

April Meeting

Susquehanna Valley Country Club

Joint Meeting with
Keystone Association of GCS

April 13, 2005

10:30 AM - Speaker

11:45 AM - Lunch

12:30 PM - Shotgun

**There will not be a CPGCSA Board of Directors
Meeting on this date.**

Superintendent Profile

Greg Bingeman has been Superintendent at Susquehanna Valley Country Club for 33 years. He is a 1969 Penn State University turfgrass graduate.

Golf Course Profile

Susquehanna Valley Country Club is a private club that was established in 1918. It was originally a nine hole course. The back nine, which was designed by William Gordon was opened in 1958.

Education

The speaker for this meeting is Mark Hartle from the PA Fish Commission. Mark's presentation will be "Algae and Invasive Weed Control in Ponds".

**Susquehanna Valley Country Club
Hummel Wharf, PA 17831
Phone: 570-743-7052**

Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

Enough Already!

By Darin S. Bevard, Agronomist
March 21, 2005

Can it really be Spring? The Mid-Atlantic Region has experienced below normal temperatures for most of March. Oh yes, there was the one day that teased us when temperatures approached 70 degrees in many areas. However, this teaser was followed by a strong cold front that left snow and cold temperatures in its wake. We all know warm temperatures will arrive soon enough, but what can superintendents do right now?

With regard to forcing the grass to green-up and grow, there is little that you can do. Until soil temperatures increase, turf growth will be very slow. The downside is that the instant temperatures warm up the golfers will be out in droves. The turf may suffer some mechanical damage early on with increased traffic and slow growth. The flipside to this dilemma is that the majority of golf courses depend upon their daily rounds to generate revenue. Dry conditions, which minimize chances for mechanical damage, could limit damage that may occur. However, none of us is willing to bet on the spring weather we will receive. The days are, however, getting longer so warmer temperatures will arrive. Once growth resumes, turf areas should recover very quickly, albeit with some light topdressing to smooth surfaces.

Even with the cold temperatures our region is receiving, there are some tasks that can be completed. For example, appli-

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President's Message

Today is Good Friday which seems to be the unofficial kickoff to the golf season. We are all out trying to condition and stripe our courses again but there is something that makes mowing fairways while it's snowing feel like a paradox. I no longer have to concern myself with soil temperatures after throwing my thermometer into the woods in frustration. Les Still is going to get a phone call.

I would like to thank Greg Byrne of Chambersburg Country Club for stepping up to host our September Championship and Annual Meeting. In April we travel north to Susquehanna Country Club for a joint meeting with Keystone. I would encourage everyone to make this trip, they need our support. This year don't use the excuse of being too busy to come to meetings. Everyone is busy, it is a given these days. We have made adjustments with this year's meetings to accommodate member's time with their families. So this year call your buddies and let's play some golf!

Pete Ramsey

Central Penn Night -- David Rafferty Distinguished Service Award



The 3rd Annual Dave Rafferty Distinguished Service Award presentation was held on January 29, 2005 at the Lancaster Host Resort. The event is sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association honoring the lifetime achievements of one of our members. This year's recipient was Terry Wueschinski, CGCS of York, Pennsylvania. Terry was Golf Course Superintendent of Country Club of York and a past president of the CPGCSA. Terry is pictured here with Bonnie Rafferty.

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(717) 352-3660
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(717) 273-1944
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Membership
Terry J. Bennett
River View Golf Course
(717) 770-4725
bennett949@cs.com

Nominations
Anthony P. Goodley, CGCS
Heritage Hills Golf Resort
(717) 755-1919
grounds@hhgr.com

Newsletter
Wanda S. Fry
(717) 279-0368
cpgcsa@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENTS

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Edward A. Tabor
Riley E. Heckert
Richard T. Funk
Harry L. Latshaw
Daniel L. Snowberger
Charles A. Barley
Richard Wilt
Fred N. Baker
Richard J. Suttles
John J. Boyd
Y. Lewis Payson
C. William Black, CGCS
Dwight H. Brubaker
Byron F. Knoll, Jr.
Michael Wilt
Charles H. Cadiz, CGCS
Kenneth R. Dietrich, CGCS
Michael C. Hair
Cameron G. Henderson
James N. MacLaren
David P. Portz, CGCS
John P. McCormick
David C. Weitzel, CGCS
Fred Heinlen, CGCS
Terry L. Wueschinski, CGCS
Greg Borzok
Gregory C. Fantuzzi, CGCS
James W. Jones, CGCS
William G. Wall
Robert Beyer, CGCS
Jeffrey L. Fry, CGCS
John A. Chassard
David M. Rafferty
Anthony P. Goodley, CGCS
Samuel R. Snyder, CGCS
John Dougherty
H. Jim Loke, CGCS
John L. Gehman
Theodore S. Zabrenski
Thomas C. Ocepek, CGCS
Daniel W. Achenbach
William E. Brooks

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.

