

The Green Sheet



Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 13 Issue 6

September 2005

September Meeting

Chambersburg Country Club

September 29, 2005

7:00 AM - Breakfast 8:00 AM - Shotgun 12:00 PM - Annual Meeting 12:30 PM - Lunch

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

Superintendent Profile

Greg Byrne has been the Superintendent at Chambersburg Country Club since May of 2004. Previously, he was the Assistant Superintendent at Carlisle Country Club for 5 years. Greg graduated from the University of Montana with degrees in History and Economics. He received his turfgrass education at the Central Oregon Community College. Greg is married to Sherry, and they have an 8 year old daughter, Micheal Ann.

Golf Course Profile

Chambersburg Country Club was originally a nine hole course built in 1921. In 1976, nine more holes were added, designed by Edmund Ault. The course features many elevation changes and various challenges to the golfers game. The course measures 6,496 yards from the White Tees.

Chambersburg Country Club 3646 Scotland Rd Chambersburg PA 17201 717-263-8296

Supers Cup CPGCSA Wins Again!!!



2006 Golf Industry Show Relocates to Houston

As a result of the city of New Orleans canceling all convention activities through March 2006, the Golf Industry Show will move to Houston, with the dates remaining the same as were previously scheduled. In addition, dates for GCSAA's Education Conference (Feb. 6-11), the National Championship and Golf Classic (already in Houston Feb. 3-7), as well as the NGCOA Solutions Summit (Feb. 7-10), also will remain the same.

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President's Message

I know it is a bad summer whenever I walk into the living room and my wife and kids automatically turn on the weather channel. Just when I felt slightly sorry for myself Mother Nature sends in Katrina and literally changes the world in North America. As I watch the apocalypse unfold on TV, it reduces life to its simplest terms. I'm alive with a roof over my head and food. Pennsylvania is a nice place to call home.

There is some good news on the turf front. Most of us have been out fixing the stress from the summer and the Superintendents Cup still calls Central PA home. Nice work to those who competed. We won by a significant margin. This has turned out to be a fun event with a growing rivalry. The end of the month we travel to Chambersburg Country Club for the Annual Meeting and Golf Championship. This is an 8:00 shotgun with lunch, voting and awards. You will be home in time for dinner. Try to take some time off, we deserve it.

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

Rvan Freed - Regents Glen Country Club

Jed Vail - Pilgrim's Oak Golf Course

Just A Reminder....

The September Meeting is also the CPGCSA Association Golf Championship Tournament

President/Bylaws William P. Ramsey Range End Golf Club (717) 432-3711 regc@pa.net

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

Secretary/Freasurer/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 Mark V. DelSantro Affiliate Representative (610) 942-7023 mark.delsantro@syngenta.com

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

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(610) 255-3870
bullerockdave@yahoo.com

Matthew W. Strader Penn National Golf Club (717) 352-7360 greens@penngolf.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
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Y. Lewis Payson
C. William Black, CGCS
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Byron F. Knoll, Jr.
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Kenneth R. Dietrich, CGCS
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Jeffrey L. Fry, CGCS
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John Dougherty
H. Jim Loke, CGCS
John L Cehman
Theodore S. Zabrenski
Thomas C. Ocepek, CGCS
Daniel W. Achenbach
William E. Brooks

Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

Is It Over? Begin Marking Your Calendar

By Stanley J. Zontek, Director September 2, 2005

The summer of 2005 is one many turf managers will want to forget. You should always look forward, not back, but there could, however, be an exception to this rule.

The 2005 summer presents an opportunity to learn both what worked and what did not work in the programs, practices, and products used on your golf course. Make written notes now on your 2006 calendar, and don't rely on your memory. The considerations should include:

- When you may want to switch from grooved to solid rollers. June 15? July 1?
- Dates to plan on RAISING MOWING HEIGHTS.
- Approximate dates to surface aerate greens. How does this fit into the golf schedule? Adjust accordingly, but plan on keeping your greens vented in a non-disruptive way.
- General chemical applications programs for next season. While such a schedule can and should change, this is a
 good exercise in planning ahead. Always tank mix and rotate fungicide chemistries. Never combine growth regulators with fungicides that have growth regulating side effects in the same tank, don't apply pre-emerge herbicides
 too late in the spring, the approximate time growth regulators should be applied, etc., etc.,
- When major putting green (and golf course) renovations are scheduled. This is a good opportunity to plan prefertilizations, timing the gaps between growth regulator applications, ordering topdressing, etc.
- Dates for fertilizer applications, including supplements recommended by soil test results.
- Schedule dates to take soil tests (see above).
- Indicate turf conferences you and your assistant superintendents should attend. There is a lot happening in the industry and it is important to stay current. Invest in education.
- Vacation dates. Every living thing (including grass) needs a break. Did you push the grass too far this summer? Are you pushing yourself (and your family) too hard now? Ouch.

