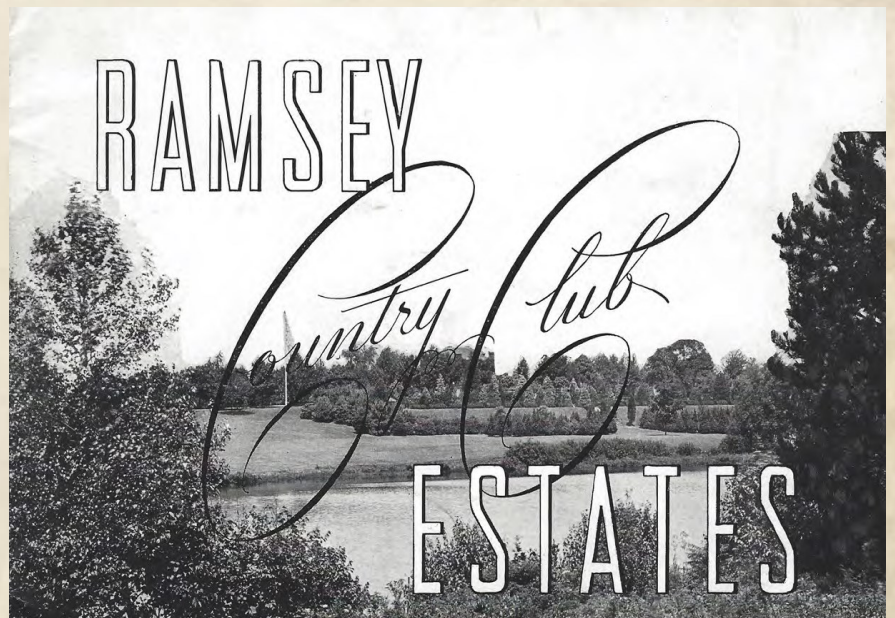


RG&CC MEMORIES



We hope you will enjoy reading and learning the history and memories of RGCC from the 40's through to the present. It is said that before we can go forward, we must also know our past.

Ramsey Golf & Country Club's Insignia is RARA AVIS which means Rare Birds. It also means "A Thing Unique". Ramsey Golf & Country Club is indeed unique as we are a family club. RGCC is home!



From the 40's, 50's & 60's

RG&CC History

Our present Club had its beginning as a 220 acre estate called "Arlena Towers", which was developed over a 30-year period beginning in the early 1900's. The original mansion was of ancient Norman architecture and was modeled after the famous Ramsey Abbey, (circa 900 A.D.) which still stands in Hampshire, England to this day. Many of the materials for the mansion were brought over from England.

The elaborate landscaping, planting and seedlings of the estate were begun by the original owner, Arthur Brandeis. The second owner, Joseph DeWyckoff completed the beautification of the property. Three beautiful lakes were developed on the property including Mirror Lake and the largest Crystal Lake, covering 30 acres. The mansion was surrounded by towering trees and beautiful gardens filled with hundreds of imported and rare varieties.



ARLENA TOWERS, THE MANSION
THE MAIN FRONT AND THE LAKE BELOW THE ENTRANCE DRIVE.

In 1940, The DeWyckoff Estate was sold to the National House & Farms Association for residential development and was renamed the Ramsey Country Club Estates. Each purchaser agreed to abide by the rules of the club by accepting title and was issued a share of stock, a practice that is still in effect today. Approximately 40 homes were built before World War II forced a halt to construction due to a materials shortage. Being unable to continue building, the National House & Farms Association offered the lots for sale and agreed to turn over the mansion and surrounding property, including the original golf course to the existing homeowners. Thus, Ramsey Golf & Country Club was born!

The original homeowners built and moved into RGCC in the 1940's and 50's. The early members contributed many hours towards maintaining and improving the facilities. There was no staff of any kind and all cooking, serving, cleaning and gardening was done by these original members. Residential housing continued throughout the 60's and the membership began a series of improvements which

included increasing the size of the ballroom, adding a patio and providing a parking lot. In addition, 17 acres of land was purchased to expand the golf course. As the 1940's flowed into the 50's and 60's Ramsey Golf & Country Club began to take shape.

To help preserve the history of RGCC, We gathered a small group of club members who first arrived at RGCC in the 50's & 60's as well as others to have an old fashioned fireside chat about the club and their memories growing up here.

THE ORIGINAL CLUB HOUSE:

Ramsey Golf & Country Club looked like a castle. The original stone structure still stands today. You would walk up the stairs right into the grille room. There was no entry way, the waitress would simply greet you at the door. The Grille Room was square with wooden floors and pillars, old wooden tables and chairs were disseminated about the room. You would then have to take 2 steps up to the horse-shoe shaped bar area, located in an alcove, which is where the kitchen is currently located today.