Robert S. Bitting, Sales Manager
Golf Car Specialties, LLC AF

Pete Carroll, Sales Representative
Tuckahoe Sand & Gravel AF

Andrew French, Account Manager
International Personnel Resources, Inc.... AF

Rich J. Valentine, Territory Manager
Aer-Core, Inc. AF

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

Jon Becker, Turfgrass Instructor
Northern Virginia Community CollegeH

David W. DeWitt, Assistant Superintendent
Penn National Golf Club C

Raymond F. Farber, Assistant Superintendent
Penn National Golf Club C

Shaun A. Henry, Superintendent
Wren Dale Golf Club.....A

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Terry Bennett, 717-770-4725.

Our Sympathy to:

Bill Wall and his family on the loss of his father.

Congratulations to:

Mark and Patricia DelSantro on the birth of their son.

Scott and Michelle Fischer on the birth of their twin daughters.

Dan and Gail Brickley on the birth of their son.

For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the May newsletter, please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to cpgcsa@comcast.net by April 15, 2005.

USGA Update.....continued from page 1

cations of pre-emergent herbicides can go forward as long as the ground is not frozen or saturated. If these applications are not done, the potential for being caught by warm weather and early germination of summer annual grasses like crabgrass is a real concern. *Poa annua* seedhead emergence also may be delayed, but the actual delay will likely be less than one may expect. Monitor for *Poa annua* seedhead emergence. Cold temperatures may mean a delay of planned projects or product applications. Be sure to accomplish the tasks that can be done in spite of cooler temperatures to avoid falling behind when warmer weather arrives.

As always, if the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists can be of assistance contact Stan Zontek (szontek@usga.org) or Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 610/ 696-4747 or Keith Happ (khapp@usga.org) at 412/ 341-5922.



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Equipment For Sale

If you are interested in the following equipment, please contact Paul Krout at Williamsport Country Club 570-220-9998 or pvkrout@cs.com.

- 1985 Ryan renovaire fairway aerator (hydraulic lift). Best Offer.
- 1986 SDI 300 Sprayer with hydro pump. Best Offer.
- 2 - 1993 Jacobsen LF-100 Fairway Mowers. Best Offer.

Please contact Steve Ludwig at Gettysburg Country Club for inquiries on the following. 717-334-0441.

- 1992 Toro 216 in good condition. \$1,000 or best offer.

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.

Please contact Wanda with any employment or address changes, so that we can keep our records up to date.

Directions to Susquehanna Valley Country Club

Take Route 11/15 North towards Selinsgrove. Turn left onto Mill Road into Susquehanna Valley Country Club. (Past the Susquehanna Valley Mall and Pep Boys).

CPGCSA Merchandise

There will be CPGCSA logo merchandise available for purchase at upcoming meetings.

Golf Shirts.....\$35.00
Windshirts\$40.00
Hats \$10.00

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Heather and Gorse

By Mark V. DelSantoro, CGCS

What in the world? Here we sit, on the cusp of spring, and we are still frozen solid, waiting for winter's final gasp! I mean, what in the world... it's like someone magically picked us up and relocated us to Green Bay while we were sleeping. This is obscenely, crazy weather! And thanks to our meteorological guest speaker at the CPGCSA Education meeting last week, I now know who to blame... it's either them there decadal oscillations or them there Japanese fellas that are controlling our weather patterns. Of course, a third possibility is the government of Iraq. Either way, all I know is that it's C-O-L-D, cold, cold, cold!

Y'all know that we've lived in three houses in the past couple years... of those three houses we've owned; this most recent is the first one with a heat pump. Following this winter, we now fully understand what the house inspector meant when he explained that the heat pumps work well when the temperatures are above 35° F. There was a spell there during this past winter when our little heat pump was acting like that little engine who could chugging up that big hill. It's pretty sad when you're going to bed with long johns, a turtleneck, wool socks and a heap of blankets in an attempt to keep yourself semi-warm. Thank God the kids had some real thick blankets on their beds that I could steal from them to keep myself warm!

Now mind you, this all could be the effects of middle age working on me or it could simply be that I've finally grown accustomed to the Philadelphia winters of yore, when the days were somewhere between 40° F and 60° F, with an occasional 70° F, but rarely a 30° day. Fortunately or unfortunately, what we all know to be fact is that spring is around the corner and summer will be soon to follow.

