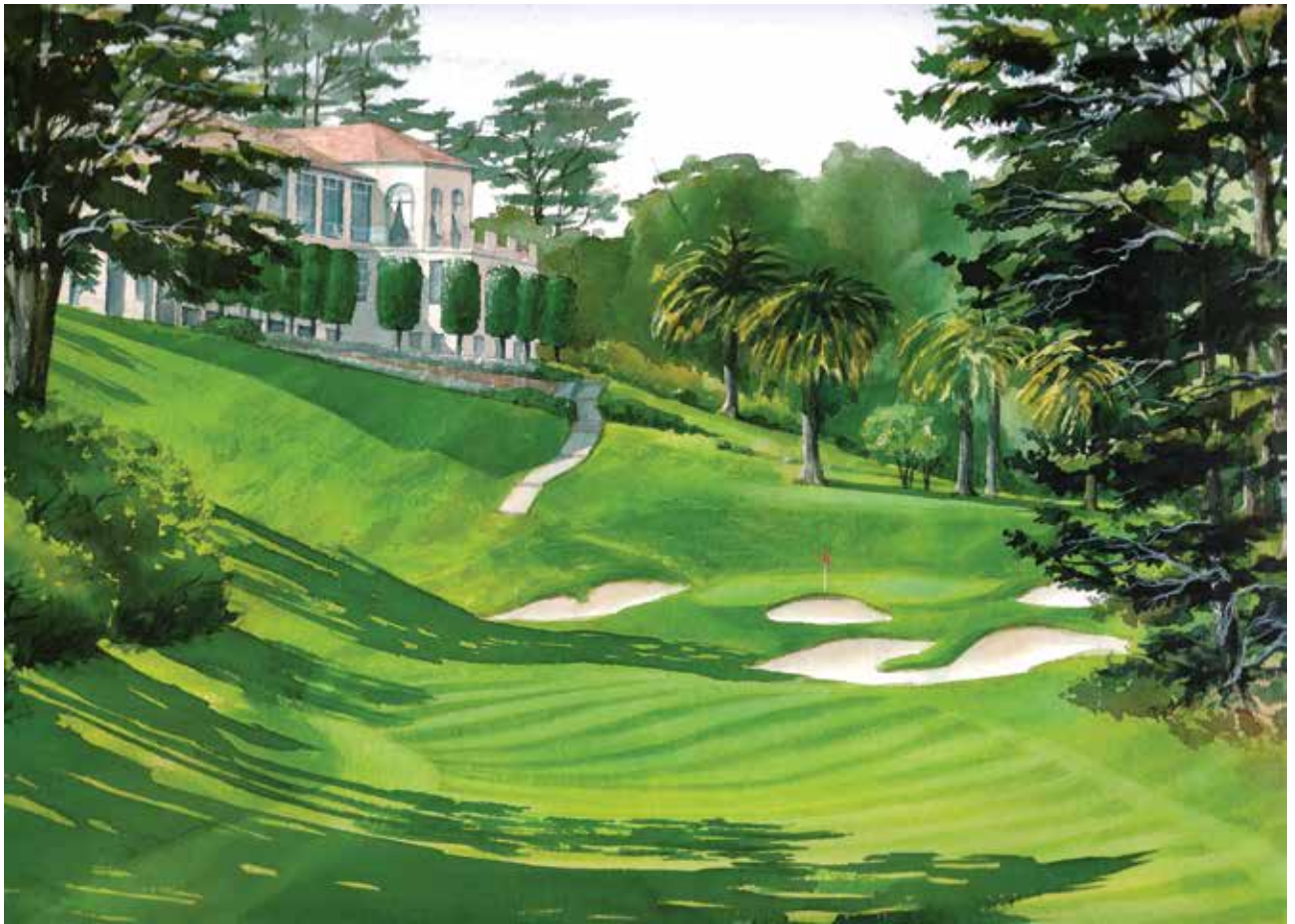


The Golf

Journal of the
Golf Heritage Society



SUMMER 2020 No. 8



History • Collecting • Hickory Golf

THE GOLF

Summer 2020

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The Golf Heritage Society

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Founded 1970 as
The Golf Collectors Society
by Joseph S.F. Murdoch and Robert Kuntz

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THE GOLF

No. 8

Summer 2020

Formerly *The Bulletin of The Golf Collectors Society*
September 1970-June 2018



“If the Agamemnons of modern golf remember the heroes who were before them, and every player regard with respect the inheritance bequeathed to him, the future of the game is secure.”

The Golf Book of East Lothian
Compiled and edited by John Kerr, 1896

The GHS Bulletin

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ON THE COVER

OLYMPIC CLUB, LAKE COURSE, NO. 18, by Samuel Ingwersen. The artist was attracted by the elevated part of the fairway as it descends toward the green with the sloping ground, shadows, and mowing patterns. Willie Watson designed the course, “working with the land and its natural features,” says Ingwersen in his book, *Dangerous Beauty*, which is reviewed in this issue, p. 30.

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From the collection of Tim Flynn

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Presidential Salutations

GHS PRESIDENT – BERN BERNACKI

Now up and on
the tee... the
GHS members

Dear Friends,
So much has transpired since we convened for our GHS Annual in September 2019. The world seems such a different place. Making constant adjustments is our new normal, and adaptability best describes the winners. As such, leveraging all opportunities to advance the brand and mission of the Golf Heritage Society is indeed in order. Your GHS board and committees have worked diligently to accomplish so much.

Among the many positives I can report, are “front nine” results by the GHS Outreach, Marketing, Communications, and Membership committee teams. Their focus and hard work benefits all in the GHS.

Our Media Outreach initiative includes broadcast, social and earned (print) media; we have enjoyed successes in advancing our GHS brand. There’s a buzz within the golf world and it’s focused on the new GHS!

Our GHS logo store is now open. You can visit, shop, and proudly display your GHS logo gear, inviting conversations wherever you go.

Our GHS website sports a new look, consistent with the GHS branding and colors. It now boasts enhanced functions for our GHS members’ enjoyment. We invite you to visit often, enjoy the features and, please, welcome your friends to check out our GHS website at www.golfheritage.org.

The “next nine” places emphasis on those with the most to gain, YOU, the GHS Membership. You can make your move to power up the next GHS success as we “make the turn” to fulfill our GHS Strategic Plan.

Just think of how many areas where GHS members can drive our success... Please, contribute content to the website. Your input adds to both the research and entertainment value for your fellow GHS members.

We seek your photos...collectibles, medals and trophies, balls, unique clubs and post cards, your art, stories, articles, and so much more. Our greatest asset is the knowledge base of the GHS membership. With this we bring to life the people, places, and artifacts of the game.

So, join together. Let’s “share our stuff” online by web and by virtual gatherings. Soon, when permitted, we’ll gather in GHS style, in small, golf-related interest groups of many types to once again enjoy fellowship and have fun. Our many golf-related interests will be the focus as we welcome the curious to learn about and come to love our GHS.

Now, we ask, invite, and even commission you to become



GOLF COLLECTING FRIENDS. GHS President Bern Bernacki, left, with Walter and Pam Prince at the 2017 Winter Trade Show in Columbus, Ohio. This show is just one of the ways GHS members get together to share their passion for golf collecting... and find new treasures!

our GHS sales representatives. You, in effect, comprise the best GHS sales force. Telling your GCS/GHS stories will be compelling to potential members. Use the printed insert within this issue to assist you in making those connections to grow our GHS Family. It’s easy, it’s fun, and so gratifying to share the many ways we enjoy our Society. So, when recruiting, just as in a 50-yard approach shot, you assess your target, “take dead aim,” then, “use your touch” to execute and score.

Consider joining a committee or become a GHS leader. Your talent is welcome, and several positions are waiting for your ideas and energy.

Lastly, we are connecting the GHS with other golf-centric organizations and interest groups. As a “501(c)3 pending” nonprofit, the GHS can partner to provide unique golf experiences, to youths, to veterans and such others as “shut-in seniors.” These service ideas are as yet in the concept stage. Check the GHS website for details as these exciting opportunities evolve.

Better yet, join in the design, development, and delivery of GHS programming which is our “give back,” as befits a top-shelf nonprofit.

Ultimately, the next steps in GHS advancement lie squarely with our GHS membership.

Dear Members, it’s your turn on the tee.

I welcome you to tee it up, take your best shot, help us prosper, and help us grow. With my best wishes for a safe and satisfying summer...

Bern Bernacki



EDITOR
JIM DAVIS

Mr. Joseph Murdoch was always surprised by the growing strength of the little club that he and Bob Kuntz formed 50 years ago. The two good friends tapped into a passion that had always been there and found that many others shared it, too. Nothing has changed along those lines. The GHS is still a community of golf collectors, historians, and golfers who like to share their enjoyment of the game on so many levels.

I like to think of the GHS as a collection of regional groups who get together in their own ways, through trade shows or golf outings, or just a few drinks to celebrate finding some new treasures for the collection. Well, it is a little tough to gather just now, but groups do find a way. Here in West Michigan, four GHS friends do a little on-line chat every Wednesday evening; and in the eastern part of the state, the Wyandotte Hickory Organization, led by former Region 5 Director Ed Ronco, also meet via Zoom to share news and updates of hickory golf and golf collecting.

Now is the best time to remember why the Society formed

in the first place, just as Joe and Bob wanted – to form a community of friends.

Letters in this issue speak to that point as members talk about what’s on their minds and share some praise for the things they found enjoyable. The best features in *The Golf* come from members who delight in sharing their interest in golf history, in collecting, and in new ways of looking at the game.

Your stories and letters are always welcome in this quarterly journal, which belongs to each one of you. I, personally, would enjoy hearing more about classic clubs as this is a weak spot in my golf knowledge. Should this be a particular strength for you, an interest in golf clubs from the 1940s to the present, please send some articles our way.

Would you like to see some occasional light or humorous fiction? How about articles on golf’s great amateur players? What’s on your mind? We are here to make this journal of ours not just compelling, but enjoyable and, dare we say it, anticipated. I hope you will find the articles in this issue continue the strong tradition of *The Bulletin* before it.

With that, it is time to play away. ¶



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PETE GEORGIADY

The 2020 annual meeting is only a matter of three months away. After the COVID-19 turned the world upside down we’re looking toward October with optimism. Our decision time for deciding to continue forward is early July. By then we may have a better sense of whether a gathering of that proportion will be safe for our members. We’ll keep you apprised of the conditions and our plans through email blasts.

If our public health environment allows us to congregate in Pittsburgh, the Annual Meeting Committee has assembled a very diverse set of activities for attendees. PBA Galleries will conduct an on-site auction (travel restrictions permitting), the GHS Championship golf event has been arranged for Arnold Palmer’s historic Latrobe Country Club, and a lion’s share of interesting historical presentations are scheduled. The full agenda will be available in July with the registration form and instructions mailed to all current members.

The Society has kicked off a special program to boost membership. You’ve probably received a letter from President Bernacki urging every member to enlist a new member at the attractive \$25 rate for the remainder of the 2020 year. As our membership “matures” it is important to introduce younger generations of golfers to what the Society has to offer.

I receive calls each week from members and non-members

wanting advice on disposing of collections of golf items (non-members find us on the internet and want to know if we will buy their “stuff”). We are proud to have many members with 20, 30, or 40+ years of Society membership but it is new, up and coming members who will appreciate acquiring golf collectibles – as well as the knowledge – from our more senior members.

Don’t forget to check out our new Society website which has undergone some redesign to enable broader Society coverage as well as ease of navigation. A tip o’ th’ cap to Jim Davis, Rico Johnson, George Petro and the others whose work on the design, layout, and coding has brought this to fruition. Like any modern application it will be expanded and refreshed as the Society moves forward.

Don’t forget to do some window shopping at the Society store featuring GHS apparel from Queensboro. That information is on the website as well. ¶



CORONA PETE. Ever inventive, the Premier League (U.K. soccer, ah, football) fan Pete Georgiady finds that his favorite Manchester United scarf is the perfect mask for today’s world.



When hobbies collide...

Bob Gettis writes:

Back in February 2019, my wife, Mary, and I started a birding club in our village in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. Every couple of weeks since then we've gone on walks in search of the migrating warbler (at right), a majestic bald eagle, or a variety of waterfowl. Over 40 years of golf collecting I've always considered myself a club guy. But I bet every golf collector has some balls on a rack, in a box, a drawer or in bags that are special! So I thought it would be neat to start a "bird ball" collection and thinking it wouldn't be that easy I started gathering balls with old or new bird-related names or bird emblems. Talk about a Pandora's box! Help came from GHS members **Francella, McBee, Baird, Biocini**, my brother, **Mike**, and others with great bird balls and quickly it is out of control! So I've decided to cut the collecting back to just vintage bird balls. Pictured are some good birdies with such names as Bobolink, Ibis, Swan, Eagle, Gray Goose, Hawk, Falcon, Blue Pigeon, Owl, and just plain Birdie. Yes, there's even a Hooters.

TO ABSENT FRIENDS

James Albert (Bert) Mumby,
GHS No. 5831
Dec. 8, 1933-March 16, 2020

GHS member Bert Mumby (No. 5831), 86, passed away at Joseph Brant Hospital in Mississauga, Ont., Canada. He is survived by several children and grandchildren, sister and partner.



DEAD-EYE CAPERS.

With only one eye remaining, twinkling, we presume, John Capers III emerges occasionally from the archives at Merion Golf Club, which he has organized to such a state that it has become an example for other clubs, to risk the light of day and the wily virus. The good man has found a way, though, to pitch the GHS despite the burden of mask and patch. Can this be the dawn of a new GHS member marketing campaign? Stay tuned.



Monthly e-newsletters –

The monthly e-newsletter is the main way the GHS has of communicating news and updates. Please check to see that your email address is up-to-date and that you have not inadvertently blocked or unsubscribed from GHS emails.

Region 7 Director Kirk Watson is proud of his Iowa GHS members and the region's hickory golf pedigree. "Iowa has a strong contingent of hickory players and tournaments," he writes. "It hosts two of the biggest hickory tournaments in the United States. The two-day Heart of America in July started in 1978 and is the longest continuously run hickory tournament in the world. The second is the one-day Iowa Hickory Classic played in September at the Hyperion Field Club. I encourage anyone who loves golf to try it at least once. That includes ladies, too.



KIRK WATSON, Region 7 Director.

"Hickory golf is more than just playing with wood shaft clubs. It's about enjoying the outdoors, building friendships and experiencing history. In Iowa we have some great opportunities to do that." Contact Kirk at kirkewatson@gmail.com.

Golf symphony strikes a chord

Dear Editor,

After reading the spring edition of our Society's journal (The Golf, Spring 2020, Vol. 7) cover to cover, I am compelled to give a "shout out" to one of our newest members, Ms. Taba Dale, for her delightful article "A Symphony of Golf."

It was a most pleasant surprise to read, with much enjoyment, her article. What a clever and original take on how to visualize golf and golf courses by comparing the landscape architects (both past and present) to the world's great music composers – refreshingly done I must say.

I see that she has written four books with golf themes. If she were asked, possibly she would be willing to submit her favorite of the four for review in one of our upcoming editions of The Golf. Warm regards,

Wayne Aaron
San Antonio, Texas

A Symphony of golf

Why do we call golf a symphony? It is a question that has been asked many times... The symphony of golf is a beautiful and complex work of art... It is a symphony of nature, science, and art...

Dear Editor,

"I seem to be listening to some cosmic obligato the while I play," writes Arnold Haultain. "A great and unheard melody swelling from the great heart of Nature. Every golfer knows something of this." And so it is that Taba Dale fleshes this out in a little bit more detail in her delightful short essay "A Symphony of golf."

Her words are a reminder that, even though the world is increasingly driven by science and data, this royal and ancient game we love speaks to our hearts

and souls in the same creative and inspiring vein that music and art do.

I lift my glass of very smooth Pinot Noir (or perhaps a single malt Islay) to offer "Cheers" and a hearty "Well Done!" to Ms. Dale. Thank you for sharing such inspiring words. You made my day!

Scott Petersen
Grandville, Mich.

Too much hickory golf? A supportive view

Dear Editor,

I strongly second Bob Herring's letter to the editor (The Golf, Spring 2020, Vol. 7) that the GCS has morphed way too much towards the rather small sub-segment of Hickory Hackers. I have been a member since the 70s and have watched the overall participation drop in favor of this group which already had their own society.

Jon E. Finger
Scarborough, N.Y.

Pyratone clubs bear uncle's name

(John McIntosh has written before about his "Grandpa Mac," David McIntosh, an early Scottish immigrant and golf professional. Here, he rejoices in another family connection.)

Dear Editor,

Hope all are healthy and happy! Had to share the my good fortune. These arrived today from England [letter dated May 6]. Great Uncle James was our Grandpa Mac's youngest



championships. He's buried at Kimberley, the locale of his last engagement. No coincidence, my only brother is James, named in memory of Great Uncle James. Between our cousin Helen in Edinburgh, and myself, we've managed to locate some of his progeny down in S.A. In fact, two of Great Uncle James' grand daughters are attempting to migrate to Scotland from S.A. but I'm sure the virus has put a kink in things. Our Cousin Helen is the grand daughter of our Great Uncle Thomas, another brother of Grandpa's. Thomas was a bit mischievous in his youth and joined the Scottish military where he made his career. I'm going to, hopefully, be able put these in my play set. I know this makes me a "hybrid" and



not a true hickory purist, but I must hit these Mac clubs, at least for awhile. I simply can't wait to get my hands on them. 105 degrees is the predicted high for the next couple of days so probably no golf until Friday when it's supposed to cool a bit. I'm sure I'll be strolling around the house tonight with these J. McIntosh sticks in hand.

