

## August Meeting

### French Creek Golf Club

**August 15, 2005**

**10:30 AM - Registration**

**11:00 AM - Lunch**

**11:30 AM - Speaker**

**12:30 PM - Shotgun**

**5:30 PM - Dinner Reception**

**There will be no CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting this month.**

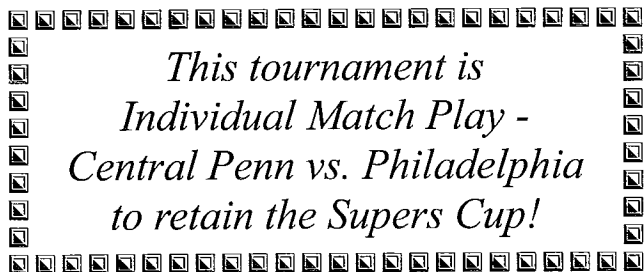
## Superintendent Profile

Doug Rae, PAGCS Golf Committee Co-Chair will host this month's meeting. Doug started his career working under Mitch Trent and then Jeff Broadbelt at Downingtown Country Club.

After graduating from Penn State in 1996 with a BS in Turfgrass Science, he continued working at Downingtown. In 2001, he accepted the grow-in superintendent position at French Creek Golf Club. After the grow-in, he became the full-time superintendent. Doug is married to wife Toni.

## Golf Course Profile

Designed by Gil Hanse, French Creek Golf Club was built in 2002. The 18 hole course measures 6,725 yards, with a rating of 72.5 and slope of 136.


  
*This tournament is*  
*Individual Match Play -*  
*Central Penn vs. Philadelphia*  
*to retain the Supers Cup!*

## Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

### From a Taste to a Mouth Full of Summer!!

By Keith Happ, Senior Agronomist  
July 14, 2005

The first few days of summer bring longer days, warmer nights, and, often, higher humidity. The weather not only affects how enjoyable it is for us to play the game; it affects how the turf plays. We are already starting to hear the cries of golfers, "The greens seem slower today. Did you raise the mowing height?"

While a very few may raise the mowing height to protect the turf, the majority do not raise cutting heights during periods of high heat and humidity. Solid rollers are often used rather than the grooved or Whiele attachments. The differences in playing condition can often be attributed to humidity and swollen thatch. When the air is saturated very little moisture evaporates from the soil and turf. That "puffiness" described in our last update may be a function of weather and not an agronomic practice. Don't become overly aggressive with mechanical means of preparing the surfaces for play. Infrequent rolling may be the best strategy to overcome the natural change in growth response.

Second generation adult *Hyperodes* weevil populations have been exhibited on greens, collars, and fairways. It is important to scout and monitor activity so site-specific control strategies can be used. Control adult populations to break the cycle of weevil production. These populations have

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## President's Message

It is Sunday July 17 at 5:00 A.M.....75 degrees and raining for the third consecutive day. We are now over 10 inches of rain in 13 days. The radar isn't worth even checking anymore. I imagine everyone is hoping for a window to get things mowed and sprayed but it never comes. I feel powerless to do anything except try to communicate the magnitude of the problem to my owners and players. It will take some faith to get through this summer.

On a brighter note, what a great day we had at Blue Ridge Country Club. Now we know why their members are so happy. Scott gave us true tournament conditions, which should help us take on Philly in the Supers Cup. Speaking of Philly, I have talked to some of their board members. They claim when the trophy gets to French Creek, Central might not ever see it again. My advice, be ready to play. This time they are serious. Just like the Eagles though, they can't win the big one. Guess what, its raining again.

Pete Ramsey

## 2005 Annual Meeting and Elections

The September meeting at Chambersburg Country Club will be the Annual Meeting with election of officers and directors for the 2006 meeting year. Listed below are the nominations.

