

## April Meeting

### Blue Ridge Country Club

*Joint Meeting with Central Pennsylvania  
Club Managers Association, Keystone  
and Central Pennsylvania GCSA*

**April 10, 2001**

**8:00 AM - Continental Breakfast**

**9:00 AM - Workshop**

**12:00 Noon - Lunch**

**1:00 PM - Golf**

**Dinner following golf**

Country Club casual or golf attire

## Directions to Blue Ridge Country Club

### From the North:

Route 81 South to Front Street Exit. Take Front Street North to Route 39. Take Route 39 three miles to the club.

-or-

Take Route 322 South to Route 39, then follow above directions.

### From the South:

Route 81 North and follow above directions.

-or-

Route 83 North to Route 283 North. Go to Colonial Road Exit. Take Colonial Road 3 miles to Route 39. Turn left on to Route 39, follow 1 mile, club is on the right.

### From East or West:

Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit 19. Take 283 North and follow above directions

## WINTER WINDS DOWN

by

Darin Bevard, Agronomist, Mid-Atlantic Region  
updated 3-2-01

The calendar says that winter is winding down. However, Punxsutawney Phil's Groundhog Day prediction of six more weeks of winter seems to be holding up very well.

As the snow melts, pink snow mold has been reported at various golf courses. Those who were lucky enough to apply preventative materials in the late fall have come through with minimal infection, while some damage has been noted on those courses that could not apply preventative treatments due to the early snow cover. Pink snow mold can be very active in the spring, and the residual from fall-applied fungicides is likely gone. Contact our office for treatment options, if needed.

On February 26, we completed our first regional conference in Monroeville, Pennsylvania. Attendance was very good due to the list of speakers and our tie-in with the 30th annual Western Pennsylvania Turf Conference. Dr. Peter Dernoeden from the University of Maryland discussed the perceived increase in dollar spot activity. Dollar spot may not be on many people's minds right now, however, this disease was a major problem during the 2000 growing season. While Dr. Dernoeden is not sure about the ultimate cause of increased dollar spot he offered some good thoughts regarding control issues.

- Reduced mowing heights place additional stress on the turf making it more susceptible to disease. This trend is not likely to change, so other management practices must be optimized in order to manage dollar spot effectively.
- Maintain fertility levels at moderate levels to promote good, healthy turf. Spoon-feeding with urea, ammonium sulfate, or other readily available nitrogen sources

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## President's Message

Thanks to Jeff Fry and the staff at Lebanon Country Club for hosting the Winter Educational Meeting in February. The day was filled with exceptional speakers who gave their time to benefit everyone. Bill Brooks organized a well balanced program that was very enjoyable, offered us pesticide credits and PDU credits for certified superintendents. We all need to thank Bill for the hard work he put into the program. I know he spent many hours calling (begging) people to be speakers and he did a great job keeping the program on time.

As spring arrives I find myself wanting to get out of the shop and cut some grass!! Not that sun deprivation is a reason for wanting to be outside, it is just time to get some fresh air. The paint and parts cleaner fumes have taken their toll. It certainly is nice going into the season knowing that the equipment is ready to go also. As we all look forward to the upcoming season, please take some time to realize that our occupations are not the most important things in our lives! Spend QUALITY time with family and friends.

Please plan to attend the April meeting at Blue Ridge Country Club. There is still time to fill our and return the 2001 Surveys to Wanda!

Dan Achenbach

## April Superintendent Profile

Keith Latshaw has been the Superintendent at Blue Ridge Country Club since 1986. He had been an assistant at the club since 1975. He previously worked as an assistant at the Country Club of Rochester in New York. Keith grew up on a golf course. He lived with, and worked for his Uncle, Paul Latshaw, during his junior and senior high school years. He also worked at Shaker Heights Country Club in Ohio, Jackson Country Club in Michigan, and Susquehanna Country Club in Pennsylvania. He graduated from the Penn State Turf-grass Management Program in 1973. Keith is married twenty seven years and has four children and two grandchildren. He spends most of his time following and supporting his children's activities. He also enjoys working on classic cars and hunting.