For me the winter may have seemed long for a few other reasons... the DelSantoro clan has grown by one. On January 7th, 2005 Nathaniel Joseph DelSantoro saw the light of the world for the first time. He was a rather plump and tall little bundle of joy. For those who haven't experienced it, the whole pregnancy process is just an amazing and enlightening experience. As a guy it is somewhat easy... you sit back and watch as your lovely bride's body slowly morphs into this almost unrecognisable, alien-like enigma. By the final month, most women are simply gigantic, putting on 35 to 50 pounds and eating like horses to purposely keep their caloric intake high. My wife was certainly no exception... in her final few weeks leading up to the birth of Nathaniel, her stomach was so large that I had to tie her shoes for her once or twice (now she knows how I feel all the time!). The skin of her tummy was so tight, you would have liked to take a pin and pop it to relieve some of the pressure.

And then there is the birthing process... WOW! Thank God for the women of this world... I love them to death! Let me tell you, if there weren't women in this world, this world would be filled with a large number of excessively happy men, not that there would be anything wrong with this... furthermore, if men were left to carry and deliver the babies in our world, world population and world hunger would be eliminated. In fact, I'd go so far to venture a guess that if men were responsible for giving birth, humans would have become extinct probably a few million years ago!

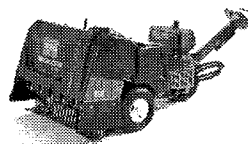
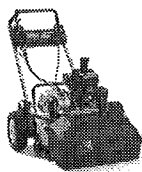
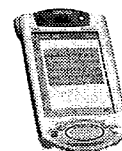
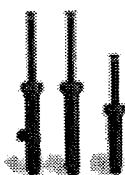
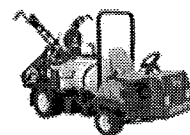
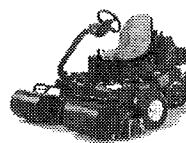
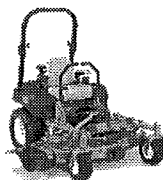
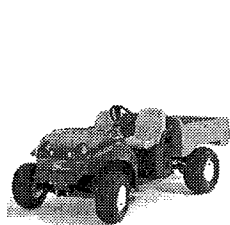
Speaking of weighty issues... as a dedicated husband, one tends to put on sympathy weight to counteract the depression and loss of self-esteem of your bride during a pregnancy. And of course, I was the consummate mate for my wife and packed on a few extra during our long journey. Now here is where the men and women differ though... when the baby comes out, the Mom loses almost half of everything that she packed on during the trip. As for the Dad, well, he's stuck with the challenge of slimming down on his own and taking care of the other kids for a few weeks while the Mom recovers. And let me tell you, as for the weight, the older I get, the harder it is to shed those extra pounds. Maybe I need to find a good greens mowing job on weekends or something of the like. Anyone have any openings?

Syngenta, like most big corporations, has a Health Services Department that is always sending us newsletters and e-mails regarding exercising and eating healthy. The other day I had to take a health risk assessment... I found that the newest measurement, off of which many health experts work is called the BMI, which stands for Body Mass Index. In essence, what it told me was that I was way too short and way too fat, or in my twisted mind, not tall and skinny enough, depending on your perspective. The funny part is that according to this index, for me to break just into the upper end of the healthy range, I'd have to weigh 150 lbs. Yeowza! To put this into perspective, I haven't weighed 150 lbs since my freshman year of college. And that, my friends, was a long, long time ago... over half a lifetime ago! Can you say ouch!

Y'all know what they say about life being full of challenges! Of course, they also say what doesn't kill you, only prolongs the inevitable! So off I go, with a Weight Watchers brochure fresh in my hand, embarking on probably the hardest quest of my life... a quest to totally change a lifestyle that I not only love, but one with which I have grown extremely comfortable. The quest is to eat healthy, drink minimally, and lose extreme amounts of weight. And keep in mind that all of this is while my kids tantalize me by eating pepperoni pizza, cheesesteaks, Big Macs, hot dogs, ice cream and the like. Oh the pain! This could be a new reality series on Fox!

It is always something, isn't it? Well, while I know everyone is chomping at the bit to get out on your golf courses, I'd suggest you hang in there and enjoy it all while it lasts... spring and summer are just around the corner... better get prepared to start counting those global degree days and the like. Before you know it Annual Bluegrass Weevils, Dollar Spot, irrigation leaks, employee issues, and the like will be at the forefront of your mind as you enter into another unpredictable golf season in Pennsylvania. That's my crazy cold, thermal underwear wearing, newborn, weighty, forever short, recently fat, and always challenged life in the heather and gorse.

