

# THE GREEN SHEET



CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

Volume 4

October 1996

Number 7

## October Meeting

**Outdoor Country Club**  
**Tuesday, October 22, 1996**

**11:15 AM - Lunch**

**12:30 PM Shotgun - Golf**

**5:00 PM - Cocktails**

**6:00 PM - Dinner**

There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors  
Meeting at 9:30 AM.

## Superintendent Profile

Bob Beyer, CGCS, has been at Outdoor Country Club for 18 years. Before that he was Assistant Superintendent at Ocean Pines, Ocean City, NJ and Bretton Woods in Germantown, MD. Bob graduated with a B.S. in 1975 from the University of Maryland and with an MBA in 1986 from York College. Bob has been married to Norma for 23 years and has 3 children: Brian, age 19, Laura, age 15, and David, age 12.

## Course Profile

Outdoor Country Club started as a social club in the late 1800's at the present location of York College. A 9-hole course was built soon after. In 1959, they built an 18 hole course at the present location. The original design is by Ed Ault.

## Directions To Outdoor Country Club

From Route 30, take the Susquehanna Trail North. Go Left onto Stillmeadow Lane. Then Left onto Detweiler Drive. The Club is on the right. (1157 Detweiler Drive)

## What's Life Like, When You're In The GREEN?

By Karen Loke

Bent Creek Country Club

It's 5 a.m. on a hot August morning. There is the dim glow of The Weather Channel on the TV across the room, and the sound of change dangling in a pocket. There was no alarm to signal the start of the day -- after so many years, it has become habit for him to rise at the crack of dawn. Just as it has become habit to hear "Goodbye, dear -- see you later," as I go back to sleep and he goes off to work.

Within the next few hours the kids are up and off to swim team practice and summer classes, and I head for work. I figure I'll have a chance to see him there and catch up on the schedule for the day, since he is my boss. I park next to his car and head for the office. Only the quiet hum of the computer with irrigation information on the screen greets me. He must be out on the course making sure everything is in order. (No problem -- I've got a 2-way radio on which I can call him if I need him.) Three people call on the phone looking for him, and want to know when he'll be back at his desk, or when a good time to call back would be. I have no way of knowing. Mother Nature is his boss.

Eventually, I call for him on the radio. No reply, I try again. I hear from someone on the crew that he's "down in a hole". It's a sinkhole. It's going to be a long day. I finish up my work and leave a note to call me at home when he gets a chance.

Later that evening we sit down to dinner. There are four plates at the table, only three people eating. The phone rings. He says, "Sorry dear, looks like I'll be here until the sun goes down. See you later." .....continued on page 7.....

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## President's Message

by John Dougherty

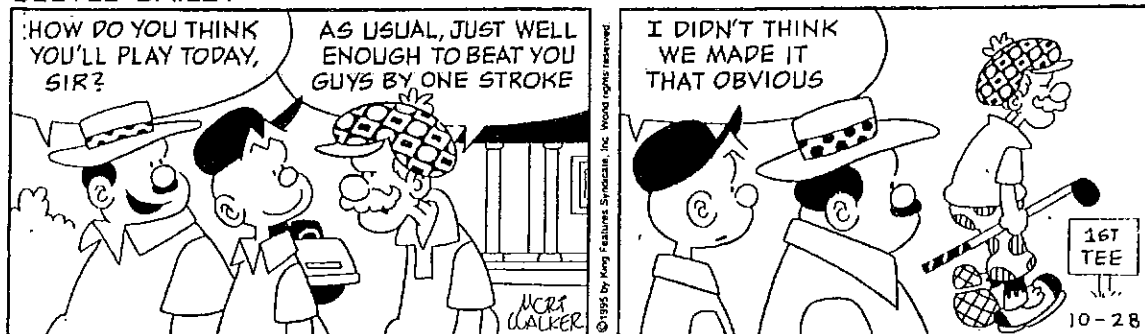
I would like to thank Rob Ehrhart and his crew of Berkshire Country Club for a fine day of golf. The course was in great shape and the weather was perfect.

