

The Green Sheet



Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 5 Issue 7

October 1997

October Meeting

Country Club of Hershey

Monday, October 13, 1997

Golf - 11:00 AM
Cocktails - 4:00 PM
Dinner - 5:30 PM
(Jacket & Tie Required)

Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
will follow dinner.

There will be a CPGCSA Board of
Directors Meeting at 8:30 AM.

Superintendent Profile

Mark Malasavage has been the Superintendent of the East and West Courses at the Country Club of Hershey since May 1997. Prior to this Mark was the Assistant Superintendent from 1984-1990 and the Superintendent from 1991-1996 at Country Club of Hershey South (formerly Hershey Parkview). Mark is a 1996 graduate of Rutgers University. Mark is married to Carol and has a six year old son Adam. His hobbies include competitive handgun shooting and playing sports, especially golf and baseball, with his son.

Course Profile

The West Course at the Country Club of Hershey was designed by Maurice McCarthy in 1930. The West Course has hosted the Lady Keystone Open from 1977 to 1994. The course was rated as one of the top 100 Country Clubs in the United States in the 1980's by Golf Digest. Country Club of Hershey has had Ben Hogan and Henry Picard as head Golf Professionals. The Country Club of Hershey is located at 1000 East Derry Road in Hershey, PA.

Ten Guidelines for Thoughtful Tree Planting

To the novice golfer or average club official, planting a tree on a golf course seems fairly straightforward. After all, it only takes a short trip to the nursery and 10 minutes to dig a hole.

Well, not exactly. An improperly placed tree of the wrong species can seriously interfere with the original intent of the course architect, or even worse, completely destroy a putting green.

The following are 10 guidelines that one should ponder before attempting to plant a tree. Hopeful, these guidelines will help ensure that a new tree becomes an asset to the entire club, rather than a thorn in the superintendent's side.

Before reviewing these guidelines, please realize that each may not always apply strictly in all situations. For example, a large tree planted 25 yards away from a putting green on the south side will cause greater problems than a tree planted the same distance on the north side, due to heavy shading.

Guideline No. 1: Make sure to select a planting location so that the mature canopy of the tree will not protrude on the line-of-flight between a tee and a fairway. Trees with protruding limbs dramatically reduce the usable size of a tee.

For example, a tree planted too close to the front right-hand side of a tee will promote concentrated use on the left-hand side of the tee. The result of such concentrated divoting on one side of the tee usually promotes discussion about the superintendent's abilities. The solution to large, overhanging limbs is usually sympathetic pruning that leaves the tree permanently disfigured.continued on page 4

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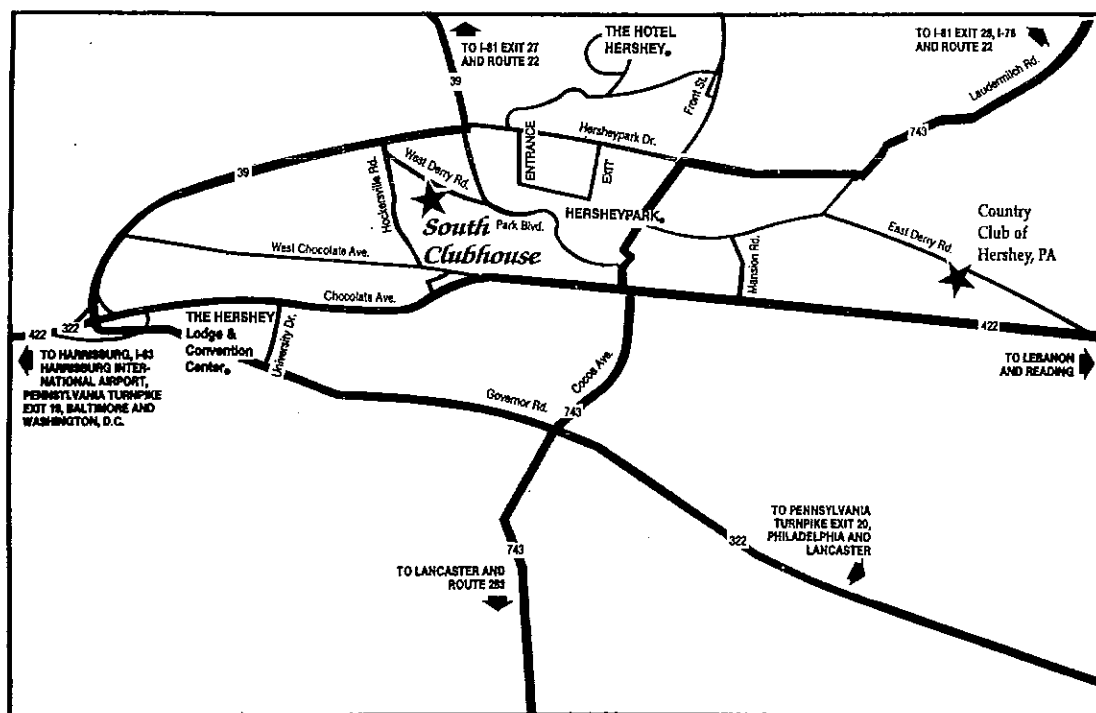
President's Message by Jim Loke, CGCS