### President:

Faron Stoops – Waynesboro Country Club

### Vice President:

John Colo – Country Club of York

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Dan Brickley – Lebanon Country Club

Steve Ludwig – Gettysburg Country Club

### Directors: (Vote for two)

Barry Bollinger – Rich Valley Golf Club

Ryan Freed – Regents Glen Country Club

Jed Vail – Pilgrim's Oak Golf Course

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Range End Golf Club  
(717) 432-3711  
regc@pa.net

**Vice President/Social/Scholarship**  
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Waynesboro Country Club  
(717) 762-6370  
fstoops@comcast.net

**Secretary/Treasurer/Chapter Relations**  
John M. Colo  
Country Club of York  
(717) 843-2190  
jc5288@aol.com

**Past President/Social/Scholarship**  
William E. Brooks  
Hanover Country Club  
(717) 259-8706  
wbrooks547@aol.com

**Education/Career Development**  
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Affiliate Representative  
(610) 942-7023  
mark.delsanto@syngenta.com

James V. Byrne  
Affiliate Representative  
(717) 786-0547  
jbhelenachemical@comcast.net

**Golf**  
David Ellison  
Chisel Creek Golf Club  
(610) 255-3870  
bullerockdave@yahoo.com

Matthew W. Strader  
Penn National Golf Club  
(717) 352-7360  
greens@pennngolf.com

**Media/Public Relations**  
Daniel Brickley  
Lebanon Country Club  
(717) 273-1944  
djb301@yahoo.com

**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**  
George Morris  
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  
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Cameron G. Henderson  
James N. MacLaren  
David P. Portz, CGCS  
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David C. Weitzel, CGCS  
Fred Heinlen, CGCS  
Terry L. Wuschinski, CGCS  
Greg Borzok  
Gregory C. Fantuzzi, CGCS  
James W. Jones, CGCS  
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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. Occepek, CGCS  
Daniel W. Achenbach  
William E. Brooks

## Membership News

There were no new membership applications presented to the Board of Directors this month.

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

Joseph G. Baidy  
Retired.....Class R

Carmen Magro, CGCS, Instructor  
Penn State University.....Class H

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

## USGA ....continued from page 1

been reported as far south as Charleston, West Virginia in the western part of the region and well into Maryland in the eastern part of the region. Don't assume yellowing turf is drought stress. Cut into the soil to examine the upper portion of the profile.

One of the frequently asked questions has centered on *Poa annua* flowering. Many superintendents have experienced *Poa annua* flowering even after using control methods earlier in the season. The flowering may be a response to environmental stress, and flowering is a survival mechanism. Seed is produced for the generation of new plant material. The late flowering has been tight to the canopy, and has not been reported to be negatively affecting playability.

Finally, water for irrigation purposes has become an issue in several portions of the region. Irrigation water levels in holding ponds are actually down for the first time in almost two years. Concerns are being expressed about the need to ration so that ample reserves are available for the rest of the season. If you have a concern in your area, study the local and/or state regulations for guidance. Many states and municipalities now have drought regulations in place. It is never too early to plan.

*If the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists can be of assistance, contact Stan Zontek ([szontek@usga.org](mailto:szontek@usga.org)) or Darin Bevard ([dbevard@usga.org](mailto:dbevard@usga.org)) at 610-558-9066 or Keith Happ ([khapp@usga.org](mailto:khapp@usga.org)) at 412-341-5922.*

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## PTC Calendar

Penn State Golf Turf Conferences, Nittany Lion Inn, State College

- November 15-17, 2005
- November 7-9, 2006
- November 13-15, 2007

Eastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Shows, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia

- January 10 - 12, 2006
- January 9 - 11, 2007

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

- January 26, 2006
- January 25, 2007

Western PA Turf Conference and Trade Show, Greater Pittsburgh ExpoMart, Monroeville

- February 28 - March 2, 2006  
(USGA Seminar February 27)
- March 6 - 8, 2007 (USGA Seminar March 5)

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## Golf Results

The results from the tournament at Blue Ridge Country Club are as follows:

### Winner of 2 BB of Foursome - 125

Steve Ludwig  
 Greg Borzok  
 Faron Stoops  
 Danny Davis

## For Your Information

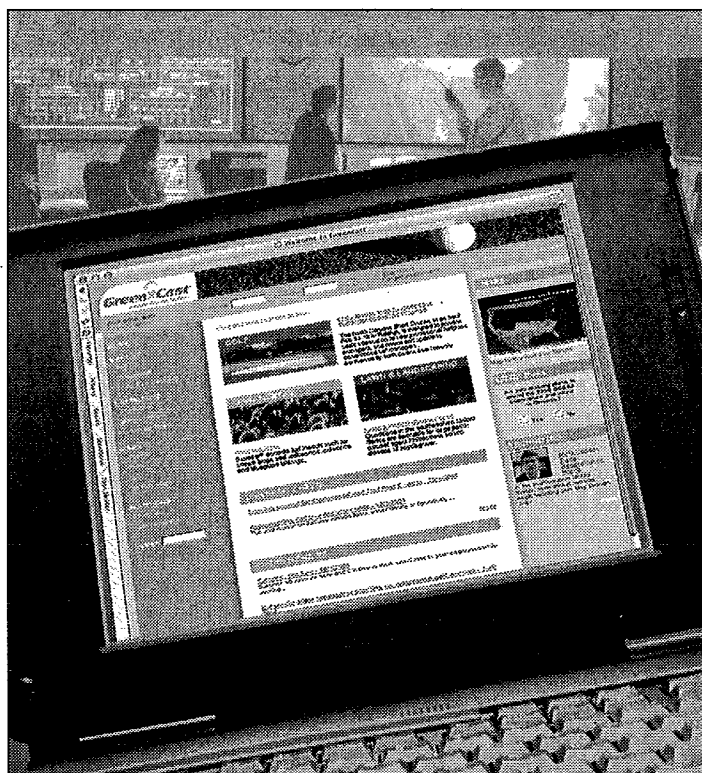
If you have any information that you would like included in the September newsletter, please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to [cpgcsa@comcast.net](mailto:cpgcsa@comcast.net) by **August 24, 2005.**

## 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.

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



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## Heather and Gorse

By Mark V. DelSantoro, CGCS

"Never has a statue been erected of a golf course superintendent who saved his golf club budget money!"

*Alex Strachan, PAGCS Past President*

"Doom, despair, and agony on me... I have a 180-acre Petri dish!" That was how one golf course superintendent described his golf course over the past few weeks. Dew points well into the 70's, nearly 100% humidity, excessive rain, warm nights, and warmer days have made for a disease recipe unlike any the region has experienced for nearly twenty years. It's weather like this that makes me happy to be on the darkside of the fence! For those of you who attended the Blue Ridge CC meeting and weren't sure how to differentiate the golf course superintendents from the fungicide salesmen, the superintendents were the ones who looked like they were about to go twelve rounds with Mike Tyson, while the salesmen were the ones trying to keep from smiling anytime someone made reference to the heat and humidity.

If it is any consolation, I can safely tell you that we are not alone! I recently surfed upon an interesting article on the web regarding the abnormal heat and humidity over in the United Kingdom. It spoke about how, due to global urbanization resulting in an overall warming trend, the turf managers overseas are battling diseases that they'd never battled before... the likes of Anthracnose, Brown Patch, Pythium, Dollar Spot, Summer Patch, Take-All Patch, Curvularia, Fusarium, etc. are all present and accounted for. Of course my first hypothesis would lean towards a correlation between this UK warming trend and the weather in Japan, but it is more likely to be just another example of how the ugly Americans negatively influencing the rest of the world? One thing's for sure, it certainly didn't look excessively warm at the British Open this past weekend. Jack Nicklaus even wore a throw back long sleeve sweater vest on his final Friday at St. Andrews.

This past week was pretty cool. My wife and children went down to Bethany Beach to spend a few weeks with her father. This left just me and the big Boom dog hanging in the 'hood. I had to laugh when someone at the Blue Ridge meeting asked me if I was planning on going down to spend some time with them... that would be a most definite no! Hey, nothing against them... it's my wife and kids we're talking about... they don't fall into the same category as my Minnesota family. That being said, an uninterrupted weekend alone at home with the British Open and the Tour de France on at the same time... S-W-E-E-T! Definitely something everyone should try to do once in a blue moon, if not sooner. Just remember that little concept of spousal reciprocity... your spouse certainly should be given the same opportunity and mine most definitely will get a similar break. The timing may be a bit off, but I'm sure that sometime between now and the time the kids go off to college I'll reciprocate... sure I will... scouts honor!