Well, just when you think the summer is over and all your problems are gone, WHAMO!!! Grey leafspot comes in and kills all your beautiful ryegrass fairways. For those of you who have ryegrass fairways you know what I am talking about. If you haven't seen it or have not experienced it, grey leafspot can be lethal and you will curse your ryegrass fairways when you get it. If you have not considered going to Bentgrass, now is a good time to convert.

Well the end of another year is soon upon us and so is my term as president. It's been fun and I think this is my last president's message, but I'll have to check with Wanda. I don't know if anyone else has heard but there has been a rash of burglaries at golf courses in the Lancaster and Harrisburg areas. So, please be careful and tell your Pro Shop to not let too much money in the safe overnight.

Don't forget this month's meeting at Outdoor Country Club. It's our annual voting meeting and it's your last chance to make a meeting this year. So come on out and bring a friend.

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## Wanda's Message

In the past 4 years, I've worked with various newsletter editors to provide you with valuable information regarding your association and golf courses. This month, with the permission of the editor, I have taken it upon myself to enlighten you on a subject of greater importance.....your wives!!!! So, this month and this issue is dedicated to the Superintendent's wife. Instead of polling the superintendents this month we've questioned your wives. So, if you have not read many issues this year, please read this one.

After talking with many wives in the past week, I found out why the superintendent's in our association are so successful. Their greatest asset is not at the golf course. It's the strong, supportive and understanding partner at home. Always there with humor when needed or just basic listening and caring. For this reason we are designating October as "Superintendent Wives Month".

Keep up the Good Work, Enjoy your winter, and Good Luck to both of you next season!!!!

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## 1997 CPGCSA Elections

The October Meeting at The Outdoor Country Club will be the annual meeting with election of officers and directors for the 1997 meeting year. Listed below are the nominees compiled by the Nomination Committee.

President: H. Jim Loke, CGCS

Vice President: John Gehman

Secretary/Treasurer: Ted Zabrenski

Directors: Alby Gerst  
Bob Wert

If you are interested in running for the board, please contact John Dougherty at (717) 569-6221. Nominations may also be made from the floor by a voting member in good standing at the annual meeting.

## If You Could Describe Your Summer In 10 Words or Less

This is the question we asked some local superintendent's wives and below you will find their answers.

- λ Debbie Brooks - Started out great but.....
- λ Sue Snyder - All work and no play
- λ Tracy Fantuzzi - Rain, mow the lawn--Rain, mow the lawn
- λ Louise Ocepek - Oh my god!!! (New baby, no assistant, and no mechanic)
- λ Patti Wall - A lot of day trips with the kids
- λ Pat VanEtten - This summer has been fantastic, great, stupendous. Low stress level.
- λ Bertie Dietrich - Fun, enjoyable, relaxing time of year
- λ Robyn Dougherty - Vacations without my husband
- λ Missy Zabrenski - Who??What??Where?? Hectic, Cranky, What vacation???
- λ Karen Loke - Lonely!!!

## Upcoming Events

- λ November 12 - 14, 1996. Penn State Golf Turf Conference. Penn State University.
- λ February 6-12, 1997 -- 68th International Golf Course Conference and Show, Las Vegas Convention Center
- λ Tuesday, March 11, 1997 -- GCSAA Seminar, Irrigation Systems Scheduling, Repair and Maintenance at Heritage Hills Golf Resort, York, PA



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## Any Words of Wisdom to Other Superintendent Wives or "Your Secrets to Survival"....

- λ Louise Ocepek - Pray for a little snow!!!
- λ Patti Wall - Be independent, find interests of your own. (Golf Course Supts. wives should be on the Tide Commercials... How do you get out those grass stains!)
- λ Robyn Dougherty - Plan your winter projects well.
- λ Karen Loke - You have to be very independent. (Get a life of your own)
- λ Missy Zabrenski - Be patient -- it all works out.
- λ Bertie Dietrich -- Very, very patient and understanding. One day at a time.
- λ Sue Snyder - Hang in there! You have to wait it out. This too shall pass.
- λ Pat VanEtten - Find an activity that you really enjoy doing to keep yourself occupied.
- λ Tracy Fantuzzi - Patience and a sense of humor.
- λ Debbie Brooks - Get away from it all.