The men's and ladies' locker rooms as well as the pro shop were located behind the grille room, where the current grille room is today. In the hallway was a cigarette machine with cigarettes selling for 35 cents a pack! The locker rooms were not very large with metal lockers, a table and chairs. There were no computers back then so you'd post your golf score on a handicap posting sheet which was mailed out to the Metropolitan Golf Association (MGA) every 2 weeks. You used to walk through the locker room to a small pro shop which was also on the second floor. The pro-shop was so small that only a handful of people could be in the room at the same time. The head pro would be behind a small desk selling golf balls and a few other retail items. You would then walk out the pro shop door down the steps and over to the putting green or out to the first tee. Weekend tee times were available, the rest of the week was a first come, first tee off basis.

The ballroom could be accessed by walking down a few steps from the grille room. The ballroom was rectangular in shape and had wooden floors and pillars with a bar in the rear, where the men's and ladies locker rooms are today. The ballroom would hold major events such as Easter, Christmas and New Year's Eve parties as well as weddings and dances. Members remember that every month there would be a formal black tie dance and having to dance around the pillars. They also used to have a New Comers Luncheon to welcome new members to the club every year. Most of us remember that the Men's Tournament Group (MTG) would hold its annual dinners in the ballroom and after each dinner the men's poker games were held in the men's locker room! Also, Bud Baldwin had a band with Manny Hamilton called "The Clubsters", which was made up of musicians from the club. They would play almost all of the adult events held in the ballroom but on Easter even the kids came up to dance the alley cat!



Fun Facts:

- We once had a tennis court where the maintenance shed is by the 16th hole!
- The current pro shop used to be a 2 lane bowling alley with pin boys setting up the pins!
- The Country Club was THE place to have your wedding –a lot of members and their children had their wedding reception in the old Ballroom!

9 Hole Golf Course

The golf course has had several design changes over the years. On the original course for example, the first tee back in 1964 was situated where the No. 15 tee is now and today's No.14 green used to be the 9th hole. There was a time on today's 17th hole, that from a member's back yard you would drive over Mirror Lake towards where the practice green is currently located!

In 1965 Hal Purdy, the golf course architect, redesigned the golf course. The No. 1 tee was placed at its current location and there were 12 greens so, you would play 9 holes twice while utilizing all 12 greens. On the back 9 you would use the 3 greens that you wouldn't use on the front. Holes number 4 & 5 today used to be a long par 5! There was also a practice area where No. 17 green is today. It was a very strong 9-hole golf course of about 6,000 yards and ever so tight! One member mentioned that the golf course sprinkler system at the time was dug out and put in place by the members. Money was tight so everyone chipped in! This "chipping in" and having the members become involved in all aspects of the club became Ramsey's trademark! We were reminded that in later years members would all pitch in and help the maintenance staff prepare for the March opening of the golf course.

This 9 hole course played out from 1965 until 1995. RGCC's first head professional was Ted Vylor from the 50's to the 60's and was given the very first RGCC lifetime membership for services rendered when he retired. There were other pros of course to follow but, Ted was the first. Norman, was the long time greens keeper and when he retired years later he was also given a lifetime membership to RGCC.

Fun Facts:

- The club championship was match play at the time
- A family golfing membership cost a whopping \$75.00 a year back in 1965!
- Kids could play golf by age 11 but only when accompanied by an adult!
- There were no gas or electric golf carts back then as they were not allowed. Only pull carts and later, Maynards which were mini electric pull carts.

The Beach

In the 60's we swam in Crystal Lake along with the fishes! There was a long sandy beach with two floating docks in the middle of the lake you'd swim out to. We also had The Beach Shack which served refreshments. Later two long permanent docks were built left and right stretching from the beach into the middle of the lake, along with diving boards and a slide! Members would swim between the two docks.

This seemed to be the place where the kids would be all summer! Parents would throw a blanket on the beach and the children would swim and play for hours. This is also where the first Ramsey Country Club swim teams started. Members used to be the life-guards! To keep the swimming area clean they used to drop chlorine tablets into the lake.

In the summer families had row boats and sailboats, called Sunfish ,that rowed or sailed from one end of the lake to the other. With the Sailboats there used to be Sunfish races with other towns in the area. RGCC won its fair share of trophies over the years! Yes, we swam in the lake with the fishes but, watch out for those snapping turtles!

Members RGCC Memories

The original homeowners of RGCC from the 1940's & 50's remember there were no sidewalks, and sewers in Ramsey didn't come about till 1968. Residential housing continued to be built throughout the 60's with memories such as...