## Golf Course Profile

The golf course at Blue Ridge Country Club, with one of the highest slope ratings in our region, is one of Pennsylvania's finest. It is an eighteen-hole, par 72 course with natural beauty and professionally landscaped greens and fairways. The course measures 6,740 yards. The club was founded in 1937. In 1982 the clubhouse was destroyed by fire and a new clubhouse was constructed. Blue Ridge is following a master plan adopted by the membership. Some of those changes and improvements include: dredging the lakes, installing a new double row irrigation system, and constructing new shop and pumphouse buildings. New cart paths were constructed, along with a new #2 hole, two new practice greens and fourteen tees. The club also developed a short game practice area. The grand finale of the master plan is to construct a full-scale practice facility.

*We would also like to recognize the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of Club Managers for sharing this month's educational opportunity with us.*

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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.

Nat Binns, Superintendent  
Schuylkill Country Club.....Class A

Patrick J. Beard, Assistant Superintendent  
Gettysburg Country Club.....Class C

Brian R. Dilliplaine, Assistant Superintendent  
Manor Golf Club.....Class C

John L. Erickson, Superintendent  
Hawk Lake Golf Club.....Class B

Richard E. Gdovin, Sales and Consultation  
Andre & Son, Inc.....Class AF

Barry Grote, Territory Manager  
The Andersons.....Class AF

Jeffrey Koch, Assistant Superintendent  
Glenmaura National Golf Club.....Class C

Joe Sellers, Distributor  
Premier Turf Solutions.....Class AF

David R. Williams, Superintendent  
State College Elks Country Club.....Class A

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Tom Kintzer, Quail Valley Golf Course (717) 359-8053.

## Member Updates

### Congratulations to:

Mark & Heather Monn on the birth of their daughter Allison, January 18, 2001.

### Deepest Sympathies to:

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Duich on the loss of their son, Robert on December 21, 2000.

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The 2001 Rosterbooks will go to print the middle of April. If you have any changes in employment or address, please contact Wanda prior to April 9, 2001.

## Winter Winds Down ..cont'd from page 1

provides very good results of stimulating the turf without excessive growth. Monitor thatch levels and manage accordingly. Excess thatch is a major contributor to dollar spot problems.

- When fine turf areas are not mowed first thing in the morning, dragging or whipping dew and guttation water will allow the turf to dry more quickly during the morning hours, which will reduce dollar spot pressure.
- Flat fan nozzles have become increasingly absent from golf course sprayers. Lower pressure nozzles are used more often. For disease control, Dr. Dernoeden's research indicates that flat fan nozzles still provide the best disease control. This may be because the higher nozzle pressures help to move the fungicide deeper into the turf canopy and to the crown of the plant. Water volume is crucial. At least two gallons of water/M sq. ft. should be used for best disease control.
- When dollar spot is active, use high label (curative) rates to gain control. Once the disease is active, preventative treatments will have minimal effect. Chlorothalonil still offers the best knock down of active dollar spot because it is a true contact fungicide. A chlorothalonil product should be included in fungicide sprays for curative control. Other materials may take time to provide control. Additionally, it may be beneficial to suspend growth regulator applications until the turf has recovered from the disease.

Looking ahead, on Thursday, March 22 our second regional conference will be held at Woodholme Country Club near Baltimore, Maryland. For conference registration contact James Farrell, USGA Regional Affairs, phone (401) 295-5430. We hope to see you there.

Hopefully, spring will come soon with a return to warmer temperatures, although this may fall under the category of be careful what you wish for. Warm weather will come soon enough. Until then, exercise patience. Winterkill is still a possibility, but to-date it does not seem to be a major problem in the Mid-Atlantic. As always, if we can be of any help, feel free to contact any of the Mid-Atlantic agronomists. Keith Happ can be reached at (412) 341-5922. Stan Zontek and Darin Bevard can be reached at (610) 696-4747.

## For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the May Newsletter, the deadline for submissions is **April 27, 2001**. Please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to [cpgcsa@nbn.net](mailto:cpgcsa@nbn.net).