## Congratulations

Congrats to Rob and Michelle Ehrhart on the birth of their daughter on Labor Day weekend.

## Equipment For Sale

Please contact Terry Morgan at Bumblebee Hollow if you have any of the following equipment for sale. (717) 766-1925.

- λ Used tractor -- 20 HP or more
- λ Used gang mower

Please contact Bill Milsop at Olde York Road Country Club if you are interested in the following. (215) 643-4739.

- λ FMC Hydraulic Sprayer DMO10 (Like New)

Please contact Alan Jones at Penn National Golf Club if you are interested in the following. (717) 352-3046

- λ 52 - Rainbird Impact Sprinklers Model 81
- λ 12 - Rainbird Gear Driven Sprinklers Model 91

We will continue to advertise used equipment each newsletter. If you have anything that may be of interest to anyone else, please contact Wanda to place your ad FREE!!! Remember, one person's junk is another person's treasures.

## Membership News

The following individual has applied for membership into our association. If there are no written objections within the next seven days, he will be accepted into our association at the next meeting.

Christopher Hummer, Sales & Marketing Manager  
Sporting Valley Turf Farms, Inc.....Class AF

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the organization or has questions on the status of their applications, please have them contact Ted Zabrenski at (610) 326-7069.

## Just a Reminder...

Should you need to fax information to Wanda, the number is the same as her home telephone number (717) 274-6004. If the answering machine picks up, be sure to let it run through the recorded message, then the fax will automatically turn on.

If you have any accomplishments or things you have done that could benefit other members, please be sure to get the information to Wanda so it can be included in the newsletter.

## What's Your Favorite Time Of The Year??

- λ Sue Snyder - I love Autumn. (Not because of job)
- λ Debbie Brooks - Fall, when things slow down.
- λ Tracy Fantuzzi - Fall, it's the easiest.
- λ Louise Ocepek - Spring and Fall
- λ Patti Wall - January -- The pressure of the holidays and the golf course is over and we're looking forward to the National Conference.
- λ Bertie Dietrich - Spring -- Looks forward to spring after a long winter.
- λ Karen Loke - October
- λ Robyn Dougherty - October -- Construction and aerifying are done and the growth slows down. It's not so cold that you are stuck inside.
- λ Missy Zabrenski - Fall
- λ Pat VanEtten - Summer, but also has a love/hate relationship with winter... time off vs. cold weather.

***Our thanks to everyone who participated in this issue. We hope you all enjoy it!!!***

## From the Editor ..... Terry Morgan

A week doesn't go by that a concerned golfer asks, What are you spraying?? Hopefully this article will help you answer their questions.

### Where Do the Chemicals Go?

The environmental "friendliness" of golf courses is constantly being questioned. To be able to answer these probing questions, you need to know what can happen to the pesticides and fertilizers you're applying. Most people think chemicals either run off with rain and irrigation water, or move through the soil into the ground water. Some do, but according to Thomas Watschke of Pennsylvania State University, writing in *Golf Course Management* magazine, other factors play important roles, too.

### Consider the Factors

Fertilizers and pesticides are necessary to provide the kind of playing conditions golfers expect. The proper choice and application of these chemicals is considered fundamental to sound management practices and course maintenance. Superintendents spend a great deal of time worrying about applying these inputs safely, and in a cost-effective manner. But, do they spend as much time pondering what happens once they hit the ground?

By understanding all the factors, you can better understand the impact these chemicals have on the course and those who play it.

