



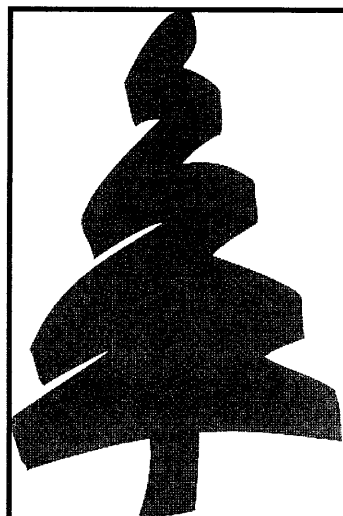
The Green Sheet



Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 8 Issue 8

November/December 2000



*Seasons
Greetings
from the
CPGCSA
Board of
Directors*

2000 Elections

The October meeting at the Country Club of York was the annual meeting with election of officers and directors for the 2001 meeting year. Listed below are the results.

President:

Dan Achenbach – Foxchase Golf Club

Vice President:

Bill Brooks – Hanover Country Club

Secretary/Treasurer:

Pete Ramsey – Range End Golf Club

Directors:

Faron Stoops – Mountain View Golf Course

Tom Kintzer – Quail Valley Golf Club

Mid-Atlantic Regional Update

by Darin S. Bevard, Agronomist

The cold temperatures have dramatically decreased activity on golf courses, at least as it relates to turf growth, and projects are in full swing. Bunker renovations, drainage work, and tee reconstruction seems to be commonplace. Dry weather has allowed a great deal of work to be accomplished.

In the southern portion of the region, bermudagrass fairway overseeding has been completed, and all reports indicate good establishment. For once, the weather has cooperated. While bermudagrass overseeding causes some agronomic problems with winter weed control and early summer playing conditions, many golf courses are now overseeding. This is more of a matter of playability, appearance, and politics rather than agronomy.

With regards to turf maintenance, one option to consider is a late-season fertilization (dormant feed) using a natural organic or slow release mineral fertilizer product. Considering the dollar spot pressure observed in 2000, late season fertilizer applications might help to alleviate dollar spot in the early portion of the 2001 season. Generally, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. is adequate. Although turf growth will be slow until next spring, the turf does grow. Having some level of nutrients slowly available to the plant throughout the winter can be beneficial.

The late fall and winter also brings in the conference season. We have been speaking at different conferences. Some interesting points have been noted below.

Dr. Wakar Uddin, plant pathologist at Penn State continues to work with gray leaf spot disease and perennial ryegrass. Two important points made were 1) some preemergence herbicides can lead to an increase in gray leaf spot during light to moderate pressure years (In heavy pressure years, it did not matter), and 2) fall applications of Prograss for Poa annua control had no impact on gray leaf spot.

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Past President's Message

Another year heads toward a close. I reflect on the accomplishments of the season, and look forward to 2001.

The board has done a terrific job in handling our monthly meetings, learning and informing our membership about PDI, and dealing with DER and the SRBC on state water issues. Our membership is continuing to grow and the overall participation looks promising. Our exiting board members Mark DelSantro, CGCS, Mark Malasavage, and Scott Fischer will be greatly missed. We welcome our new directors and I thank them for taking a more active role in our association.

It has been a privilege to work with this association. I have great respect for our current President Dan Achenbach, and I am sure he will do an outstanding job. Currently our members involved at the state and national level include: Jeff Fry, CGCS, Greg Fantuzzi, CGCS, John Chassard, and H. Jim Loke, CGCS. These gentlemen carry the great tradition of the Central Penn. We have many men who have been involved and are greatly respected in our industry: Tony, Sam, Terry, Corky, John, Dave, Bill, Jim, Jeff, and I could go on. I would like to thank you for what you do and have done for our profession.

Our ability to meet and share information to better our association, and the game of golf gives me great pride to call you friends and colleagues.

Finally I would like to thank Terry and his staff for hosting our last meeting, it was an experience I will probably never forget.

Thomas Ocepek

Presidents Message

Many thanks to Terry Wueschinski and the entire staff at the Country Club of York! It was an absolute pleasure playing again at his course. The course was immaculate and the weather cooperated fairly well. To all of you who couldn't attend, you missed a very challenging course and an excellent meal.