John McIntosh
Glendale, Ariz.

When everything was quiet on

(Editor's note: Since this essay was written in early May, the U.K. has eased restrictions and golf courses are now opening for play.)

By MacDuff

Shortly before the world shuttered its human population and the birds and fish began to return to their customary haunts, now free of pollution, I was pleased to accept a friend's invitation to play golf's hallowed Old Course in St Andrews. It was a mixed bag of weather, I recall, with periods of slight rain, a little chilly, but cheered with occasional bright sunshine. "A good, Scottish day," my friend said. And so it was.

It is always a treat to play this course. Whether you are a local and it is your home course and therefore frequently visited, or whether you are one who lives abroad and comes but every so many years, the thrill of going round this ancient golfing ground is ever present.

What is not present today are golfers. The course, like all others in Europe, has been closed for many weeks and, as of this writing, there is no opening date foretold.

St Andrews is golf's mecca; it's citizens live and breathe the game. Though they may occupy themselves with the necessities of livelihood and so forth, it is golf they know and it is the world's golfers to whom they cater.

I recently heard from a friend who lives in the Grey Auld Toon. He reports that the streets are eerily empty, with only local traffic on furtive and essential errands. Gone are the roar of the ever-present buses, the laughter of golfers who have come off the course and make their way to the Dunvegan or other local pubs to replay their rounds over one and many pints of best. Tourists are gone. The university is quiet, students are studying remotely via internet, and almost everyone is sequestered somewhere.

The scene at the intersection of the Scores and Golf Place, where the stately R&A clubhouse oversees with a dignified eye the passage of countless golfers and gawkers, is generally an exciting one. Dozens of onlookers lean on the green fencing watching nervous golfers approach the first tee, their caddies joking away, the Links Trust photographer snapping away, and on the 18th green, the Tom Morris Hole, it is great sport to watch the elated—and deflated—finishing foursomes line up putts and, after missing most of them, offer, hats off (the Clubhouse is watching), handshakes and congratulations. Then comes the slow realization that the round is over and the excitement of the first tee fades to happy memories. The round, so earnestly begun, has come to its conclusion and the caddy awaits his well-earned fee.

The Old Course



THE OLD COURSE was, until recently, closed as were almost all golf courses in Europe. Above, the historic grounds are eerily quiet on misty morning.

Can all this now be so silent? My correspondent says that a few walkers are about, distancing themselves as a benevolent government so mandates. He thought he would see a few "Sunday sticks," for those who might wish to experience a chip shot across the Swilcan, but these, too, are absent.

The great lawn of the first and 18th fairways surely must invite thoughts of football (soccer for the Americans) or perhaps frisbees tossed in airy delight for the sheer fun and frivolity of it, flinging enjoyment into the face of the invading virus. But even this is absent, I am told.

The virus, for the time being, has the honor and it is taking its own damn time about it.

Still, the Links Trust has its duty, and the cutting of greens and the tees continues, says my St Andrews friend, though the fairways are left to nature's devices and the daisies are back. Striking little white blooms against the ground, so many and so quick to return



given their opportunity. It was these plants in the early days that caused the golfers to employ red balls, not snow. Says my St Andrews friend, "We rarely have snow."

Can this be? Can the Old Course have come round to somewhat resemble the days of the Morrisises, the Andersons, Allan, and Sir Hugh? Can the current razor-cut bunkers with their crisp lines now show a bit of rough and grassy edge, as once they did? That would be a good thing in my book.

I can see myself strolling a quiet Old Course for an imaginary round. It would be with an old set of hickories, naturally. Oh, the shots I would make! By the time we reach the Road Hole my caddy's carefully contrived contempt would have turned to admiration and prideful teamwork. On the

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

To Fellow GHS-ers...

James Kaiser (Region 5 Director) writes:

I hope this letter finds you well and that the golf courses in your state are open or will be soon. My wife and I have now been self quarantined for four weeks (letter dated mid-April). We are all trying to be smart about this, but I know it is tough for many and the uncertainty of the unknown is a cause of much stress and anxiety. These are unique times.

To pass some time I've been doing odd jobs that never seem to get done, like gardening and hitting lots of hickory shots into my back yard net and putting on my synthetic front yard green (yes, I'm addicted to golf). Lots of time enjoying my beautiful, full bloom springtime yard, and time with my wife, Marty. I am looking at this as a mini-Corona Vacation and focused on things that mean a lot to me.

More time in prayer - check.

More time at home - check.

More time in yard - check.

More time in house - check.

More time in golf - Nope.

But wait, what about GHS? So, yes, a check there.

GHS and YOU mean a lot to me.

One passion I think we all share is golf, so here is a little of my story of why GHS makes sense for me.

The part of GHS that is the most fun for me is the actual playing of tournaments, the history of golf, golf stuff, and youth golf.

1850-1900 is my favorite period for golf. Old and Young Tom are my heroes. I play pre-1900 hickory (gutter golf) exclusively. That means at the National Hickory Championship (June); the Wisconsin Gutter Challenge (July); and the Foxburg Hickory Championship (August). I've been on this schedule for about four years now. I played the NHC in 2005 and it took the next 20 years to put together the perfect Tom



JAMES KAISER, far right, is shown with fellow GHS-ers at a winter trade show in Columbus, Ohio. From left are Frank Rosenzweig, Bern Bernacki, Lynn Just, and Rachel Just.

Stewart iron set for gutter golf.

I love the other players and their families at these great venues and enjoy the quality time with my own family who attend most events, too. I even bring my 83-year-young Mom.

I have a 6-year-old who LOVES the game and, God willing, I will be his high school golf coach, like I was his mom's high school golf coach for eight years. I'm building the team now.

Many of you are collectors of clubs, golf art, golf memorabilia, fans of old courses and design. Maybe you just like the history of golf? Or maybe you just like old golfers. We are fun, right? Maybe we could show stuff on Zoom (a teleconferencing application)?

We all have our reasons why we are GHS-ers and this is the main reason for this letter to my fellows and friends in the Society.

Please share what makes the GHS special or what are you doing to share your passion of golf with others. I will compile and share your thoughts and ideas on a regular basis to get others excited and get more people to join us. Send to me at kaisergolf@gmail.com. 🏌️

OLD COURSE

CONTINUED FROM PRIOR PAGE

tee, he hands me a turn-of-the-century Tom Morris splice head bulger driver. The drive, as I see it, soars some 205 yards, curving gracefully round the corner of the long gone railroad sheds. The ball, of course, is one of the newer rubber cores, a nod to invention and creativity.

A brisk walk out and the caddy, Auld Luffer by name, hands me a hickory shafted 4-iron with a Tom Morris signature and from the Tom Stewart forge. He signals, thus, his confidence in me and I intend to reward him. The ball is crisply struck and bounds with gleeful irreverence on a

line toward the bunker, but, as full well intended, it comes to peaceful repose some 90 yards away from the hateful sand.

A brave pitch, a tidy putt, we gather our four and proceed across the old stone trader's bridge, one of the few landmarks in all of golf to challenge for the right of best known.

My drive on 18 is magnificent, far and sure. The approach a thing of beauty, and the putt drops for a birdie three. If you are to imagine golf at St Andrews on the Old Course, it is best to conjure drives that are true and putts that are unerringly accurate.

I look forward to a return game on The Old, after the virus has played through. Imagination can be pressed only so far. 🏌️

MacDuff is an occasional contributor to The Golf.



Auction Activity

Venturi collection, Tom Morris club highlight spring auctions

By George Petro

Jeff Ellis March 2020 Auction

The Jeff Ellis auction, which closed on March 20, featured a Tom Morris Play Club, c. 1883, typical of his splice-neck long noses, except for one crucial element, its steel shaft, considered by Ellis to be the *first ever* golf club with this feature.

It has a central tubular steel core surrounded by six inner and six outer lengths of bamboo; the finished club probably assembled by Old Tom but the shaft produced by either the Hardy Brothers or by Fosters of Ashbourne, as both companies made steel-core cane fishing rods by 1880. The Morris club sold for \$6,600.

The first printed account of steel shafts came in the November 1890 of *Golf*, which cited the recent invention of a Mr. Adams of Musselburgh who created a wood shaft with a steel bar down its center, honestly advised as best for those who don't hit the ball hard and letting the heavy club do the work. An article several months later mentioned the use of shafts with wire cores as in fishing rods.

The first patent that proposed all steel shafts was in 1892. In 1904 while in Connecticut, Willie Dunn Jr. put steel shafts into his clubs, but found them too heavy. The USGA legalized steel shafts in 1924 with wide usage in the 1925 U.S. Open, while the R&A waited until 1929 to legalize their use.

A Gibson Cosby Dead'un Backspin water iron sold for \$3,500. Note that Cosby clubs use a six-piece split bamboo shaft patented in 1924, typically with a central steel core.

A fine Spalding Kro-Flite double waterfall F-6 backspin mashie niblick sold for \$1,600. This rare club was offered only in its Oct. 5, 1919 catalog.

Chieftains were the top-of-the line offering from MacGregor from 1927



TOM MORRIS PLAY CLUB WITH STEEL CENTER, C. 1883
– \$6,600



GIBSON COSBY WATER IRON, C. 1924
– \$3,500



MACGREGOR CHIEFTAINS, C. 1927-29
– \$1,750



TWISTED METAL TEE – \$58



REDDY TEE ADVERTISING STAND – \$1,240



ROYAL DOULTON MORISSIAN WARE – \$880

through 1929, featuring ivory back weights and inserts, in either hickory or steel shafts. This steel set sold for \$1,750.

Visually impressive was the two-foot-tall wooden Reddy Tee advertising piece, produced by the product's maker Neiblo Mfg. Co. A decal on its top says "The Reddy Tee Smoking Stand." It auctioned for \$1,240. An unusual "twisted" metal tee sold for \$58 and an outstanding Royal Doulton 10-inch-tall Morissian Ware vase fetched \$880.



VENTURI, 1956 MASTERS LOW AMATEUR – \$13,415



VENTURI, 1956 MASTERS IRON PLAY TROPHY – \$2,580



1992 PGA GRAND SLAM TRAVELING TROPHY – \$6,100

The Golf Auction

The Golf Auction held two events during the first quarter of 2020. The first, ending on March 16, had a number of autographed items of note.

A distinctly signed Robert T. Jones Jr. ball brought \$20,300; a price similar to one auctioned by TGA last spring. Jones still dominates this niche, followed by a Tiger Woods-signed Titleist going for \$1,325; a Nicklaus-signed Hall of Fame logo ball for \$310; a Tom Watson 2014 Ryder Cup (the U.S. team lost) logo ball for \$157; and Gary Player on a Masters logo ball for \$72.

Horton Smith, Lawson Little, Jimmy Thomson, and Harry Cooper were known as Spalding’s “Trained Seals.” Sponsored by the company, they traveled by train to tournaments and exhibitions. This ball signed by each fetched \$5,300.

Nicklaus won the 1971 PGA (in February, by the way) wire-to-wire. His signed official scorecard from the Saturday round sold for \$4,800. A Woods-signed 2019 Masters flag achieved \$2,360.

The post-season PGA Grand Slam Champion of Champions event was first contested between the winners of the year’s four majors in 1979. A large Crystal trophy for the event appeared in 1992 having been hoisted by Tiger seven times. This traveling winners’ trophy (45 pounds) brought \$6,100.

The second of TGA’s two spring auctions closed on April 13 and included items from the late Ken Venturi’s estate. Items won during his amateur career are engraved “Kenneth,” while those won during his pro career, 1957 and later, are “Ken.”

In 1956 it looked like Kenneth would be the first, and still only, amateur winner of the Masters, but Jack Burke Jr. played brilliantly in horrible weather to make up 8 strokes to win by one over Venturi. In addition to receiving his Runner-Up silver medal, he received two addition items as low amateur: a silver/gold cup (\$13,415) and a gold medal (\$17,850), relative bargains by past standards.

Venturi’s 1958 Masters “Day’s Low Score” vase went for a jaw dropping \$8,950, and his 1956 high ball glass for an eagle on hole No. 8 fetched a very strong \$4,800.

The Wednesday “Par Three Event” officially began in 1960, but was preceded, I just learned, by the “Iron Play Contest.” The amateur “Kenneth” won this in 1956 and was awarded a Crystal Bowl, which brought \$2,580 at auction. Different name for the event but same jinx?

Other items included Dwight Eisenhower’s personal set of Spalding Rob-



SUPER HARLEQUIN – \$200



‘TRAINED SEALS’ – \$5,300

ert T. Jones model clubs, which sold for \$6,900; a 1925 U.S. Amateur program (Jones third Major), which brought \$9,815; and a 1934 Augusta Program that sold for \$10,410. A 1929 “Super Harlequin” golf ball, produced with either dimples within squares or squares within squares, brought \$200. ¶



DWIGHT EISENHOWER CLUBS – \$6,900

NOTE – Green Jacket Auctions is now named Golden Age Auctions.



Letter from Across the Pond

Lectures, library, a new Captain,
and new possibilities

BY ROGER MCSTRAVICK

Well, to say it has been an unusual few months is somewhat of an understatement. Who would have thought on New Year's Eve that everything including shops, businesses and schools would be closed in a matter of months. If someone had predicted that, you would have assumed that they had enjoyed one Hogmanay dram too many. Golf courses that initially seemed to escape the ban were finally closed on 23 March. St Andrews has a 1910 aura with barely three cars on South Street. It is, like most places in the U.K., a veritable ghost town. We can but dream of getting out on to the Links once this passes. Fortunately, it has been one of the nicest springs on record, so we can get into our gardens and pitch with a mashie niblick at least.

On the positive side, Twitter and Facebook have been more entertaining than normal with beautiful golf history images, videos and stories. I have particularly enjoyed watching early Opens, Bobby Jones, Moe Norman and slow-motion videos of Hogan, which are hypnotic.

Nonetheless, despite all the event cancellations, there have been a few things to report from this side of the pond.

BGM Lectures online

The British Golf Museum lecture series has been hugely successful with talks by some of the finest golf historians in the world including Peter Lewis, but one of the downsides was that more people could not view the lectures, other than those who could get there on the night. Hannah Fleming, the museum's Learning & Access curator, and Kieran George, assistant curator, have been working hard to rectify this and now a series of lectures has been posted on YouTube. From topics like Tommy Morris to Freddie Tait's father, Professor P.G. Tait, they are definitely worth a view. (On YouTube, search for British Golf Museum – Lecture Series.)

The Alastair J Johnston Library

Alastair Johnston is a much respected and well-known collector of rare golf books. He has generously donated his book collection to The R&A and it will be housed in St Andrews. The library will be known as The Alastair J Johnston Library and contains books dating to 1566, including the first known printing of the Acts of the Scottish Parliament of 1457. There is also a collection of 800 club histories. The R&A, the British Golf Museum, and the Ladies' Golf Union library and archives will be added to create one collection. Future acquisitions are planned. The research facilities are superb at the British Golf Museum and Alastair Johnston's kind donation will only ensure that future generations will be able to study the finest books on the history of the sport.

New Captain of the BGCS

The British Golf Collectors' Society has a new Captain. Despite not being able to take up her role at the AGM in Hoylake, Carolyn Kirk has just begun her two-year captaincy. A golfer from the age of four, she has played at senior level for England and Yorkshire and has been Lady Captain at York and Ganton.

New Possibilities

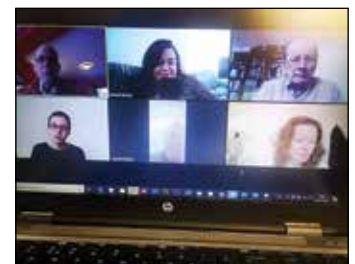
Out of this awful situation that we are all enduring to varying degrees, there is a positive change in that historian meetings are happening online now. Every month, courtesy of Hannah at the BGM, historians meet once a month for a coffee and friendly chat.

We share ideas and help each other. It is a wonderful, selfless group. Members of the public are also invited to come along should they have something of note for which they seek advice. Interesting items have included a photo of Tommy Morris, a feathery found on the St Andrews Links when maintenance crews were clearing whin, and a pristine photo of St Andrews Golf Club members in 1878. This meeting has become one of the best days of the month as notaries include David Hamilton, Peter Lewis, Peter Crabtree, book designer Chic Harper, and your correspondent. Hannah is trying to maintain momentum and has arranged for us all to meet online via Zoom. We may have the combined age of a phone-in telethon total, but in these dark times, it is good to see new horizons.

To all members of the GHS, I wish you good health. As and when this passes, as it surely will, we will be back on the Links once more, reminding ourselves how good it feels to hit the ball out of the sweet spot (and trying to forget what happens when we don't). 🏌️



COFFEE AND HISTORY are on the table at monthly chats hosted by the British Golf Museum in St Andrews at its cafe. Above, at a pre-virus gathering from left, are Ronald Sandford, Graeme Lennie, and Peter Crabtree. Below, Zoom chats are the norm these days.



The changing nature of value in collecting

By George Petro

When COVID-19 hit hard I wondered how many ardent auction bidders would there be? I'm happy to report that there were many, strongly pursuing especially uncommon items. The next months will be telling. Global economic factors aside, I'm taking the liberty to editorialize on supply vs. demand generally, knowing there are numerous exceptions and varied experiences.

