



Springdale's 125th Anniversary Year

History and Geo Quiz

By Bill Crane

One way to celebrate our 125th Anniversary is to look back on some of the fascinating people, events and facts that make up Springdale's illustrious history – one that is certainly the envy of any members club in the US. Malcolm McKinnon and I are putting together a series of articles to highlight interesting facets of SGC history that will also help establish a useful and organized record for the future.

We hope that you enjoy these celebratory notes - please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments or suggestions or if you have a topic you would like to contribute.

To pique your interest in club history, we start with a little quiz that I hope you will find entertaining.

Bill Crane - wmcrane@verizon.net

- 1) How many acres of land did the Founders of Springdale aggregate for the club?
- 2) Who was the best golfer to ever play on the Princeton University Team?
- 3) Which former President of the club beat noted amateur Alan Doyle in the second round of the 1991 USGA Mid Amateur Championship at Long Cove Club in Hilton Head, SC?
- 4) What was originally located on the southern border of the golf course in the 1920s?
- 5) Name three Touring professionals who played in the Princeton Invitationals.
- 6) What is the name of the street that forms most of the Western border of the course?
- 7) What is the old club nickname for the Pond on the 16th and 17th holes?
- 8) How many golf professionals has Springdale had since founding?
- 9) Which current number hole is Old #5 on the course routing used prior to the move to the new clubhouse?
- 10) What two US Presidents were involved in a dispute over this prominent Springdale landmark?
- 11) Name the famed golf architect who joined Springdale's Green Committee in 1900.
- 12) Which Springdale Club Champion won the USGA Amateur Championship?
- 13) How many National Championships has the Princeton Men's golf team won?
- 14) Which two Springdale Club Champions are University of Dayton Alumni?
- 15) Who did Bobby Jones beat to win the Grand Slam?
- 16) What important golf event was held at Springdale in 1946?
- 17) What prominent golf architect re-designed Springdale, and what is almost universally considered his best design?

SEE ANSWERS BELOW

Answer Key:

- 1) How many acres of land did the Founders of Springdale aggregate for the club?
Approximately 238 acres were purchased by Moses Taylor Pyne, Stephen S Palmer and Cornelius C Cuyler and others and given to Princeton University with at least nine holes in play.
- 2) Who was the best golfer to ever play on the Princeton University Team? It is this writer's opinion that William C Campbell (PU Class of 1947) was the most successful golfer to play at Princeton and grace Springdale's fairways. His stellar amateur career was capped by winning the USGA Amateur in 1964, and among his long list of notable accomplishments he is the first person to have served as both President of the USGA and Captain of the R & A. He was elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 1990.
- 3) Which former President of the club beat noted amateur Alan Doyle in the second round of the 1991 USGA Mid Amateur Championship at Long Cove Club in Hilton Head, SC? Former club President **Steve Loughran** graduated from Princeton in 1982, the year he was Captain of both the Golf and Squash teams. He won the Ivy League Golf Individual Championship and was an Honorable Mention All American in both 1981 and 1982. He was on the Princeton Squash team when they were National Champions in 1981 and 1982.
- 4) What was originally located on the southern border of the golf course in the 1920s? There was a narrow-gauge railway that ran along the edge of the course along the current 10th hole and went into campus. The remains of the trestle foundation can be seen by the brook next to the right bridge on #10.
- 5) Name three Touring professionals who played in the Princeton Invitationals. The following Professionals are known to have played in PU Invitationals during their undergraduate years: Keegan Bradley (St Johns), Billy Hurley (Navy), Andrew Svoboda (St Johns), Brandon Matthews (Temple), Bob Heintz (Yale), Alex Smalley (Duke), Kelly Chon (PU), Heather Daly-D'Onofrio (Yale). There may be others.
- 6) What is the name of the street that forms most of the Western border of the course? Springdale Road runs along the West side of the club. (This the Who is Buried in Grant's Tomb question!).
- 7) What is the old club nickname for the Pond on the 16th and 17th holes? The Pond on the current 16th and 17th holes has been known as Lake Listerine – in honor of early prominent member Gerard Lambert whose family company (Lambert Pharma. now part of Pfizer) created this product to prevent halitosis.
- 8) How many golf professionals has Springdale had since its founding? Keith Stewart is Springdale's 9th Golf Professional. The list includes: James B Swan (1899-1926), Walter R Bourne (1927-1945), Harry M Kinnell (1946-1963), Alan R Niederlitz (1964-1968), James K Hultgren (1969-1984), Peter J Consoli (1985-1999), Daniel J Pasternak (2000-2002), Daniel G. McCarthy (2003-2008), and Keith Stewart (2009 to current).
- 9) Which current number hole is Old #5 on the course routing used prior to the move to the new clubhouse? The current Hole #1 was Old #5 on the previous numerical routing.
- 10) Which two US Presidents were involved in a dispute over this prominent Springdale landmark? Princeton Trustee Grover Cleveland and University President Woodrow Wilson had a difference of opinion on where to locate the new Graduate College. Cleveland prevailed and Wilson re-signed from Princeton and ran for Governor of NJ thereby launching his political career. Cleveland Tower was named in honor of Cleveland and while we have no record of him playing golf, Wayne Morrison did provide an article with a photo of

