

# The Green Sheet



Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 5 Issue 2

May 1997

## May Meeting

### Fairview Golf Course

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Tee Times - Golf

4:30 PM - Cocktails

6:00 PM - Dinner

There will be a 9:00 AM Board of Directors Meeting in the restaurant.

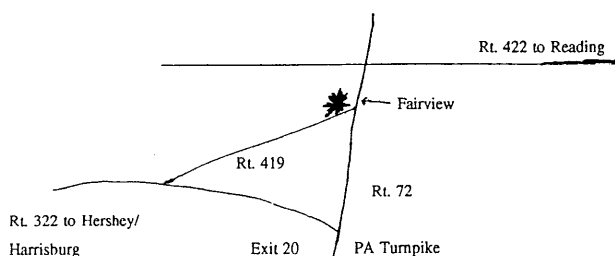
## Superintendent Profile

James W. Jones, CGCS has been at Fairview Golf Course since graduating from Penn State University in 1980. Jim has been the General Manager of Fairview since 1993. He became certified in 1985. Jim is a Past President of CPGCSA. His hobbies include playing golf, traveling, and music.

## Course Profile

Fairview Golf Course, formerly "Fairview Farms", was opened in the late 1950's by a group of Lebanon business men. It was originally a local dairy and orchard in the Lebanon Valley. The course was purchased by the Jones family in 1966 as the third of 5 public family owned facilities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Greens are Poa/Bent and Fairways and Tees are ryegrass. The course is open year round with tee to green cart paths. The Assistant Superintendent is Dave Krick and the Golf Pro is John Zesiger.

## Directions to Fairview GC



## Getting Organized: How to Schedule Your Day

If your workload keeps growing as fast as your workday seems to shrink, maybe your problem is a lack of organization.

A few minutes spent in planning can help you get more accomplished each day and help you run your operation more efficiently. Not everyone can be an efficiency expert, but even the most disorganized person can get more done by planning his work more efficiently. These eight suggestions can help.

1. At the end of each workday, take a few minutes to schedule the next day's activities — phone calls, meetings, interviews, and projects. Make a list, with the most important things to be accomplished at top. As other important things come up, you may have to change your plans, but having a list can help you keep your priorities in mind.

2. Schedule work according to your own personal efficiency. Not everyone works at peak efficiency first thing in the morning, so you should schedule the important things for a time when you are at your sharpest.

3. Decide whether you would rather tackle the tough projects first and get them out of the way, or ease into them by finishing the smaller tasks first.

4. Tough problems take concentration, and it is impossible to concentrate when you are continually interrupted. If you know you are going to have to deal with a thorny problem, set aside some time for it. Let everyone know that you .....continued on page 6.....

## Inside This Issue

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## President's Message

### by Jim Loke, CGCS

Despite the reality that "Mother Nature is our boss", I was recently reminded that I should not continue to use that phrase as an excuse. People in general do not understand or readily accept the notion. I guess we must be able to eliminate all ballmarks and divots despite cold soil temperature and very dry soil moisture conditions. With this in mind, I hope you are all generating a great root system for the coming year despite the weather and complaints we are experiencing from our members and customers.

Like all associations and businesses, CPGCSA is in need of more income, and we must carefully manage our current resources. There is a need to generate more projects with higher standards — and do it all at a lower cost, or so it seems. As I write, there is pressure and a definite need for us to generate more money in order to contribute to turfgrass research. I feel compelled to contribute every time I am asked, and yet any new request forces CPGCSA's budget to its limits. Currently, as an association we contribute to the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, and the Allied Superintendents Association which supports each of our Pennsylvania chapters at both local and state legislative levels, and also supports Sam Snyder at the national level. Most recently, our chapter was asked to donate to and participate in the Joseph M. Duich Turfgrass Endowment Tournament being held in Colorado at the Castle Pines Golf Club. As a chapter in its present state, we cannot participate, and yet I feel a deep sense of responsibility that in the future we must seek a way to contribute to this cause.

I am always amazed at how some chapters and associations can contribute such huge amounts, and I am open to any ideas of how we can do the same. Sources of income are many and limitless. Several options include: a dues increase (which we have not had in years), advertising cost increase, contributions from Novartis and Milorganite purchases, affiliate sponsorships for our roster book, and winter educational meetings.