"The lakes always seemed to freeze and it snowed every year. You could go sledding or tobogganing from the formal gardens and end up right across the lake. Our family would go ice skating on Crystal Lake then head to the club for hot chocolate with marshmallows where we would see our favorite waitress, May. In the grille room, kid's meals included fried chicken in a basket with fries and Shirley Temples to drink!"

"I remember skating underneath the bridge under Franklin Turnpike from the pond to Crystal Lake and in the summer we would take a canoe and paddle underneath the same bridge."

"I remember when my father drove his Volkswagen Beetle onto Crystal Lake and that ice skating in general was a very big deal back in the 60's and 70's. For the entire town of Ramsey too!"



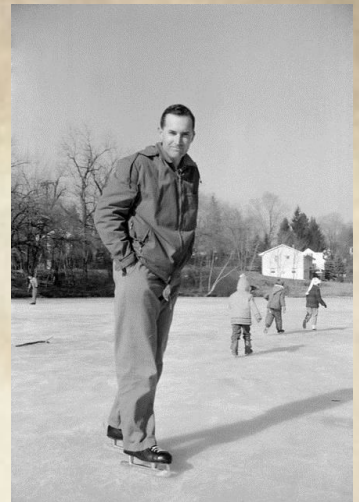
Memories Continued

"Back in the 50's & 60's there were no credit cards so you paid by cash. I remember the lake, the golf, and the old club house and bar. There was actually a member who after leaving the club wrote the "Cheers" television show theme song with the Ramsey Country Club Bar in mind. Where everybody knows your name!"

"The thing I remember most is the neighborhood, when kids would bike and play dodgeball and kickball in the street. Entire neighborhoods would have group parties like "Sip & Sew" where moms would have cocktails and sew! Every year there were clam bakes and block parties."

"I remember when the pro shop used to be a bowling alley and on Monday night's though the club was closed, members could cook their own meals at the club!"

"The unique thing about Ramsey which still goes on to this day is that we all volunteered and pitched in to help the club. Whether it was to clean up the golf course or the street islands or helped on other club committees. We used to have decorating committees for Christmas, New Years and Halloween and the kids could help out. Great fun!"



Most Loved Staff Members from this ERA

CHICK

Chick was a bartender at Ramsey Golf & Country Club and worked for well over 50 years. Chick was the bartender at weddings, MTG events, special dinners and most other events. Chick was so loved that members used to take him out to dinner. He was the best bartender that Ramsey ever had and as such was given a lifetime membership to Ramsey Golf & Country Club. We will also always remember that Chick was our friend!

MAY

May was, according to the membership, the best waitress we ever had. She worked at Ramsey from the 50'S to the late 70's. May had a lovely smile and greeted everyone that walked in the door. A very hard worker, May was also involved in training all other waitresses. She also, after two retirements, was given a lifetime membership to Ramsey Golf & Country Club.

TED VYLOR

Ted was first a golf professional at a golf course in Mahwah, N.J. where the Sheraton Hotel stands today. The golf course gave way to the old Ford Motor Company manufacturing plant circa 1955-1980. It was at that time that Ted came to Ramsey Golf & Country Club to become Ramsey's first head golf professional circa 1953-1965.

From the 70's

The 70's as a whole began somewhat turbulent at times with college protests, the Vietnam War and Watergate however, we had some very good times as well. One of them being The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson and the advent of the VCR/VHS taping system we could now record the show as well!

We had Apollo moon landings and caring about our planet with the beginning of Earth Day. We also had great music from artists such as Billy Joel, Simon & Garfunkel, The Eagles, Deep Purple and who can forget the Bee Gees!

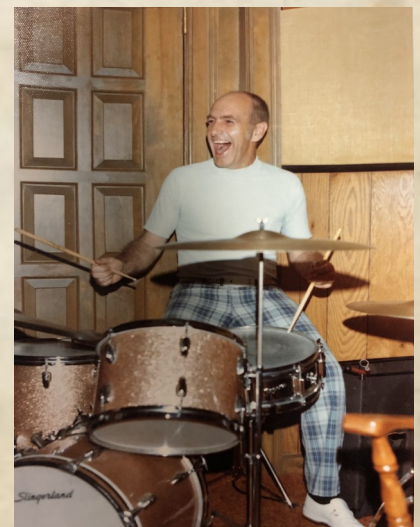
For Ramsey Golf & Country Club, the 70's were more or less a very tranquil period of time. Around 1975 most of the houses had already been built in the club with just a few lots available. Growing up in Ramsey and especially in the Club was a very special and wonderful time.