My personal thanks to Tom Ocepek for the past year as President of our association. He has worked extremely hard over the past years on the board to make this association the best it can be. I look forward to working with Tom, other members on the board, and all of our membership over the next year.

Think about getting involved in our association. Either volunteer for a committee, host a meeting, share any ideas with members, and make yourselves known to everyone. This was why I got involved with the board of directors. (Other than Jim Jones twisting my arms) It was frustrating for me going to meetings over the years and not getting to know too many people. I found myself being content to just play golf, eat, and go home. Being on the boards of directors has helped me tremendously, personally and professionally! Don't be content, introduce yourselves to as many members as you can. We all can benefit from our experiences and friendships.

I wish much health and happiness to everyone for the upcoming holiday season and new year!

Daniel Achenbach

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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 CPGCSA at the next meeting.

Michael Anderson, Superintendent
South Hills Golf Club.....Class A

Adam Bagwell, Superintendent
Chisel Creek Golf Club.....Class B

Peter Graham, Distributor
Floratine.....Class AF

Neal McNutt, Superintendent
Saucon Valley Country Club.....Class B

Matthew Rayman, Assistant Superintendent
Outdoor Country Club.....Class C

Paul Solomon, Superintendent
Willow Valley Golf Course.....Class B

If you know of anyone who may be interested in membership into the association or has questions on the status of their applications, please have them contact Tom Kintzer at (717) 359-8053.

Random Thoughts

- * The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- * Change is inevitable except from vending machines.....
- * He who laughs last thinks slowest.
- * The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the ability to reach it.
- * A day without sunshine is like, night.
- * Save the whales. Collect the whole set.
- * On the other hand, you have different fingers.
- * You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say will be misquoted, then used against you.
- * Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- * Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.
- * To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
- * Love may be blind but marriage is a real eye-opener.
- * The sooner you fall behind the more time you'll have to catch up.
- * 99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- * I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

From the Editor.....Bill Brooks

The 2000 golf season is over! Now we can all reflect on this past season and the many things we've learned through another normally abnormal year. What was your biggest learning experience in 2000?

I know I have learned several things dealing with turf. I was once again reminded that good drainage is very important! I learned that 10 gallons of hydraulic oil spilled on a fairway can be remedied by 10 bags of sphagnum peat moss from a local store. I learned that fall aerification may not always be a time to look forward to. And I learned that when I hire a good employee, I have to find all the ways possible to keep him/her! And I learned much more.

The biggest learning experience, however, happened just this past week when a very good friend told me that his 2 year old son was diagnosed with Leukemia. Instantly, the golf course concerns faded and my perspective was changed. So what did I learn from this seemingly tragic experience?

I learned more vividly than ever that FAMILY, not the golf course, should be where I devote most of my time. I know I've said this before, but it really has never hit home until now. The difficult reality is that most likely the golf course will be here tomorrow but my wife and kids may not.

I'll say it again and these will be my final words as newsletter editor. Spend quality time with your family. That time will be well worth it!

Upcoming Events

January 9-11, 2001

Eastern PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA

January 25, 2001

Northeastern PA Turf School & Trade Show, The Woodlands Inn & Resort, Wilkes Barre, PA

February 11-18, 2001

GCSAA 72nd International Golf Course Conference and Show, Dallas, Texas

February 27-28, 2001

Western PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Pittsburgh Expo Mart/Radisson Hotel, Monroeville, PA

Delaware Valley College Turf Program Builds Putting Green

Turfgrass Management students at Delaware Valley College have a new living laboratory, thanks to a recently constructed putting green located at the college.

Scheduled to open in the summer of 2001, the 1300-square foot United States Golf Association specification green will be used as a hands-on teaching tool for students studying turf management. Students will be involved in every aspect of the project. To date, 30 students have worked a total of 130 hours. Dr. Doug Linde, who heads the college's turf program and serves as DelVal's golf coach, will guide construction and maintenance.

The project has brought valuable industry and campus attention toward the Delaware Valley College turf program. There is now a high maintenance turfgrass area on campus that the students can monitor, maintain, and use.

"The project has brought valuable industry and campus attention toward the Delaware Valley College turf program. There is now a high maintenance turfgrass area on campus that the students can monitor, maintain and use," Linde said.