On a different financial note, we now have applications for scholarships from GCSAA. If any child of a golf course superintendent would like to apply, please contact Wanda Fry.

And finally, I would like to thank Tony Grieco, his staff and the Pocono Turfgrass Association for a great day at Silver Creek Country Club. Thanks again.

## From The CPGCSA Archives....

**May 1984** — The average operating budget was \$119,375 and the average base salary for a superintendent was \$24,078.

**May 1989** — The average yearly operating budget was \$266,840, the average Superintendent's salary was \$34,500 the average full-time crew was 4 employees.

**May 1991** — "The Thinking Superintendent" by Kenny D. - This month's article features Kenny Dietrich, CGCS of Lancaster Country Club. Ken had so many good ideas, but only had room for two. The first one concerns the aerifying plugs left on the fairways, what does Ken do to break them up for dragging — he uses a flail mower and he says nothing does a better job to disperse plugs before dragging in. For divots in his bentgrass tees and fairways, Ken uses a commercial divot mix of 30% sand, 50% topsoil and 20% peatmoss. He premixes his seed into the moist divot mix and keeps it in a dark cool area of his maintenance building for 2-3 days. When it starts to germinate, he uses it to fill the divot holes. Ken says this obviously speeds up the divot recovery process and keeps him on the good side of his finicky members.

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## Membership News

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

Charles E. Lincicome, CGCS

Bucknell Golf Club.....Class A

Matthew W. Strader, Superintendent

Penn National Golf Club.....Class A

We would like to welcome the following individuals into the association.

Derek S. Fortna, Superintendent

Whitford Country Club.....Class B

Stephen J. Ludwig, Superintendent

Gettysburg Country Club.....Class B

Joseph M. Herman, Assistant Superintendent

Gettysburg Country Club.....Class C

Christopher K. Martin, Assistant Superintendent

Four Seasons Golf Course.....Class C

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 Tom Ocepek at (610) 488-1255.

## Member Updates

- Congratulations to John and Robyn Dougherty on the birth of their son Kyle Joseph on March 31, 1997. Kyle was 20-1/2 inches and 7 pounds, 4 ounces.
- Dave Rafferty is recuperating at home after recent surgery.
- We're sorry to inform you of the death of Ed Tabor, lifetime member of CPGCSA.

## Speaker Profile

The speaker for the May meeting is Bill Middleton. Bill is the President of Emerald Isle, Ltd. and Ocean Organics Corporation. Founded in 1977 and 1991 respectively, the two companies manufacture and market industry-leading, environmentally-safe biostimulants, soil conditioners and soil inoculants.

The presentation "Smart Stress Management Starts Here" - A scientific approach to stress management for cool season turf grasses will focus on how to use nutritional and non-nutritional strategies for strengthening turf plants.



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## Take A Load Off Of Your Back

Most of you are aware that there is a right way and wrong way to lift something. However, back injuries and hernias continue to be a major problem — possibly because these injuries often occur over long periods of improper lifting. For example, workers might not feel immediate pain over one box lifted incorrectly, but after lifting many boxes incorrectly for days, months and even years, the chance of injury multiplies.

Here are some steps for minimizing your risk while lifting and carrying heavy or awkward items. *If you are experiencing back pain or hernia, refrain from lifting heavy objects.*