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Happy 66th Anniversary CPGCSA!!!!

On Tuesday evening April 11, 1939 a meeting was held at the Colonial Country Club in Harrisburg for the purpose of organizing the greenskeepers of the area. Those in attendance at this meeting were George Morris, Riley Heckert, Hugh McJunis, James Morrison, Charles Bolton, John Grove, Jack Narril, and Al Heron. At this meeting it was decided to call the group "The Central Pennsylvania Greenskeepers Association". Officers elected were George Morris - President, Hugh McJunis - Vice President, and Riley Heckert - Secretary-Treasurer. Meetings were scheduled for the second Monday of each month with monthly meetings March through November. Dues to cover expenses were set at \$3.00 and the first meeting was set for May 8, 1939 at the Colonial Country Club.

Riley Heckert sent letters to all greenskeepers in the area to announce the gathering. The day started with golf in the afternoon and was followed by dinner. Following dinner Mr. Musser and Mr. Benham from State College and County Agent Fromeyer spoke about fairway grasses, heights of cut for bluegrass and fertilization. Following the educational sessions a business meeting was held and Edward Zwick and E. P. Morris were taken into the Association as new members, raising the membership to ten.

During 1939 the membership grew to thirteen members and at the November meeting the members decided that they wanted to continue meeting throughout the winter rather than wait until March as originally planned.

The Association was a success, just as today, 66 years later.

Editors Note:

As we approach the 75th Anniversary, we are looking for pieces of our past: pictures, minutes, newspaper articles, etc. If you have anything that you would like to contribute or share with us, please give me a call.

CPGCSA Guest Policy

Guests will be limited to the following:

- One guest per member per meeting with the approval of the host superintendent. (As indicated on the reservation form)
- Sponsoring member is responsible for any costs to the host's club.
- A guest is limited to two (2) meetings per year with the exception of club officials or with Board approval.

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Central Penn Night



L-R: - Terry Wueschinski - 2005 Rafferty Award Recipient,
 Jim MacLaren - 2003 Rafferty Award Recipient, Bonnie
 Rafferty and Chuck Cadiz - 2004 Rafferty Award Recipient.

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Penn State Proud

Carmen Magro, CGCS – Instructor and Turfgrass Technical Coordinator

I am the newly appointed Instructor and Turfgrass Technical Coordinator for the Pennsylvania State University. As I have spent my career primarily in the Philadelphia region, I plan to acquaint myself with the chapter and industry leaders throughout Pennsylvania and across the country in the coming months. I would like to introduce myself, define my position, and update you on our technical program and PSU Turfgrass progress.

I would like to first acknowledge the strong efforts of my predecessor, Dr. George W. Hamilton. Those of you who knew him knew that he had a passion for our industry and a love for the game that he shared everyday with his students, his peers, and professionals. He was animate about securing the tradition of Penn State turfgrass and instilling a sound professional quality in our students. He taught us valuable lessons and is sorely missed by those he touched. I am honored to follow him in leading our program into the future, and I share a strong passion for our profession and a tremendous level of pride for being part of Penn State. By now, you know that Dr. Tom Watschke is retiring this year. His unforgettable teaching style and how he commands a room of listeners will certainly be missed. He has been instrumental in the success of the Project and has been a tremendous influence in my life for which I am forever grateful. I can assure you that with his help, we have secured a strong team of professionals to bring our program well into the future. There are no words that can truly describe my appreciation for being part of that progress and I thank Dr. Watschke for everything he has done.

I am celebrating my 11th year in the Green Industry. During that period, I have grown to love the science and management of turfgrass systems. I earned my B.S. degree in Turfgrass Science from Penn State, and I am a Certified Golf Course Superintendent with the GCSAA. I served my last five years as Golf Course Superintendent at the Bidermann Golf Course in Wilmington, DE. By managing and performing many renovation, construction, and improvement projects, along with all of the inner club and industry politics, I gained a wealth of knowledge and a tremendous experience that I plan to share with our students. In the past 3 years I was privileged to serve as the Chapter Voting Delegate to the GCSAA for the Philadelphia Association of GCS and I am continuing my involvement with GCSAA as a member of the Career Development Committee. This gives me much insight as to the needs, direction and dedication of superintendents, employees, and employers across the nation. I am dedicating my career to developing our program, and my education to practical knowledge that will help lead our industry into the future.