## Mission Statement

To All Members:

We are in the process of updating our mission statement or goal of the association. We need your input! Please contact anyone on the Board of Directors for any additions or changes you would like to see. Thank you.

## Current Statement:

The purpose of the Association is to develop a greater knowledge in the science and maintenance of turf grasses, and in the growing of all plant life desired at a Golf Course; also, to create a closer friendship among those engaged in this profession.

## Voting In Dallas

by Pete Ramsey

Well, the GCSAA can breath a sigh of relief, after all the hype, articles, meetings and discussion, PDI survived.

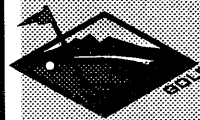
Needing a two-thirds majority to pass, the amendment breezed through at 75% in favor with only one minor bump in the road. Two gentlemen from the west coast argued the language in the amendment was improper and to be tabled until next year but to no avail. The GCSAA's legal council repeatedly assured them to the contrary and the filibuster fell short. The anticipation of waiting for the vote count to be read reminded me of waiting for the clock to strike midnight on Y2K. Judging by the surprise of the delegates, most of us thought this would be closer than it was and we moved on.

Two other issues of importance were voted on. Article IX, Section 1 would increase the available balance in the Benevolence Fund. Of the 7,895 votes that were cast, 424 cold hearted people somehow thought this was a bad idea. The other issue was to allow absentee balloting but too many questions remained unanswered about the best way to do this leading to its demise.

Overall, this is a very interesting experience able to be viewed by any member who so chooses. Election reform committees across the nation could take a lesson in voting procedures. The GCSAA doesn't leave much room for error using a good system of checks and balances to insure the voters intent was honored. We are fortunate to have such a professional organization behind us. I was honored to represent Central Penn and it's members in Dallas.

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## Heather and Gorse

By Mark V. DelSantoro, CGCS

Is there anyone out there in heather and gorse land who feels the way I do??? As I get older and somewhat less wise, it is becoming blatantly obvious that the world and its inhabitants are awful funny! Now, some might ask “funny how... funny ha-ha or funny queer?” My answer would be simply both! In fact, I’m considering writing my first book, titled “I’m Alright, The Whole World Is Messed Up.” You see, as a devoted Ursinologist, I try my best to look at the world from a rather simplistic point of view. As a Taoist might comment... from the perspective of an “uncarved block of wood.” And yet with age supposedly comes wisdom. My problem is that the older I get the more I don’t understand, which is why I feel I’m getting less wise.

I’m getting a bit sidetracked... anyway; I want to be the first to make the proclamation of the antithesis to global warming. In fact, I’m proposing that we’re on the verge of entering the sequel to the ice age. Let’s call it “the Return of the Ice Age” or simply “the Ice Age II” or how about “Ice, Ice Baby!”

Now, I know what you’re thinking!!! Here he goes again! But listen, I’ve thought long and hard on this subject. Consider the following facts...

- The world reached an all-time record low for the Northern Hemisphere this past winter in Siberia... minus 94 degrees Fahrenheit... the world record is minus 127 degrees Fahrenheit set in 1983 in Antarctica... now that’s cold enough to freeze anyone’s snowballs! Does that sound like it’s getting warmer?
- The U.S. recorded the coldest November and December on record and it was the 25th coldest winter in 106 years. Does that sound like it’s getting warmer??
- Extreme cold was also experienced in Japan, China, Korea, Russia, and India. Does that... warmer???

Why do I bother to bring this up??? Because I’m growing older, and as I grow older, I’m getting tired of listening to these bleeding-heart, liberal, stand-on-a-pulpit-and-listen-to-me, please give me money, save the environment, save the whales, save the Delaware Blue Hens, save the chinch bugs, save the Japanese Beetle grubs, save the Rhizoctonia, save whatever the government will give us money to save groups making up stories to the American people just to get government subsidies and their names on TV.