With any budding collecting niche, those early, knowledgeable and determined collectors can build quite a collection at a relative bargain. How many times have we wished we had started collecting just a few years earlier? There was a time when it wasn't crazy to find a Cran Cleek or gutty ball at a flea market for a song. Exposure and camaraderie attracted new collectors. Books and price guides emerged, and values rose, while "pickers" beat you to the punch.

I recall that in 1991-92, long nose, patent clubs, and ceramics hit some high prices at the auctions. By 1993, a dramatic reduction took place as the Japanese economy had crashed and they virtually stopped buying. Continuing upward, but on a lower trajectory, were balls, art and uncommon objects. With the birth of eBay in 1995, items thought to be unique were sometimes found to be only rare, and the uncommon became more prevalent. While treasures were, and still are, frequently found on eBay, listings of interesting items in subpar condition and a massive rise in "commons" gave a negative impression, dragging down the good with the bad.

I want to focus on one collecting sub-category, not to promote it, but because I follow it closely and want to illustrate the dynamics of an even smaller collecting niche. In a Massachusetts auction in 1990 Japanese bidders acquired for \$21,000 the first offering of an early U.S. Open medal. An American collector, whose friends thought he was daft, bid \$8,000 on a PGA medal won by Walter Hagen. He sold Hagen's medal three years later for \$40,000 and that Open medal sold in 2000 for \$70,000. Clearly, being on the ground floor can be quite profitable, but being the first in a very small niche can also have its downside because the balance between supply and demand can teeter quickly.

In 2008 the first-ever Masters winners medal came to auction selling for over \$90,000. Since then a handful have

appeared in the \$50-\$70,000 range, still strong, but this illustrates the point about buying "the first" of anything.

Take the sales history of the four known 1904 Olympic medals (two silver and two gold), and these during a time when golf museum curators wondered if any medals had even been awarded. In 1995 a silver Olympic team medal was sold at a non-golf auction for \$20,000. In 2016 a second Olympic medal appeared, a gold team medal that auctioned for \$273,000. But just one year later an identical gold team medal that belonged to Chandler Egan fetched \$120,000. Successive underbidders win out at progressively lower prices.

In the meantime, record prices have a tendency to get the attention of the grandchildren of past champions. Can the passionate collector, building any themed collection, risk waiting for a more "reasonable" price and come to regret the one that got away? And does pricing at the high end, with its relatively few participants, affect the larger middle?

When the price of rake iron falls from \$8K to \$3K, and a Whistler shaft from \$4K to \$1,200, then few are willing to spend \$700 on a Cran Cleek and its price falls to \$300. Everything down the line can be perceived as having less value despite persistent scarcity amongst a similar number of collectors. It's like the psychology of the old live attendance auctions: if the lead item sold for \$100,000+, the entire auction did well with other buyers who were comfortable spending \$1,000 at the mean, but if that lead item bombed, often so did the entire auction.

Collecting golf pales in size to numismatics or sports card collecting, but certainly holds its own for passion and individuality. It has long been said that the only constant is change itself. And change can be opportunity. (During this current period, when truly rare clubs and balls and exquisite ceramics have become more affordable to me, I'm filling in some long empty holes.)

And there is reason for long term optimism. The collection of programs, tickets and flags looks to have grown considerably, possibly a function related to a Mr. Woods. And while the younger generation is less apt to collect, there are 34 million golfers/driving range participants in the U.S. alone and we need only interest 1 in 10,000 of them for our numbers to soar. What we have collected over the years is truly remarkable and desirable. While we tend to be more concerned about touching history than reaping profits, these need not be mutually exclusive. If we seasoned collectors spread the word about our exceptional experiences, even a small increase in our ranks will both strengthen the hobby and enhance the value of our collections as we pass these treasures and practices on to those who follow us. ¶



1904 OLYMPIC MEDAL
This medal was featured on the cover of Bulletin No. 206.

Tim Flynn

Lexington, Ky.

Retired Ping representative Tim Flynn has been playing golf since grade school. While working in England for the company, he scouted antique stores and second-hand markets for old clubs. He is a “regular” at GHS trade shows and annual meetings.

“Almost every day I worked with pro golfers. It was eye opening at first, but then you got to know them as individuals who were interested in what you had to offer.”

What Tim Flynn had to offer were popular Ping irons and putters. He was with the company for 34 years before retiring in the fall of 2018.

Originally from Minneapolis, Tim grew up with three brothers and one sister. The older boys caddied at Edina Country Club and got him started there, too. Of the siblings, though, he was the only to actually start golfing, beginning in the sixth grade and continuing through high school and a year at Normandale College.

As golf held more interest for him than higher education, Tim left school to take a job in a golf repair shop that serviced private clubs in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. He worked at the Minneapolis Golf Club from 1979-83. Then, a little something named Ping came along and Tim moved to Phoenix in 1984 to start a life with Karsten Manufacturing. He worked his way from manufacturing to club repair and customer service to field representative for a year in 1988.

“I went to weekly tour events such as Kemper, Doral and others,” he says. “The Ping guys at that time included Davis Love III, Fred Couples, Bob Eastwood and Rex Caldwell.”

Karsten soon expanded to include other tours in Europe and elsewhere. As Tim was single at the time, he found himself based in England from 1989-91 serving Ping as field representative to the European PGA Tour. There he worked with the likes of David Feherty, Jose Maria Olzabal, and Seve Ballesteros.

“There were so many nationalities represented,” he says. “Often, when the players turned 50, they came to the States and made fortunes on the U.S. Senior Tour.”

While abroad, Tim was based in Gainsborough, England, where he would roam the countryside stopping in pro shops



TIM FLYNN at the 2014 Foxburgh Hickory Golf Championship.
Photo by Chris Lane.

and flea markets (“car boot sales”) searching for older golf items. “I brought several clubs back to States, all hickory shafted clubs, not huge quantities, about three dozen,” he says. “I was intrigued by early irons and still have one of the first ones I bought, a smooth-faced unmarked lofter.”

In 1991 he returned to the States as sales representative for an area that included Kentucky, West Virginia, and Indiana. He recalls working with such golfers as VJ Singh, Jesper Parnevik, Miguel Angel Jimenez, and Jean van de Velde. “Singh was so good you could tell he was going to do well,” he recalls.

While browsing an antique shop in Louisville, Ky., Tim met Dave Clark who introduced him to the GCS. This was more than 20 years ago. Although he says he is not a prolific collector, what he enjoys most is the camaraderie and he is usually

among the “regulars” at annual meetings and trade shows. It was at such a show at Palm Desert in 1993 that he met Mike Brown.

“Mike was one of the best friends I ever had,” Tim says. “As I was living in Louisville and he was two hours away in Indy, we would often get together, sometimes for NBA games, the Indianapolis Pacers, or just to hang out. We would stay at each other’s house while traveling.”

When Mike began to attend the Southern Four-Ball Hickory Championship hosted each spring by Tad Moore, he got Tim interested in joining him. “That’s when I began playing some hickory golf,” Tim says.

Mike, who passed away in February 2010, was famous among his GCS friends for his generosity and enthusiasm. He would often find things he knew others wanted or would like and simply send them the item. Says Tim, “Mike, in his typical fashion, gave me a hickory iron that had a Kentucky theme to it – a horse cleek mark.”

As well as attending trade shows, Tim plays in a few hickory events each year. Among his favorites are the Southern Hickory Four Ball, the U.S. Hickory Open, the Foxburg Hickory Championship, and the Mid Pines Hickory Open.

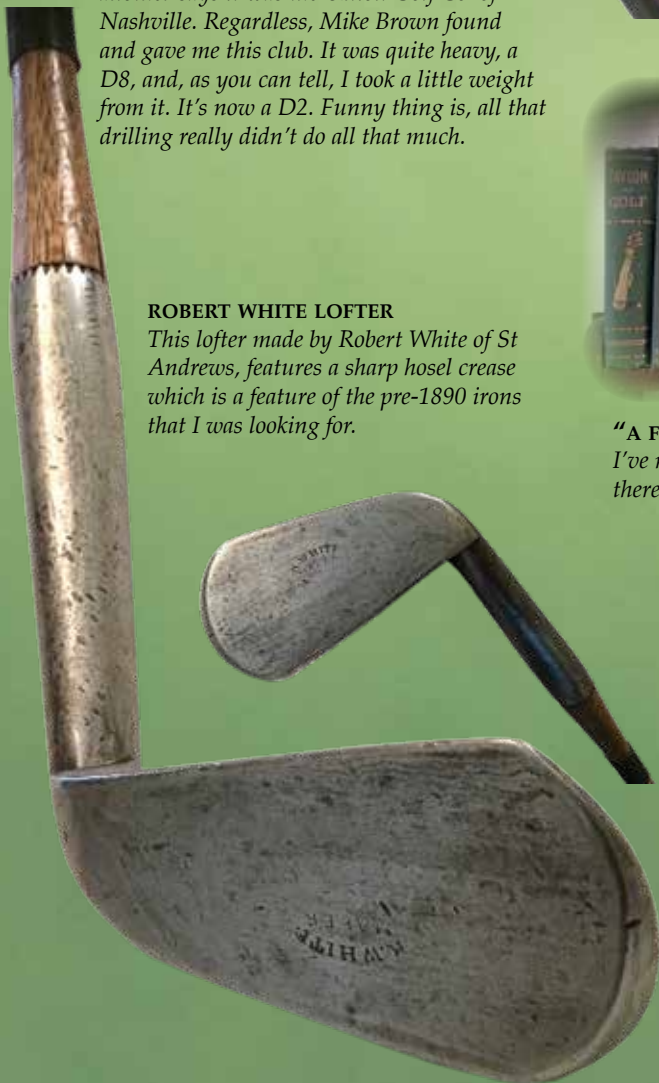
He and his wife, Melinda, were married in 2004 and make their home in Lexington, Ky. ¶



DISH FACED LOFTER, c. 1860.
I purchased this one from Mort Olman in Cincinnati.

SHURE-WINNER MASHIE

These were made in the 1920s but available golf guides offer conflicting information as to the maker. One says the U.S. Golf Company of Westfield, Mass., while another says it was the Union Golf Co. of Nashville. Regardless, Mike Brown found and gave me this club. It was quite heavy, a D8, and, as you can tell, I took a little weight from it. It's now a D2. Funny thing is, all that drilling really didn't do all that much.



ROBERT WHITE LOFTER

This lofter made by Robert White of St Andrews, features a sharp hosel crease which is a feature of the pre-1890 irons that I was looking for.



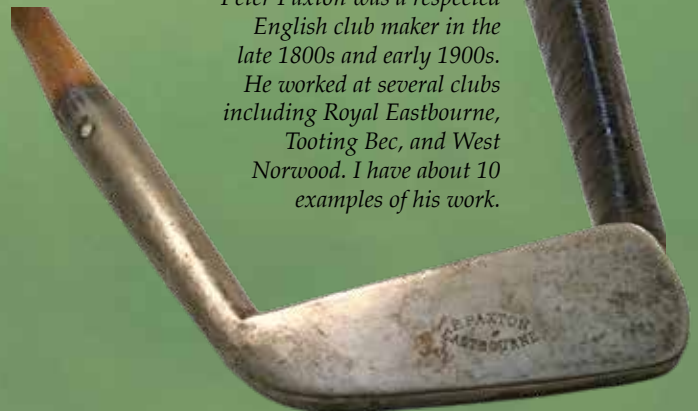
"A FEW BOOKS..."

I've never had a wide collection, but there are some books and other items.



WOOD AND IRON BY PETER PAXTON, C. 1890

Peter Paxton was a respected English club maker in the late 1800s and early 1900s. He worked at several clubs including Royal Eastbourne, Tooting Bec, and West Norwood. I have about 10 examples of his work.



Ryder Cup Challenge Matches 1940-57— A closer look

By Peter C. Trenham

The Ryder Cup, a biennial competition between the United States and Great Britain & Ireland, was first played in 1927 at Worcester Country Club in Massachusetts. It was contested June 3-4, to coincide with the U.S. Open (June 14-17). The biennial format featured each side taking a turn at being the host. The host team won every match until 1937, when the U.S. triumphed in England.

In 1939, the Ryder Cup was scheduled for November 18-19, at the Ponte Vedra Club near Jacksonville, Fla. About the time the PGA of America was going to announce its team in early September the matches were off. Henry Cotton, captain of the British Team, wired PGA of America tournament chairman Ed Dudley on Sept. 4, that due to the outbreak of war in Europe, their team would not be traveling to the States.

Even though the Ryder Cup had been cancelled the PGA announced its team. Walter Hagen would serve as a non-playing captain. Hagen had been a playing captain for five previous Matches since the Ryder Cup's inception. Suggestions for a substitute to the matches were offered. One was to face the U.S. Walker Cup Team, and another was to invite a team from Argentina. With the threat of war, the United States was doing everything possible to maintain friendly alliances with South America.

On Nov. 29, Gene Sarazen voiced his displeasure with the makeup of the U.S. Team. "A fine team," he commented, "A fine team on paper. But I'm afraid it might look better on paper than it would against the Britons." Sarazen went on to announce his 10-member unit despite three players – Tommy Armour, Jimmy Thomson and Harry Cooper – who were not born in the USA and thus ineligible for a berth on the American team. Sarazen would serve as playing captain of his team. He said it was not about him, but he had been a member of every Ryder Cup Team since the beginning, and now after having one of his best years, he had been left off. He said that his team would play the PGA team for \$5,000. With all that, nothing materialized in 1939 in the way of a challenge match.

Then in 1940, the Oakland Hills Country Club, near Detroit, came up with an idea to raise money for the Red Cross. The Ryder Cup Team would play a two-day challenge match against a team of golf professionals captained



1939 RYDER CUP TEAM. *Front from left: Byron Nelson, Harold McSpaden, Ralph Guldahl, Paul Runyan, Dick Metz, and Jimmy Hines. Back from left: Horton Smith, PGA President Tom Walsh, non-playing Captain Walter Hagen, Vic Ghezzi, Sam Snead, and Henry Picard.*

by Sarazen. Sarazen's voice had been heard! It would make sense that Oakland Hills would step up. Walter Hagen had been its head professional in 1919 when he won the U.S. Open for a second time. Detroit had become Hagen's adopted hometown.

Sarazen demanded that the winning team take possession of the Ryder Cup trophy, which the American Team was holding. Hagen stated that he was the Ryder Cup captain and he would make the rules. Sarazen stormed out of the meeting. Hagen commented that was why Sarazen was never the captain. He wasn't willing to sit down and work anything out. Hagen and Sarazen had a side bet of \$1,000 with the money going to the Red Cross.

When the match was played in mid-July 1940, Armour, Thomson, and Cooper were on Sarazen's Team. All 10 members of the Ryder Cup Team were on hand for the match. The players were reimbursed for their travel expenses. All matches were 36 holes. There were four foursome matches the first day.

Hagen's unit won 3 points. The Challengers tandem of Ben Hogan and Jimmy Demaret had defeated Sam Snead and Ralph Guldahl, 1 up. The next day, with eight singles matches, Sarazen inserted himself into the lineup. Sarazen's Team won half the singles points, while he was losing 8 and 7 to Henry Picard. Hagen's Team had prevailed over the Challengers by a margin of 7 to 5. \$18,500 was raised for the Red Cross.

A few days after the Challenge Match, U.S. Amateur champion Marvin "Bud" Ward offered to put together a 10-member team of amateurs to challenge the Cup Team. Hagen announced that he was in favor of the idea, but nothing materialized.

With a year of success behind it, Detroit maintained its support for the Challenge Match with a second competition for August 1941 at Detroit Golf Club. J. Russell Gnuau, a

Ford executive, was the moving force behind the promotion of the exhibition. This time, 39-year-old Bobby Jones would be a playing captain of the Challenge Team. Jones was actually no longer an amateur. He had made an instructional golf film, written books on golf and there were Spalding Bobby Jones golf clubs on the market. When Jones retired from competitive golf in 1930, the PGA of America bestowed him with honorary membership.

For this match, the PGA was represented by the same 1939 Ryder Cup Team, with Hagen as

captain. The Challengers were selected by Bobby Jones. All matches were 36 holes. This time there were five foursome matches the first day. After day one the Cup Team led 3-2. The pairing of Jones and Sarazen had lost to Byron Nelson and Jug McSpaden 8 and 6. Hagen declared that victory was in the bag. The next day was a different story. Jones came back from four down after nine holes to defeat Henry Picard 2 and 1. Challenger Ben Hogan beat Nelson, 2 up. The Challengers won four other matches and tied one for an 8½ to 6½ victory. The two-day exhibition raised \$18,221 for the Red Cross.

A third Ryder Cup Challenge returned to Oakland Hills in July 1942. The PGA of America had selected a wartime Ryder Cup Team. After having been left off in 1939, Sarazen was back on the roster. Also new to the team were Hogan, Jimmy Demaret, and Craig Wood. Wood, the winner of the U.S. Open and the Masters in 1941, was captain. For the first time since the inaugural Ryder Cup in 1927, Hagen was not the captain. Hagen was switched to captain the Challengers. Hagen invited Jones to be a member of his Team, but Jones was in the Army and could not arrange leave. Snead, who had just won the PGA Championship, was in the Navy at Norfolk, Va., and unable to play. PGA President Ed Dudley, who had played on three Ryder Cup Teams, substituted for Snead. All matches were 36 holes. The Ryder Cup Team swept all five foursome matches and split the 10 singles matches to triumph, 10-5. For charity, that was an even more successful Challenge Match. An estimated 8,000 spectators attended each day, with the proceeds for the Red Cross totaling \$25,000.

