The Horticulture Club has a new crop of enthusiastic freshmen students! Our members are very excited to pursue many activities this year, some of which we have already completed. In October the group was fortunate to have a free guided tour of the Mohonk Mountain House gardens and grounds from former intern and current senior Matt Robinson. Upon arriving to the Mountain House we were enveloped in a cloud of fog. Within 15 minutes of our tour the sky cleared and the most glorious weather and tour ensued! Some of the highlights of the trip included the Color Garden, Maze, greenhouse facility, and The Tower. Students on the trip included: Keegan Bush, Brandi Carufe, Alex Killmeier, Matt Robinson, and Kara Swartz.

Then early in November some our club had a joint bowling social event with the Cobleskill Horticulture Club. Both clubs met at the Holiday Lanes of Oneonta for two games of fun followed by dinner at Denny’s! Members of the clubs discussed the upcoming PLANET Student Career Days to be held at Kansas State University in March of 2012.

Future trips and events are to include the New York Botanical Gardens later in November and PLANET Student Career Days in March. Students are also actively fundraising with a bake sale and Penny Social this fall semester. All proceeds will be used to defer costs of the trip to Kansas if you would like to donate, please contact Birgitta Brophy brophybb@delhi.edu or at 607-746-4418.

Students in the Planting Design class assisted the local Delhi Senior Housing Community with new landscape improvement ideas for their foundation plantings and courtyard area. Presentations to interested community members were very well received. The director of the facility, Mr. Rick Ackley, welcomed many of the new ideas which will lessen current maintenance practices while enhancing the visual and physical environment of the residents. The same students will most likely be involved in the installation of some of their design ideas this coming spring as part of their Advanced Design and Practices class.

Opportunities such as this are a win-win for student learning and the community which has limited resources.
The Jacobsen Experience
by Peter Bartz

I was honored when my professors chose me to attend the 2011 Jacobsen Future Turf Managers Program in Charlotte, NC. Upon my arrival, I met up with 30+ kids from all over the world, superintendent assistants and numerous industry people. The next day, the festivities began and our first stop was the Jacobsen Shipping Plant and Warehouse along with the Manufacturing Facility. The shipping plant was huge, with at least 20 to 50 of every model mower ready to be shipped, as well as thousands of stocked parts on-hand. The manufacturing plant was also intense. We were able to follow the process of the parts being cut from a plate of steel, around the plant through a machine where they are coated with a special fluid that glows under a black-light to ensure there are no leaks. The facility had its own paint areas where the parts could either be powder coated or spray painted. Jacobsen makes everything, from work carts, rough, fairway and triplex units to walk behind greens mowers and individual reels. I was fascinated to learn that they have developed a 18 blade reel that will soon be used on their new greens units. After the tour of Jacobsen we went to Quail Hollow Country Club, where we used some of the equipment we just saw being put together at the factory to mow the 11th hole. We rotated in groups from greens mowers to triplex on approaches and fairway units and finally rough units. It was a great experience.

As part of this educational trip, I also got to visit Sage Valley Golf Club located in southern South Carolina. This club was built by a gentleman who tried to join Augusta National and was denied, so he decided to build a course 5 miles across the border from it. The course was in incredible condition. It was built next to the Sub-air facility and had 3 Sub-air units around the plantation. Agronomist David Petfield shared some of Merion’s history with the Club members, including the making of the famed wicker basket flagsticks. The students were able to walk all 18 holes of the course and saw the initial phases of the lengthening of the course in preparation for the 2013 U.S. Open.

