

Landscape Design & Management News:

By Birgitta Brophy, RLA, Associate Professor

Program Happenings:

This year (September) we were able to catch up with one of our alumni **Dennis Gendron** at his place of business Twin Brooks Garden Center in Millbrook, New York. During our annual Planting Design class voyage to the Dutchess County gardens visit we were able to detour off Route 44 and have a delightful tour of his garden center. Students learned about the various aspects of the business and what opportunities the future may hold for them in the green industry. It was a perfect way to end the field trip before heading back to Delhi. Thanks Dennis!

As part of our Planting Design class, students will be assisting the Village of Delhi this fall in designing planting beds at the Kingston Street Bridge to minimize maintenance while highlighting entry to Delhi's business district. In addition, we will be looking at furthering design ideas for the newer River View Apartments which the College has built and is adding on to as this article is going to print. The real-life experiences will complement the theory and practice exercises we have been having in class to date.

Horticulture Club

Momentum and enthusiasm continues to grow like a weed with our students involved in Horticulture Club. We are proud to announce that the Delhi Horticulture Club won first place at the College's Student Activities Fair this year! Our booth sported a "chocolate" tree with real chocolate treats, funky



Planting Design Class at Wethersfield in Amenia, NY: From Left: Adjunct Professor Lisa Tessier, A. J. Davis, Tom Dugon, Christian Batthany, Jessica Martin and Karl Thompson, head horticulturalist at Wethersfield



Planting Design Class Trip: From Left: Professor Brophy, Jessica Martin, A. J. Davis (back), Christian Batthany, Tom Dugon (back) and Dennis Gendron owner of Twin Brooks Garden Center

gourds, power point slide show of our club activities and last but not least a "Sunflower" picture board with free electronic photographs to participants. Good job Hort Club!!!

October 24th will be the club's first trip. We will be going to the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens and Prospect Park. Plans are underway for fundraising for the big trip: to participate in this year's PLANET Student Career Days to be held in Chicago, Ill. Any donations to assist our students are welcome and should be sent to either advisor **Birgitta Brophy**, Room 159 or **Julia Ward**, Room 155 Farnsworth Hall, SUNY Delhi, 2 Main Street, Delhi, NY 13753.

See YOU at the Empire State Green Industry Show

The Empire State Green Industry Show (ESGIS) is "the" venue for educational seminars, industry contacts and re-uniting with colleagues. Delhi makes the effort to support the conference due to its known benefits that only a conference can provide to our graduates as well as our current students. Smart Growth – Learn from the Pros is this year's conference theme. It will bring together an agenda of environmentally sensitive and business savvy subjects suitable for horticulturalists, landscapers, turf and golf course managers. This show will be held January 11-13th at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. For more information go to nysta.org and click on the ESGIS tab.

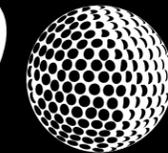
Delhi Golf and Plant Science faculty, staff and students will be participating as usual at this year's conference and we would love to see our friends, colleagues and alumni. We will be having our display up with new photographs, brochures, etc. all to share with you and anyone else who you may feel be a good fit for Delhi's program. Please be sure to stop by and say hello – tell us how you and your business are doing, drop off internship or job announcements, or meet our students.

Look for our alumni reception, location TBA, on Tuesday evening at 5:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



SUNY Delhi

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Golf and Plant Science Programs

Fall 2010

Jacobsen Future Managers

by Keith Daury

(Keith is a BBA student in the Golf Course Management: Superintendent Program)

I was fortunate enough to be chosen by my professors to attend the 2010 Jacobsen Future Turf Managers Program in Charlotte, NC. Not only did I get a free vacation to the Carolinas on finals week, but I was treated like royalty for the whole trip. The first night when we arrived to the Hilton we were kindly greeted, checked in, and given a nice Jacobsen golf shirt, hat, and bag of useful things to have on the job (sun block, hand sanitizer, etc.). For the rest of that first night the our group, from all over the country, talked, ate, and enjoyed an open bar. Right away I knew that the following days would be the best networking experience I've ever had.



Keith Daury

The first day we had a tour of the company's Wilmar production facility. The tour at Wilmar took us through the entire production process, from parts fabrication to shipping, with an examination of reel manufacturing. Then we went to the Jacobsen world headquarters on Quality Drive in Charlotte. They ship finished equipment all over the world from this factory. This is also where the Future Managers Program is held. We had speakers from GCSAA and pizza for lunch. We then went to Quail Hollow and the super **Jeff Kent** talked to us mostly about tournament prep. Then we went to the tenth green and tested equipment. We went to the NASCAR hall of fame in Charlotte which had only been open for about a week. In SC we had a tour of the Gamecocks baseball stadium and football field by the head grounds keeper.