Woodrow Wilson at the “Princeton Golf Club” Springdale’s original name. The Tower has an interesting history and its Carillon is noteworthy as well – the source of the Sunday 1:00 pm bell concert. (For more information:

<https://princetoniana.princeton.edu/campus/cleveland-tower#:~:text=One%20of%20the%20principal%20structures,the%20trustees'%20graduate%20school%20committee;>

[https://blogs.princeton.edu/mudd/2016/03/woodrow-wilson-and-the-graduate-college/;](https://blogs.princeton.edu/mudd/2016/03/woodrow-wilson-and-the-graduate-college/)

<https://princetoniana.princeton.edu/campus/cleveland-tower;>

- 11) Name the famed golf architect who joined Springdale’s Green Committee in 1900? Hugh Wilson – who is credited with designing historic US Open venue – *Merion Golf Club*, joined our green committee in 1900 when he was an undergraduate at Princeton as the club was planning to move from its original site near Bayard Lane. It is interesting to note newspaper articles from that time show our original nine-hole course had several holes that played across a quarry, when one of the most prominent features at *Merion* are the Quarry holes 16,17 and 18.
- 12) Which Springdale Club Champion won the USGA Amateur Championship? 1930 SGC Club Champion George Dunlop graduated from Princeton in 1931 and won the US Amateur Championship in 1933 at Kenwood CC in Cincinnati Ohio.
- 13) How many National Championships has the Princeton Men’s golf team won? The Princeton University Men’s golf team won 12 National Team Championships – the first in 1914 and the last in 1940.
- 14) Which two Springdale Club Champions are University of Dayton Alumni? Most recent Champion Kevin Bullinger and 11-time Champion John Gianacaci are both University of Dayton (Ohio) Alumni.
- 15) Who did Bobby Jones beat to win the Grand Slam? Bobby Jones beat Eugene Homans (PU 1931) 8 and 7 in the finals of the 1930 US Amateur on the 11th hole at *Merion Golf Club* to achieve the Grand Slam.
- 16) What important golf event was held at Springdale in 1946? Springdale was the host course for the NCAA Golf Championship in 1946 that was won by Stanford University.
- 17) What prominent golf architect re-designed Springdale, and what is almost universally considered his best course design? Golf Architect William Flynn completed a re-design of Springdale that opened in 1927. Hugh Wilson hired Flynn to help build *Merion Golf Club* and he was the first Greenkeeper for their new course. A member of the Philadelphia School of Golf Architecture, US Open venue **Shinnecock Hills GC** is usually considered Flynn’s best design. Other notable designs include Cherry Hills CC (Colo.), Lancaster CC, The Kittansett Club (Mass), Huntingdon Valley CC, Rolling Green GC (Pa) The Country Club (Ohio), The Cascades Course at the Homestead, Indian Creek CC (FL), Philadelphia CC, Manufacturers G & CC, Lehigh CC, Pocantico Hills GC ~ and many others.

Hope you enjoyed these tidbits – look for more articles in the coming weeks.

Thank you.