When a chemical is applied to a plant it can be moved through the environmental system in seven ways:

- λ **Adsorption** -- This is the binding of a chemical to the surface of plants or soil. Several factors influence adsorption, including the nature of the surface, moisture, pH, and various chemical and physical properties. Soils high in organic matter or clay have the highest adsorption capacity, while coarse, sandy soils have the lowest. Adsorption is of critical importance because it influences the other factors. A pesticide, for example, that is tightly adsorbed or bound to soil doesn't respond to the other factors.
- λ **Volatilization** -- Volatility, or a chemical's readiness to vaporize is a measurement of its ability to move from its original application state into the air around it. Volatility increases with temperature increases, air pressure increases, low relative humidity, and high soil moisture.
- λ **Photo Decomposition** -- Sunlight transforms pesticides that are applied to the surface of soils and plants. Breaking down of pesticides via sunlight is a complex process, but it can be so significant that some chemicals can be applied only as granular product or when incorporated into the soil.
- λ **Runoff** -- When tightly bound to soil that is eroded away by runoff, chemicals have a high pollution potential. But, on established golf courses runoff is almost nonexistent and the amount of soil that actually moves is small.


However, the application of pesticides when soil moisture conditions are high and rain is expected substantially increases the risk of runoff.

- λ **Chemical Conversion** -- Pesticides entering the soil can, and do, change their makeup by interaction with chemical elements already in the soil and plants. Many of these changes are exactly what a fertilizer or pesticide is designed to do.
- λ **Absorption** -- The movement of chemicals into plants, and, to a lesser extent, into soil-borne organisms. Once absorbed, most chemical fertilizers and pesticides are degraded. When the plant dies, the residue becomes an energy source within the soil. With herbicides, it is absorption that makes them effective.
- λ **Biological Degradation** -- Most natural breakdown of chemicals comes from microbiological action in the soil and thatch. Management practices that promote good turfgrass growth also enhances microbial activity.

### Composting Makes Sense

There is still another way that pesticide residues can move from the golf course and impact the neighborhood -- and that is the removal and disposal of grass clippings. Clippings from turf that has been treated with pesticides will contain residues of these chemicals -- residues that can be transferred to other sites where the clippings are dumped. If clippings contain traces of recently applied herbicides, for example, they can have an adverse effect on sensitive plants in the area where they are dumped.

Because the primary means of degradation of most pesticides is microbial activity, the best way to dispose of clippings is to compost them. In a compost area, clippings are less of a threat to spread unwanted chemicals, and over time, they will become a valuable source of nutrients for other areas of the golf course.



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## Certification Program's 25th Anniversary

September 1, 1996, marked the 25th anniversary of GCSAA's Certification Program. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and recognize the Certified Golf Course Superintendent's in our association.

Robert J. Beyer, CGCS - Outdoor Country Club

Thomas H. Brown, CGCS - Chantilly Manor Country Club

Charles H. Cadiz, CGCS - Retired

Kenneth R. Dietrich, CGCS - Lancaster Country Club

Gregory C. Fantuzzi, CGCS - Carlisle Country Club

Jeffrey L. Fry, CGCS - Lebanon Country Club

Anthony P. Goodley, CGCS - Heritage Hills Golf Resort

Anthony W. Gustaitis, CGCS - Whitmarsh Valley CC

Keith A. Happ, CGCS - USGA Greens Section

James W. Jones, CGCS - Fairview Golf Course

Paul J. Krout, CGCS - Bonnie View Country Club

H. Jim Loke, CGCS - Bent Creek Country Club

Grant D. Pensinger, CGCS - retired

Kenneth M. Pepple, CGCS

Keith Perl, CGCS - Walker Supply

Kirby Putt, CGCS - Chester Valley Golf Club

John A. Segui, CGCS - Retired

Samuel R. Snyder, CGCS - Hercules Country Club

D. Todd Struse, CGCS - LuLu Temple Country Club

David C. Weitzel, CGCS

Paul Wickey, CGCS - O. M. Scotts

Terry Wueschinski, CGCS - Country Club of York



*Commemorating the 25th Anniversary  
of GCSAA's Certification Program*

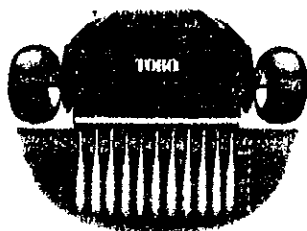
## A Golf Course ....