Another Ryder Cup Challenge was at Detroit's Plum Hollow Country Club in August 1943. Craig Wood captained the Cup team. Wood had resigned as the professional at Winged Foot to represent the PGA of America playing



1941 RYDER CUP TEAM AND CHALLENGERS. Front from left: Jimmy Hines, Henry Picard, Ralph Guldahl, Walter Hagen (non-playing Captain), PGA President Tom Walsh, Horton Smith, Paul Runyan, Sam Snead, Byron Nelson, Harold McSpaden, Vic Ghezzi. Back from left: PGA Tournament Manager Fred Corcoran, Lawson Little, Ed Dudley, Ben Hogan, Jimmy Demaret, Gene Sarazen, Challenge Team Captain Robert T. Jones Jr., Denny Shute, Johnny Bulla, Clayton Heafner, and Craig Wood.

exhibitions for wartime charities. Hagen captained the Challengers once again. One change was made to the competition; the first day's format was four-ball instead of four-somes. The Americans weren't into playing alternate shots, so it was decided to make a change. Hogan, Snead, and Horton Smith were absent due to being in the Armed Services. Two Detroit professionals with PGA Tour experience filled in. With all matches scheduled for 36 holes, there were four four-ball matches the first day and eight singles the second day. The Ryder Cup Team won by 8½ to 3½. The matches raised \$174,800 in the sale of War Bonds and funds for the Red Cross. Much of the funds came through an auction of pieces signed by the players and other celebrities.

Miffed at not being invited to play on Hagen's Challenge Teams, world-famous trick shot artist Joe Kirkwood challenged Hagen to a match for \$2,000, anywhere, anytime. Gnaou showed interest in promoting the match for charity. Kirkwood was so upset that he threatened to resign from the PGA of America. The Philadelphia PGA Section, of which Kirkwood was a member, held a special board meeting and declined Kirkwood's offer. Hagen who was vacationing in northern Michigan retorted that the public did not want to pay to see two old dubs play golf.

By 1944, many of the leading professional golfers were in the service, so what had been the Ryder Cup Challenge came down to Ryder Cup captain Craig Wood playing a winner-take-all 36-hole exhibition at Plum Hollow against Sam Byrd, who was the club's new head professional. Before turning to professional golf, Byrd had played eight years in the major leagues, spending most of that time as a backup outfielder to Babe Ruth. After leaving baseball, Byrd spent seven years as an assistant at the Philadelphia Country Club and Merion Golf Club. Byrd routed Wood by

see **RYDER CUP**, 18

RYDER CUP

CONTINUED FROM 17

eight strokes and received \$2,500 in war bonds.

With World War II ending, golf returned to normal in the United States. That wasn't the case in the United Kingdom, which had been devastated by the war. No one was sure if a Ryder Cup would be played again. With Ryder Cup Team members receiving no prize money, it was a financial burden to be a member of the team. One man, who became known as the Ryder Cup's "Angel," came to the rescue.

Robert A. Hudson, a fruit grower and canner from Portland, Ore., had been a sponsor of the Portland Open. He decided to finance the 1947 Ryder Cup at his home course, Portland Golf Club. One year earlier, the PGA Championship had been contested there.

Hudson paid the travel expenses for the British Team on the Queen Mary. On their arrival, Hudson met them in New York. The Britons were wined and dined at the Waldorf Astoria, before Hudson boarded a train to travel with the team on a three-day cross country trip to Portland. Hudson paid for the British Team's housing, meals, everything. The PGA of America arranged paid exhibitions for the British to help them make up for lost income while away from home. The American Team swept the foursomes and lost only one of the eight singles, posting an 11-1 victory. At Christmas, Hudson sent food baskets to the British Team and the British PGA officials, who had accompanied the team.

Thanks to Hudson the Ryder Cup continued, but not at a profit. With the 1949 Ryder Cup scheduled for British soil, there was a need to assist the American Team members with their expenses. This time, the New England PGA Section came to the rescue. Taking a cue from the wartime matches, a Challenge Match was arranged. The Belmont (Mass.) Country Club hosted a two-day exhibition. Hagen captained the Challengers who were defeated, 8-4. The Cup Team members were presented with \$10,500 to help defray their expenses. The Challengers received \$4,500 to split up.

After the New England PGA took the lead in assisting with the U.S. Ryder Cup Team expenses, other golf associations followed. The Berks County Golf Association in Pennsylvania sponsored a Challenge Match at Reading in September 1953. With the Ryder Cup being played in England, the professionals were taking a financial hit again. A \$1,500 pro-am was played on a Friday at the Berkshire Country Club and the Challenge Match was played that weekend at the Reading Country Club. The Cup Team won 12½ to 7½. Each Ryder Cup Team member received \$850 and each Challenger \$400. An additional \$2,500 was presented to the PGA of America to help defray the team's expenses.

Even though the 1955 Ryder Cup was being played on U.S. soil, the Midland Country Club in Midland, Texas,



1942 RYDER CUP TEAM. Front, l to r: Byron Nelson, Walter Hagen (Challengers Captain), Craig Wood (Captain), Lloyd Mangrum, Gene Sarazen, and Ben Hogan. Back, l to r: Ed Dudley (President PGA), Jimmy Demaret, Jug McSpaden, Sam Snead, Horton Smith, and Vic Ghezzi.

hosted a Ryder Cup Challenge in October that year. Chick Harbert captained the Cup Team, which won 29½ to 15½. Jimmy Demaret captained the Challengers. Each member of the Cup Team received \$600, the Challengers \$500 and the PGA \$2,000.

Two years later, with the Ryder Cup headed to England, the Wanakah Country Club near Buffalo, New York, hosted a Challenge Match to raise funds for the team. The money was the same as 1955, \$12,500. The Cup Team won 9½ to 5½.

In 1958, the PGA Championship was contested near Philadelphia at Llanerch Country Club, and became the first utilizing the stroke-play format. The CBS network became interested and live nationwide coverage was delivered on the final three holes Saturday and Sunday – a total of 2½ hours. The business side of television was discovering that money could be made airing golf. Additionally, President Dwight Eisenhower played golf and that helped elevate golf's nationwide popularity. Then, Arnold Palmer brought his charisma to the PGA Tour. For years, the PGA had lost money supporting the PGA Tour. Many PGA members complained, but the PGA kept supporting its Tour in an effort to showcase the PGA professional. In the 1960s, golf, the PGA Tour and the PGA of America became more prosperous. At last, the PGA no longer needed a handout to support the Ryder Cup.

In 1968, PGA Tour players decided that instead of playing in tournaments run by the PGA of America – which was mostly composed of several thousand club professionals – they wanted more control over the management of the Tour. The tour professionals voted to separate from the club professionals.

The tour players and the PGA were each planning separate tournament schedules and Q-Schools for 1969 along with vying for sponsors, until Leo Fraser was elected PGA president in late 1968. Fraser made peace with the tour players. The players were now the TPD (Tournament Players

continued next page



EQUIPMENT CARE & MAINTENANCE

BY RON LUSTER

Terminology changes as clubs have evolved

Club restoration expert Ron Luster is a long-time GHS member who lives in Omaha, Neb.

This quarter's article compares club parameters using the terminology of the early 1900's and the early 2000's.

When in the hickory days a tyro would ask a club maker for a new club he would specify what he preferred for the head, shaft, grip, and the completed club.

- He would ask for a club head that was **well laid back**, more than a niblick.
Today he would ask for a **52-degree lofted** gap wedge.
- He would want a **steely spring shaft** with **nearly no flex**.
Today he would ask for a **stiff steel** shaft.
- He would want a grip with **extra listing** and some taper from the butt end to the hosel end.
Today he would ask for a **senior grip**.
- He would request a **well-balanced** club that he could feel the head.
Today he would ask for a D4 **swing weight** frequency matched to his current clubs.



Following articles will describe how I build and tune hickory clubs to these parameters using 1900's methods to evaluate them. Included will also be 1900's tools and methods used to empirically measure the antique clubs. The photo shows the head, shaft, grip, listing, and whipping twine to be used to build the club for the next article. ¶

Authors Note: Many of we Hickory golfers also play with modern clubs on occasion. I often play with a modern Titleist Driver, Fairway Wood, and Hybrid with a 10-club set of hickory's when I play a long course. At 75 years of age I seem to do this more often each year.

RYDER CUP

CONTINUED FROM 18

Division). Assets were divided. The tour players took over the PGA Tour, but continued to be PGA Members. The PGA retained possession of the unprofitable Ryder Cup, which after World War II had become one-sided, with the U.S. winning most of the time, home and away. It wasn't until 1975 that the Ryder Cup was televised.

At the 1977 Ryder Cup Jack Nicklaus pushed forward his idea that the Ryder Cup might be more competitive and interesting if the rest of Europe was made a part of the current Great Britain & Ireland Team. Nicklaus met independently with Lord Derby, the president of the British PGA. Interestingly, PGA President Henry Poe and Vice President Don Padgett also had a meeting with Derby, not knowing that Nicklaus had already made his pitch.

The next day, Derby had two sides that agreed on the same idea. In 1979, the Ryder Cup was played at the Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. Two Spaniards – Seve Ballesteros and Antonio Garrido – competed on what was now the European PGA Ryder Cup Team. The U.S., behind the brilliant play of rookie Larry Nelson (5-0-0), prevailed, 17-11.

But the golf world took notice that things were becoming more competitive in the Ryder Cup. The competition, once an orphan, was on its way to blossoming into one of the PGA's most profitable assets and ultimately one of the most compelling spectacles in sports. ¶

Peter C. Trenham has been a PGA Pro for over 50 years and is one of Philadelphia's most accomplished golfers. A GHS member, Trenham is also a respected historian of the sport. His writing about the game has earned him considerable acclaim, as have his accomplishments in the game across his lifetime. Among his many honors and awards, Trenham was one of the original class of inductees into the Philadelphia PGA Section Hall of Fame in 1992. His website – www.trenhamgolffhistory.org – is a trove of information and should be bookmarked by every golf historian.



The Hackbarth brothers and their impact on American golf

Author Breck Speed completes his look at this extraordinary foursome of brothers. The article continues from the Winter 2019 edition of The Golf.

By Breck Speed

Golf Club Affiliations (continued)

Alfred –

Alfred got a hand up from Otto when at age 28 he followed his brother as the head professional at Hinsdale in 1917. Al moved on to another local Chicago club, Park Ridge by 1921 and remained there until the Great Depression caused Park Ridge to do away with its professional staff.

Hinsdale Country Club, Clarendon, Illinois, 1917 – 1920
Park Ridge Country Club, 1920 – 1935.

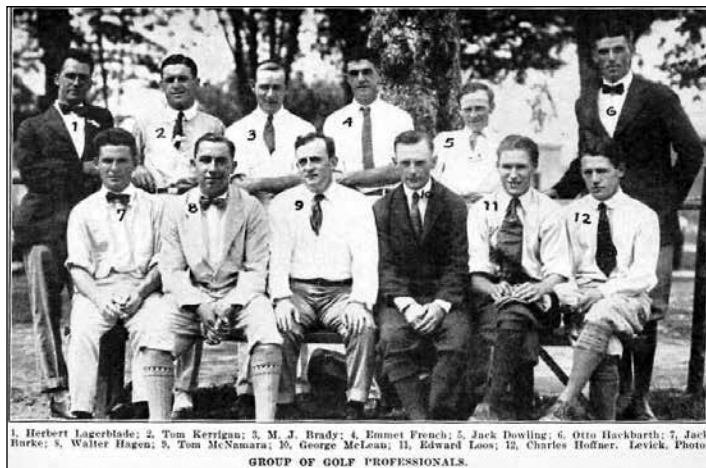
Course Design and Construction

Herman was far and away the most prolific course designer of the brothers with 35 to 40 course designs or re-designs credited to him from his time in Arkansas. Credits include Fair Park Golf Course (now “War Memorial,” an 18-hole, par 64 layout); Pine Bluff Country Club, par 71, 1914; El Dorado Golf & Country Club, 1925; and Twin Lakes Golf Course, a 9-hole layout in Mountain Home, Ark., 1957.

When Herman arrived at the Country Club of Little Rock in 1907, there were just a handful of golf courses in the state and most were rather rudimentary. The Country Club course consisted of just six sand greens and the turf was rocky and thin. After a great deal of work, the course was expanded to 18 holes and steady progress in growing Bermuda grass made it a respectable layout.

In addition to being prolific as a designer, there are numerous references to Herman in golf media regarding best practices in growing Bermuda grass. He specialized in practical tips like how to judge the appropriate time to plant Bermuda. “Water coming from hydrants, which if when drawn has no decided chill, indicates the earth has warmed up to a certain extent.”

Or the best method of watering – “(It) should be done after sundown during the dry season – each green to be watered thoroughly every third night. A thorough watering at regular intervals is much better than watering slightly each night.” (*Golfdom* magazine, December 1929, page 22).



OTTO HACKBARTH is shown with other golf professionals in the 1919 *Spalding Golf Guide*. He is standing to the far right.

It is not fully known what Alfred’s role was in designing courses but in 1931 he was credited with a being the “Course Architect” of a private course for W. C. Grunow, the president of an early radio manufacturing company. (*The National Groundskeeper Magazine*, February 1931, page 37.) Albert also had some association with a Chicago company named “American Park Builders,” which was led by renowned golf architect Tom Bendelow. The Grunow course is currently a nine-hole course named “Country Club Estates Golf Course” of Lake Geneva, Wisc.

John’s record as a course architect is scant as well but he is credited by the club with designing and constructing the second nine at Blackhawk in the 1920s.

Club Making

Most golf memorabilia collectors today are familiar with the Hackbarth name in association with the putter Otto designed and began marketing in 1910 while in the employ of the Hinsdale Golf Club. An ad for the putter appeared in *The Golfers Magazine*, August 1910 (referenced in *The Clubmaker’s Art*, revised edition, V.1, by Jeff Ellis). The putter is stamped with a patent number issued in 1901 to Isaac Palmer, so the technology may have been licensed by Otto. The patent illustrated a method of stabilizing golf club heads by bifurcating the shaft and attaching the resulting two ends to the toe and heel of the club head. Its purpose was to eliminate the tendency of a putter to turn in a player’s hands.

“I won my first professional tournament at Westward Ho Golf Club,



Sept. 28, 1911. Forty players participated. I can truthfully say my putter won it.” – Advertisement placed by Otto in *Golf* magazine, fall of 1912, page 61).

Otto was successful in getting leading players of the day like the great amateur Chick Evans to use the club but his putter enjoyed less success than he surely was counting on because of a rule change by the R&A. Walter Travis won the British Amateur Championship in 1904 using a Schenectady Putter that was designed with a shaft attached to the center of an aluminum head. British golf pundits claimed Travis was successful only because of a technological advantage provided by the center-shafted putter.

Resentment grew over the next several of years until the R&A acted in 1910 to ban all clubs whose shafts were not attached to club heads solely at the heel. (Travis Society Website, <https://travissociety.com>)

The USGA adopted the same rule but interpreted the term “mallet headed” differently so the widely owned Schenectady and newer Hackbarth could continue to be used in the United States. (USGA Website, <https://usga.org>).

Although Otto’s putter was not banned in the United States, the resulting split in R&A and USGA rules eliminated the important United Kingdom market for Otto and he stopped marketing the putter after 1912.

Besides selling clubs of his design, Otto marketed clubs manufactured by other leading manufacturers with his name on them. Examples of Stewarts with stamped with “O G Hackbarth” can be found (photo at right, top).



At one time, Herman assembled hickory shafted clubs in his shop in Little Rock (sample shown at right). “He fashioned himself most of the hickory shafts he used, obtaining iron club heads from local manufacturers or from abroad.



A set consisted of a driver, brassie, spoon, four irons and a putter.” (*Golfdom* magazine 1947).

The anvil cleek mark suggests the club head was made by P.G. Mfg. Co. based in Homewood, Ill., and run by Robert White, whom Otto knew. P.G. was one of the first co-operatives in the golf business.

In the pyratone covered steel shaft era, Herman allied with Hillerich & Bradsby to market an H. C. Hackbarth-stamped club to golfers throughout the state of Arkansas. In the 1947 interview for *Golfdom*, he claims to be the first, in 1936, to design “an iron club with the currently popular heavy, convex sole.” It was named the “Streamlined” club

and was marketed by H&B under Hackbarth’s name and through H&B’s own “Power-Bilt” line.

Alfred didn’t design clubs to anyone’s current knowledge but like many professionals sold clubs to his members and other local golfers with his name stamped on them. Examples of full sets of “Al. Hackbarth” irons have been found which were manufactured by Spalding under the company’s Kro-Flite line.

Publications

John, shown at right, is the only Hackbarth brother known to have produced a writing of any type on golf. The hard-cover, 183-page *The Key to Better Golf* is quite an achievement by the third oldest Hackbarth, particularly if one considers his limited formal schooling. Self-published in 1929 while John worked at Blackhawk, *The Key* received many favorable notices in newspapers in late 1929. It is possible the wide coverage in newspapers was generated by a publicity campaign undertaken personally by John. The book reviewed for this article is inscribed in John’s beautiful handwriting to the owner and publisher of the Madison, Wisc., newspaper *The Capital Times*.