The Clubhouse

Around 1969 to 1970 RGCC started the credit card system for members complete with dues and minimums. Our dues have historically been kept much lower due to the fact that we are also open to the public for dining as well as wedding receptions, baby showers, town events and more!

Of course we still had the original club house with our "Cheers Bar", Ballroom dancing and music preformed by our very own "Clubsters" band. We had seasonal events, parties for the kids, Christmas sing-a-longs and costume parties where the kids would be allowed to help their parents decorate the club.

We also had two families in the club during the holiday season that would put out paper bags with candles on their front lawns for decoration which paved the way for the current beloved Luminaries tradition in our club.



The Beach

The seventies set the tone for fun at the beach.



The sunfish sailboats patrolled the lake as the kids ran up and down the beach to play. We would jump off the docks, dive off the high dive and slide down into the lake to swim all day. The lifeguards would teach the kids to swim and we had to be able to swim from one end of the dock to the other in order to secure our swimmers badges! At the end of a long day of swimming and playing we would run up to the beach shack for refreshments and the favorite frozen Milky Way bar.



Golf

As for golf, we had the best nine hole golf course ever, which was not too long but oh so tight. Around 1972, RGCC had the opportunity to obtain a significant amount of property in Allendale and Ramsey to expand and develop the golf course from 9 to 18 holes. It was said that because of raising tax rates due to the new sewer system in the town of Ramsey, RGCC membership voted down the acquisition by a 3-2 margin. We had another chance to pick up this land however, with 2 days left on the option, Rockland Electric purchased a good portion of the property to build an electric sub station which stands along side our 4th tee today.



Championship Day Held

RAMSEY - On Tuesday, Aug. 9, the Ramsey Golf and Country Club ladies held their annual Championship Day. Congratulations to Carol Hulsizer who defeated Mary Landauer for the 18 hole Championship and to Janet Mustion who won the 9 hole Championship.

The following girls won their 18 hole flights: Donna Schultz - A Flight; June Hamilton - B Flight; Betty Wolfe - C Flight; Marilyn Fiory - D Flight; Margaret Steuben - E Flight; Sally Wendler - F Flight.

The 9 hole flights were won by Doris Hiebert - A Flight; Nancy Peterson - B Flight; Judy McDonnell - C Flight; Marvis Bjornberg - D Flight.

After the match play, a celebration was held on the patio with punch, sandwiches, coffee and cake. Chairwomen for the day were Miriam O'Brien, Lou Ann Morse, and Shirley Oliver.



There were many events such as the member/member, husband/wife, ladies invitational as well as men's and women's flights and championships, most of which we still have today! As previously mentioned, championships were match play at the time up until 1979 when we switched to medal play.

Also in 1972 we were introduced to our new golf professional, George Sauer. George was a true professional with a great personality and was instrumental in helping put together RGCC's first ever golf manual. As a good friend, George stayed with us for over 16 years. He later moved on and became president of the New Jersey State Golf Association.

During this time, a house off hole #7 which today is hole #14 was the home of Doc Landauer. A physician and great friend of the club, Doc for years was the only member with a golf cart for personal reasons. His wife Mary, won 10 club championships! Some members to this day fondly call #14, the Landauer hole.

Paddle Tennis

In or around 1979, RGCC was first introduced to Platform Tennis, commonly known as Paddle Tennis, and we built our first paddle tennis court. Paddle tennis became such a popular activity in the club that we had to build an additional 2 courts! We now have 3 courts total and the sport is still thriving!



RGCC Members Memories

We asked our contributing members why they first moved into RGCC and what some of their favorite memories were. Here are some of their responses:

- * I wanted a house on the golf course because it was so beautiful here. I just instantly wanted to live here.
- * We had a real estate agent who recommended RGCC and then, once we saw it, we just wanted to move in here.
- * We moved from Chicago to RGCC because friends raved about Ramsey!
- * My parents loved living here, this was always home.
- * Our parents were with a real estate agent and they stopped in at the club for lunch. After lunch they told the real estate agent this is where we want to be, please find us a house in the Club.
- * I've traveled all over the world, but the best place I've ever been is RGCC!
- * I call RGCC: Grand old Americana!



- * **We're all community here and the staff is family as well!**
- * We grew up here - played golf, kickball, dodgeball, frisbee and went swimming - we always wanted to spend our time here.
- * What a wonderful place to live and such a great lifestyle.
- * You know, my sisters have a favorite movie in which the last line said is"Oh Auntie Em, there's no place like home" and with RGCC, well there's no place like home!