- λ Produces oxygen as part of the plants' natural carbon dioxide exchange.
- λ Removes pollutants from the air.
- λ Acts as a heat-sink to cool the atmosphere.
- λ Absorbs noise.
- λ Serves as a filter to reduce natural and synthetic contaminants from rainfall and irrigation water.
- λ Prevents soil erosion.
- λ Helps to recharge groundwater supplies.
- λ Provides visually appealing "green space" for urban settings.
- λ Provides habitat and sanctuary for a variety of birds and animals.
- λ Provides a use for wastewater (irrigating with reclaimed water).
- λ Becomes an attractive and ecologically sound cover for old landfills, etc. (A positive economic alternative to potential eyesores, as well).
- λ Makes room for non-golf recreational activities on or near the course -- cross country skiing, jogging, walking, birdwatching, and fishing to name a few.
- λ Provides jobs.
- λ Adds value to the surrounding land that increases the local taxbase.

## Which Can Your Husband Recite The Quickest... His Equipment

### Inventory or Your Important Dates???

- λ Pat Van Etten - Equipment Inventory
- λ Debbie Brooks - Equipment Inventory, Definitely!
- λ Tracy Fantuzzi - Equipment Inventory ... Are you Kidding?
- λ Sue Snyder - Even, Sam is pretty good with dates too.
- λ Louise Ocepek - Equipment Inventory...That was easy.
- λ Patti Wall - Equipment Inventory... Bill has to be quizzed on dates.
- λ Bertie Dietrich - Equipment Inventory.
- λ Robyn Dougherty - Equipment Inventory...By the way John, how many kids do we have???
- λ Missy Zabrenski - Equipment Inventory.
- λ Karen Loke - Important Dates!!! It took a long time but we trained him well.



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## What's Life Like .....continued from page 1.....

It's now 10 p.m. and a tired, sunburned husband drags himself home. The TV is switched to The Weather Channel as he drops into bed. Another hot, humid day is expected for tomorrow. "It was a long day. Good night," he says as his eyes close and he mumbles something about a drought.

The cycle begins again the next day, and the next. There is no sinkhole today, a good sign. There is, however, a special event coming up which requires some "extra polish" and hard work on the part of the staff. Preparation for a tournament has now begun. Family life has now ended.

Our conversations are limited to hello, please hem my blue pants, your mother called, I wish it would rain, I'm out of toothpaste, help me write my news article, and good night. I have once again become a "single married parent", also known as a golf course wife.

Several days later, the kids ask if their dad is out of town -- they haven't seen him lately. "No," I say, "he's at work. The PA Open is this week." They nod with understanding. They have been through this before. We plan a "family visitation" for the next evening. We'll drop by his shop and bring a pizza. This will be our first family meal in weeks.

We have all been well initiated into the golf course business. I knew what lay ahead from the start. We were married in January--his only real time off. He was grateful that my labor lasted 29 hours before our first daughter was born. This allowed him time to watch the winning putt by Bill Rogers at the 1981 World Series of Golf at Firestone where he was the Superintendent, and then get us to the hospital, I was less pleased. Both of our children's births were announced in the sports section of the local paper, under "Golf Notes" of course.

Our yard has always been less than attractive. We don't own a lawn mower and the proliferation of weeds is the only reason it's green. ChemLawn calls regularly to offer us help. People laugh at the irony of this. (I remind them that it's better that the golf course looks perfect and our yard looks the way it does than the other way around.) They can appreciate this logic.

After all is said and done, there is great pride and satisfaction that comes with the hard work and long hours involved with his profession. A golf pro says, "It's the finest conditioned course I've played on the entire East Coast. This place is fabulous!" Thank you, I'm glad you enjoyed it. Someone else says the course looks beautiful and they enjoyed it immensely, he smiles. Job well done. We wouldn't have it any other way.

## GCSAA Seminar

Central Penn GCSA will be hosting a GCSAA 2-day seminar December 12 - 13, 1996 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. The topic of the seminar is "Golf Course Restoration, Renovation, and Construction Projects."