My antithesis that global warming is an absolute sham is based on three primary scientific reasons. First, if the globe were warming, more Canadians who live outside of Montreal and Toronto would be more tan! This may sound funny (either funny ha-ha or funny queer), but research shows that while urban areas are getting warmer, the rural areas are not. Hmmm, did anyone ever wonder why the high temperatures at your golf courses rarely reach the city highs? Second, if the globe were warming more Canadians, especially those over 50 years old from Montreal and/or Toronto, would sleep with their windows closed and their air conditioners blasting. If global warming were in fact true, not only would the daytime temperatures be warmer, but also the nighttime temperatures. Research disputes any such occurrence. Hmmm, very interesting ay!!! Finally, if the globe were warming more Canadians in general would ride hot air balloons shirtless (not that anyone would want to see that??!!). The fact is that if the globe were warming, the atmospheric temperatures would rise in proportion to the surface temperatures and once again, research shows that this just ain’t happening!

So, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but it’s time to dispel all of those global warming rumors that are running so virulently rampant. The melting of the Arctic ice cap, which will result in the flooding of the entire universe (starting with O Canada first); it’s not happening. The forest fires in Florida, directly related to that little wench named “*la nina*,” sorry... upon my latest visit to southern Florida a month ago, over 80% of the fires were considered to be set by either arsonists or possibly by members of the global warming society! The melting of the Himalayan glaciers... well OK, who really cares about the Himalayan Glaciers anyway? As for the melting of the Alpine glaciers, which will potentially wipe out all European winter sporting events, as we know it, freeing up our televisions for more afternoon XFL games!!! Is this really the lesser of two evils??? It’s not happening! Finally, as for the old melting of the ice caps is going flood the ocean argument... well, put a glass filled with ice and water on your desk in the summertime. This works faster if you live in the city where it’s warmer!!! Just be sure to measure the water level before and after the ice melts. And so Professor DelSantoro’s defense rests!

By the way, did I mention how great it was to be back in the Heather and Gorse saddle again? Just remember that as I get older and thus, more confused and less wise, my inhibitions about political correctness tend to evaporate faster than the Alpine glaciers and the Polar ice caps in tandem. So, global cooling is what it’s all about my friends... global cooling and that uncarved block of wood mentality. That’s my Ursinologic, globally-cooled and somewhat snow blind point of view from the heather and gorse.

## Equipment For Sale

Please contact Mike Swisher at Lebanon Country Club (717) 272-1893 if you are interesting in the following:

- \* Powa Kaddy electric pull carts. A unit consists of cart, 2 batteries and 2 charging units. \$75.00+ tax per unit.

If interested in the following equipment, contact Mark Biery at (800) 338-1466.

- \* Toro HydroJet 3000, 34 hours - call for price.
- \* Toro 223D, excellent condition - \$4,500.00
- \* Toro GM 3000 - \$2,800.00
- \* Rotovator 3', 3 pt. Hitch - \$1,000.00
- \* Cushman Refreshment Center - \$2,800.00
- \* Sweepster Broom fits Toro 327D - \$1,500.00
- \* 84" National - \$3,500.00
- \* Toro Spiker, fits SandPro - \$1,000.00

We will continue to advertise "used equipment" and "equipment wanted" in each newsletter. If you have anything that may be of interest, please contact Wanda to place your ad FREE!!

## Allied News

The Allied Golf Course Superintendents Association of Pennsylvania wish to thank the following donors for their generosity and support. We could not operate without their help.

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**\$75**

To celebrate GCSAA's 75th Anniversary we are offering a special membership dues rebate program beginning **January 1, 2001** and continuing through **March 1, 2002**.

During this time, superintendents and assistant superintendents joining GCSAA for the **first time** can do so for just **\$75\***!

In addition to this amazing rebate, if you join before the start of conference, you also receive **FREE REGISTRATION** to the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show of your choice!