This past September 23, 1997 we enjoyed another splendid superintendent meeting. As a Chapter, we continue to have tremendous turnouts. Dauphin Highlands and Bill Wall are both examples of a great venue, great food, and a great host. For the very few who missed this meeting, Dauphin Highlands was a remarkable test of golf for any caliber of golfer, excellent bent conditions from tee to green, and at a great price for the public golfer. It was evident that Bill Wall and assistants Scott Fischer and Jon Szekeres all put their heart and souls into the preparation of the course.

Our speaker was Bill Love, the architect for Dauphin Highlands. Bill presented us with an excellent and detailed report of his experiences and relationship with Bill Wall during the entire golf course construction process. Mr. Love's presentation was well-prepared and stimulating. You could easily tell that both Bills really respected and cherished their experience. It was also most gratifying as the President to observe everyone's attention totally focused on every word Bill spoke.

I want to remind you all to organize your invoices from Novartis, Milorganite and Sentinel. Each company gives an opportunity to donate money to some charitable group. As a Director for the Musser Foundation, I ask you to contribute to Musser (you can call me about this). Money can also be given to the CPGCSA and the PTC. Please don't let this opportunity to contribute pass you by.

Directions to Country Club of Hershey



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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.

Robert M. Gomboc, Assistant Superintendent

Sunset Golf Club.....Class C

Brian Ahrens, Superintendent

Reading Country Club.....Class A

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association or has questions on the status of their applications, please have them contact Tom Ocepek at (610) 488-1255.

As of July 1, 1997, GCSAA bylaws require an individual applying for Class A or B membership also be a member of a local affiliated chapter.

Upcoming Events

- October 7, 1997 - Joseph Valentine Memorial Golf Tournament at Huntsville Golf Club. Contact John Chassard (610) 967-4643, Todd Struse (215) 884-2590, or Jeff Fry (717) 273-1944.
- November 4-6, 1997 - Penn State Golf Turf Conference, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA. Contact: Peter Landschoot, Department of Agronomy, (814) 863-1017 or the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council at (814) 863-3475.
- January 6-8, 1998 - Eastern PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, 1200 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA. Contact: Michael Smith, Gulph Mills Golf Club (610) 828-0253 or the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council (814) 863-3475.
- February 2-8, 1998 - GCSAA's 69th International Golf Course Conference and Show, Anaheim Convention Center.

Equipment For Sale

Please contact Stephen Ludwig at Gettysburg Country Club (717) 334-0441 if you are interested in the following piece of equipment.

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Tree Planting....continued from page 1

Actually, complete removal of a tree could be the best solution.

Guideline No. 2: To allow for vital air movement and exposure to sunlight, resist the temptation to plant dense groves of trees around greens, tees and fairways. Poor air circulation, especially in areas where greens are located, produces soaring temperature and humidity during the summer that, in turn, promotes harmful disease development. Furthermore, poor air circulation and dense shade during the winter, produces cooler soil temperatures and severely retards the growth rate, leaving greens helpless against foot traffic. In situations where poor air circulation and restricted sunlight penetration cause an unacceptable turf loss, tree removal is absolutely necessary.

Guideline No. 3: Never try to completely fill in rough areas between adjacent fairways with trees for the sake of safety. No matter how many trees you plant to protect neighboring players, the odds are the first handicapper will find a way through. Once they do, look out! The player automatically feels qualified to join the PGA tour and aims directly in to the oncoming players, hoping to it a high fade back over the trees. If your intent is to protect golfers in adjacent fairways near the landing area so that if someone does stray, they have the opportunity to return to their fairway uninhibited.

Guideline No. 4: Never plant large trees closer than 75 feet from a green or tee because they will become serious competitors for available water and nutrients. Most individuals are under the mistaken impression that tree roots cannot extend outward from the trunk further than the drip line of the tree. In reality, tree roots can extend outward from the trunk approximately one to one-and-a-half times the total height of the tree.

For example, if a tree is 100 feet tall, its roots can extend as far as 100-150 feet. Once tree roots have invaded underneath a green or tee, they sap water and nutrients away due to their overwhelming size. In situations where tree roots are a problem, sever them with a trencher and install a permanent barrier.