The 80's

Golf

In 1981, after years of separate tournament titles and championships, it was decided that there would be one "Championship Day". A day where the men and women's groups along with the flights and junior golf groups would play for their individual championships. On this particular August day the first tee was decorated with ribbons, bows and balloons all red, white and blue. The golf course was covered by walkie talkies to give updates for the scoreboard back at the pro shop. Some members took pictures of the action while a VHS camcorder recorded tee shots off the first tee. The championship had changed from match to medal and with many more golfers on the course, everyone could now say... "I played on Championship Day!"

In 1983 the club reestablished the "Associates Program" whereby while not living inside the Ramsey Country Club Estates, you could still be a member of RGCC with all privileges and amenities offered by the club however, without shareholder voting rights. Also, in 1988 we said farewell to our golf professional George Sauer after 16 years and welcomed Mark Mitchell who would be our head golf pro for the next 17.



Pro Shop

In the early 80's it was decided that a new golf pro shop was a necessity. Our small pro shop which was part of the existing club house structure was simply too small. So, once again with the help of the membership everyone "chipped in" from electrical to carpentry. What was once a 2-lane bowling alley became our current golf pro shop. There was much more space and room for our pro staff, retail sales and club storage. Years later, a portion of this structure was refurbished to accommodate our members who enjoyed playing paddle tennis with seating, restrooms and other amenities.

45th Anniversary of Ramsey Golf & Country Club

The club continued to grow and great plans lied ahead. On July 4, 1985 a special celebration for RGCC's 45th Anniversary took place. There was a 7am flag raising ceremony, lunch on the veranda with hamburgers, hotdogs, soda and beer all set at 1940 prices! Later a 2:30 pm, a shotgun scotch foursome golf tournament was held followed by the release of 100 helium balloons over Mirror Lake. A dinner dance was held that evening with over 200 members, the Mayor of Ramsey and the town council all in attendance.



At this point in time everything looked so promising for the club. There was a \$750,000 expansion plan in place whereby the bar area would be refurbished and expanded out towards the Wishing Well. Yes, everything was moving in the right direction for



RGCC, or at least so it seemed.....

The RGCC Clubhouse Burns to the Ground

Some call it the day the club burned to the ground and others call it the St Valentine's Day Massacre. On the morning of February 14, 1986 at 3:45 am on Valentine's Day, a Ramsey Borough police officer was patrolling the Main Street/Franklin Turnpike area when he smelled smoke from the country club's vicinity. A drive up Lakeside Drive proved an awful reality — the Clubhouse was on fire. The devastating fire brought in fire fighters from six neighboring towns as they fought in vain to save the structure however, the fire gutted the club. RGCC's clubhouse was destroyed. Many members awoke that evening and walked nearby to witness in total disbelief. Many took pictures of the devastating event. Our club, our home was gone. The fire engulfed the entire club and nothing was left except for the building's stone foundation. (The tower was saved with most of the club's records however.) It was later found that the source of the fire was an oil burner in the Clubhouse Basement.



The club members were devastated by this event. However, later some would say this might have been a blessing in disguise. The old Clubhouse along with its wiring, piping, kitchen fixtures and more was so old and outdated. Yes, the Clubhouse was gone but, certainly not the member's spirit. Once again, it was the membership that stepped up and all pitched in.

The TEE ROOM:

RGCC's members acted immediately along with the township of Ramsey. A temporary facility was built which today is currently our maintenance building next to the pro shop. A club wide competition was held to name the new facility.



RGCC's new home was named "The Tee Room". Facing the 9th hole and Mirror Lake, this was our temporary home for about a year and a half. The Tee Room had a bar which was a special allowance from the Borough of Ramsey with the transfer of a liquor license, a kitchen which served hot and cold sandwiches but, most importantly the camaraderie of our membership and staff. Additionally, trailers were set up in the parking lot to be used as our temporary business operating facilities.



The Club House Reconstruction:

As the Tee Room was prepared and constructed within 2 months as a temporary facility and home for the membership, plans were already in place for the reconstruction of RGCC's Clubhouse. As always, the membership responded and stepped forward to re-



build the Clubhouse. It took many meetings with the board of directors, the membership along with the involvement of Ramsey town officials to create and rebuild the clubhouse as we now know it today. Our club was rebuilt in an amazing 1 ½ years! The original stone structure was saved and upgraded thanks to a member who was a mason by trade. Also, as was previously noted, possibly as a blessing in disguise, the club house size was increased from 12,000 to approximately 20,000 square feet! Now there was a larger bar area with a beautiful red cherry bar. The Grille Room expanded to its current size and there was an outdoor patio at the time, which today is the Atrium. The new entry to the New Club originally had an entrance for the bar area to the right and then a separate entrance for the Grille Room to the left. The Abbey was our fine dining area where you would arrive to dine in jacket and tie. There was also a much larger ball room downstairs to accommodate more wedding and parties. We also

had more locker room space downstairs for the men and woman golfers. There was a grand reopening to RGCC on August 1, 1987 with a special presentation, waiters in tuxedos and appetizers for club members to enjoy! RGCC was back again and, the membership could rejoice. Yes, Ramsey Golf & Country Club was back, and with many thanks to all the members involved in the restoration of our club!