The coolest thing was lying on the couch eating my rice cakes and drinking my morning java while switching between the two events. I personally think there should be more morning sporting events... frees up the afternoons for long naps on the hammock! I now know how the NFL fans on the left coast feel... eat Sunday brunch while watching the early games. Not a bad gig!

And just how phenomenal a sports weekend it was!!!! The British Open was awesome to watch... if anyone's eyes were dry on Friday watching the emotion of Jack Nicklaus officially ending his competitive career by walking over the old stone bridge on #18 at St. Andrews, then you just aren't right! Of course, the Golden Bear proceeded to birdie his final hole, just like he did in 1970. In my mind, he is the Roy Hobbs (the best there ever was) of the PGA Tour. It was pretty amazing to watch!

And what's up with those greens at St. Andrews? I truly believe that there is more putting green acreage at St. Andrews than fairway acreage at many American golf courses. I'm not exactly sure of the total green square footage, but the double green that accompanies the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> is over 37,000 square feet by itself. ABC Commentator and ex-PGA Tour Pro, Paul Azinger alluded to the fact that one person double-cutting that green would walk over seven miles. Now that's a serious work out!

Ye olde slumping Tiger had a pretty good tournament! Winning by five shots left the entire field giving thanks that he was on the receiving end of a few bad bounces on Saturday, coupled with mediocre putting on Sunday. Adding up his missed opportunities through out the weekend, he could have easily posted twenty under or more. And didn't Elin look like a mighty fine distraction next to her Mom-in-law. Don't know for sure, but it seems like Eldrick is quickly finding his rhythm, getting all of his ducks in a row, and closing in on another dominant stretch, which certainly can't be bad for the golf industry, while at the same time certainly not being good for any of the other tour players seeking to capture major championships.

Speaking of phenoms... the young Tigress had a pretty good run herself this past week. Michelle "the Big Weezie" Wie "qualified" and shot her way past many future PGA Tour players at the U.S. PubLinks Championship prior to finally getting bounced out in the quarterfinals by the eventual champion. Not bad for a 15 year-old high school junior... she was just three more victories from potentially getting invited to the Masters. Wouldn't that have been something that the golfing press would have liked to see!!!! I'm sure Martha Burke, where ever she may be protesting, for if only but a few brief moments, was cheering her on.

As for the Tour de Lance, I've really only started to follow this insanity over the last five or six years. Given all of the media coverage surrounding Lance Armstrong and his last decade of living strong, it hard not to route for this guy no matter what he is doing. Hell, I even turn on Sheryl Crow once in a while because of him! This is an athlete that was diagnosed with testicular cancer in October, 1996. To complicate the matter, by the time they caught the cancer, it had spread to his stomach, his lungs, and

.....continued on page 7.....

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## Heather and Gorse...cont'd from page 5

to his brain. He was essentially given a death sentence... something like a 10% chance of survival. Currently, he is on the verge of winning his seventh straight Tour, the most ever in the history of the event. Ask me what I know about the Tour de France, I'll tell you it is one primary thing... it is a somewhat silly, gruellingly insane, brutally hard bicycle race through the French countryside that Lance Armstrong has dominated unlike no other. I'm told in actuality that it is as much or more a team event as an individual one, but can anyone name the last seven winning teams? Even if you can name last year's team champion, I'd tell you that you've most definitely have way too much time on your hands!

One final thought for any of you that might have watched either the Open or the Tour, how about the commercials? Someone on ABC Sunday morning made mention to the fact that the real TV stars were on Madison Avenue making commercials and I can't really disagree. Between Tiger Woods and Lance Armstrong there were some incredibly great and extremely emotional commercials. The Nike commercial with little Tiger playing St. Andrews had to be my favourite, although the Am Ex commercial with Tiger hitting golf balls in the rain and telling us his life isn't about settling made me want to forget that I hate playing golf in the rain! The Nike commercial with Lance Armstrong at his news conference in 1996 announcing that he had been diagnosed, but intended to beat testicular cancer and race competitively once again was like watching Rocky Balboa standing in the ring after he just stood toe-to-toe with Apollo Creed. I almost stood up and cheered! My adrenaline started pumping so much I actually rode my bike that afternoon for the first time in nearly ten years.