Guideline No. 5: Without question, flowering trees add unmistakable beauty to any course. However, due to their tender bark and dwarf stature, they are extremely sensitive to mower damage. This extreme sensitivity makes most flowering trees a poor candidate for use on golf courses, unless they can be carefully protected. Augusta National is a good example. The beautiful flowering dogwoods and azaleas have been planted underneath large pine trees where there is never an occasion to operate heavy mowing equipment.

Guideline No. 6: Try to avoid screening out scenic vistas. Scenic vistas include the clubhouse, ocean or mountain views, lakes or other open areas of the course. Once a scenic vista has been lost, it is usually forgotten and consequentlycontinued on page 5....

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may be lost forever.

Guideline No. 7: It is often best to avoid using a standardized tree planting as a yardage indicator. Problems arise in the future when one of the plantings is lost or damaged.

For example, if palm trees are used on each hole to indicate a distance of 150 yards, it will be impossible to replace a dying palm with one of matching size. In addition, a tree planted to the edge of the fairway can severely penalize a golfer.

Guideline No. 8: When selecting a tree, choose species that match the existing vegetation and have favorable characteristics. Cottonwoods and large fruit trees are not good candidates for golf courses because they are either strong surface rooters or require continuous maintenance.

In addition, try to limit the number of different species as much as possible. A continuous vegetation scheme is often the trademark of many of America's highest-ranked golf courses. For example, Oak Hill CC in Rochester, NY, has a continuous theme of oak trees from the first tee through the 18th green. Courses that tend to plant a potpourri of tree species are usually unflatteringly referred to as tree zoos or specimen parks.

Guideline No. 9: Try to naturalize the appearance of large tree planting by randomizing the distance between each tree. A good way to develop a randomized tree planting would be to hit several dozen golf balls into a rough area from a distance of 200 yards. Then place a small flag where each ball has landed and selectively remove one flag at a time until there are an appropriate number left.

Guideline No. 10: To prevent unnecessary neglect of newly planted trees, never plant more than the maintenance staff can adequately maintain. During the first year of establishment, small trees require extra attention and frequent hand-watering during the summer. If you must purchase trees in large numbers due to cost, it might be best to establish a tree nursery near the maintenance facility where they can be easily cared for. Then over the next several years, slowly spread them over the course.

Summary: Remember that a good tree planting program on any course starts with a long-range plan. What makes a golf course different from a park or from your front yard is the presence of sensitive putting greens and the integrity of the frame.

The agronomic impact of misplaced trees is commonly seen in the form of shade, root competition and poor air circulation. Thoughtful tree planting should not only improve the appearance and playability of your course, but more importantly, remove the thorn from your superintendent's side.

Credit: Divots, June Issue



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1997 Annual Meeting

The October Meeting at the Country Club of Hershey will be the annual meeting with election of officers and directors for the 1998 meeting year. Listed below are the nominees compiled by the Nomination Committee:

President:

John Gehman is Superintendent/Owner of Butter Valley Golf Port. He has been affiliated with Butter Valley since 1969. John's position's with CPGCSA include: Golf Chairman, Newsletter Editor, Secretary/Treasurer and currently serving as Vice President. John's hobbies include flying and sports officiating (Basketball and Soccer). John has been married to Joan for 22 years and has 4 children ranging from 15 - 26 years of age. John resides in Barto with his family.

Vice President:

Ted Zabrenski is the Golf Course Superintendent of Brookside Country Club in Pottstown. Ted has been at Brookside since 1975 as a Grounds Person, Assistant Superintendent and then Superintendent since 1982. Ted graduated from Pottstown High School in 1978 and attended the Penn State Turfgrass Program from 1980-1982. Ted is a member of GC-SAA, current CPGCSA Secretary/Treasurer, member of Hay Creek Watershed Association, and Board Member/Vice President of the Union Township Municipal Authority. Ted's hobbies include fishing, skiing, and hunting. Ted is married to Missy and resides in Birdsboro.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Dick Kauffman has been the Golf Course/Grounds Superintendent at Village of Olde Hickory Golf Course since 1968. Past positions include: Assistant Superintendent at Host Farms, and internships at Frosty Valley Country Club and Bucknell Golf Club. He graduated from Lewisburg High School in 1965 and Penn State Turf Management in 1967. Dick is currently a CPGCSA Director serving as Bylaws and Chapter Relations Chairman, and a Director for the New Holland Community Memorial Park Association. His hobbies are golf, antique cars, stamp and coin collecting. He is married to Deborah and has 2 children: Beth and Megan. Dick resides in New Holland with his family.