According to Linde, building a putting green is a significant step for the turf program. He plans to use the green to help attract research projects in which students can be involved. The green will be open to college students, faculty and staff use. Linde also hopes his NCAA Division III golf team's practice sessions will wear out the green.

The \$5,000 project is funded through donations of cash, materials, equipment, and labor from a variety of companies, including Fisher and Son Company, Philadelphia Turf Company, Egypt Farms Inc., Bucks County Crushed Stone Company, Mitchell Products, George Ley Company and Soil Air Inc.

For more information about becoming involved in the project please contact Doug Linde in the Department of Agronomy and Environmental Sciences at 215-489-2260.

For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the February Newsletter, the deadline for submissions is **January 15, 2001**. Please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to cpgcsa@nbn.net or fry@nbn.net.

USGA Update (continued from page 1)

Dr. Paul Backman from Washington State University is doing extensive research on earthworm control in turfgrass. The use of acidifying fertilizers and other irritants had varying impacts on earthworm populations. The best results for reducing earthworm casts were achieved when sand topdressing was applied to a depth of 1-1 ½ inches. Interestingly, several Mid-Atlantic region golf courses have initiated sand topdressing programs for various reasons. It will be interesting to watch what occurs regarding earthworm populations on these courses compared to others.

Paul Heller, entomologist at Penn State, discussed insect activity in Pennsylvania. He noted that black turfgrass Ataenius activity was low this year. In our travels we noted large numbers of adult beetles late in the season that may be an indicator of a bumper crop of grubs next spring. Scouting programs will be crucial.

Dr. Heller also is concerned about the loss of many of the organophosphate insecticides. Insecticide chemistries are limited, and the loss of various products may eventually lead to a serious resistance problem with many insect pests.

We would like to thank everyone who supported us through their use of the Turf Advisory Service in 2000. We look forward to working with you again next year.

We will continue to keep you updated with the happenings in the Mid-Atlantic Region through regular updates. Feel free to call us if we can be of help.

Source: Stan Zontek or Darin Bevard at (610) 696-4747 or Keith Happ at (412) 341-5922.

GCSAA Annual Meeting and Elections

As previously announced, Pete Ramsey will be attending the GCSAA Conference and Show and representing CPGCSA as our Voting Delegate and Thomas Ocepek will be our Alternate. If you have any questions or concerns about voting, who is campaigning for offices or PDI, please contact Pete at Range End Golf Course (717) 432-3711 or regc@pa.net.

Good Records...the easy way!

by Marty Campfield

We all know the benefits of good record keeping, but let's face it - keeping them can be really boring and tedious-especially if you're still doing it with pencil and paper. What's worse, when you need to look back and see what was done, searching through all those papers can waste a lot of time (if you can find the papers in the first place!) That's when you loathe the "4 F's" of record keeping: Find the form / Fill it out / File it / Forget where you put it!

But, when you have to deal with a chemical "phyto" problem, a neighbor's pesticide concerns, a disease or insect outbreak, or remembering what fertilizer applications were made last year, good records are exactly what you need. And you need a way to get at them easily and quickly!

For these reasons, many course Superintendents are turning to computers to eradicate the "4 F's". They're benefiting from the ease of finding and searching past records, pulling reports quickly, and summarizing financial and work data. And the real key to getting the most "4 F" busting power out of your computer can be found in today's new software packages that can ease the burden of record keeping. So, here are the important features to look for as you turn to computer software:

- "Auto-notation" technology, that writes sentences for you as you simply click with the mouse, instead of making you type!
- The ability to easily create detailed, accurate maps of your course for on-screen viewing.
- The ability to easily print the maps you see on screen, with the text and visual data displayed in the colors and formats you want.
- Linking of aerial photography and remote sensing digital images with the map, so you can see and print them.
- Linking actual work and application records to the map, so that by clicking on a green or other area you can instantly see all of the notations and work records associated with it, over a selected date range.
- Ability to utilize the new GPS/GIS standards for detailing locations of underground pipes and wires, irrigation heads, hazards, key features, pesticide applications, etc.
- The ability to "drive" variable rate sprayers and spreaders, which you may be using in the very near future.
- Combined financial and work information, to show you repair budgets and actual expenses on renovations, etc.
- Generation and printing of the reports you will need (pesticide and fertilizer applications by product or by treated area, etc.)
- Weather data summaries and charting for degree-day calculations, disease alerts, etc.
- Equipment records, including equipment digital photos, parts inventories, etc.
- The ability to boost your professional image to your greens committee and supervisor, with printed charts, tables, history records, and maps showing your accomplishments on the course.