## Golf Results

The following are the results from the Championship tournament at Berkshire Country Club.

### Championship Flight

1st	Steve Graybill	74
2nd	Tom Kintzer	76

### First Flight (includes handicaps)

1st	Dick Kauffman	69
2nd	Scott Keener	70

### Second Flight (includes handicaps)

1st	Tom Ocepek	70
2nd	Tony Goodley	74

### Closest to Pins

Championship Flight	Jim Jones	#11
1st Flight	Corky Knoll	#16
2nd Flight	Tony Goodley	#9

The tournament at Outdoor Country Club will be the Best 2 ball total from foursome.

- λ Full Handicaps will be used
- λ Everyone check in at Pro Shop, pay \$5.00 fee and please furnish your handicaps.
- λ Everyone will be responsible for marking their own cards for their handicap holes.

## Who Mows/Maintains Your Lawn???

- λ Debbie Brooks - Bill usually does, but this summer it was so long we had neighbors volunteering.
- λ Sue Snyder - Sam, (our nine year old son.)
- λ Tracy Fantuzzi - I do, and I also shovel snow.
- λ Louise Ocepek - When we mow, it's Tom, but that's very infrequent.
- λ Patti Wall - Bill, most of the time.
- λ Bertie Dietrich - I do the flower beds and Kenny does the lawn.
- λ Robyn Dougherty - We don't have to mow, John kills our lawn.
- λ Missy Zabrenski - I do the flowers and Ted does the lawn.
- λ Pat VanEtten - I do.
- λ Karen Loke - We have a lawn service mow ours, we don't own a mower.



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# Discovery Channel Reveals Slimy Secret

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. -- Orange Tree Golf Resort superintendent Gary Hickerson found the solution to his algae problem sitting on his couch at home.

"I was watching 'Beyond 2000' on the Discovery Channel one day, and these British researchers had found that straw will get rid of algae," says Hickerson. "I decided to try it on the golf course."

Hickerson had tried "quite a bit" of chemical approaches, such as copper sulfate, "but that's not too good for the environment" plus other more nature-friendly methods with no positive results. "We tried aerators, that didn't work, We tried using fish, but they wouldn't eat the algae. A couple of times, we took the boat out and ran it with the propeller half out of the water to chop it up, but we still weren't catching up."

The problem at Orange Tree is that there are a lot of trees on the course, which means a lot of leaves and bark fall into the four lakes on the course. Add to that the occasional use of fertilizer on the fairways, and you have a fertile environment for algae.

So if decaying matter promotes algae growth, how does straw help get rid of it? "The decomposing straw creates hydrogen peroxide, which is toxic to algae, but won't hurt the fish," says Hickerson, who contacted the British researchers mentioned in the Beyond 2000 segment. "The literature they sent me says barley straw is best, but we're using wheat stubble. It works fine for us. We just get it from the local feed store for about \$5.50 a bale."

The treatment is quite simple: just toss a bale of straw into the lake, and let nature take its course. "It sinks to where there's about six inches above the water, and lasts about a year," he says. The straw should be somewhat near the surface for sunlight to help with decomposition. The largest lake is about 2-1/2 surface acres; the other three are about 3/4 surface acres total. The "dosage" is one bale per half acre.

# What's Your Best 10 Minute Meal?

(Since 10 minutes is all the notice we have some nights)

- λ Louise Ocepek - Microwave Pizza
- λ Robyn Dougherty - T.V. Dinner, Hotdogs & Baked Beans
- λ Debbie Brooks - Sandwiches
- λ Patti Wall - \$ for McDonalds Drive-thru
- λ Missy Zabrenski - Frozen ravioli, salad, garlic bread
- λ Tracy Fantuzzi - Delivery Pizza
- λ Pat VanEtten - Turkey/Veggie Stirfry (only starts after Duane gets home)
- λ Sue Snyder - Chicken patties and baked beans
- λ Bertie Dietrich - Soup & Sandwiches (What's a meal???)
- λ Karen Loke - Bowl of cereal
- λ Wanda Fry - Anything take-out!!!



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## The Green Sheet