Directors:

Donald Dodson has been the Golf Course Superintendent at Honey Run Golf and Country Club since 1995. Prior to that he worked for Hummer Turfgrass, Classic Golf, and Conestoga Country Club. He is a 1988 graduate of Conestoga Valley High and a 1992 Penn State Turfgrass Management graduate. His hobbies include: golf, reading, gardening, and outdoors. Don is married to Jenn and they live in York.

Mark Malasavage is the Superintendent of the Country Club of Hershey. Prior to this position he was the Superintendent of of Hershey Parkview from 1991-1996 and Assistant Superintendent at Hershey Parkview from 1984-1990. Mark graduated from Rutgers two year turf program. His hobbies include handguns and golf. Mark is married to Carol and has a 6-year old son, Adam. They reside in Palmyra, PA.

Bill Brooks is the Golf Course Superintendent of Hanover Country Club. Prior to this position, Bill was Superintendent at Corning Country Club 1992-1994 and Assistant Superintendent at Lehigh Country Club 1988-1992. Bill has a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy. His hobbies include golf, skiing, tennis, and music (guitar). Bill is married to Deborah and has 2 sons. Bill and his family live in Abbotstown.

Mark DelSantro, CGCS is the Superintendent of Wyncote Golf Club. Prior positions include Superintendent at Brandywine Country Club and Assistant Superintendent at Baltimore Country Club. Mark has a Bachelors degree in Horticulture from Iowa State University. Mark is married to Patricia and resides in Downingtown, PA.

Mel Leaver is the Superintendent of Brookside Country Club in Allentown, PA. Mel started his career at Lehigh Country Club in 1979. He was the 2nd Assistant for 1 year before he accepted the position of 1st Assistant at Brookside. He worked at Brookside for 8 years before accepting the Superintendent position at Shephard Hills. After a year at Shephard Hills, he he returned to Brookside Country Club as Superintendent. Mel graduated from Penn State in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy. Mel previously served on the CPGCSA Board of Directors from 1981-1990 and from 1991-1995. His hobbies include basketball, golf, and ice hockey, and he has been coaching girls basketball for the past 7 years. Mel is married to Karen and has 3 children: Becky, Megan, and Stephen. He and his family reside in Emmaus.

We will be voting for President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and two Board of Director positions.

If you are interested in running for the board, please contact John Gehman at (610) 845-2491 or Wanda Fry (717) 274-6004. Nominations may also be made from the floor by a voting member in good standing at the annual meeting.

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Golf Results

We thank Bill Wall and his staff at Dauphin Highlands Golf Course for a wonderful day of golf and a very excellent speaker in Bill Love. Not to mention the grub was darn good!!!

This tournament was our Annual Association Championship.

The winners are:

Championship (No Handicap)

Whitey Krout	80
Bill Rahling	80
Bob Wert	80
Joe Herman	80
Jon Szekeres	80

1st Flight

Mike Shoppell	87
---------------	----

2nd Flight

Ralph Meola	86
-------------	----

3rd Flight

Greg Borzok	98
-------------	----

Congratulations to all our winners and thanks to all for your support.

On October 7, we will be sending two teams to the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council tournament at Huntsville Golf Club to represent Central Penn GCSA.

Team #1

Ted Zabrenski - Brookside Country Club
 Tom Ocepek - Heidelberg Country Club
 John Gehman - Butter Valley Golf Port
 Dick Kauffman - Village of Olde Hickory

Team #2

Dan Achenbach - Foxchase Golf Club
 Joe Herman - Gettysburg Country Club
 Alby Gerst - Colonial Country Club
 Randy Super - Colonial Country Club

Good Luck and have a great tournament. We hope to see all of you in October at the Country Club of Hershey.

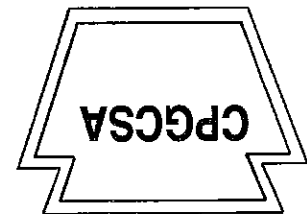
Thanks!

Bob Wert, Golf Chairman



Terry B. Morgan - Editor
Wanda S. Fry - Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 1420
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The Green Sheet



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.

We would like to congratulate the

"Smurf of Turf"

Whitey Krout

on his recent retirement.

Good Luck Whitey!!!

For Your Information...

- **Congratulations** to Bill & Deborah Brooks on the birth of their son, Matthew Christopher on Saturday, September 27, 1997.
- Don't forget to wear your name tags to all meetings. If you haven't received one or can not find yours, please contact Wanda to order a new one.
- Applications are now being accepted for Penn State's Two-Year Golf Course Turfgrass Management Program for the class beginning in September of 1998. There is an application fee of \$35.00 and the deadline for applications is December 31, 1997. Applications can be obtained by calling (814) 863-0129 or by writing Penn State University, 221 ASI Building, University Park, PA 16802.
- Please contact Wanda if either your home or work address and telephone numbers change, so we can keep our records up to date.