And believe you me... the Nike marketing team is currently the best on the planet earth at influencing buyer behavior. My kids, Zachary and Julianna both know that the Nike swoosh is associated with Tiger Woods and vice versa. They happened by a Nike commercial that ended with a simple picture of the swoosh and the words "Just Do It"... they wanted to know why Tiger wasn't in the commercial. Unbelievable! Furthermore, does anyone want to venture a guess as to my kid's choice in sporting gear? This tells me that either the Nike people are brilliant or that my kids watch way too much TV (I wonder where they get it from?)... Either way, I know it's only a matter of time before their \$10 Wal-Mart specials are replaced with \$200 Nikes specifics. Yikes, guess I better consider applying now for that night manager position at Dick's Sporting Goods! I heard they give you a pretty good discount. That's my agonizing, Petri dish-like, highly relative, highly humid, sweet, comfy couch, bachelor weekend, British Open watching, Tour de France watching, commercial evaluating, swooshing point of view from the heather and gorse!



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## Speaker Profile

For the last six years, Doug Schaufler, PhD, has been an instructor in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department at Penn State University. A registered professional engineer, he has a good depth of practical experience earned at companies like Caterpillar Tractor Co.

Doug earned his BS and MS at the University of Maine, then completed his doctorate at Penn State. In addition to wife Janet and three sons, Doug's family includes foster children.

Doug's presentation about the status of PSU's certificate program in Agriculture and Turfgrass Equipment Service will address lagging enrollment and the role the superintendent can play in this program.

## Directions to French Creek Golf Club

### From Pennsylvania Turnpike East to West

Take Downingtown (Old Exit 23, New 312) and go north on Route 100 approximately 4.1 miles to Route 401. Turn left heading West for 6.2 miles and pass Route 345 (Bulltown Road). Club entrance is on the right about ½ mile past Route 345.

### From Pennsylvania Turnpike West to East

Take Old Exit 22, New 298 (Morgantown). Take Route 10 South to Route 23 East. Head East on 23 for approximately 3 miles to y-intersections right onto Route 401. Club entrance is on the left about 3 miles.

### From Downingtown/West Chester and points South

Take Route 322 West through Guthriesville. At Route 82, turn right and follow to the stop sign at Loag's Corner where Route 82 turns left and Route 345 proceeds straight. Go straight on Route 345 and follow to Route 401. At 401, turn left heading West. Club entrance is on the right about ½ mile.

### From Philadelphia

Take Route 202 South to Route 401 West. After crossing Route 100, go about 6.2 miles until you pass Route 345 (Bulltown Road). Club entrance is on the right about ½ mile past Route 345.

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## Equipment For Sale

### Equipment Wanted:

- 1988 Cushman Front-line Diesel mower, wanted for parts. Tom H. Brown, CGCS Chesapeake Bay Golf Club West, Rising Sun, MD 410-658-0960  
[tomb@chesapeakegolf.com](mailto:tomb@chesapeakegolf.com)

We will continue to advertise "used equipment" and "equipment wanted" in monthly newsletters. If you have anything that may be of interest, please contact Wanda.

## Golf Funnies

A young man and a priest are playing together. At a short par-3 the priest asks, "What are you going to use on this hole, my son?"

The young man says, "An 8--iron, father. How about you?"

The priest says, "I'm going to hit a soft seven and pray."

The young man hits his 8--iron and puts his ball on the green.

The priest tops his 7--iron and dribbles the ball a few yards.

The young man says, "I don't know about you father, but in my church when we pray, we keep our head down."

## USGA Maintenance Alert

Your USGA agronomists in the Mid-Atlantic Region are seeing a wide range of problems on golf courses this summer as a result of the weather. The problems range from diseases like Pythium (both surface and soil borne), anthracnose (foliar and basal rot), brown patch, dollar spot and algae. Of special interest has been a recurrence of bacterial wilt of *Poa annua*, principally on greens.