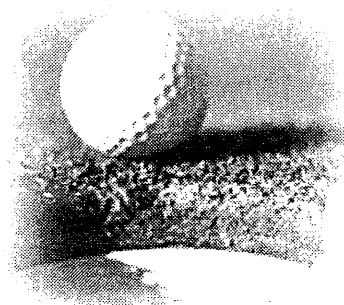
## Example

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**Either way,  
it's only \$75**

*\* Offer limited to superintendents and assistant superintendents joining GCSAA for the first time or those superintendents and assistant superintendents whose memberships have lapsed for at least two years.*



## All of this for just \$75!

For more information contact the GCSAA Service Center  
at **1-800-472-7878**

## Ask The Golf Course Architect

by

Edward M. Beidel, Jr., ASGCA, RLA  
Vice President and Director of Golf Services  
Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc.  
Towson, Maryland

### **Our golf course is beginning to show signs of age and we are considering renovations. What are the advantages of a Golf Course Master Plan? (Part one of a two-part column).**

Consider the Master Plan as a blueprint to guide the renovation of your course, just as the original blueprints guided its construction. By doing some thoughtful planning, the project will proceed smoothly and with fewer headaches for the Club personnel, greens committee, and golf course superintendent and maintenance staff.

A Master Plan can address a variety of goals and desires for renovation. First, Master Planning can help a facility maintain its competitive edge with other, newer facilities. By updating and refreshing the visual quality of the course, through the addition or redesign of tees, greens, and bunkers, a course can take on an entirely new character and add strategic playing value. Particularly, those courses designed during the "low maintenance era" of golf course design (for example, post World War II), now look bland or lack character when compared to newer courses.

Second, a Master Plan can address a challenge shared by many existing courses that of maintaining poorly located and constructed golf features. Consider for example, sand bunkers that lack sub-drainage, thereby affecting play or forcing the maintenance crew to spend additional time addressing the problem. Relatedly, trees that are too close to greens or tee boxes, reduce the amount of air movement and sun needed to maintain quality turf, again requiring additional mechanical and human resources. Thus, master planning can address problem maintenance issues, which in turn can enhance aesthetic and playing issues.

Third, Master Plan renovations, reconstructions or enhancements can generate new interest in a course and by incorporating even small changes, such as additional tee boxes, will attract new members or users to a facility. Particularly with the increasing numbers of female, junior and senior golfers, a facility that can accommodate various levels of skill, while still providing a challenge to low handicap golfers, will hold a distinctive advantage over other, less accommodating courses in the area.

Fourth, golfers in the United States prefer wall to wall "green" in comparison to those in the United Kingdom who will accept varying shades of "brown", which is a topic worthy of discussion in a future column. Thus the challenge for superintendents in the United States is to keep the course lush green even during times of severe drought. Since superintendents do not control the weather, this challenges many antiquated irrigation systems, which lack the coverage expected and require excessive hand labor that is part of a partially automated or manual irrigation system.

Fifth, a coordinated Master Plan addresses a common mistake made by "piecemeal" renovations. That is, the tendency to install a new irrigation system and then two years later to desire new features such as an additional tee box or a revised green configuration. What commonly happens is that the design of these new facilities is guided by the existing irrigation system. The same thing can occur when golf car paths are installed without thought to future desired renovations. The result is that proposed aesthetic and play renovations and improvements are then dictated by the irrigation system or a golf car path. The point is that with a coordinated Master Plan, renovation of all golf course features (tee boxes, greens, bunkering, golf car paths, irrigation systems) are designed in concert.

Sixth, unsafe and unfair (poorly designed) playing conditions are common concerns for golf course superintendents and course owners / operators. Obviously, unsafe conditions pose a liability to the course and need to be addressed. Unfair playing conditions include car paths in or near primary playing areas, excessive cross slopes on fairways, and "invisible" playing hazards and intended landing areas. Obviously, unfair playing conditions can be as a result of design or poor maintenance. By resolving unfair playing conditions, the golf experience becomes more enjoyable to the golfer. Additionally, unfair playing conditions produce slow play, which in turn can result in loss of revenue and increased golfer frustration.

.....continued next page.....



## Ask the Architect.....continued from page 8

Seventh, because master planning considers overall course assessment, the golf course architect can conduct an evaluation for poor course routing, awkward par sequencing, and "hole difficulty progression". All of this can contribute to slow play, minimal interest and weak shot values. In some cases, simple re-routing or re-numbering of the golf holes can create a better progression of golf holes, allowing for more variety in the playing experience.