A few features of this instruction book are a little out of the ordinary. Along with standard technical advice regarding grip, stance and coordination of the mental and physical aspects of golf, John promotes the idea of instructors utilizing three mirrors. These mirrors were to be located to the front and rear of the golfer’s stance, to the backswing side, and protected with wire mesh. He believed visualizing the coordinated movements of a new golfer’s swing helped improve and standardize it.

Also notably different are the photographs used to illustrate the golf swing. Alongside plates of the “correct” swing (heel position, wrist position etc.) are plates showing the “incorrect” swing. In other words, half of the photographs in the book are images of bad golf technique!

Despite the unfortunate timing of releasing a book on the eve of the Great Depression, John seems to have done reasonably well with the publication. It is not terribly difficult to find a copy for purchase today and he certainly used the book to bolster his standing as a “golf expert” for many years to come.

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HACKBARTH

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Final Years

Herman stayed at the Country Club of Little Rock for 49 years until retiring at age 73 in 1956. He continued to live in the Little Rock area until 1974 when he passed away at 91. Herman was part of the first class inducted into the Arkansas State Golf Association Hall of Fame in 1994.

Though younger than Herman, Otto retired from the Cincinnati Country Club at age 65 in 1951 “for health reasons.” Despite the alleged health concerns, Otto lived until 1967 when he reached the age of 81. The real reason for his decision to retire was probably to attend to his wife and mother. His wife, Nina, passed shortly after he retired, and his mother, who had come to live with her son in Cincinnati, passed away in 1952 age 98. The three of them are buried under a common headstone in Summit Corners, Wisc.

Otto built a home for his mother in Oconomowoc in 1922 and maintained ownership until his death in 1967. He wrote his own will – “*personally typing the will in the sun room of his home. He ordered he be buried in a wooden casket, and that he be lowered into the grave in a wooden box in which the casket will be shipped from Cincinnati to Oconomowoc. He further requested the head of the casket be clearly marked and he be buried facing east with special care that the casket be placed in the grave face up.*” (*The Times Recorder*, July 31, 1967, page 22). He left cash bequests to several relatives and friends but also mentioned some relatives to whom he left nothing saying, “they will understand.”

Otto was inducted into the Southern Ohio PGA Hall of



HERMAN HACKBARTH photographed in his Little Rock pro shop for *Golfdom* magazine in 1947.



OTTO HACKBARTH'S illustration in the Southern Ohio PGA Hall of Fame.

fame in 2004 (<http://www.thesouthernohiopga.com>) alongside golf legends Jack Nicklaus and Jim Flick.

John's employer, the Blackhawk Club, suffered setbacks in the 1930s and 40s as “the Great Depression seemed to hit everywhere and the second World War took many sons and daughters off to Europe and the Pacific.” (Blackhawk Country Club website, <https://www.blackhawkcc.org/>). The club was forced to sell and lease back its property from the Village of Shorewood Hills in 1932. John and his wife managed to hang on until 1935 but eventually left Blackhawk's employ. He marketed himself in various golf publications as available for hire but could not find any work. “Available in 1938. Twelve years service with Blackhawk, membership 300, as golf professional, greenskeeper and club manager.” (*Golfdom*, January 1938, page 44). At age 51, the 1940 Census finds him living in Milwaukee with a wife, three kids, and no income for the year. John was a survivor, though, and found “war work” until he retired in the late 1940s. (*Wisconsin State Journal*, Aug. 19, 1962, Page 37). Eventually John returned to golf, in Madison, Wisc., where he instructed at the Odana Hills Course from 1956 almost until his death in 1968 after a brief illness at age 78.

Alfred apparently was never was able to generate quite enough income from golf to make it through the Great Depression. His last job in the golf profession was at Park Ridge Golf Club where he worked until 1934. The 1940 Census records his profession as “farmer” and he was living in Schaumburg, Ill., with a wife and four children. Al passed away in 1958, age 67, and is buried in Lancaster County, Pa., with his wife, Elizabeth.



Closing Observations

The story of the golfing Hackbarths is really a quintessential story of Americans in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. “Homebred” sons of Lutheran emigrants, they made a life in America through dogged determination and the willingness to travel for opportunity. They understood how to work the media of the day and appeared regularly in newspapers as contestants, agronomists, and experts in golf instruction. They were innovators in everything from instruction to clubs to hand wax. And the Hackbarths helped each other. They lived together at times in their early years, networking for jobs, traveling together to competitions over several decades, and crediting each other in the media. Golf was their chosen profession but it is a fair wager the hard striving Hackbarths would have prospered in many other pursuits as well. ¶

Thanks to Bob Georgiade, Pete Georgiady, and Jeff Ellis for help with fact-checking.

Playing Partners

DONALD ROSS SOCIETY
www.rosssociety.org

By **Bradford Becken**
President, Donald Ross Society

The Donald Ross Society was founded in 1989 by members of Wampanoag CC who were unhappy with the work that was done to their Ross course in West Hartford, Conn. The club was fortunate to have all of Ross' hole and green drawings and took exception to the deviations from the original design.



DONALD ROSS

This nascent effort sparked a trend, led by Mike Fay, Captain Emeritus of the Ross Society, to promote the restoration of many golden age courses, including those of such other classic architects as Tillinghast and MacKenzie. The idea was to reverse unfortunate alterations/changes made by succeeding architects over time. This trend, we are pleased to note, has continued and strengthened to this day as evidenced by the recent work at such prominent clubs as Inverness, Oak Hill, and Oakland Hills.

The mission of the Donald Ross Society is to promote the recognition of Donald Ross, the excellence of his golf architecture and the preservation and/or restoration of his work. To that end the Society, and Mike Fay in particular, has consulted for free on over 120 Ross courses since the Society's formation.

While Ross course restoration consulting remains a core function of the Society in support of its mission, there are other important activities as well. Each year the Society organizes golf outings at various courses in the U.S. and Canada to help introduce our members to Ross' work, work they might not otherwise have the chance to experience.

The outings are often complimented with a presentation on Ross' history and involvement with the corresponding club that helps to further our members understanding of his work. Typically, these outings consist of four or five courses over as many days, but we have begun to host two-day events as well, to accommodate members with less time to spend. As an example of the latter, the Ross Society is headed to

The mission of the Donald Ross Society is to promote the recognition of Donald Ross, the excellence of his golf architecture and the preservation and/or restoration of his work.



Cedar Rapids CC this summer to play the only course Ross designed in Iowa. Cedar Rapids CC is also a club that has benefitted from (and been widely praised for) a well planned and executed restoration project. Before and after photos of the first hole at Cedar Rapids CC are below.

Several years ago, the Donald Ross Society initiated a Historian Network in support of our mission. What we found is that while some clubs have a formally designated "Historian" or "Heritage Committee," many more have a member or long-time employee who has taken an interest in his or her club's history and/or maintenance of archival information. Currently we have over 300 historians in our network, which functions as an exchange for ideas and information.

By the way, it is not necessary to be a historian from a Ross course, there is no cost to join and all contact is by email.

Finally, an affiliated organization, the Donald Ross Society Foundation annually makes grants in support of the Society's mission.

One of the largest beneficiaries of the foundation's grants over the years has been the Tufts Archives in Pinehurst, which has one of the largest collections of Ross' hole drawings, field notes, photographs, and related historical material and is a considerable resource for both clubs and architects considering a restoration effort.

Other grants have included contributions to various municipal and public courses that have initiated a project to restore Ross' architecture to the particular course.

Thanks to the Golf Heritage Society for this opportunity to talk about the Donald Ross Society.

I encourage readers to visit our website www.rosssociety.org.



BEFORE AND AFTER of the first hole at the Cedar Rapids Country Club shows the restoration of Ross' original design

“Bullet proof”

Tiger Woods’ runaway victory at the 2000 U.S. Open

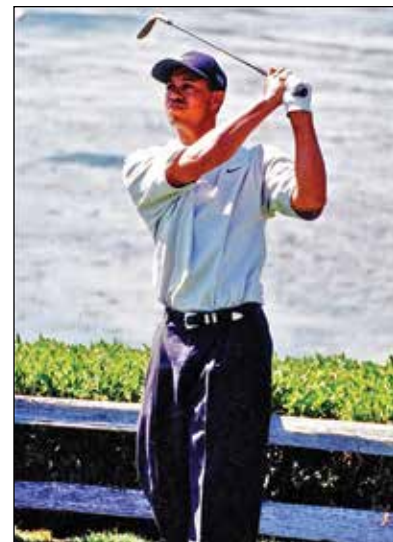
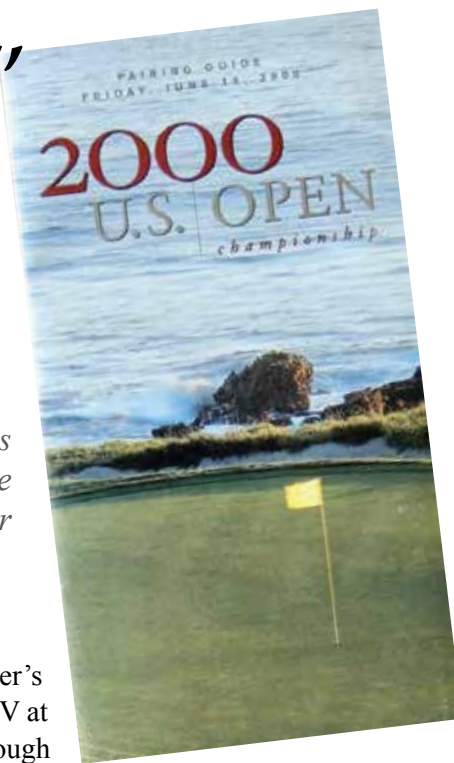
Steve Schlossman and Kari Thomas conclude their examination, begun in the Spring 2020 edition of The Golf, of Tiger Woods’ 2000 U.S. Open victory.

By Steve Schlossman & Kari Thomas *

The man trying to describe and explain Tiger’s performance to the millions watching on TV at home was the famously frank Johnny Miller. Though Miller unquestionably stood out among the announcers, the full *NBC/ESPN* crew for the 2000 U.S. Open was truly stellar, featuring Dan Hicks, Chris Berman, and Mike Tirico as lead announcers, and Roger Maltbie, Gary Koch, Bob Murphy, Mark Roling, Andy North, and Ed Sneed as expert analysts. Miller’s commentary was strongly opinionated and periodically over the top, as when he demeaned Jimenez’s golf game as “like watching paint dry” or when he labeled “ignorant” anyone who didn’t acknowledge Pebble Beach as “the greatest golf course in America.” (John Huggan, the superb Scottish golf writer, had done just that in a piercing *Golf World* column the week before.)³⁶ But Miller’s comments were always effervescent, deeply knowledgeable, and periodically brilliant. In short, he kept the proceedings interesting, which was crucial given how fast and far Tiger was distancing himself from the field.

Though Tiger had yet to win a U.S. Open in his three-plus years on tour, Miller didn’t hesitate to acknowledge his all-time greatness, even in comparison to Nicklaus. He marveled at Tiger’s intellectual “brilliance” and fearless ability to execute shots others couldn’t even contemplate – for example, the two very different but equally miraculous birdies Tiger scored on No. 6 from lies in dense rough from which everyone else would have had to pitch out. Miller was a Tiger fan through and through. As he responded to his colleague Roger Maltbie’s observation that he’d “never seen anybody play golf this way, ever,” Miller calmly observed: “We’ve waited a while, Roger, to have someone raise the bar.” Or as he’d said earlier in repartee with Dan Hicks: “He’s just better than everybody else.”

At the same time, Miller didn’t shy away from calling out Tiger for occasional errors or from lambasting other



PHOTOS/STAN LAPIDUS

recent “top guns” like Duval, Singh, Els, Montgomerie, and Mickelson for not putting up a better fight. Everyone remem-

bers Tiger playing four perfect rounds of golf en route to his 15-shot victory, but that really wasn’t the case. Miller and several of his broadcast colleagues called attention to the up-and-down quality of Tiger’s ball striking in rounds two and three that he compensated for with incredible scrambling (e.g., twelve one-putts in round one) and a rash of birdies. On Saturday, he carded a triple-bogey 7 on No. 3 after a poor tee shot and a horrid approach shot, followed by several dubious recovery efforts. And on the par-5 18th, Tiger double-crossed his tee shot and snap-hooked it far into Carmel Bay.³⁷ Picked up on a live *NBC* microphone, he shouted, “Goddamn, you f-ing prick!” which was then immediately broadcast live into homes across the country. “No more commentary necessary,” Mark Roling quipped. Johnny Miller added, “That made my commentary look pretty mild.”

Later, during Jimmy Roberts’ first golf interviews for *NBC* sports, Tiger apologized: “I let my emotions get the best of myself...Unfortunately, I let them voice out loud.”³⁸ “I regret doing it.”³⁹ But even though any golfer who had ever sailed a drive into a water hazard could commiserate, Tiger was still sharply criticized for damaging his squeaky clean image as a role model. “Saturday Woods revealed what PGA writers have known all along. He has a bad temper and he has a very salty tongue when he loses it. Some have even said he still has a frat boy mentality, even though he’s now 24. Now everyone knows that, not just the insiders. Do we want to know this much about Tiger?” asked Bob Padecky in *The Press Democrat* of Santa Rosa, California. “Until now, nothing was off limits with the guy. We couldn’t get enough of Tiger because nothing seemed objectionable.”⁴⁰ In other words, for one fleeting moment, Tiger was human just like everyone else, which contrasted

vividly with how he was tearing up one of the USGA's most prized championship set-ups.

But Padecky was right to ask: did people want Tiger to be human? Or did they want him to be perfect, beyond reproach? "I never saw Arnie [Palmer] do it. I never saw Jack [Nicklaus] do it. I never saw [Tom] Watson do it," claimed Tom Kite, winner of the 1992 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach. "I doubt Bobby Jones ever did it. There's no place for it."⁴¹ In reality, Palmer and Jones just didn't get caught. And that was Tiger's real sin: not that he cursed, which professional athletes do all the time, but that he got caught.

Tiger's gaffe after duck-hooking his ball into wet oblivion on the most famous golf hole in the world drew comparison with another popular, supposedly family-friendly celebrity-athlete of color: Michael Jordan. Miller commented later in the broadcast, "We didn't hear a lot of those out of Michael Jordan." Dan Hicks agreed: "Michael Jordan would have never done that."⁴² Really, it was an open secret that Jordan was one of basketball's meanest trash talkers of all time. Yet Skip Bayless still declared in the *Chicago Tribune*, "Until Woods convinces himself that he just can't curse on national TV, he will lack one quality Jordan had in abundance. Class."⁴³

None of this brouhaha seemed to matter to Tiger, who just kept making birdies when he needed them. Other than his singular outburst, Tiger was eerily calm throughout. "If Woods were any more relaxed," Thomas Bonk wrote, "he would need to install a recliner on the first tee, shove a pillow behind his back and then knock his first shot 290 yards down the middle while sitting down."⁴⁴ By the end of the third round, Tiger was 8-under in a tournament where everyone else was over-par. "Now the rest of the field knows the true danger sign," Ed Sherman wrote. "The only thing worse than an angry Tiger is a serene Tiger."⁴⁵

And for the rest of the field, the fact that they stood no chance of winning was starting to sink in. "I feel like after two rounds I was playing against everybody else," Jimenez admitted.⁴⁶ Indeed, Tiger had turned one of the world's premier sporting events into an exhibition. Tom Watson, speaking for the entire "B-flight," bluntly stated: "We're all playing for second place." Ernie Els, who played with Tiger in the final round and finished tied for second with Jimenez, struggled to find the right words for what he had witnessed. "He was awesome to watch. Just a dominating performance, and that's an understatement." Even the galleries were stunned. Glenn Sheeley reported, "Fans along the 18th bowed as Woods strode by, offering 'We're not worthy' chants."⁴⁸

Something drastic – such as Tiger being kidnapped or the U.S. declaring war on Canada – would have had to happen to prevent Tiger's coronation.⁴⁹ In the final round, he carded a bogey-free 4-under 67, which set all sorts of records. His

12-under-par 272 tied the lowest ever total stroke score in a U.S. Open.⁵⁰ His 15-shot margin of victory broke the record for majors (the U.S. Open, British Open, Masters, and PGA Championship) set by "Old" Tom Morris in 1862. And it was Tiger's first career wire-to-wire win.

"He dominated from Day One," Ernie Els emphasized. "From the first hole, he started dominating and never let go....When you have a guy playing like that, you have no chance."⁵¹ "If there's any good news for [Tiger's] fellow competitors after such an embarrassing week," wrote Glenn Sheeley, "maybe it's this: At least this looks like Tiger's 'A' game." "To understand what Woods is doing," Lowell Cohn expounded, "how he's murdering the competition, you need to think about something Jack Nicklaus said the other day....'The U.S. Open to me is the total examination of golf....To a golfer it does more to make a man out of you than any other tournament.'...If the Open makes a man out of you, Tiger is Superman."⁵² Tiger finished tied for 10th in fairways hit.⁵³ He was sixth in putting (Nick Faldo was first with just 104 total putts). Tiger was first in distance off the tee and first in GIR (Greens in Regulation). Put another way, Tiger's game was so well-rounded that Pebble Beach never stood a chance.