The Pool:

As if the club hadn't been through enough, a decision was made to build a pool on the beach at Crystal Lake. Kids were often coming up with a rash after swimming in Crystal Lake due to the lake being laden with bacteria. Thanks to so many club member's efforts and support in August of 1989, The RGCC Pool at Crystal Springs Lake was officially opened. A new beautiful pool facility with a snack bar, canopy and still a little bit of the beach left for sailing and some night time Luau parties, our beach at Ramsey golf & Country Club was back again! Thanks so much to everyone involved in the project. We could now swim, sail and enjoy! What a wonderful facility to take the kids in summer time!



From the 90's to the Early 2000's

Street Names at RGCC with Old English Charm



Within the gates of Ramsey Golf & Country Club are street names reminiscent of England and a clubhouse of stone, modeled after an English castle. The street names were chosen with an eye toward shaping the image of our neighborhood. Street names such as Canterbury, Nottingham, Morton and Norman which are also cities and towns in England. Buckingham Drive is like Buckingham palace, Home of the royal family. Sherwood Drive takes its name from Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire, England. There are other street names such as Balfour, Oxford, Eaton and Byron Court. All leading to RGCC which just happens to be a castle along Lakeside Drive. You will also find Abbey Court which is just like a street made famous by the Beatles called Abby Road.



This now takes us on a good segue to the 90's and the Abbey!

The Abbey:

Once upon a time not only was the Abbey a wonderful facility for wedding reception cocktail hours, birthdays and sweet 16 parties but, also for the membership.



For years the Abbey was an elegant fine dining experience. In the evenings membership would arrive and dine in jacket & tie. There was a separate menu of high end cuisine much different from the grille room. Though the dress code was later relaxed of formal attire, most members still dressed appropriately.



The room (30' x 70') Had stone columns, Rich carpeting and a fireplace which gave the room a warm glow. Beside the fireplace a player piano was added which played soft music in the background as you dined. There were two waiters named Tony and Collin who were always dressed in tuxedos. These gentlemen were known as "The A Team" and , their service was non-compare. They added a touch of class to the Abbey. In later years a member by the name of Marcia would sing accompanied by a piano player. It felt like a dinner lounge. A special room, a special ambience, a special place.

Paddle Tennis:

Paddle tennis grew so much in popularity in the 80s that people were literally waiting in line to play. So much so that by the mid to late 80s a second paddle tennis court had to be added - today, we now have three!

Paddle tennis had flights A, B & C along with championships and eventually interleague play with other neighboring clubs. Members were also provided with a paddle tennis room (now known as the paddle hut) where they could warm up, drink coffee (or a beer) and get ready to play.



18 Hole Golf Course:

In the late 80s and early 90s a golf course expansion committee was formed in an attempt to take RGCC from 9 to 18 holes. The committee was led by 8 members, the pro and other volunteers. After putting this exploratory committee together, 2 members with one being a pilot took to the sky's in a small airplane over Ramsey and took photos of the terrain below. A stretch of land was found where holes six and nine are today along with additional property which belonged to the Spruce Run townhome complex and also Rockland Electric.

Preliminary drawings for the new course were drawn and meetings were held with Spruce Run (Whereas a 99 year lease was negotiated) Ramsey officials, the DEP, contractors and engineers.

The original RGCC golf course architect Hal Purdy, was hired for the new layout. It took some time but, after three years of negotiations and with a \$1.5 million dollar construction loan, construction began on the new golf course. Completed in 1995 Ramsey's new 18 holes finally came true! Fortunately during construction, the original nine hole course was still open for play. A new associate program was created which would help to pay down the loans. The changes made to the golf course were that a par 5 was made into a par 3 and a par 4. (Holes # 4 & 5). Constructed were holes # 6, 7, 8 & 9 with holes 6&9 having a shared Fairway. Hole #10 changed from a par 4 into a par 5. A par 3, 13th was added. Hole #14 changed from a par 3 to a par 4 with an island tee. Holes number 16 & 18 were completely new and hole 17 was made to stretch from a par 4 to a par 5.