- 1 Before lifting the object, look it over to determine if you can lift it alone, or if you should have someone help you. A good rule of thumb is: When in doubt, get help! If the item is in a package or box, be sure that the box is stable and sealed. Falling items often land on the feet of the person lifting.
- 2 Look over the area where you're going to be carrying the object to make sure it's clear of obstacles. Be sure to check for, and avoid, slick or wet surfaces.
- 3 Get a good footing close to the load to be lifted. Place your feet 8 to 12 inches apart.
- 4 While keeping your back straight, bend your knees to grasp the load. Bend your knees outward and straddle the load somewhat.
- 5 Get a firm grip on the load. If you have to handle the load awkwardly, then it isn't ready to lift. (For example, if you need to wrap your arm underneath the load so contained materials don't fall out, secure the load first. See Item 1.)
- 6 Remember, you want to keep the load close to your body as you lift and carry.
- 7 Lift carefully and smoothly by straightening your legs. Do not jerk the load up since the weight could suddenly transfer from your legs to your back.
- 8 If you are carrying the load in areas of pedestrian traffic, be sure to give vocal warning that you are approaching. This will ensure that fellow workers will not bump into you. If you are walking around corners and blind spots, be sure to make wide turns so you can see someone coming into your path.
- 9 Use your feet to change direction. Do not twist your body, as this will shift the burden of the weight to your back.
- 10 When you reach your destination and are ready to set the load down, simply reverse the lifting steps. Keep your back straight and the load close to your body. Slowly bend your knees. Watch your fingers as you ...*continued on page 6.*

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## Golf Results

We thank Tony Grieco, our host for a great day of golf and terrific dinner at our April meeting with Pocono.

The tournament format was the Best Ball of Partners.

### 1st Flight Winners

1st	Jim Loke, Lee Kozsey	71
2nd	Charles McGill, Marc Oesterling	73

### 2nd Flight Winners

1st	Brian Ahrens, Chris Papada	77
2nd	Gary Phillips, Sr., Gary Phillips, Jr.	77

### 3rd Flight Winners

1st	Tony Goodley, Ken Pepple	82
2nd	Jim Vedomsky, Jr., Mark Reed	82

### 4th Flight Winners

1st	Ron Lee, John Bodash	86
2nd	Doug Wolfgang, Andy Mummert	86

### 5th Flight Winners

1st	Rick Patterson, Len Predtechenskis	90
2nd	John Vojick, Gene Hivelster	90

### Most Honest Golfers of the Day

Greg Hains, Tony Strand	103
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Next meeting at Fairview Golf Course on May 20, will be a Point Quota Tournament. Everyone will need a USGA handicap. If you do not have access to a USGA Handicap system, you can send 3 to 5 scores to Bob Wert, 1724 Route 25, Millersburg, PA 17061. This is a free service to our association so please have your handicap for 1997 tournaments. Please feel free to call if you have any questions (717) 692-3664.

Thanks,  
Bob Wert,  
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## Just A Reminder

Should you need to fax information to Wanda, the number is the same as her home phone 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 that it can be included in the newsletter.

## From the Editor...Terry Morgan

I thought this article might be of some benefit as we start the season and start repairing some of our winter damage. Have a great golf season!

### Understanding Seed Germination

To germinate, turfgrass seed must have the following:

- \* sufficient water
- \* favorable temperature
- \* adequate oxygen
- \* exposure to light (not needed in all instances)

**Water.** Water is important for several reasons. As water is absorbed, the seed coat ruptures and the shoot and primary root emerge. Water also allows the movement of oxygen into the seed. In addition, water makes possible the transfer of food to the shoot and the root and if the availability of water is interrupted after this process has begun, the seedling grass plants may die. That's why it is so important to keep a new turf area continually moist until its root system is developed enough to extract the water it needs from the soil.

**Temperature.** Although there are minimum, maximum, and optimum temperatures for the germination of all turfgrass varieties, most seed germinates best when subjected to the natural alternation between day and night temperatures. Kentucky bluegrass, creeping bentgrass, ryegrass and tall fescue germinate when exposed to temperatures alternating between 60 and 85 degrees F., while warm season grasses such as bermudagrass and buffalograss prefer a warmer 70 to 95 degree F. range.

**Oxygen.** Oxygen is essential during germination because the rate of respiration, a process with a high oxygen demand, increases rapidly in germinating seeds. Compacted conditions caused by traffic or saturated soils will reduce seed germination by restricting or eliminating oxygen.

**Light.** Exposure to light promotes germination of some grass seeds, including Kentucky bluegrass, bermudagrass, *Poa trivialis*, hard fescue and chewings fescue.

## Getting Organized: ..cont'd from page 1..

don't want to be disturbed and make yourself work at it.

5. Use an action request form for assigning tasks to your subordinates. It should include a description of the job, a deadline, and a person responsible for its completion. This system makes for more paperwork, but it does make assigning jobs easier and gives you a written record for reference.