"What Tiger Woods did in last week's U.S. Open defies description," John Davis marveled in the *Arizona Republic*. Everyone agreed that Tiger's phenomenal putting is what had made the difference. He confidently sank eight-to-fifteen foot par putts on greens that no one else seemed able to read. John Huston said Pebble Beach's greens were the worst he had ever putted on. "They're so bumpy, they're dead. It's pure luck where the ball's going to roll. You can't step up and say 'I'm going to hit a good putt just outside the left' and know it's going to break where it should. It's just terrible."⁵⁴

Yet Tiger never three-putted, the entire tournament. During practice rounds, he had been paying especially close attention to his putting stroke. "Before embarking on his pillaging and plundering of Pebble," Bob Verdi remarked humorously in *Golf World*, "Woods allowed that he was somewhat vexed about his putting. It wasn't that his putts weren't dropping. No, he didn't like *the way they were dropping*. I am not making this up. The ball just didn't look or sound right entering the cup."⁵⁵ So Tiger spent two-and-a-half hours the day before the first round on the putting green, adjusting his stance and stroke until it felt right.⁵⁶ "My posture was a little off," he said later. "My release wasn't quite right. I just needed to get some reps in."⁵⁷ He got those reps, and when it all finally clicked, it looked like "sorcery."⁵⁸

But John Davis went on to ponder a step further: "Before

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TIGER

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the event, other pros who have the knowledge, experience and talent to make a pretty good assessment, figured par would be an impressive score, and most predicted it would be higher. *NBC* announcer Johnny Miller noted that no other golfer had a particularly good week, but is it possible that the other 155 who started the event went in the tank at the same time? Or is it that Woods is simply that much better?"⁵⁹

It was a good question that analysts, fans, and golfers alike were asking. Certainly, Johnny Miller had quibbled repeatedly with the pros' approach to certain holes, especially Nos. 8 and 11, and was unimpressed by their overall performance. "To be honest with you, [Tiger] shouldn't have more than a 5-shot lead. It's very disappointing when you look at that leaderboard and all the great players and to think that they're all, at best, two over par, three, four," he said. "It's just one of those championships. Really, people aren't playing well." Thomas Boswell asked similarly in *The Washington Post*,

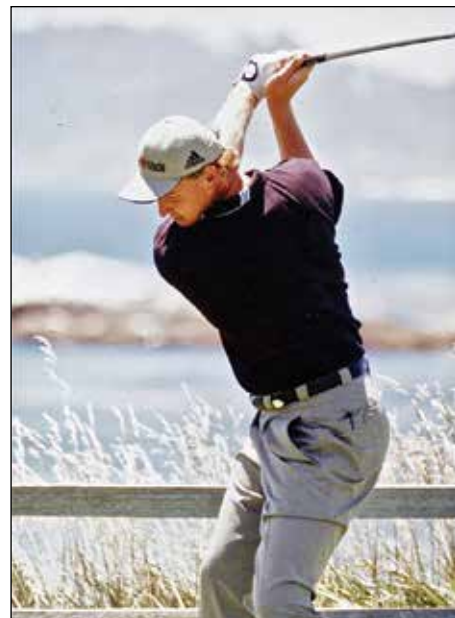
*Who has Tiger got [to challenge him]? David Duval needs to gain back 10 pounds just to look skinny. He's tried so hard to get into 'great shape' to compete with Woods that he's almost disappeared. Els has two U.S. Open titles and a swing like the reincarnation of Sam Snead. But he has no fire in his belly. He'd be the golfer of the year if a convention of psychiatrists got the vote. But a sane, mellow view of life ain't gonna beat Tiger. Phil Mickelson? Colin Montgomerie? Neither of them has won so much as one major tournament.*⁶⁰

Skip Bayless was even harsher, calling Davis Love, Phil Mickelson, and David Duval "content country-club products with weenie streaks." "They're making enough money from endorsement deals. They don't want to grind as hard as Woods does. They don't have Woods' killer instinct or against-the-grain nature."⁶¹ Hunki Yun, in the *Orlando Sentinel*, warned, "Tiger Woods is the alarm clock that should be waking up the rest of the golf world, but all they're doing is hitting the snooze button repeatedly and going back to sleep."⁶² Furman Bisher, writing in *The Atlanta Constitution*, agreed totally;

*Tiger Woods is only doing his thing. He has goals. He shoots for them and it is good. Those who should be challenging aren't. Their goals seem to be a comfortable lifestyle, a cherished paycheck at the next tournament. Back to the comforts of the plantation, the yacht, the fishing gig, a little golf-course designing, the endorsements and television commercials. Then back to the grind, the Greater Milwaukee Open, since Tiger won't be there.*⁶³

Ernie Els implied as much when he told reporters, "Maybe I have to change my schedule."⁶⁴ The rest of the PGA Tour had become too soft and apathetic to mount a serious challenge to Tiger.

Lee Janzen, a previous two-time U.S. Open champion, pushed back against this interpretation. "It seems like everybody worked out harder this offseason, practiced harder and came out more determined," he said, but even he admitted that Tiger was "on a level that nobody can catch."⁶⁵ It was demoralizing that 62 players finished over-par while the champion finished 12-under. Many of



ERNIE ELS, teeing off on 18 at Pebble Beach during the 2000 U.S. Open, was one of many players frustrated by the stellar play of Tiger Woods.

PHOTO/STAN LAPIDUS

the pros afterward truly sounded like they couldn't imagine ever beating Tiger, so they were trying to convince themselves that second place was just fine – "I feel great finishing second in this tournament," Jimenez declared.⁶⁶ "We are all mortal, and he's not," Rocco Mediate rationalized.⁶⁷ Meanwhile, Nick Price told the press, "I feel sorry for the young guys. Basically, I've had my day. I'm 43 now. Whatever I win from here on in is a bonus. The young guys are taking a pounding from this guy. I don't know how to describe it."⁶⁸

And yet, Tiger promised his adoring public that he would keep pushing himself and improving his game. "Woods has outworked almost every rival, on the practice tee and in the gym," Bayless detailed. "He took one of the tour's most athletic frames, added 20 pounds of fast-twitch muscle by bench-pressing more than 300 pounds, and plugged this explosive package into swing mechanics he could teach at his alma mater, Stanford."⁶⁹ But Tiger evidently believed there was room for improvement. "You're always trying to work on little things in this game of golf, trying to get a little bit better. Always trying new equipment or new techniques."⁷⁰ "I'm going to keep trying to improve my game," he said. "I don't know what that level will be."⁷¹ Larry Guest joked in the *Orlando Sentinel* that the next level for the USGA might be equipping "next year's Open course with land mines in the rough and pit bulls tethered to each flagstick."⁷² Indeed, it was difficult to imagine what better than a 12-under 272 at a U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, where the next closest competitor finished 3-over-par, would look like. But Tiger wanted to find out.

And the public wanted to go on the journey with him. The British Open at St. Andrews was less than a month away, and Tiger, as the clear favorite to win, stood a good chance of becoming the youngest golfer yet to achieve a career Grand Slam. There was some concern that galleries and television viewers would get bored tuning in to see Tiger win every week. “Well, you need competition,” Tom Kite mused. “Otherwise, it gets to be boring. Kind of like Texas in the old Southwest Conference. You knew who was going to win. It was fun if you were pulling for Texas, but it wasn’t really exciting.”⁷³ By that metric this Open was the opposite of exciting because, as Furman Bisher warned, “Suspense was no factor in this Open, from the time the first blow was struck.”⁷⁴

But the numbers told a different story; fans wanted to watch Tiger make history. *NBC*’s ratings were up 23% over the previous year’s coverage, and the audience nearly doubled when Tiger was playing.⁷⁵ “For now, amazingly, televised golf’s popularity will continue to grow,” Skip Bayless predicted. “The compelling question won’t be whether Woods will beat Duval or Mickelson, but by how many. He has enough fist-throwing, cursing charisma to fill a leaderboard by himself. Sunday’s 18-hole victory parade held your attention because you wanted to see if he’d break the record for victory margin in any major.”⁷⁶ Which he did.

Tiger, at age 24, was now well on his way to becoming the first ever \$1 billion athlete. He had joined an elite echelon of celebrity-athletes that included Muhammad Ali and Michael Jordan, who were instantly recognizable even to those who didn’t follow their sports. And by year’s end, as Tiger continued to dominate the PGA Tour, almost everyone, duffer and pro alike, would switch to solid core balls (albeit the Titleist Pro V1 rather than the Nike Tour Accuracy).

Overall, the 100th U.S. Open at Pebble Beach had the air of a changing-of-the-guard ceremony – much more decisively than when Tiger first shocked the golfing world with his twelve-shot victory at the 1997 Masters. Tiger’s performance drew comparisons to Jack Nicklaus in his prime. In particular, writers resurrected Bobby Jones’ old quote about watching a young Nicklaus dominate The Masters in 1965: “He plays a game with which I am not familiar.”⁷⁷ Now, those words described Tiger. There was a certain poetry in the fact that Tiger cemented his place in history at the last U.S. Open Nicklaus played.⁷⁸ “Tiger Woods isn’t playing in the present,” Ed Sherman wrote. “[He] is playing against such legends as Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Ben Hogan, and Sam Snead.” Sherman predicted that Tiger would overwrite all their records and become the standard “that future Tigers will shoot at.”⁷⁹

A few of Nicklaus’ records still stand, of course, including his record for most career major titles (18). So far, Tiger has won 15, but starting (presumably, if the coronavirus pandemic abates) on Aug. 6, 2020 – with the PGA Championship at TPC Harding Park located only 30 minutes from Stanford, and where he won the WGC American Express Championship in 2005 – Tiger will have another chance to chase history and not only win his 16th major but also tie Walter Hagen and Jack Nicklaus as five-time PGA Championship winners. As golf fans around the world watch in eager anticipation, no one will be counting him out. ¶

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Footnotes

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36 John Huggan, “What’s So Great About Pebble?” *Golf World*, June 16, 2000, p. 12.

37 This was the last hole of Tiger’s second round. Because of multiple fog delays, Tiger had not started his round on Friday until late in the afternoon, and he did not finish before sunset. So he played the rest of his second round on Saturday morning, which is when the unfortunate cursing incident occurred. Then, he got lunch, took a nap, and played his third round in the afternoon.

38 Skip Bayless, “Woods Needs to Put Tongue in Ball-Washer,” *Chicago Tribune*, 18 June 2000.

39 Bob Padecky, “Tiger’s True Stripes Slip Past the Facade,” *The Press Democrat*, 18 June 2000; Bennett and Ketyeyan, *Tiger Woods*, pp. 205-206.

40 Bob Padecky, “Tiger’s True Stripes Slip Past the Facade,” *The Press Democrat*, 18 June 2000.

41 Skip Bayless, “Woods Needs to Put Tongue in Ball-Washer,” *Chicago Tribune*, 18 June 2000.

42 Skip Bayless, “Woods Needs to Put Tongue in Ball-Washer,” *Chicago Tribune*, 18 June 2000.

43 Skip Bayless, “Woods Needs to Put Tongue in Ball-Washer,” *Chicago Tribune*, 18 June 2000.

44 Thomas Bonk, “Woods Stars in His Favorite Role,” *Los Angeles Times*, 15 June 2000.

45 Ed Sherman, “Major Blowout For Tiger ‘At Ease,’ He Cruises To 15-stroke Margin Of Victory,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

46 Ed Sherman, “Els, Jimenez Finish at 3 Over, Settle for ‘B’ Flight Title,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

47 Larry Guest, “Gr-r-r-eat! Watson: ‘We’re All Playing For 2nd Place,’” *Orlando Sentinel*, 19 June 2000.

48 Glenn Sheeley, “Terrific, even for Tiger: US Open Championship,” *The Atlanta Constitution*, 19 June 2000.

49 Lowell Cohn in Santa Rosa, CA’s *The Press Democrat* also offered food poisoning and loss of golf clubs as possible means of bringing about Tiger’s downfall. But “because I don’t expect any of the above to happen,” Cohn wrote, “Woods already has won this golf tournament, and what happens in today’s final round will have all the drama of an exhibition baseball game between the Giants and Padres.” Lowell Cohn, “Tiger Roaring into Open History, Overwhelming 10-stroke Lead,” *The Press Democrat*, 18 June 2000. For these purposes of comparison, we are not including J. Douglas Edgar’s 16-stroke victory in the 1919 Canadian Open at the Hamilton Golf and Country Club.

50 By sinking a lengthy birdie putt on the final hole of the 2019 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, with victory already assured, Gary Woodland surpassed Tiger’s record by shooting 271.

51 Clifton Brown, “Jimenez Is Thrilled To Finish 15 Behind,” *New York Times*, 19 June 2000.

52 Lowell Cohn, “Tiger Roaring Into Open History Overwhelming 10-stroke Lead,” *The Press Democrat*, 18 June 2000.

53 Colin Montgomerie was first in fairways hit, and when someone informed him, he shot back, “That’s great. They should put the hole in the fairway.” Hunki Yun, “Back To Orlando,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 19 June 2000.

54 “Saturday Notebook: Putting the Field to Bed,” *Golf World*, 23 June 2000, p. 46.

55 Bob Verdi, “Looking Up from the B Flight,” *Golf World*, 23 June 2000, p. 40.

56 Hunki Yun, “Tiger Woods Completed His Wire-To-Wire Charge With A Record-Breaking Effort That Obliterated The Rest Of US Open Field,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 19 June 2000.

57 Dave Anderson, “British Open Looms As Tiger’s Kitty Dominating US Open Champion Tiger Woods Figures To Be A Heavy Favorite To Win At St. Andrews Next Month,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 20 June 2000.

58 Larry Guest, “Woods Toying With Open Field,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 16 June 2000.

59 John Davis, “Tiger Truly Mastered the Impossible,” *Arizona Republic*, 22 June 2000.

60 Thomas Boswell, “With the Course He’s On, Things Can Only Get Better,” *The Washington Post*, 19 June 2000.

61 Bayless almost deified Tiger in his column, but his references to the divine were mostly tongue-in-cheek. He described Nick Price as rhetorically “genuflecting” to Tiger and noted, “Woods did mind his language on the course, letting loose with one ‘Jesus!’ But after all, father Earl predicted in 1997 that Woods would be Messiah-like.” Skip Bayless, “Woods Leaves No Doubt He’s In Class By Himself,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

62 Hunki Yun, “Where’s The Competition? At Least Nicklaus Had To Work For His Wins: Tiger Blitzes The Field,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 21 June 2000.

63 Furman Bisher, “Also-rans’ comfort zone,” *The Atlanta Constitution*, 19 June 2000.

64 Larry Guest, “Gr-r-r-eat! Watson: ‘We’re All Playing For 2nd Place,’” *Orlando Sentinel*, 19 June 2000.

65 Glenn Sheeley, “Rivals left in awe, then dust: 100th US Open,” *The Atlanta Constitution*, 19 June 2000.

66 Clifton Brown, “Jimenez Is Thrilled To Finish 15 Behind,” *New York Times*, 19 June 2000.

67 Larry Guest, “Gr-r-r-eat! Watson: ‘We’re All Playing For 2nd Place,’” *Orlando Sentinel*, 19 June 2000.

68 Glenn Sheeley, “Rivals left in awe, then dust: 100th US Open,” *The Atlanta Constitution*, 19 June 2000.

69 Skip Bayless, “Woods Leaves No Doubt He’s In Class By Himself,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

70 Ed Sherman, “Chilling News For Fellow Pros: Woods Out To Improve Game,” *Chicago Tribune*, 20 June 2000.

71 Ed Sherman, “Only Legends Challenge Woods Now,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

72 Larry Guest, “Woods Toying With Open Field,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 16 June 2000.

73 Glenn Sheeley, “Rivals left in awe, then dust: 100th US Open,” *The Atlanta Constitution*, 19 June 2000.

74 Furman Bisher, “Also-rans’ comfort zone,” *The Atlanta Constitution*, 19 June 2000.

75 Ed Sherman, “Only Legends Challenge Woods Now,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

76 Skip Bayless, “Woods Leaves No Doubt He’s In Class By Himself,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

77 “Tiger Makes Golfing History,” *New York Times*, 20 June 2000.

78 Nicklaus missed the cut, but as he walked to the 18th green, he was greeted with a long-standing ovation and shouts of, “We love you Jack.” Tiger teed off a few minutes after Nicklaus’s round ended. Hunki Yun, “Golden Bear Bows Out As Tiger Toughens Up: Jack Nicklaus Thrilled The Adoring Fans In His US Open Farewell Before Tiger Woods Extended His Lead at 9-Under,” *Orlando Sentinel*, 17 June 2000.

79 Ed Sherman, “Only Legends Challenge Woods Now,” *Chicago Tribune*, 19 June 2000.

Isolated golf: The Yankee Bee CC

By Maggie Lagle
USGA Golf Museum

Though the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted normal life, including championship golf, we know the game has survived difficult times in recent history. One such example transpired over 75 years ago in the war-torn South Pacific when a division from the American Naval Construction Force, better known as the Seabees, established the Yankee Bee Country Club.

According to a Marine Corps Combat Correspondent, the Yankee Bee C.C. began in November 1943 when a decaying, gummy covered golf ball was discovered in the military camp's blacksmith shop deep in a South Pacific jungle. Surrounded by coconut palms and dense tree ferns, Chief Carpenter Vincent J. Hiemenz, a golfer from Lancaster, Pa., struck the ball. An idea for a course quickly emerged, and the Yankee Bee Country Club formed soon after. Though Hiemenz discovered three additional golf balls in the blacksmith shop, clubs were nonexistent in the jungle. Hiemenz sought the assistance of Head Blacksmith Lieutenant Walter N. Suydam of Woodhaven, N.Y., to create clubs for play.

