

## **BILL STRAUSBAUGH/CLUB RELATIONS AWARD**

*This award bestows special recognition on a PGA member who has distinguished himself/herself in the field of  
Employment and Club Relations  
by promoting and enhancing improvement in employment conditions  
in the mid-Atlantic region.*

### **DEAN A. HURST, PGA - Bayville Golf Club**

Dean Hurst was born in Westfield, NY, in 1954, one of three children. He held his first golf club when he was just a young lad; introduced to the game by his father, Lawrence Hurst, who became a PGA Professional himself following a 22-year career as an aviator in the U.S. Navy. Larry Hurst was a great amateur player during his military career, capturing second place in the Virginia State Amateur in the '50's.

He then developed an equally successful second career as a PGA Professional, from which he retired in 1982. Lawrence Hurst's military career took his wife, Joyce, and their three children, Terry, Dean, and Georgia (Peck) to Guam, Hawaii, Georgia, Florida, New York and Virginia Beach . . . and his love for the game of golf led him to take his family to the golf course. Both Dean and his older brother, Terry, developed a passion for the game, and both followed in their father's footsteps to a career in golf and PGA membership. Terry, has been the Head PGA Professional at the Country Club of Scranton in Pennsylvania since 1980.

In high school and in college Dean was an accomplished amateur player, qualifying for regional and state championships. While pursuing a degree in Political Science at the University of South Florida, Dean worked summers for his father at Lago Mar Country Club in Fort Lauderdale, FL, where he also held his first Assistant's position in 1977. In 1978, he accepted an Assistant's position at Cavalier Golf & Yacht Club in Virginia Beach, VA working under the watchful eye of local legend and 1998 MAPGA Golf Professional of the Year, Butch Liebler. In 1980, Dean accepted his first Head Golf Professional position at Duck Woods CC in Kitty Hawk, NC where he remained for the next 15 years. Then in 1995, he moved back to Virginia Beach with his wife, Denise, and son, Drew, to accept his current position as Head Golf Professional at Bayville Golf Club. According to Dean, Denise has always been supportive of his career choice and understands the commitment of energy and time required to be successful. Denise has been assisting Dean with merchandise buying decisions throughout their 21-year marriage. Dean and Denise are very proud of 15-year old Drew, who is an honor student at First Colonial High School, where his 4 handicap makes him a solid starter on his school's golf team.

Since accepting his position at Bayville Golf Club, Dean has conducted 15 charity golf events. He also finds the time to be actively involved in the Southern Chapter and in the Section, serving on the MAPGA Board of Directors as the Vice President of the Southern Chapter, and most recently, elected President of the Southern Chapter.

Dean has been the driving force, along with T.J. Young of Cedar Point Club, behind the MAPGA's efforts in developing a Mentoring Program. He and T.J. have held several "cracker barrels" for local PGA professionals, allowing them the time and opportunity to ask questions on everything from tips on getting that first head professional job to ways of handling difficult customers, while also allowing for a great sense of camaraderie to develop. Dean shares his success with fellow PGA professionals in other areas of the Section and advises them on establishing their own programs. It is Dean's hope, that with Chapter and Section Board of Director support, that this program will become self-perpetuating -- with those being mentored today, becoming the mentors of the future.

When asked to what he attributes his success, Dean responded, *"I was fortunate to have the opportunity to learn the golf business from three great PGA Professionals. . . my father Larry Hurst, my brother Terry Hurst and C.A. "Butch" Liebler. All three set the highest standards for providing member service and promoting golf. I have simply applied what I have learned from my father, brother, and Butch and tried to improve my ability through education and innovation. It is easy to go to work every day when you have passion for the game and love your job. I am very proud to be a PGA Professional and remain*

*dedicated to assisting others considering a career in golf.”*