6. Take a closer look at the things that make up your day. Some of them may be merely habit and no longer necessary. Cut ruthlessly. A collection of minor tasks can take valuable time away from more important duties.

7. Group similar tasks into one time period. If you have to do similar things at different times during the day try doing them all at once. Switching your concentration from one job to another can take more time than you think.

8. Don't agonize over decisions. There is a difference between spending a reasonable amount of time considering alternatives and delaying a decision because it is an uncomfortable one. If you have to make a decision, make it. The only way you can avoid making a decision is by waiting until you have only one alternative remaining. The last alternative may be the worst of the bunch.

These eight suggestions may not make you an efficiency expert, but they may help you reevaluate your work habits. Not everyone works the same way, but it is important to find a system that works for you. Set your own schedule and follow it. You will be surprised at how much you can accomplish.

*Credit: Fore Front, July 1979*

## Take a Load Off...cont'd from page 4..

set the load down. If you are setting a load down onto a raised surface such as a table or bench, set the object just over the edge and slide the rest of the load onto the surface.

### Lifting Above the Waist

If you are lifting an item above the waist:

- First, follow proper lifting procedures.
- Rest the load on a firm object for support, change your grip and once again bend your knees to get extra muscle into the final effort.
- Never attempt to change your grip or the position of your load while you are moving.

Your back is a very important part of your body, but it's easy to forget that you have one until you injure it. Practice these safety tips and keep your back and body operating comfortably.

*Credit: California Fairways*

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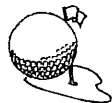
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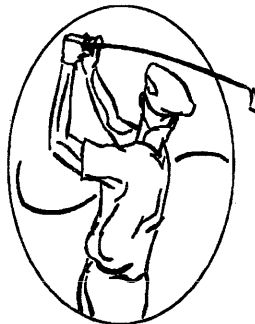


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## Safety Tips for Pressure-Washer Use

- The high-pressure water stream can reach up to 2,200 psi. So keep hands, feet and body away.
- Always hold the spray wand with both hands.
- Never point the sprayer at anyone even if the pressure is off.
- Do not spray at electrical areas.
- Do not overreach.
- Keep away from children.
- Wear eye/hearing protection.
- Avoid using your machine in an explosive atmosphere, such as where you smell gas or other fumes.
- After using your unit, do not store it until the engine cools down.



It's often necessary to hit a second drive to really appreciate the first one.

No matter how badly you are playing, it is always possible to play worse.

## Equipment For Sale

Please contact Kirby Putt at Chester Valley Golf Club for the following pieces of equipment. (610) 647-5219.

- Accu 600 Foley Spin Grinder — \$3,000 or best offer.
- Foley 384 Bedknife Grinder \$500 or best offer.

If interested in the following equipment, please call Bob Wert at Harrisburg North Golf Course. (800) 442-4652.

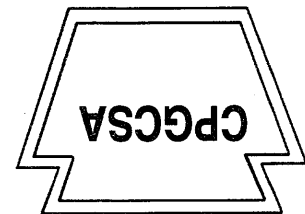
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Lebanon, PA 17042-0200

## **The Green Sheet**



### **Ballad to a Golf Course**

"A golf course is a pretty thing.  
It needs a lot of care. It's hard to  
keep it lookin' good with all that  
wear and tear.  
Mow the greens, and fairways too;  
It's an all day job.  
Water, spray and aerify;  
and then wait for the mob.  
Now golfers are peculiar guys,  
it seems they do no wrong.  
It's always cause the green's not right,  
that makes their putt too long.  
The green's too soft, the tee's too hard.  
That's always what they say.  
No matter what you do for them,  
it messes up their play."  
*Credit — Iowa GCS Reporter*

### **1997 Meeting Dates**

June 17	Golden Oaks Golf Course Stuart Hartman, Superintendent
July 14	Bucknell Country Club Joint meeting with Keystone Association
Aug 19	Downingtown Country Club Joint Meeting with Philadelphia Association
Sept 23	Dauphin Highlands Bill Wall, Superintendent
Oct 13	Country Club of Hershey Ron Diefenthaler, CGCS