During World War II, over 325,000 men served as Seabees, constructing vital establishments such as hospitals and bases, as well as transportation infrastructure including roads, bridges and airstrips. The men at Yankee Bee used their skills to create clubheads from scrap iron and shafts from ax handles, resulting in a collection of nine handmade golf clubs. Scarce playing materials resulted in strict standards for all members of the club. For example, the penalty for losing one of the four golf balls resulted in a month's suspension of play.

The original Yankee Bee layout consisted of five holes. Sawdust bunkers and jagged coral hazards blanketed the course. Over the next month, the Seabees added four additional holes, while aerial bombings resulted in unplanned bunkers and players running for safety in foxholes. With no lawnmowers readily available, the club utilized unconventional methods for maintaining fairways and greens. A Marine Sergeant donated his pet goat, "Jimmy," to assist with trimming the course. In recognition of his hard work, the Seabees promoted Jimmy to the rank of Chief Greens Keeper.

With the course in proper shape, the members of the Yankee Bee C.C. established a tournament open to all officers and enlisted men. The tournament included 45



THE YANKEE BEE CC. Forty-five men joined the club and played even while occasionally interrupted by enemy bombing raids.

entrants, each paying a fifty-cent fee. Due to many players and lack of equipment, play extended over two weeks. Golfers teed off in foursomes and handed off clubs and balls upon completion of rounds. First Class



FROM SCRATCH. The Yankee Bee's entire arsenal of handmade clubs and four balls.

Metalsmith Timothy J. Sullivan of Elmsford, N.Y., defeated fellow First Class Metalsmith Emile Corrente of Springdale, Conn., 1 up over 37 holes. Sullivan's championship trophy was a hand-hammered 105 mm shell as the base and two 50 caliber shells for the sides.



THE CHAMP. First Class Metalsmith Timothy J. Sullivan receives his trophy.

Following World War II, military bases in the South Pacific were abandoned, and members of the Seabees returned home.

Some went on to serve during future military conflicts, while others traveled to provide much-needed assistance in underdeveloped countries. Golf would continue to provide comfort and a welcome diversion for members of the Seabees, with participation in the game increasing following the war. Just as the Yankee Bee Country Club presented a bright spot amidst dark times for the Seabees during World War II, golf will persevere and continue to provide happiness and assurance throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. 🏌️



Nine fairways while traveling to Pittsburgh

By John Capers III

Not all museums are housed in walled structures. Some are in grottos and some have no restricting enclosures at all. And then there are those that grow every day and have to be manicured, hopefully not too much. These even invite the visitor to scare the landscape. Some make history because of those who have succeed there and others because they have succeeded to remain there.

On your way to the GHS's 50th Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, plan an extra day. Visit Foxburg Country Club and Golf Course's historic 61 acres for nine holes of hickory play at a pasture that opened before steel, aluminum, or even graphite shafts were standard fair in golf bags.

Joseph Mickle Fox, a Philadelphian and member of the Merion Cricket Club, journeyed to Edinburgh, Scotland for a cricket match in 1884. Curious about another game, golf, he traveled to St Andrews for lessons from Old Tom Morris. Hooked, he then purchased clubs and gutty balls for his friends at home. That summer, at his estate in western Pennsylvania's Clarion County, he laid out an eight-hole pasture adventure to test this new game.

Three years later, due to family and local demand, he



THE FOXBURG COUNTRY CLUB, built by Joseph Mickle Fox in 1912 as a summer home, now serves as clubhouse as well as home of the American Golf Hall of Fame. Above, players prepare for the annual Foxburg Hickory Golf Championship, hosted by GHS member Tom Johnson.

donated the property to build an expanded nine-hole golf course. The two sets of tees measure 2,514 yards and 2,215 yards with one par five, three par threes and four fours. The shorter course trades a four par for another par five. Today, ninehole weekday greens fee and cart is \$20 – 20 percent senior discount on Wednesday. Eighteen holes is not double and weekend fees increase very little. Tee times can be arranged seven days in advance (724-659-3169) and there are special packages if you stay at the local Clarion Inn.

In 1912 Mr. Fox built a rustic Adirondack style summer home with an extremely wide wrap-around veranda for viewing the golf course. By 1942 the home, no longer used by the family, was adopted by the Foxburg Country Club and Golf Course as its clubhouse. The top floor now houses the American Golf Hall of Fame which displays a number of items any GHS member and friends would enjoy viewing. There are many pre-1900 clubs by makers recognized to all GHS-ers. In addition there are many documents, photographs and several paintings.

Make sure to allow ample time for your "walk around." But before you climb the stairs, stop off at the "Hickory Stick Pub" and prepare yourself for this unique experience traveling back in time.

FCC&GC has been on the United States National Register of Historic Places since Feb. 21, 2007. At 369 Harvey Road, Foxburg, Pa., it is less than 10 minutes off I-80 and only 55 miles from Pittsburgh. 🏌️



FINE EXAMPLES OF LONG NOSE WOODS and other clubs from the pantheon of famous 19th century club makers are on display at the American Golf Hall of Fame. The photo above shows but a small sample of the collection, which occupies the second floor of the clubhouse.



Reading the Greens – Book Reviews

The Second Life of Tiger Woods

By Michael Bamberger

Avid Reader Press, 2020
258 pages, \$28 US, Softcover
ISBN 9781982122829

Tiger Woods is a compelling figure for sportswriters, indeed, all writers who find the tragi-comedy of the human condition so fascinating. Woods' complex life is rich with high drama. Author Michael Bamberger (*Men in Green, The Swinger, The Golfing Life*), a veteran golf reporter of more than 20 years, has followed Woods ever since the young golfer's dominance of USGA Amateur competitions.

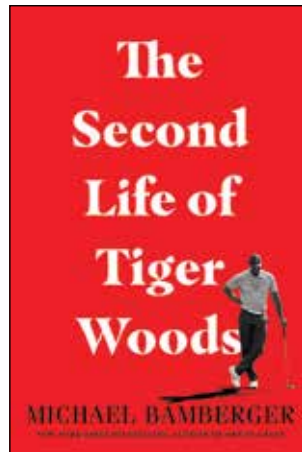
Bamberger's observations in *Second Life* are easy to follow, phrased in a quick, conversational style and punctuated with mike-dropping sound bites that are themselves pithy summations. It's fun to read.

The story is divided into Night and Day, with Day (the 2019 Masters) having three acts of its own. Night opens on a Memorial Day DIU in 2017, the darkest part before the dawn for Tiger.

Tiger's first several years on tour are a study in domination (break their hearts, his mother instructed him). He was aloof, never approachable, stretched taught, striving to live up to his own and others demands. It was little more than win, go home; win, go home; win, go home. Drugs, PEDs perhaps? No firm conclusions are drawn. It was all part of a driven life that led to an unhappy drive that Memorial Day night in 2017.

Tiger's famous back surgery to fuse a portion of his spinal cord was on April 20 that year. He felt good almost immediately. Yet on May 29 came the DUI arrest. No alcohol, but five other drugs, common ones, were discovered. The police did things by the book. Woods was cooperative. It went as well as could be.

A new and humbler man seemed to emerge over the following months. Tiger seemed more relatable by most accounts. In 2018, he resumed a playing schedule and appeared more relaxed at press briefings after rounds. He said and did things that seemed kinder, more connected. The swing was improving, something of the old speed returned. At the Open Championship he was gracious in defeat to Francesco Molinari. Then came the PGA Championship at East Lake, which he won, his first victory in five years – an



emotional victory for both golfer and fans. "It wasn't just a sporting achievement. It was a human one," Dr. Bob Jones, grandson of the immortal Bobby Jones, told Bamberger.

It was astounding, given all that went before. As Bamberger wrote: "What a difference two years can make. He was old at forty-one and reborn at forty-three."

Bamberger revisits the 2019 Masters in three acts – leading up to the event, the first several days of the tournament, then the back nine – "...an intensely personal real-time documentary..., with the help of seventy-five CBS cameras, about a man, private by nature but famous by deed, trying to reclaim a lost life while starting a new one, and doing so with millions of people watching."

The Second Life of Tiger Woods is a well-crafted book with insights on every page. But you know that. Bamberger is one of the better observers/reporters on professional golf. His affection for his subject comes through, too.

After reading *Second Life*, I have a deeper appreciation for Tiger Woods, his failures, his successes and his apparent new lease on life. My thanks to Bamberger for putting all this in perspective.

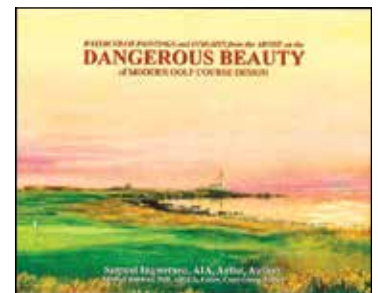
(Note: Curt Sampson's *Roaring Back – The Fall and Rise of Tiger Woods* (reviewed in *The Golf Winter 2019*) also described the resurrection of this phenomenal champion.)

Reviewed by Jim Davis

Dangerous Beauty

By Samuel Ingwersen

Dangerous Beauty, LLC 2019
Hardcover, 10.5-by-13, full color
www.samuelingwersenartist.com, \$162.50 U.S. (includes postage and tax)



In the U.S., stats show, millions have abandoned the game. Distance, equipment, cost...all are likely suspects. But what about the pitfalls of contrived beauty? Artist and course designer Samuel Ingwersen says this might be part of it.

He is an artist, author, and member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects. This book, to which Dr. Michael Hurdzan contributed, is both a lovely tour of Ingwersen's extraordinary portfolio of watercolor golf course landscapes, and a master's thesis on unchecked aspects of course design.

While feasting on the beauty of the paintings, you are invited to understand that a seductive trend toward beauty-for-beauty's sake has undermined the appeal of the game. Ingwersen's arguments are as well presented as his paint-

ings, taken from theories of aesthetics, course design, and game structure, all building toward the conclusion that course designers who simply strive toward the beautiful can often rob the game of its fun by creating holes that are difficult to play for all but the very best players. In doing so the joy of artful shot making is hampered by design elements that strive mainly for aesthetic appeal to the detriment of golfing appeal. The flow in the game is interrupted.

Thus, Ingwersen says, golf has strayed from its roots, its *raison-d'être* as a simple point-to-point game overwhelmed by contrived artifice and robbed of its meaning and appeal.

It's one thing to create an appealing hole, another to have it all blend together to enhance one's progress through the round and create a memorable, not an exhausting experience. Case in point, Ingwersen holds up the 17th at TPC Sawgrass as a hole *meant for spectacle not for golf* [italics mine].

Supplemented by facts and historical research, Ingwersen's posits are plausible, his passion for the theme unmistakably sincere. The book is coffee-table sized, but not too large; just right to present his considerable body of paintings of famous and not-so-famous courses and holes.

Ingwersen may be writing about beauty that has become 'dangerous' to the game, but this is a beautiful book nonetheless.

Reviewed by Jim Davis

Seven Days In Augusta

Behind the Scenes at The Masters

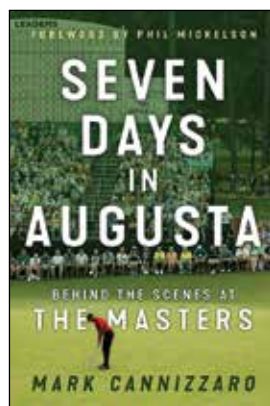
By Mark Cannizzaro

Triumph Books, 2020
Hardcover, \$26.95 ISBN 978-1-62937-749-0

Mark Cannizzaro has assembled a collection of vignettes from his 20+ years of covering the Masters for the New York Post that capture the flavor, if not the fanaticism surrounding the first week in April in Augusta, Ga. So, with the tournament postponed this year settling in with this book is an ample substitute for those who need their Masters fix.

The volume mostly deals with stories about winners in the 21st century. It recalls their turning point shots and putts as well as their own pre- and post-victory recollections. The marginal anecdotes are interesting sides, such as what each past champion served during his turn to host the annual champions' dinner and how the *Augusta Chronicle* labored to get a photo of the reigning champions in their green jackets.

That April week in Augusta is sheer madness and I wish



there had been more stories of the tomfoolery that happens, like the chapter about Oliver Katcher, "the patron," a fanatic who stays through Saturday afternoon then drives home to New York with dozens of Masters sandwiches to host a watch party for the Sunday action. The thumbnail on Mark Cumins, owner of TBoonz restaurant in Augusta, is just such a glimpse of the off-the-course whirl of Masters week.

There could have been more behind the scenes tales. Decision making by the host club on tournament operations or sitting through the club president's press conference would have been insightful. Goodness, the merchandise pavilion alone can probably provide enough anecdotes for its own book. The club is obsessed with privacy and squeezing in a leaked tidbit or two would have given the book a bit more edge.

Since 2020 saw April come and go with no Augusta azeleas on TV, reading this volume is almost like being there. It is a good substitute for a sports-less year. If you have never been to the Masters this book will teach you a lot. If you have been lucky enough to get in the gates it will bring back memories.

On page 173 Cannizzaro suggests that the green jacket is the most iconic trophy in the sport. It may be to some folks, but my money is on the Claret Jug. Still, reading this tome will certainly make you hungry for a pimento cheese sandwich. What other golf tournament has such an iconic refreshment?

Reviewed by Pete Georgiady

Vanished Maryland Golf Courses

Baltimore City V1

Baltimore County, closed before 2000 V2

Baltimore County, closed after 2000 V3

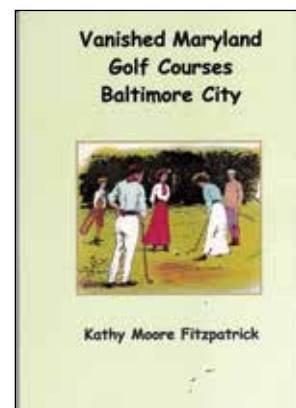
By Kathy Fitzpatrick

Soft-cover, 2020, about 140 pages each
Amazon, \$17.89 each

"I write books to find out about things." This quote from British author Rebecca West, which appears on the dedication page of these three volumes, is surely an apt description of author and researcher Kathy Moore Fitzpatrick.

In an era where the past is often forgotten and buried, Fitzpatrick has done her best to ensure that the vanished golf courses of her beloved Baltimore, Maryland, do not meet the same fate.

The three books – *Vanished Maryland Golf Courses*



see **READING**, 33



AN OLD CLASSIC

Delineations of St. Andrews, 1807

1823 edition: *Saint Andrews As It Was and As It Is*

1838 edition: **Being the Third Edition of Dr Grierson's Delineations Containing Much Curious and Valuable Information Never Before Printed**

Cupar, Printed by G.S. Tullis,
Printer to the University of St. Andrews.

(Photo and review is of the 1838 third edition.)

Value range, early editions; \$500-\$3,000, depending on condition. There is a wide range as many are in poor condition due to early vintage and poor bindings. Usually the earlier the version, the more value but the later editions are updated with additional findings so I put them all about equal value.

Included in this ancient book is a 10-page chapter called 'The Company of Golfers,' otherwise known as the St. Andrews Golfing Society, which was instituted in 1754. An important early glimpse of golf in the day, it covers play for the monthly medal leading up to the annual medal whose winner determines the captaincy of the golfers for the ensuing year. The winner receives the silver cleek with a golf ball attached with his name inscribed. The early winners (and captains) are

thus a list of the top early players. The book lists those winners from 1807, starting with Walter Cook, Esq of Edinburgh.

A testament to the popularity of the game at that point is the revealing statement; "Since the institution of the society, upwards of five hundred members have been admitted into it..." The chapter is chock full of descriptions of what golf was like in the Gray Auld Toon of the early 1800s.

Of additional importance, the book covers the St. Andrews links in some detail, the making of golf balls, and the duties of "cadies" (caddies). The chapter concludes with the period of time when the golfers of the links were competing with its use as a rabbit warren – fortunately for us, the golfers won out!

A real prize for the golf historian, a lot of golf content for that era and quite hard to locate due to its old vintage. The 1838 3rd edition includes such "curious and valuable information" as the presentation of the gold medal by King William IV, and the first time the term "Royal and Ancient" is employed in association with the golf organization. ¶



A NEW CLASSIC

The Thorn Tree Clique

A new analysis of Mathieson's poem, *The Goff*

By David Hamilton, Partick Press, 2001

Ltd. Edition of 280 in 1/4 leather, slipcase, \$200-\$300

Limited edition of 50 in special leather binding with old ball and club, slipcase, \$400-\$500

(Photo is of the special 50 edition.)

The Goff, as you know, is golf's oldest work devoted to golf (1743 first edition) and has been reprinted many times in several forms and in other books. This is by far the best representation with its limited printing, exquisite binding and insightful analysis by Hamilton.

About the time *The Goff* was written, a celebrated thorn tree marked the start of the Leith golf links. The "Clique" was a group of "... many of Scotland's great and good-politicians, landowners and professional men-and knowledgeable crowds watch the progress of play."

The date of the original poem (1743) pre-dated the founding of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers by one year so the "Clique" would soon be the founders of the club, thus the book's title.

Hamilton suggests that the two heroes of *The Goff* were

not part of the clique, being "too young and humble," but young aspirants who played for the winner's trophy in their imaginary match, which many call "dream like," played as it was with the finest



equipment, supportive caddies, and attendant crowds. They are the two best golfers of the day meeting in the finals of the annual meeting competition. The match comes to a head in a thrilling conclusion where the poet loses to a holed pitch executed by his worthy opponent.