Though Ramsey is par 69 being only 5,500 yards long, it's tight and not as easy as it may seem. Also, a round of golf was reduced from 5-5 1/2 hours to 4 hours or less.

2000:

The millennium changed and so did RGCC. It was now the year 2000. About this time circa 2000-2001, A study was made on the open outdoor patio. It was determined that we were only using the outdoor patio 30 days a year due to inclement weather so..

The club decided to enclose the patio for dining year round. The name of this new facility that came with a glass enclosure became "The Atrium".

At the same time the bar was changed to an oak square bar with rounded edges. It was placed at the left-hand side of the bar area with the right side having chairs, tables and lounge couch seating. Also the Ballroom downstairs was expanded so RGCC could handle larger wedding receptions and, like the Atrium the addition had a glass enclosure.



9/11:

That same year in 2001 was a very tragic time for our country: 9/11. Our nation cried and mourned but, we were resolute and so was RGCC! A committee formed and after careful thought, 10 days later the Ballroom was packed with RGCC members for a Fundraiser. There were American flags and balloons red, white and blue. Patriotic songs were sung as the music blared and speeches were made of pride for our country. All told, we raised \$23,000 and the money given to a family in Ramsey affected by this horrific event. Our event was called: RGCC CARES!

Fun Facts & Tid Bits:

1: Did you know that that Crystal & Mirror Lakes we're dredged during the early 80's circa 1982 and the mud, slime & sludge was sold off to the Meadowlands and NYC properties. It's true!

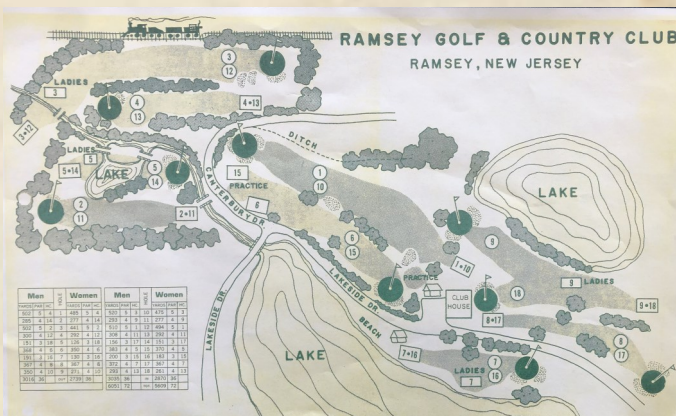
2. Did you know that golf groups in the 70's, 80's & 90's had nicknames? The Hardy Boys, Rat Patrol and Monty's started it all, along with others.

3. Did you know that at one time RGCC had packaged goods. At one time you could purchase Ramsey liquor at the end of the year for your minimum.

4. Did you know that the New Years Eve party at the club was the hottest ticket in town. Couples would wait in line for hours for the chance to go and dance in the ballroom.

5. Did you know that RGCC once had paper placemats on the dinner tables in the Grille Room that had a map of the golf course!

6. Did you know that at one time a ranger would wave a flag to allow you to tee off tees number 6 and 9? It's true! We guess that's why they nicknamed the shared fairway, " The Train Wreck".



Most Loved Staff Members from this ERA

Norman Forsieth:

Norman worked at Ramsey from 1989 to 2001. He was an assistant manager and in 1994 was promoted to general manager of Ramsey golf and country club. Norman worked very hard with both the board of directors, staff and members to insure that all events and daily activities ran smoothly.

A member favorite, Norm left Ramsey for Hackensack Golf Club because of a great opportunity and, we wish him all the best.

Cheryl Veltman:

Cheryl came to RGCC in 1997 and was with us fourteen years. Cheryl started as a waitress in the Grille Room, then was a hostess, night time manager, director of catering and eventually was appointed club manager where she served from 2002- 2007. Always a hard worker and, greeting the membership with a smile, Cheryl was always Ramsey's sweetheart!

Willie:

For 13 years from the 90's to mid 2000's, Willie was our head chef. Willie loved Ramsey and the members loved Willie. In the culinary world, Willie was the best. He would sometimes walk outside the kitchen , greet the members and say.... outside of the menu, what would you like to have this evening?

Mid 2000's to Present Day

The Clubhouse:

In the mid 2000's a new entryway to the club house was added as it provided the staff a private entry into the kitchen.



Also, circa 2009-2010 it was decided that a new, longer and larger bar area was needed for the membership with high tops, complete with Music Thursday's and Happy Hour Fridays! Our current bar is actually Ramsey's 4th.

