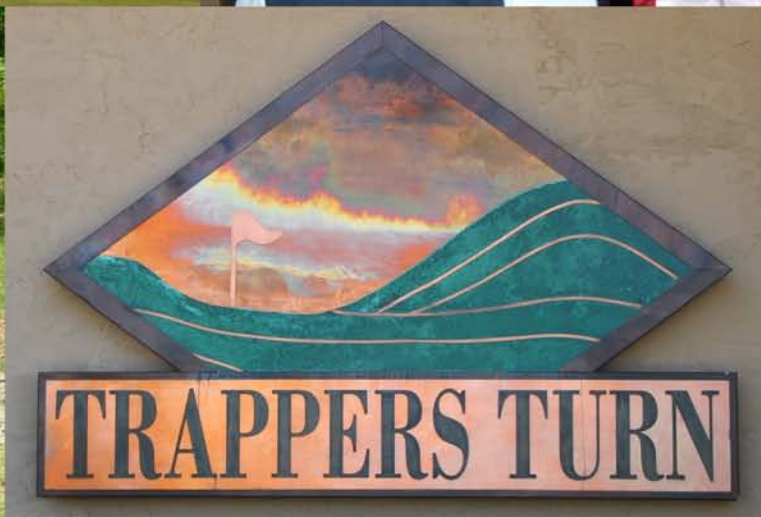
SPEAKERS
 <SEAMUS MCGEE
 AUTHOR OF
 THE HERSHEY
 HURRICANE

 AND

 OUR OWN
 BOB VAVEREK>



ABOVE: CASEY O'CONNEL (L)
 AND KYLE KLEINSCHMIDT (R)
 WINNERS OF THE GROSS DIV.



LOWER RIGHT:
 MEETING CHAIRMAN
 SCOTT BUSHMAN
 HITTING A STRAIGHT DRIVE

BELOW:
 OUR HOST SUPERINTENDENT
 TOD BLANKENSHIP, CGCS

