



Member Profile

John Greene

Morganton, N.C., USA

John Greene has lived in Morganton, N.C. for 68 of his 78 years. "I was away for four years for college, and five years working in the insurance industry in Charlotte, N.C.," he says.

John graduated from Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and took a post-graduate advanced management course from General Motors Institute in Flint, Mich.

"I have been in the franchised automobile business for over 50 years, having held franchises from Oldsmobile, Dodge, Chrysler, Dodge and Ram," he says. "My son runs the family business now and I function as a 'good will' ambassador several days a week just to stay active."

In 2005, he was introduced to hickory golf at the Mimosa Hills Country Club, where he has been a member for more than 60 years. "The Donald Ross Society would hold one day events there, bringing in John McKee, Jay Harris, Larry and Andy Moye as well as others," he recalls. "They would invite members to participate using clubs provided by Jay. When the first three U.S. Hickory Opens were held at Mimosa, I was hooked!"

John and his wife, Jane, have two children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren – a seventh is due in July.

How often do you play hickories?

I play hickories regularly for several weeks prior to a tournament and I try to play in three or four tournaments a year. I also play modern clubs with the seniors group at Mimosa Hills.

What's in your play set?

My play set consists of Louisville Golf and Tad Moore clubs. I spent a year on eBay after the 2008 U.S. Hickory Open trying to put a play set of originals together but just didn't know what I was doing. So I called on Mike Just for help and he brought an introductory set with him when he came to play in the 2009 U.S. Hickory Open.

Driver-Louisville
Spoon-Louisville
Cleek-Louisville, 21 degree
Bulldog Louisville 25 degree
Mid Iron-Tad Moore
Mashie Louisville
Spade Mashie Louisville
Mashie Niblick Louisville
Niblick-Louisville 50 degree
Niblick-Louisville 56 degree
Putter Chickopee- Tad Moore

Favorite club?

My favorite club is the 21-degree cleek.



John Greene, left, is no mean golfer. Here he receives the First Place Net award in the Senior Division at the 2011 U.S. Hickory Open at French Lick, Ind. That's Breck Speed presenting the medal and trophy.

What ball do you play?

I play Titleist velocity and SoLo balls for the most part.

Favorite course for hickories?

My favorite course is certainly Mimosa Hills, a 1929 Donald Ross classic!

Favorite hickory tournament?

Mid Pines Hickory Open in Southern Pines, N.C.

Best thing about hickory golf?

The best thing about hickory golf is the people I have met, the friends I have made, the travel opportunities I have had and am looking forward to. I was fortunate to mark a long standing item off my bucket list with a trip to Scotland for the World Hickory Open in 2012. It was a great trip and a great group I was with.

Most recent book on golf that you read?

Your 15th Club, by Dr. Bob Rotella.