In the 2015 to 2019 era more changes were in store. In the formal gardens, a terrace was added for weddings, the Ballroom was slightly expanded, an outdoor patio was added next to the 15th tee for outdoor dining, a third paddle tennis court was added and finally, a tiki bar was added down by the beach. We now enjoy Tiki Night every Friday and even started Pickleball!

Golf:

In 2006 we welcomed our new Golf Pro, Noah Bodt, who came to us from White Beaches Country Club. As Noah became our head golf professional and in working with the board, our technology for starting times and computerized software was taken into the 21st-century. Besides modernizing our golf software, Noah added our assistant pros and a starter along with providing what perhaps is the best junior golf program in the state! Much credit is



also given to assistant pro, Dave Plarre, who runs our junior's golf clinics. In the mid 2000's golf had many more tournaments added such as the 27 hole member guest, the partners tournament, match play championships and many more. In 2016, we added a new practice area as well as an expanded putting green to our beautiful golf course. Golf today is now thriving at RGCC with more golfing members than at any

time before. A big part of that is due to a new golf course superintendent, Jason Struss, who has transformed RGCC into the best conditioned golf course in the area!



General Manager:

Coming to us from Montammy Country Club in 2012, Aurelian Anghelusiu was one of the best General Manager's Ramsey has ever had.

Aurelian worked with the board on everything from updating our accounting and menu software as well as working to upgrade our golf course. He also spearheaded quarterly wine dinners, fairway parties and tiki parties down at the beach.

Aurelian's motto was the three steps of service to the membership:

1. A warm welcome
2. Acceptability of membership needs
3. Always wishing a fond farewell and a warm welcome back.

Aurelian also said to be positive, show love and respect.



Social:

From the mid 2000's and on, bands and Thursday night music played in the Bar. Many members have mentioned that they got married or had their wedding receptions here at the club.

RGCC from 2010 and on started family fun nights with outdoor movies, comedy nights, holiday tea, 70s and 80s nights, Oktoberfest and International Dinners. Wine dinners too!

RGCC started Memorial Day and Labor Day BBQ's in the Abbey parking lot along with tiki parties down at the beach and the Sounds of Summer on the 15th fairway.

Almost too much to mention with so many activities to enjoy, RGCC is the best place to be!



Board Members:

In recent years the board has decided that the board runs the club however, day to day operations are run by the staff making things more professional.

For 80 years there's been originally a board of governors and now a Board of Directors to help guide RGCC through the years.

Also there have been many committee members who put in their time and effort as well. There are too many names to mention obviously but, to all that have served this wonderful Club, from all the membership of RGCC we say thank you!



Other beloved staff Members from this era:

Kathleen and Claudia - work special events in the Abbey and the Ballroom. They have been here at RGCC for 23 and 30 years respectably.

Muriel- was our hostess at RGCC for 25 years. She recently retired and we wish her all the best.

Brian- Has been our head bartender for 10 years and now our Restaurant Manager

Note: around 2015 RGCC started a Christmas fund for the staff who we all appreciate because of all the hard work they do and, they are family too! Thank you members and the board!

The Expansion:

Over the years it was determined by many board members that RGCC had many issues such as, irrigation issues, roof and window problems, HVAC problems etc. Year after year we were just putting on Band-Aids to address these problems and, spending too much money on a 32-year-old club house to resolve many issues so...

On November 17, 2019 on a Shareholders vote it was decided that RGCC would undergo an eleven million dollar renovation including a much needed facelift and an expansion of the clubhouse and our other facilities.

They say that the only constant in life is change and, so RGCC must move forward.



RGCC's 80th birthday!

During research for these series of articles it was discovered that RGCC was founded on July 4th, 1940 so this past July 4, 2020, RGCC actually celebrated its 80th anniversary as a community and a club so...

Happy birthday RGCC!

This chapter concludes the series of articles called "Ramsey Memories" and we hope you have enjoyed reading and learning about the history and Memories of RGCC from the early 1900's to 2020. However, Ramsey Memories isn't really over because, we continue to create Ramsey Memories each and every day!

It is said that before we can go forward we must also know about our past. Ramsey Golf & Country Club's insignia is RARA AVIS which means "Rare Birds". It also means a thing unique.

RGCC is indeed unique as we are a family club.

This is a very special place in a town and community that we love so much. We have our friends and family here and also always remember that besides your home, Ramsey Golf & Country Club will always be your home as well. RGCC is home!

Contributing Members & Staff

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Noah Bodt
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Marcia Polocastri
Celeste Ranck
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Larry Silverman
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Don & Virginia Wittmann
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I would like to thank all the contributing members and staff who have worked so hard with me on this very special project.

It's been a labor of love about a community that we all care about so much!

All my best,

Tim Driscoll
Author of RGCC Memories