The remainder of the trip was packed full of insight and opportunity to see and learn things that most people will never get the chance to. My favorite part of the trip was testing out Jacobsen's full line of fresh from the factory equipment at beautiful Quail Hollow Golf Club. When each packed day was over we were treated to dinner and drinks, and on the last night we had a very nice dinner at an upscale restaurant in SC out on the porch. As if they hadn't done enough already, they gave us a free year membership to GCSAA. The Jacobsen Future Managers Program was the perfect way to end my enlightening two years with the top-notch plant science department at SUNY Delhi, as well as have a nice break before a demanding internship. I am very grateful for the opportunity and it will never be forgotten.

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USGA Greens Section Internship 2010 by Evan Embrey

(Evan is a BBA student in the Golf Course Management: Superintendent Program)

I was incredibly lucky to be selected for the USGA Green Section Internship for the summer of 2010. I spent a week traveling with USGA agronomist, **Jim Skorulski**, visiting a dozen golf courses across the state of Connecticut. Due to the abnormally hot summer that the Northeast had I was fortunate to see numerous problems on every course that we visited. Problems ranged from extremely high counts of nematodes damaging greens to summer patch devastating entire approaches. Other common problems taking place on the golf courses we visited were annual bluegrass weevil damage, mechanical damage on greens collars, trees shading greens, and abnormally high soil temperatures as high as 95°F.



Evan Embrey

During the week of my internship I was able to see beyond the role of the golf course superintendent. I was able to hear the questions and comments that club presidents, golf professionals, greens chairmen, and even clubhouse managers had about their particular golf course. The USGA Green Section Internship surpasses any other internship or experience available to turfgrass students. Having a USGA agronomist at your disposal for information for a whole week is extraordinary. The internship goes beyond textbook information to a hands-on real world experience.

Summer 2010 Golf/Turf Internships

Internships are an integral part of our curriculums. Following is a list of our golf/turf interns and their internship sites for the summer of 2010.

Freshman Interns of AAS and BBA Programs

Peter Bartz - Country Club of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Adam Breen - Country Club of Vermont, Waterbury, VT
Shawn Brownell - Dreams Park, Millford, NY
Curtis Ciulla - Canoe Brook Country Club, Summit, NJ
Benjamin Czyzewski - The Edison Club, Rexford, NY
Mike Dorosky - Delhi Golf Course, Delhi, NY
Joseph Erickson - Charlotte Country Club, Charlotte, NC
John Evans - Turning Stone Resort, Verona, NY
David Gennett - Shaker Ridge Country Club, Loudonville, NY
Seth Kohler - The Country Club of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Ryan Meisner - Crag Burn Golf Club, East Aurora, NY
Sean O'Brien - Manchester Country Club, Bedford, NH
Jeffrey Potrikus - Greener World Landscape, Cooperstown, NY
Foster St Cyr - Canterbury Woods Country Club, Canterbury, NH
Noah Tubbs - Sagamore Resort, Bolton Landing, NY
Casey Underwood - Robert Trent Jones at Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY
Christian VanEtten - Delhi Golf Course, Delhi, NY
Patrick Vaughn - Bonita Bay Club East, Naples, FL
Ian Wilson - Back O'Beyond, Brewster, NY
Zachary Skeval - Lafayette Hills Golf & Country Club, Jamesville, NY

Second-year interns of the BBA Program

Cameron Cooper - Sleepy Hollow Country Club, Scarborough, NY
James Fagnani - Oneonta Country Club, Oneonta, NY
Seth Hrywnak - Niagara Frontier Country Club, Youngstown, NY
Adam Hicks - Monroe Golf Club, Rochester, NY
Bobby Jewett - Drumlins Country Club, Syracuse, NY
Jeff Nicolaisen - Glens Falls Country Club, Queensbury, NY
James Ruff - En-Joie Golf Club, Endicott, NY
Jonathan Reynolds - En-Joie Golf Club, Endicott, NY
Evan Slutsky - Carmel Country Club, Charlotte, NC
Chance Sullivan - Wade Hampton Golf Club, Cashiers, NC
Keith Daury - The Country Club, Chestnut Hill, MA