Mark your calendar with a reminder to give a special thank-you to everyone who works for you and for whom you work. It has been a tough year for everyone.

In conclusion, while there is a natural tendency to forget a bad year, the fact is, it is an opportunity to learn. No one knows what the future holds, but after this year no truer words were ever said than the old Boy Scout motto, "Be prepared."

As always, if the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists can be of assistance, contact Stan Zontek (<u>szontek@usga.org</u>) or Darin Bevard (<u>dbevard@usga.org</u>) at 610/558-9066 or Keith Happ (<u>khapp@usga.org</u>) at 412/341-5922.

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

Erosion? Flood Damage?

The Long-Term Solution -STREAM RESTORATION **& STABILIZATION**



717-627-4440 mark@landstudies.com

Membership News

There were no new membership applications presented to the Board of Directors this month. If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Terry Bennett, 717-770-4725.

> Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Gehman family at Butter Valley Golf Port. John's father died in the Lehigh Valley Hospital on Sunday August 28, 2005.

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

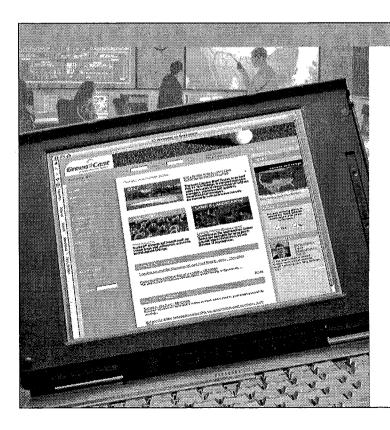
- January 10 12, 2006
- January 9 11,2007

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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Heather and Gorse By Mark V. DelSantro, CGCS

Wow! Y'all remember that commercial back in the 1970's with that catchy phrase "Don't mess with Mother Nature!"??? Seriously, I don't even remember the product that was being promoted, but following a summer like this past one, I think we've all received a grim reminder that Mother Nature certainly commands a level of respect. It seems like it has been while since we've had a summer similar to the shock and awe that this summer has brought. I know the scarring of many turf surfaces was indiscriminant, regardless of turf species and budget. It seemed it wasn't a matter of whether or not you were going to lose turf... It was more a matter of how much turf you were going to lose!

So, just how bad was it? I guess it depends on your perspective. If you compare this summer by temperature alone, the summer was the fifth warmest on record dating back to the late 1800's. We've experienced 27 days of temperatures over 90 degrees F. That being said, 2002 was a bit more intense with 46 days above 90 degrees. I think the differentiators for 2005 have been two things... The average daytime temperature has been higher and the amount of precipitation has been closer to normal compared with 2002.

It is interesting how quickly we all forget the past... Or just maybe it is an indication of how youthful the average age of the golf course superintendent has become... The four summers warmer than 2005 all occurred within a five year time span from 1991 to 1995. In 1991, we experienced 53 days of greater than 90 degrees! Unfortunately, I remember this stretch rather well... Similar to this past summer in that from July 4th onward to Labor Day, for nearly five straight years, you were in absolute survival mode. Turf death was not an option, it was an absolute and it was all a matter of how to minimize your losses.

In our region, July 18th, 2005 was the tipping point and/or the beginning of the end for many. Root systems were underdeveloped as a result of a relatively cool, wet spring; we had gone from the frost to the furnace about four weeks earlier; and it was about that time that we were coming off of a four to five inch precipitation saturation from the remnants of Hurricane Dennis.

It was during this time period that the reports of root pythium, pythium blight, summer patch, anthracnose, and wet wilt started popping up out of the puddles. Anyone with marginal drainage and most of those with Poa annua started to experience first hand, Darwin's Theory regarding survival of the fittest! Those with excellent drainage and good water management capabilities seemed to fair OK. Those with anything less got banged up.

From that fateful third week of July to present, it has been a blood bath, with the only saving grace being that the day length and the angle of the sun are such that summer is on its way out. The advent of yellow school buses, along with a few mid 50 degree nights has signaled the end of another turf war and it is now time to pick up the pieces and attempt to reconstruct your golf courses. The problem is that Mother Nature isn't quite ready to let the turf recover, at least with any of her help. While we've had some beautiful September weather, it has been so dry that many people are starting to experience strains on their irrigation systems. It seems like the challenges of 2005 may never end.

If it is any consolation, I believe it safe to say that our troubles these past few months most certainly pale in comparison to the troubles experienced down in New Orleans and Biloxi. I will always remember the first time I attended the GCSAA National Conference in New Orleans back in the early 1990's. The motel shuttle bus driver gave us passengers a historical perspective on how the city was below sea level, but had this wonderful pumping system! At the time I thought about how ingenious the French must have been during the original construction of the city. Now nearly fifteen years older and wiser, I'm perplexed by just how ingenious the French must have been during the construction of the city! French engineering... Some of the finest in the world! OK, I know in actuality that the French had little to do with any part of the city outside of the French Quarter, which went essentially unscathed during Katrina due to being located on higher ground... So I guess they've got that going for them!