Computers and the right software can turn the "4 F's" of record keeping into the "4 A's" (Accessibility / Accuracy / Availability / Advancement) by helping you succeed at what you do best!

2001 GCSAA Seminars

Sponsored by CPGCSA

- January 25 Strategic Planning for Golf Course Operations
Allan Pulaski
- January 26 Managing on the Job Behavior
Gerry Sweda

If you are interested in hosting a CPGCSA monthly meeting this season, please contact Dan Achenbach at (717) 336-3847.

Why Do I Need a Secretary

by Tony Goodley, CGCS

This was a question asked by not only the Director of Golf but the General Manager as well. My answer was, "because I need one!" I explained:

The demands of the golf course superintendent from a clerical standpoint as well as everyday course maintenance have become astronomical. The golf course condition requirements (thanks to TV and greens committee chairman) are enough to keep the Roloids people in business from golf course superintendents alone. We get so bogged down with paperwork that sometimes our duties on the course suffer or we end up taking the paper work home and then our domestic duties become neglected.

If the above reasons weren't enough to justify the position, I was willing to eliminate one of the course part time positions to make room in by budget for a secretary. All of this was to be done on a trial basis with upper management to make the final decision.

As it turned out, my secretary became invaluable, allowing the mechanic to do his job without having to answer the phone, take messages, and track people down. She also helped out in accounting during a time when they were busy and short staffed. Her hours are 8:00 am to 2:30 pm, Monday through Friday, during the busy months of April - October/November and three days a week during our slower months of November through March.

As Heritage Hills is also an ISO 9000 certified resort, she serves as the auditor/representative from our department and handles the additional paperwork that ISO generates.

If I were in a position to have to do all of the paperwork and my golf course duties as well, I think I would either seek employment elsewhere or just get out of the business. As long as I am in the business and no matter where I work, this is a position I would fight to keep.

In addition to answering the phones and delivering messages, here are some of the other things that my secretary does: orders products and parts, calls for estimates to compare prices, fills out the purchase orders, tracks these through the computer, checks incoming material to be sure it is what we ordered, distributes PO copies to the proper departments, tracks our expenses for budgetary purposes, manages and prints weekly budget status reports, prints and files the logs and forms that we use and designs new ones as needed, checks and prints our e-mail and gets a daily weather update, checks golf and related websites for pertinent information, makes sure that the training records are up to date, prints up training manuals for new hires, maintains our ISO manuals, serves as an ISO 9002 Resort Auditor and maintains all of our computer records. She also greets applicants in my absence and handles the application process (not the interview). So much of what we do is computerized these days that any superintendent and/or assistant superintendent who are not computer literate really must have a secretary or office assistant at least part time.

As for upper management's decision, let me just say that my secretary has been here for a year and a half!



CPGCSA Supporter List

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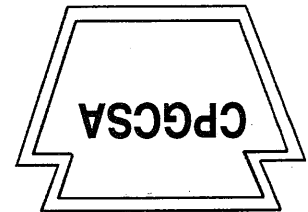
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*Thanks
 to our supporters
 for your generous
 contributions through
 the 2000 season*

Happy New Year!!!

William E. Brooks - Editor
Wanda S. Fry - Executive Secretary
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The Green Sheet



GCSAA Education

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR GOLF COURSE OPERATIONS

January 25, 2001
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Heritage Hills Golf Resort
& Conference Center
York, PA

Member Fee: \$110
Non-member Fee: \$165
CEUs: 0.7; Code: 01RS191-02

MANAGING ON THE JOB BEHAVIOR

January 26, 2001
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Heritage Hills Golf Resort
& Conference Center
York, PA

Member Fee: \$120
Non-member Fee: \$180
CEUs: 0.7; Code: 01RS194-06

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