Eighth, when a course is undergoing repair or renovation, disrupted play is to be expected. However, because master planning considers the current golf operation as well as future improvements, golfers experience much less disruption during the time of construction. Sometimes, what appears to be a very aggressive renovation program turns out to be the least disruptive in terms of program implementation and facility operation.

It should be clear that a good Master Plan could address a variety of goals for the golf course owners and superintendents. In the next column, we will address the specific objectives of a Master Plan and the role of the golf course architect.

*For further information on Master Planning, contact Ed Beidel at Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc. at 410-296-3333 or e-mail Ed at [ebeidel@dmw.com](mailto:ebeidel@dmw.com). Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc. is a multi-disciplinary firm of golf course architects, land planners, landscape architects, civil engineers, environmental professionals and surveyors.*

## Congratulations!!!

The following Central Penn members were recognized at the GCSAA Annual Meeting in Dallas as becoming new "Quarter Century Members".

Michael Benedict

Gregory Bollinger

Gregory Borzok

Robert W. Eichert

James W. Jones, CGCS

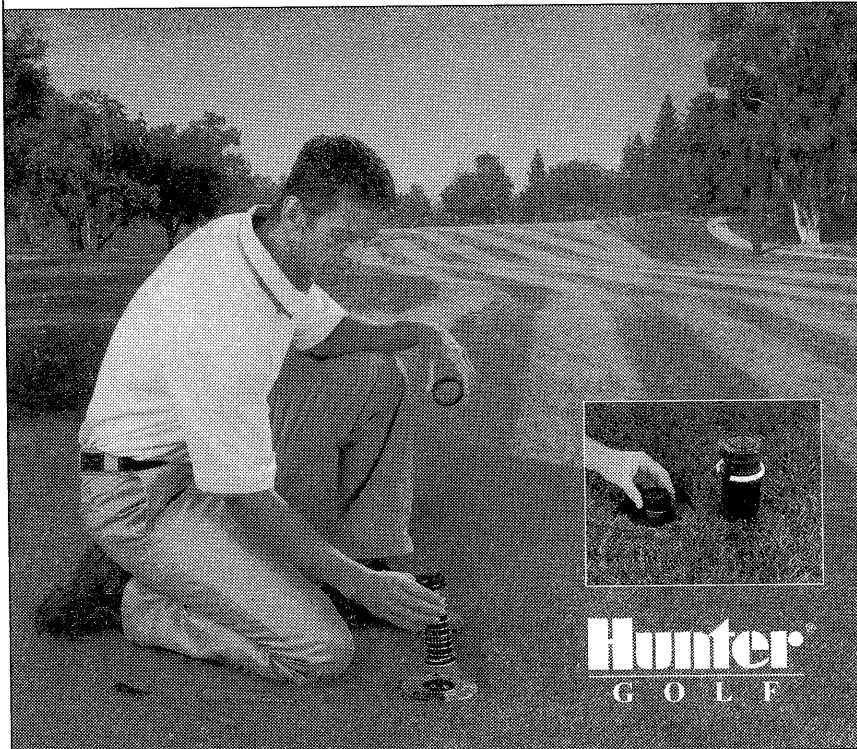
Dennis Watkins

## Mark Your Calendars!!!!!!

**Annual CPGCSA Family Picnic  
October 6, 2001**

**Site and times to be announced**

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The Hunter RT Retro Riser is specifically designed to replace 1-inch inlet Toro® golf rotors, including models 630, 730, 760 and the discontinued 660.

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## CPGCSA Merchandise

We have adopted a new Central Penn logo and are now in the process designing merchandise. Look for order forms, prices, and sample items at upcoming meetings.



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*Thanks to our supporters!*

Mark V. DeSantoro, CGCS - Editor  
Wanda S. Fry - Executive Secretary  
P.O. Box 1420  
Lebanon, PA 17042

## The Green Sheet



2001 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule	
May 16	Fairview Golf Course Jim Jones, CGCS
June	TBA
July 10	Regents Glen Country Club Mark MacDonald
August	TBA Joint Meeting with PAGCS
September 24	Bent Creek Country Club Jim Loke, CGCS
October 9	Iron Valley Golf Course Chris Martin