

Raymond E. Taranto
Eastern Shore Golf Magazine
Ocean Pines, Maryland

Raymond Taranto was born on July 15, 1969 in Silver Spring, Maryland to father John and mother Helga. Growing up with his brothers Ellis and Tony and sister Christy, Ray always had an intense passion for the world of sports. His father worked in the Government Printing Office for all of Ray's life, which exposed him to the vast world of the printing industry. He also credits his mother for her incredible work ethic as being his example for how hard work pays off.

When Ray was 18, his father and brother invited him to play in a charity golf event where he was exposed to the game of golf for the very first time. Later in life, when he was 25, Ray took his first golf lesson from a PGA Professional in Florida, and that is when he fell in love with the game. His first golf related job was in 2006, as an Assistant Golf Professional at Ocean Pines Golf Club in Berlin, Maryland under Steve Reeves, PGA. Ray then accepted a position as the Professional Shop Manager at The Bay Club under Rob Bailey, PGA; that is when he conceptualized and published the first edition of *Eastern Shore Golf Magazine* in 2007. The magazine publishes bi-monthly and prints and impressive 60,000 copies per year.

Ray has served on the Board of Directors for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Eastern Shore Golf Classic and the Seaside Christian Academy Dwayne Purnell Memorial Golf Tournament. Through *Eastern Shore Golf Magazine*, Ray founded the Tour on the Shore Amateur Golf Series in 2007. The Tour on the Shore has grown from a two-day championship the first year, to hosting 20 tour dates and a two-day championship with over 1,400 rounds played in 2012. He also started the Eastern Shore Golf Hall of Fame in 2010, honoring individuals with 25+ years involvement with golf in the Eastern Shore-Delmarva Peninsula area.

Ray's best advice is to walk to the beat of your own drum, follow up with leads and count your blessings. He attributes the magazine's success to the hard work, enthusiasm and excitement that goes into the creation of every issue. "I love what I do and that makes all of the difference", Ray says, "it would not be possible without the support of our loyal advertisers, contributors, friends, readers and organizations that have supported the publication and everything it stands for." Ray has made tremendous strides on promoting the PGA Professionals on the Eastern Shore.

Ray has been married to his wife and business partner, Holly, for 12 years. They are blessed to have two boys, Bryce (10) and Raymond (9) who Ray calls his best friends.