

USGA Golf Museum Presents: New Jersey Golf History Exhibit at the Bernardsville Library

New Jersey is home to some of the oldest and most celebrated golf clubs in the country. During the month of January, the USGA Golf Museum, located in Liberty Corner, N.J. will feature a special exhibit at the Bernardsville Library, highlighting many of the game's greatest moments which have occurred in the Garden State. The exhibit is a collaborative effort with the Bernardsville Library, leading up to their inaugural event **'Hole Lot of Fun' Mini Golf Event and Fundraiser** scheduled for Feb. 8 and 9. In addition to the Museum exhibit, the Library will be transformed into a miniature golf course ending on the 18th hole designed by the USGA Research and Test Center. Families from Bernardsville, Basking Ridge, Mendham and other surrounding communities will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities over the two-day event and learn more about the history of golf in New Jersey.

The exhibit includes The Morris County Golf Club, which was formed in Morristown in 1894 by a group of enterprising society women. It was the first women's club to be elected an Associate Member of the United States Golf Association (USGA), therefore allowing the club to vote in matters affecting the game nation-wide. Other golf clubs featured include Springfield's Baltusrol Golf Club and the Essex County Country Club in West Orange, which made a name for itself by welcoming distinguished members, including U.S. senators, New Jersey governors, Genevieve Hecker, the first female author of a golf instruction book, and Thomas Edison, who was a member from 1889 until his death in 1935. New Jersey is also home to Dennis Walters who, like Joe Kirkwood, the famous trick shot golfer that came before him, found a unique way to achieve his dream of touring the country and playing golf when he began the Dennis Walters Golf Show.

Artifacts on display from some of golf's greatest champions and championships held in N.J. include two Joe Kirkwood trick shot clubs, and a collection of historical golf balls, inventive clubs, and strange tees that highlight the innovations made to golf equipment in the early 1900s.

For more information about the USGA Golf Museum please visit <http://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/usga-golf-museum.html>

For more information about the Bernardsville Library please visit www.bernardsvillelibrary.org