Insects are also causing problems. These include a resurgence of the Japanese beetles and continuing concerns about chafers. Remember, the adult Japanese beetles fly during the day and the chafers fly at night. Other special interest insects are the Hyperodes weevil and billbugs, which are becoming active throughout the region. Cutworms, sod webworms and armyworms are also affecting turf.

Turfgrass is also declining due to **STRESS**. In fact, turfgrass samples from plant disease diagnostic labs are showing that, even with the disease and insect problems, the majority of the turf is being affected by mechanical damage! This is mower damage. Greens and collars have been particularly affected.

It may be prudent to follow a Conservative Maintenance and Management Program as long as this weather pattern continues. Raise mowing heights (golfers may have to tolerate slower green speeds); switch from grooved to solid rollers; reduce mechanical abrasion to the grass by deferring aggressive grooming, topdressings and vertical mowings; defer mowing, especially on wet, saturated greens (roll vs. mow?); compress fungicide spray intervals; surface aerate; spoonfeed the grass with light rates of nitrogen and iron; and, as always, manage water carefully.

It has been at least two years since the Mid-Atlantic Region has experienced extended periods of heat, humidity, drought and now torrential rains. None of us knows what the future holds. Be careful, it's a tough summer.

If the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists can be of assistance, contact Stan Zontek ([szontek@usga.org](mailto:szontek@usga.org)) or Darin Bevard ([dbevard@usga.org](mailto:dbevard@usga.org)) at 610-558-9066 or Keith Happ ([khapp@usga.org](mailto:khapp@usga.org)) at 412-341-5922.

### The nomination forms for the David Rafferty Distinguished Service Award have been mailed.

Please take the time to review this form and nominate an individual that you feel should be recognized for their outstanding contribution to the advancement of the profession of the Golf Course Superintendent.

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Plant Food Liquid Fertilizer & Micronutrients  
Aqua Aid Wetting Agents

EQUIPMENT: Broyhill, Lely, Buffalo Turbine  
Soil Reliever, Ferris, Pug, Ski-Doo, Bombardier  
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**CONTACT: Rich Gdovin**  
(607)761-9465

[Rgdovin@Andreandson.com](mailto:Rgdovin@Andreandson.com)

## GCSAA Deadlines and Reminders

### GCSAA/Golf Digest's Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards

This award recognizes golf course superintendents and golf courses around the world for their commitment to environmental stewardship. Eligible applicants from the United States must be members in good standing of GCSAA and of an affiliated GCSAA chapter. Applicants from outside the United States should be members of similar local organizations. Applications must be submitted to GCSAA on or before October 7, 2005.

### 2006 Excellence In Government Relations Awards

The GCSAA Excellence In Government Relations Awards recognize and honor outstanding individual and chapter efforts in government relations. Recipients are recognized for efforts and accomplishments in the areas of advocacy and compliance. **Nominations accepted July 15 - Oct. 15, 2005.**

## CPGCSA Supporter List

**Aer-Core, Inc.**  
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Tim Davisson, Ron Nichols  
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**Farm & Golf Course Supply**  
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858 Mt. Joy Road  
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**Hollingers Sports 'N Turf**  
Leroy Hurst  
4126 Oregon Pike  
Ephrata, PA 17522  
(800) 650-1398

**Outside Unlimited, Inc.**  
Golf Course Irrigation Division  
Ian H. Williams, CIC, CGIA  
4195 St. Paul Road  
Hampstead, MD 21074  
(443) 375-0255

**Land Studies, Inc.**  
Mark Gutshall  
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Lititz, PA 17543  
(717) 627-4440

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Greg Borzok, Ted Zabrenski  
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**Shearon Golf**  
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(609) 466-0666

**Syngenta**  
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75 Ramblewood Drive  
Glenmoore, PA 19343  
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**Turf Management Associates**  
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151 Valleybrook Road  
Lancaster, PA 17601  
(717) 917-5361

**Watson Irrigation Supply**  
Tim Watson, Chris Thomas  
4021 North Sixth Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
(800) 999-1630

cpgcsa@comcast.net  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
P.O. Box 1420

The Green Sheet



## **2005 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule**

**September 27    Chambersburg Country Club  
Association Championship  
& Annual Meeting**