Third-year interns of the BBA Program

Ryan Abbate - TPC Deere Run, East Moline, IL
Kevin Anderson - Martindale Country Club, Auburn, ME
Jeffrey Ferguson - Lancaster Country Club, Lancaster, PA
Joseph Lewis - Bayonne Golf Club, Bayonne, NJ
Timothy Williams - Congressional Country Club, Bethesda, MD

Fourth-year interns of the BBA Program

Evan Embrey - National Golf Links of America, Southampton, NY
Michael Ford - Chicago Golf Club, Wheaton, IL
Zachary Hilty - Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz, NY
Patrick Joy - Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, PA
Patrick Pascucci - Bayonne Golf Club, Bayonne, NJ
Michael Stitt - Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamorneck, NY
David Wilcox - Sebonack, Southampton, NY

Alumni Brian Macmillan

(reprinted with permission from an article of October 14, 2010 by Elana Glowatz, in The Port Times Record)

Brian MacMillan plans to bring some changes to the golf course at the Port Jefferson Country Club. As the new greens superintendent, one of his projects is restoring the original architecture of the course, from the club's founding more than 100 years ago. For example, he said, he would like to re-establish bunkers that were filled in over the years for easier maintenance, and is in the process of obtaining the architectural plans of the original course.

MacMillan, who turned 27 Oct. 13, got his start in the business when his friend's uncle built Great Rock Golf Club in his home hamlet of Wading River, where he has lived his whole life. For three summers, two in high school and one in college, **MacMillan** worked as a member of the golf course's grounds crew. He said it was during those summers that he discovered a love for working outdoors and the satisfaction that comes from creating a beautiful finished product.



Later at both SUNY Delhi and Clemson University in South Carolina MacMillan studied turf grass management, in addition to contributing to the wear and tear of athletic fields as a soccer player for Delhi and an intramural soccer player at Clemson.

Between school years, **MacMillan** held internships at Island Hills Golf Club in Sayville. After graduation, he worked as an

assistant superintendent for three years each at the Engineers Country Club in Roslyn Harbor and St. George's Golf and Country Club in Stony Brook, where he got both the idea and the necessary experience to lead the architectural restoration at PJCC. He believes that starting early and working whenever he could has prepared him to be a greens superintendent at a young age.

MacMillan beat out 15 other candidates for the position. Village Trustee **Lee Rosner** said that he seemed ready to make the commitment to the club and that his management skills were impressive. "It's always tough when you transition in a new boss, and you don't quite know how things are going to shake out." He added that in the two weeks since **MacMillan** started, the grounds crew of 11 men appears to have responded well to their new leader.

Bill Mackedon, the PJCC's golf pro and one of the people who helped select MacMillan for greens superintendent, said that under the new hire's leadership, there is "more work done in the same amount of hours by the same amount of people."

But the superintendent is still looking for more help. **MacMillan** is interviewing to fill the assistant's position, after his original choice declined the job for a better offer. The right assistant is key because, MacMillan said that person is "an extension of yourself."

The architectural restoration of the roughly 60 acres of turf that comprises the golf course in Harbor Hills is one of **MacMillan's** long-term plans. In the more immediate future, **MacMillan** will be aerating greens and seeding the grass to prepare the course for the spring. Aeration serves the extra purpose of reducing the number of pesticides needed by improving drainage and, therefore, decreasing the amount of disease in the turf.

Also short-term, the new greens superintendent will do some detail work throughout the course. MacAttack, as he is known to some of his friends, pointed out a stump standing alone on the edge of a green. He plans to clean up things like that, prune dead branches on trees and clean up the course accessories. And he has already begun doing some tasks manually, such as hand-raking the bunkers and using a walking mower for the tees. **MacMillan** said those personal touches make a difference in the feel of the course. "You gotta have a passion in the profession to make it to this level," he said.

Photos at right: Ulster County BO-CES students visiting Delhi in May. With ISA **Tom Holdrege** (near right) and Asst. Prof. **Ben McGraw** (far right)



Zach Hilty

Alumni and current BBA student, **Zach Hilty** was seriously injured in an accident near the end of summer. **Zach** would appreciate hearing from his friends via Facebook .

Assistant Professor **Ben McGraw** competed in the Warrior Dash at Windham Mt. in September to help raise money for **Zach** and his family during his recovery. Guess which photo (below) is before or after.



Photo Right: Alumni **Steve Whipple**, superintendent at the West Point Golf Course, recently addressed the freshmen orientation class.