Seriously, it has been unbelievable watching the death and destruction at the hands of Katrina. And of course hindsight is always 20-20. Why didn't more people heed the warnings and evacuate? Why did it seemingly take so long for relief to arrive? Why did they ever build the city on the gulf, below sea level? Why did they rebuild the city in the same spot 40 years ago after Hurricane Betsy besieged and flooded the city in 1965? I'm sure many of these questions will be debated and will remain unanswered until the next time a disaster of this magnitude occurs.

As for the overall chaos, the looting, and the general anarchy, well now, that's a whole different story. I'm not sure any of us can imagine what it would be like to experience a week like this. No food, no clean water, no bathrooms, no home, etc. Dead bodies floating down the avenue! Human behavior can be an awfully funny thing, especially when your life and the lives of your family are at stake.

There is a famous behavioral study called the Stanford Prison Study, which illustrates how our environment so substantially influences our behavior. I believe much of the insanity that was taking place in New Orleans had to be a direct result of the

continued on page 7



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For more information, contact Ted Huhn at 443-206-1095 or huhnt@basf.com.

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Heather & Gorsecontinued from page 5

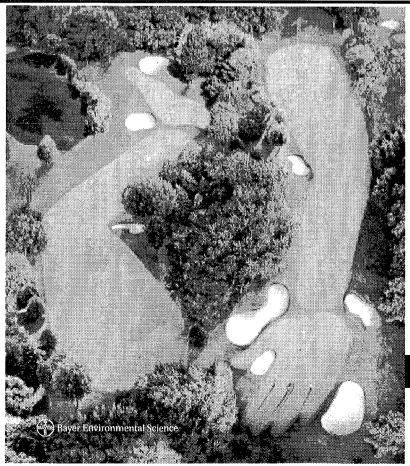
environment... At least I hope and pray it was directly related to the environment, because if it wasn't then there are some crazy ass brothers and sisters down south.

In my mind, I can find a warped way to justify breaking into a store in search of food, water, diapers, and the like, for your children... I'm somewhat mysteriously and surprisingly OK with this logic, again, keeping in mind that it is difficult for any of us to criticize without having walked a mile in their shoes. Where my sensitivity and understanding breaks down is when I see the brothers walking out with the Bose Wave Radios and the big screen TV's. I mean what are they going to do... use them as surfboards during the next storm? Its like, "Officers don't shoot, we wuz just lookin' for food and water! Course, there wuz none, so we just happened to pick up a few extras while we were inside." I know, I'm an insensitive, middle-aged bastard, but these are just some of the amazing things that float around between my ears. What on earth are they thinking?

This past week the authorities let the people go back into their homes to remove some of their valuables. They showed a picture of one guy carrying his computer hard drive on his shoulder in chest high water. I guess he figured the gold and diamonds could be replaced, but as for those unbacked up computer files... forget about it!

From a green industry perspective, one has to wonder how the GCSAA will proceed with regards to the GIS Conference in February... I personally have a hard time believing that there is any chance of New Orleans hosting the show in five months. I certainly hope the GCSAA has a contingency plan. Realistically, I'd think Orlando would be the only conceivable alternative given the size of the convention center, but Las Vegas may be another alternative. Considering the timing of this disaster and the enormous amount of time, effort, and logistical planning that is required for putting on a successful conference and tradeshow... well, let's just say I don't envy their current situation. There are some difficult mountains to climb ahead of them!

While I know there are a lot of tired golf course superintendents out there, hang in there and don't jump off that bridge just yet! We're only a few months from the Penn State Conference in November. It won't be long before we're all be sitting at Whiskers, drinking a pint of Guinness, and exchanging war stories from the summer of 2005, one that will hopefully be soon in our rearview mirrors. That's my Mother Nature respecting, hotter than average, always relatively humid, Darwinian Theorist, tragedy-laden, insensitive, middle-aged bastard like, ingeniously French, heart, nerve and sinewy point of view from the heather and gorse.



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GCSAA Conference Relocates

New registration dates and event information

Because of the situation in New Orleans, conference information was not mailed with the September issue of *Golf Course Management* magazine as originally planned. The following is a new schedule for mailings and registration opening dates:

- GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic. Plans now call for the golf championship brochure to be mailed with the October edition of *GCM*. Registration, housing and travel for the golf championship will open Oct. 18 and be extended until Dec. 16.
- GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show. A revised conference and show brochure is being produced and is now scheduled to be mailed Oct. 24. Member registration for the conference and show, housing and travel will now open Nov. 1, with open registration to follow shortly thereafter. Registration will then continue through the event in Houston. The event information available at golfindustry-show.com also is being updated, though much of the educational information will remain the same.