Hamilton surmises that the organized game existed much earlier than is commonly thought and the poem marks a new era, from that of war and bloodshed to sport with its struggles on the links. *The Thorn Tree Clique* is a true classic in every respect.

A real prize for the golf historian, *The Goff* holds a lot of golf content for that era and is quite hard to locate due to its old vintage. The 1838 third edition includes such "curious and valuable information" as the presentation of the gold medal by King William IV, and the first time the term "Royal and Ancient" is employed in association with the golf organization. ¶

READING

CONTINUED FROM 31

Baltimore City; Vanished Golf Courses Baltimore County

closed before 2000; and Vanished Maryland Golf Courses closed after 2000 and Howard County – are extensively researched, documented, indexed, and display numerous original photographs, maps, membership rosters, men’s and women’s club champions, advertisements, and score cards.

Where possible Fitzpatrick traces the roots of golf professionals who manned these same courses. For example, we learn of Andrew “Andy” Gibson, one of the many professionals who immigrated to the U.S. from Scotland. Gibson came to the U.S. from Prestwick in 1908, became the head pro at Bonnie View Golf Club in 1932 (age 23), placed 20th in the 1940 U.S. Open at Canterbury Golf Club in Cleveland, and placed sixth from the bottom in the 1941 Masters won by Craig Wood.

Of particular interest are charts showing what year clubs were founded and whether any of the holes remain. For example Baltimore C.C. – Roland Park, which hosted the 1899 U.S. Open won by Willie Smith from Midlothian CC of Chicago, was opened in 1898.

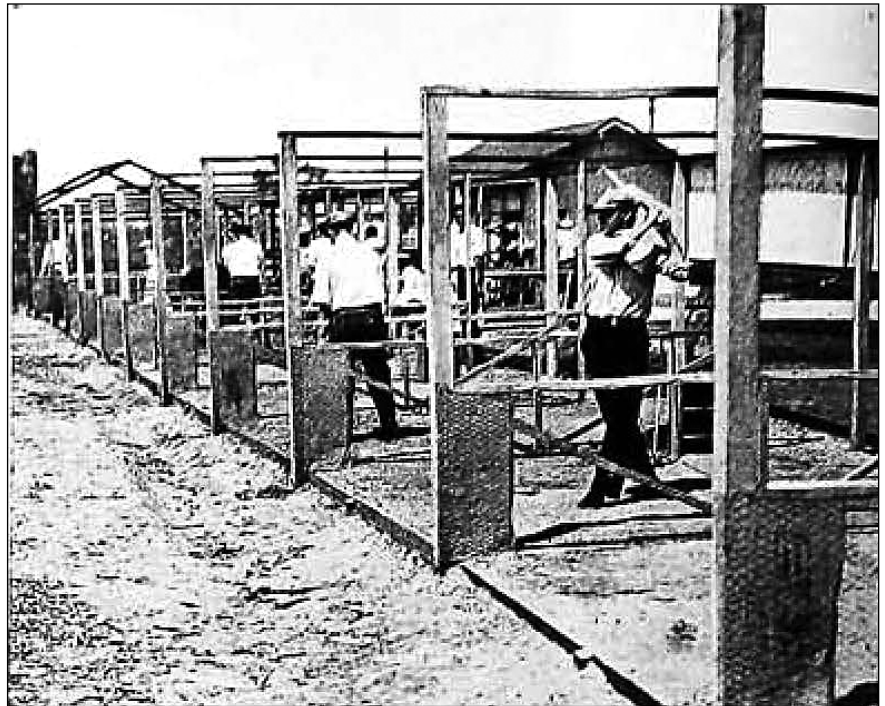
One section shows the progression of course yardages of Baltimore C.C. – Roland Park from 5,419 yds. Par 78 (1899), to 5,882 yds. (Par 72.5), to 6,232 yds. (Par 72) The yardage changes almost certainly parallel the development of the golf ball.

Altogether, Fitzpatrick’s consummate research skills have provided extraordinary details of the history of over 36 golf courses that have slipped from daily life in the Baltimore area.

On happier notes, the author also discusses several of Maryland’s golf firsts. For example, in 1893, Henry May supervised the opening of a nine-hole temporary golf course at Chevy Chase Club, a club that still exists and holds the honor of being the first golf course in the state of Maryland.

With these volumes, Fitzpatrick has provided a tremendous boon to both Maryland and golf historians.

Reviewed by Jim Jeselnick



PRECURSOR TO TOP GOLF? *The above practice facility was the best and newest of its kind when it opened in Chicago in 1929. You bought time, not balls. One hour would set you back from 50 cents to a dollar, the difference, presumably, being in the comfort of the accommodations, or perhaps the availability of drinks. Anyway, the hour came with a pail of balls which were retrieved at the end of every hour by attendants. The image is from Golf Illustrated, August 1929.*

Gowftoons

THE NEW NORM, MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING...



...AND A TWO DOLLAR NASSAU BECOMES A TWO PLY SOFT!

Poetry of Golf

LEON S. WHITE, PH.D.

The spring season has been a favorite with poets through the ages. This year, our poets are pent up, especially the golfing poets, but the muse will always find a ready game. "No Golf to Play" is a lament for closed clubhouses and courses by our own poet laureate, Leon White (golfpoet.com), and author of *Golf Course of Rhymes* and *Opposites in Golf*. The other, "A Golf Song," is from Rose Champion de Crespigny (1859– 1935), an English artist and author who was a leading member of the Ridley Art Club, the Lyceum Club in Piccadilly, and of the British College of Psychic Science.

No Golf to Play

No golf to watch
No golf to play

No waiting for
A sunny day.

It doesn't matter
How you score
You're not playing
Anymore.

Can't even order
A clubhouse beer
The house is closed
And you're not near.

Staying at home
And far from up
Reduced to putting
To a paper cup.

You've often asked
The golfing gods
To intervene and
Change the odds.

It's time again
To make that plea
To stay at home
To wait and see,

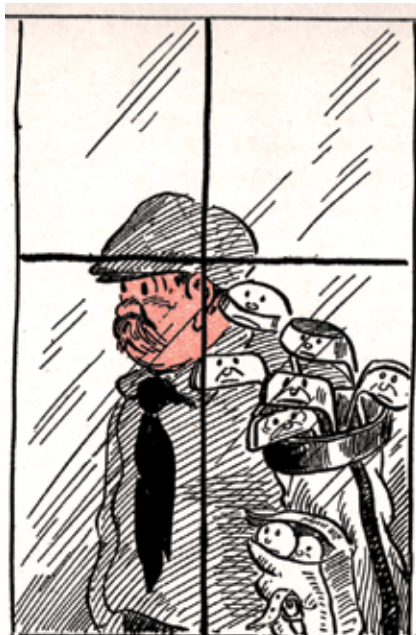
Wash your hands
Don't touch your face
Think when again
You'll embrace

Clean morning air
At the first hole tee
And a new perspective
On anxiety.

A GOLF SONG

WHEN the world in Spring is smiling,
And the heart of man is young,
Is there aught that's more beguiling,
All terrestrial joys among,
Than to roam o'er grass and heather,
Or along a sandy shore.
Be it fair or frowning weather.
With a golf ball on before.
Then hey! for the drive from the tee;
For the links by the sounding sea ;
And the wide sand dune,
It is never too soon.
And golf is the game for me!
Summer claims our glad ovation.
And the heart of man is strong;
What is better in creation
Than the golf links all day long?
Throw aside your cares and worries
At the radiant sun's behest;
Every wise man surely hurries
To the green he loves the best.
Then hey! for the drive from the tee;
For the links by the sounding sea;
It is never too hot,
Be it June or not.
And golf is the game for me!
Though the Autumn days are shorter
And our strength is on the wane.
By the briny salt sea-water
Let us all play golf again.
Though cold fogs and winds assail us,
We shall never feel the chill;
Though the summer sunshine fail us,
We will seek the green links still.
Then hey! for the drive from the tee;
For the links by the sounding sea;
For it's never so gray
As to spoil your play.
And golf is the game for me!
When the year is nearly ended,
In the Winter of our days,
Let our strength be still expended
On the game beyond all praise.
Though the sun in glory waneth,
And the leaves are sere and dun,
Make the most of what remaineth.
Play until the round is won.
Then hey! for the drive from the tee ;
For the links by the sounding sea;
For it's never too cold.
And we're never too old.
And golf is the game for me!

"SAD LITTLE FACES." The cartoon illustration is from the immortal illustrator Clare Briggs and his book *Golf* by Briggs, 1916.



In Praise of the '70s

A half century since the 1970s began, the time has come to give the decade its due, to admire the athletes instead of ridiculing their attire.

I have to admit bias because the decade was when I loved golf most and played it best. Given that I was a ragged 4 handicap at the height of my powers, though, there definitely was more affection than talent in the equation.

That wasn't the case at the elite level, men's and women's both, where established and rising stars were strutting their stuff. Consider the players who won tournaments in the 1970s: It is a Hall of Fame mix, including Jack Nicklaus, Kathy Whitworth, Tom Watson, Judy Rankin, Raymond Floyd, Joanne Carner, Seve Ballesteros and Nancy Lopez.

That confluence of skilled golfers – and don't forget, Sam Snead was still making impressive cameos too – is just one reason to consider the '70s a golden age of the sport.

Sure, golfers were outfitted in some wild contemporary clothing, but for the most part they were still playing with classic equipment not much different from that used four decades earlier – persimmon-headed woods, forged irons, balata-covered wound balls. There was a skill in hitting them, and a beauty in knowing Larry Nelson's set resembled Byron Nelson's. Top-level golf continued to reward a balance of precision and power, not skew toward distance when driver clubheads nearly tripled in size decades later, among other contributing factors.

Course architecture aficionados bemoan many of the designs – and renovations – done during the 1970s. Their criticism is warranted in many cases. But I would argue that course conditions and our expectations for them were at a relative sweet spot. Agronomy and maintenance practices had improved by the '70s, for layouts played by tour and recreational golfers alike. Yet there wasn't an "arms race" that courses be perfectly maintained and greens at lightning speed. Even at top clubs known for their putting surfaces, Stimpmeter readings didn't reach double-digits. Speed was relative, and big undulations could be what classic designers intended and not verge on goofy golf.

Think about where and how we watched the best play. Members and a limited number of VIPs had special passes to get them into a clubhouse buffet, but most everyone tied a paper ticket to a belt loop and traipsed after their favorite golfers. Hospitality structures crammed next to greens were not yet a glint in a marketer's eye.

It wasn't a perfect decade. The game was still a long way from trying to rectify some of its exclusionary ways regarding women and minorities. But because the competitive ladder wasn't nearly as structured as it has become, the gulf between kids that came out of country clubs and those who advanced

out of caddie yards or hardscrabble munys wasn't as wide as today's divide, despite the perception of more equal opportunity. About a dozen African Americans played the PGA Tour at one stage in the 1970s, many more than are on the circuit today.

We might have only gotten four or five holes on television for a couple of hours on Saturday and Sunday, but golf fans savored what was broadcast. Regardless of locale, many folks got coverage from a hometown reporter, the newspaper golf writer a long way from being an endangered species.

Some of the big moments from the 1970s resonate now and will forever, whether it's the drama of the 1975 Masters when Nicklaus held off Tom Weiskopf and Johnny Miller in a doozy or the 1977 Open Championship when Watson prevailed against Nicklaus at Turnberry. Nancy Lopez electrified the LPGA Tour when she came on the scene in 1978. Al Geiberger's 59 at Memphis in 1977 – the first time someone bettered 60 on the PGA Tour – wasn't matched for 14 years until Chip Beck did so at Las Vegas in 1991. The original "Mr. 59" had a share of the low round until Jim Furyk's 58 at the 2016 Travelers Championship. Johnny Miller's major-championship low of 63, set during the 1973 U.S. Open, stood up even longer, with Miller sharing the mark until Branden Grace's 62 in the 2017 Open Championship.

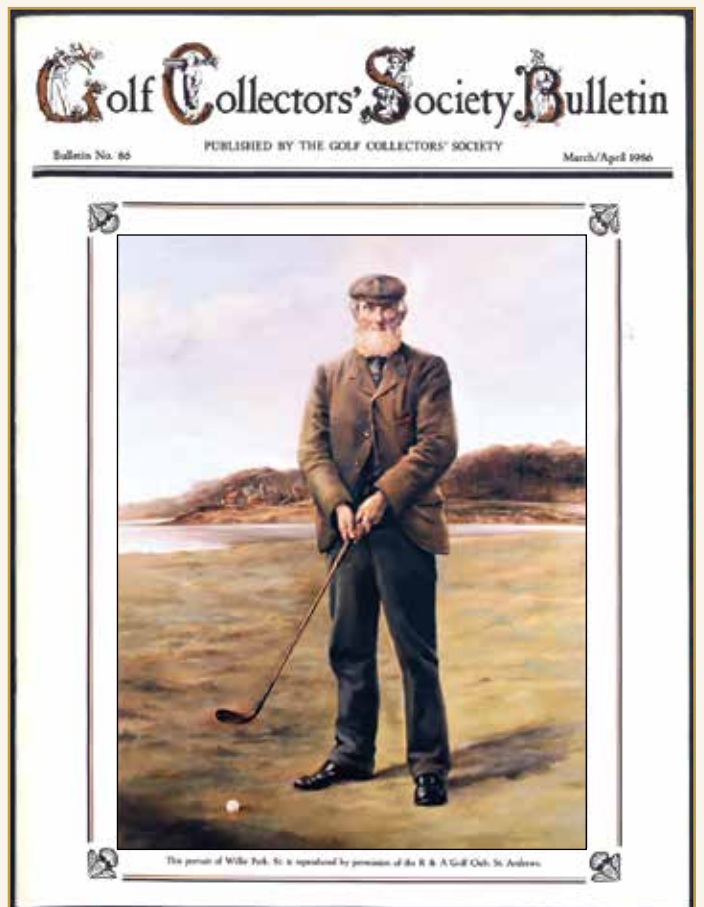
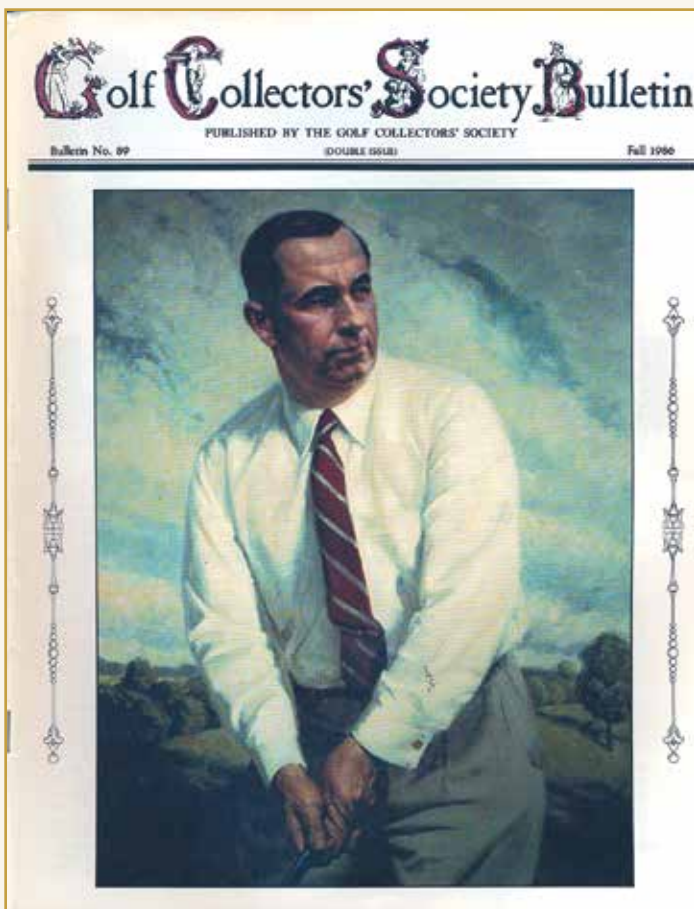
Johnny Unitas biographer Tom Callahan, as good with a sentence as the quarterback was with a spiral, described the legend's generation this way: "On black-and-white televisions, in a black or white time, men played football for something less than a living and something more than money." Professional golfers of the 1970s were on color TVs but weren't getting rich as they followed the sun.

Billy Casper made \$20,000 for winning the first PGA Tour event to be played in the 1970s, the Los Angeles Open, and Curtis Strange pocketed \$36,000 for winning the last, the Pensacola Open.

Those seem like rounding errors given today's prize money, but in a time when golf balls clicked off wood and golf shoes clacked on pavement, the money, like much in the larger game, made a lot of sense. ¶

Bill Fields, whom we are fortunate to claim as a fellow GHS member, is a versatile storyteller whose work was a showcase at Golf World magazine for more than two decades. He was honored with the 2020 PGA of America Lifetime Achievement Award in Journalism, which recognizes members of the media for their steadfast promotion of golf. His work spans 109 men's major championships, eight Ryder Cups, more than 60 women's and PGA Tour Champions majors, and more than 800 Golf World issues.





The Golf Heritage Society celebrates its 50th year in 2020. From 1970 until September 2018 its newsletter for Golf Collector Society members was called The Bulletin, so named by its first editor and Society co-founder, Joe Murdoch. Above, covers from earlier editions feature legends from golf's distant past. Clockwise from top left: Walter Hagen, Old Tom Morris, William Park, and John Reid.