My duties with the University require me to teach and direct the Golf Turfgrass Management technical program, coordinate our field research facility maintenance and projects, and coordinate Penn State's turfgrass media relations. Having served as a golf course superintendent, I understand your needs not only for growing quality turf, but with inner club politics and communication. I am now in a position to help you in this regard in a way I never could before and I am very willing to do so as the need is certainly apparent. Penn State has been and will continue to be a leading institution in turfgrass research and education. I am dedicated to insuring this continues. Research is as strong as ever here and I am proud to be a part of it. In the coming months, I plan to attend chapter meetings across the state to speak about our progress and entertain questions in an effort to solidify our outreach and support for state clubs and organizations and to keep our education program moving appropriately with our industry's needs as we continue to set new standards of excellence. I assure you that our turf project is very interested in hearing what you have to say and helping in any way we can. However, for this to be successful, we need your input consistently and in a timely fashion.

It may surprise you that it was fewer than ten years ago that I played my first round of golf. I simply was not in an environment that allowed me to play. I suffered the loss of my mother during my first run in college which led to my withdrawing from school. Having lost my father even earlier in life, I quickly learned the need to be responsible. After taking a summer position which quickly turned into a full time position at Whitmarsh Valley Country Club in 1995, I quickly became hooked on turf, its management systems, and the network of fine professionals that shared a common characteristic, passion. Tony Gustaitis, CGCS was instrumental in opening my eyes to the world of turfgrass management, and I am very grateful for that experience with him. I was intrigued by the changes that took place from day to day, and many times from hour to hour. I once read that passion is one step from insanity. All of you can understand this when you consider that sometimes we are more appropriately described as crisis managers. Whether it is a turf need or a need from a member of our club, the unexpected needs are the ones that keep us challenged day after day. Being able to communicate through these events is critical for success, and being able to limit those crises is what makes this an art as much as a profession. For the past five years at Bidermann Golf Course I embarked on a renovation and improvement program that gave me priceless experience, and it certainly challenged me in this regard. Being able to share this with our students will certainly take our program to another level of excellence. In the coming months, I am continuing with graduate studies in an effort to ultimately earn a PhD. With my combined experience and continued education, our plan is to continue Penn State's tradition of excellent education, research, and industry support. Please feel free to contact me anytime with any issue where we may be able to help. Your continued input to help us improve our program is always welcome. I'm looking forward to a long successful relationship with professionals throughout the state.

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- Topdressers

Penn State Turfgrass Project Update

By Jeff Borger

I still remember my first day as a Penn State turfgrass employee. I started working for the turf project in 1991 as a research technician under Dr. Watschke. Now, 14 years later, I have been promoted to Instructor of Turfgrass and Weed Management in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences. These new responsibilities are a result of Dr. Watschke's retirement planned for June 30, 2005. My appointment started prior to Dr. Watschke's retirement in order to insure a smooth transition of responsibilities in both research and undergraduate teaching.

I will be responsible for the weed control and plant growth regulator field research program conducted at Penn State. The translation of this responsibility will provide a seamless transition which will maintain the stability and quality of the program. Additionally, I will be teaching turfgrass weed management to both two- and four- year students. I will also be team teaching in two other turfgrass classes.

The research problem will continue as in the past. I will also be evaluating new research possibilities, but not as a dilution of the current program. The turfgrass industry is dynamic. I want my research program to encompass as many new developments as possible as the opportunities become available. That said, I hope that the turfgrass managers will be in contact with me to express their needs and concerns as we move into the future. I want to address your issues as well as my interests in the research program.

My teaching responsibilities parallel my research interests. I plan to bring my passion for turfgrass management into the classroom. Having shadowed Dr. Watschke in his teaching over the years and teaching a turfgrass course myself have prepared me for the challenges of producing knowledgeable top quality turfgrass students. I want to bring my experiences into the classroom as well. My goal is to inform students of my areas of research interest as it relates to the day-to-day responsibilities of a turfgrass manager.

The future is ours to shape. I hope that you continue to support the turfgrass project at Penn State as it continues to grow and seek new ground. You, the turfgrass manager, and the entire turfgrass student body, staff, and faculty must work together. This group is strong and vibrant today and will continue to evolve into the future. I feel privileged to be a part of the Penn State Turfgrass Project and look forward to the future, because there are no problems, only challenges to be met.

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The Green Sheet



2005 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule

May 10	Foxchase Golf Course
June 7	Links of Gettysburg
July 13	Blue Ridge Country Club
August	French Creek Golf Club Joint Meeting with Philadelphia AGCS
September	Chambersburg Country Club