Turf Club Road Trip

In May, the SUNY-Delhi Turf Club traveled south as part of their annual spring trip accompanied by advisor Dr. Ben McGraw. First stop was to Robert Trent Golf Club in Gainesville, VA. Delta Alumni Scott Thomas (’04) provided an extensive tour of the grounds, newly constructed 19th hole and practice facilities, and discussed the challenges of managing cool season turf in the transition zone. Scott is now employed at John Deere Landscapes in Richmond, VA. Next stop was to Congressional Country Club (Bethesda, MD) site of the 2011 US Open. First assistant James Hayes (’09), seniors Tim Williams (’11) and Kevin Anderson (’11) provided a behind the scenes look at the preparations for the upcoming tournament. Hayes discussed the challenges that Congressional faced in preparation for the tournament, including reconstruction of many of the putting surfaces and fairway narrowing. Final stop was to the Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, PA. The Merion crew graciously allowed the students to tour the facility on Mother’s Day, allowing access to the entire course and maintenance facilities. Agronomist David Petfield shared some of Merion’s history with the Club members, including the making of the famed wicker basket flagsticks. The students were able to walk all 18 holes of the course and saw the initial phases of the lengthening of the course in preparation for the 2013 U.S. Open.

Peter Bartz (center) at Jacobsen

Michael Kincaid (left) and Noah Tubbs Golf Course Management majors were recipients of the Hahn Family Memorial Scholarship on Monday October 3rd in Rochester NY. Presenting the awards is Patricia Hahn (center).

Support the Turf Club!

This year the Turf Club is working to raise funds to attend the GCSAA Golf Conference and compete in the National Turf Bowl competition. If you would like to make a donation to help with this cause, please mail to Julia Ward (club advisor), 156 Farnsworth Hall, Delhi, NY 13753 or contact me at wardja@delhi.edu or 607-746-4415

Internships Summer 2011.
If you would like to become a part of our internship program, please contact Julia Ward at wardja@delhi.edu.

Senior Interns
Ryan Abbate - TPC Deere Run, IL
Kevin Anderson - Congressional Country Club, MD
Jeff Ferguson - Knollwood Country Club, NY
Jason Gumble-Radison Greens Golf Club, NY
Tim Williams - Congressional Country Club, MD
Evren Soltuks - Wannamoc Golf Club, RI
Jon Reynolds - Southern Hills Country Club, OK
Bryan Kuchta - Golf Club of Avon, CT

Junior Interns
Cam Cooper-Cazenovia Golf Club, NY
James Fagnani - Leatherstocking Country Club, NY
Seth Hywarick - Niagara Frontier Country Club, NY
Adam Hicks - Saucon Valley Country Club, PA
Bobby Jewett - Quechee Club, VT
Jeff Nicolaison - Edgewood Country Club, NJ
James Ruff - En-Joie Golf Course, NY
Kevin Anderson and Adam Hicks

Sophomore Interns
Peter Bartz - Monroe Country Club, NY
Shawn Brownell - Back O’Beyond, NY
Steve Carter - Nantucket Golf Club, MA
Chad Murphy - Shaker Ridge Country Club, NY
Curtis Cluha - En-Joie Golf Course, MA
Bill Lewis - Binghamton Country Club, NY
Ben Crawford - Bonavista Golf Club, PA
Noah Tubbs - National Golf Links of America, NY

Freshman Interns
Tim Bruno - Hollywood Golf Club, NY
Steve Cather - Nantucket Golf Club, MA
Chad Comish - En-Joie Golf Course, NY
Ben Crawford - Bonavista Golf Course, NY
Jacob Cronk - Greener World, NY
Ben Dewan - Irondequiot Country Club, NY
Ashley Dunn - The Brickman Group, MD
Joe Erickson - Oakmont Country Club, PA
Zack Forbes - Meadowbrook Club, NY
Adam Friedman - En-Joie Golf Course, NY
Mike Kincaid - Oak Hill Country Club, NY
Joe Lambert - Stamford Golf Club, NY
Bill Lewis - Binghamton Country Club, NY
Chad Murphy - Shaker Ridge Country Club, NY
Nick Pennella - Ridgewood Country Club, NJ
James Suderley – Yahnundasis Golf Club, NY
Jon Reynolds - Southern Hills Country Club, OK
Bryan Kuchta - Golf Club of Avon, CT

Golf and Plant Science Programs
Turf Club at Congressional (from left): Mike Kincaid, Tim Bruno, Nick Pennella, Ben Dewan, Cam Cooper, Tim Williams, James Hays (alumni), Kevin Anderson and Adam Hicks

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