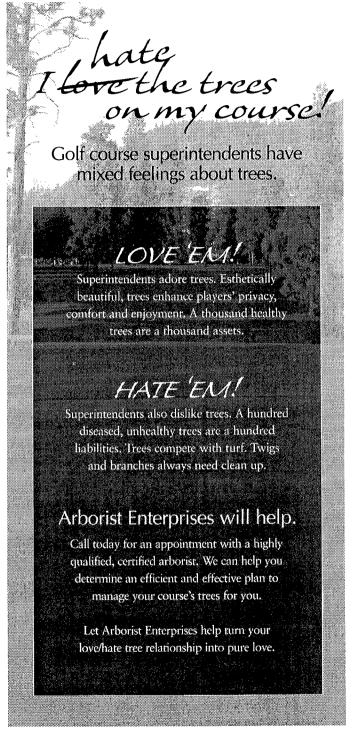
GCM Mailing Delayed

Because of postal issues surrounding Hurricane Katrina, mailing of the September issue of *Golf Course Management* magazine was delayed. The magazine has now been mailed, but is likely to be at least a few days late.

Relief Efforts

In addition, in the near future, GCSAA will be communicating plans for a relief program, of which a component will be a Golf Industry Show effort, to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina. GCSAA members, industry and others will be invited and encouraged to lend their support.

You can keep abreast of this information and additional news regarding the Golf Industry Show by accessing gcsaa.org or golfindustryshow.com. More information will also be available in the October issue of *Newsline* and *GCM*.



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1913 Olde Homestead Lane
Lancaster, PA 17605-1177
717-393-7602
arboristenterprises.com



Directions to the Chambersburg Country Club

On I-81, take exit 20 (Scotland - Hwy 997). If going north, turn right at the traffic light (McDonalds is directly across the street), and you will cross over the interstate. If going south, turn right at the end of the exit ramp. Bear left at the M&T Bank (take the angled road, NOT the 90 degree turn). Go about 1/2 mile and turn left onto Scotland Rd (Scotland Automotive is on a corner of this T-intersection). Go about 1/4 mile and the entrance to the Chambersburg Country Club is on the left.

CPGCSA Scholarship

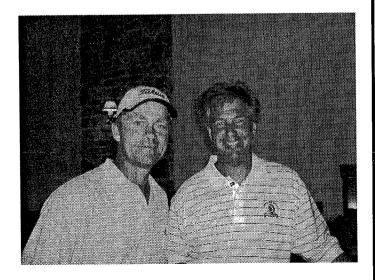
Congratulations to Galen Evans, 2005 CPGCSA Scholarship Recipient. Galen is currently a junior at Penn State University studying Turfgrass Science. Galen will graduate from PSU in 2007.

Galen's work experience includes Waynesboro Municipal Golf Course, with member Superintendent Harry Grove and Waynesboro Country Club with Faron Stoops.

Galen was recommended for the scholarship by Faron Stoops and Carmen Magro.

Congratulations Galen!

August Meeting at French Creek Golf Club



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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 by

October 15, 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.

Aer-Core, Inc. Bill Rahling, Robert Eichert, Rich Valentine

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Andre & Son, Inc Rich Gdovin

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Farm & Golf Course Supply Bennett Wartman

7725 Ridge Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19128 (215) 483-5000

CPGCSA Supporter List

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Golf Cars Inc. Paul Szymanski

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P. O. Box 336 Mount Freedom, NJ 07970 (570) 839-3399

Focono Turf Supply Jim Byrne

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Outside Unlimited, Inc.

Golf Course Irrigation Division Ian H. Williams, CIC, CGIA

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Land Studies, Inc. Mark Gutshall

315 North Street Lititz, PA 17543 (717) 627-4440

Lawn & Golf Supply Co. Greg Borzok, Ted Zabrenski 647 Nutt Road.

P. 0. Box 447 Phoenixville, PA 19460 (610) 933-5801

Northern Nurseries, Inc. Dan Fick

Rt. 115, Sullivan Trail Wind Gap, PA 18091 (610) 863-6006

Thiladelphia Turf Company Tom Drayer

4049 Landisville Road Doylestown, PA 18901 (215) 345-7200

Shearon Golf Charlie McGill, Jr.

337 Route 31 Hopewell, NJ 08525 (609) 466-0666

Syngenta Mark DelSantro

75 Ramblewood Drive Glenmoore, PA 19343 (724) 433-8332

Turf Management Associates

Thed Fraleigh, Jr. 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

September 2005 Meeting Information

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2006 CPGCSA Seminars

January 26, 2006 Plant Growth Regulators Ronald Calhoun, Ph.D.

January 27, 2006 Successful Project Management Bruce Williams, CGCS