

The Green Sheet



Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 14 Issue 4

July 2006

July Meeting

Heidelberg Country Club July 18, 2006

> 11:00 AM - Speaker 12:00 PM - Lunch 1:00 PM - Shotgun

There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting at 9:00 AM.

Superintendent Profile

Thomas Ocepek is now in his 18th season at Heidelberg Country Club. Originally from Western Pennsylvania, he started in the golf business in 1970 as a Caddy at Westmoreland Country Club. He worked as a starter, cook, waiter, and Pro Shop attendant at Cloverleaf Golf Club before becoming a grounds department worker and Assistant Superintendent in 1979. Tom attended the Penn State Turfgrass Management Program. Tom has also worked at Oakmont Country Club and Wilmington Country Club. Tom is married to Louise and they have 3 children: Erin -13, David -12, and Mary - 10.

Golf Course Profile

Heidelberg Country Club was built in 1969 and is located in Berks County PA, 10 miles north of the Reading Airport, just off route 183 in Bernville. Nestled in a traditional scenic setting, the Heidelberg Country Club is a full service private country club offering an exceptional 18 hole golf course, fully stocked pro shop, 12.5 acre driving range, three outdoor swimming pools and two outdoor tennis courts.

The Heidelberg golf course has long been hailed as one of the finest golf courses in Pennsylvania. Heidelberg's slope rating is 134 from the championship tees, with a course rating of 72.1 par 70.

> Heidelberg Country Club One Clubhouse Drive Bernville, PA 19506

Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

So Much for the Drought!

by Darin S. Bevard July 27, 2006

Recent updates have discussed dry weather patterns and potential water shortages across many parts of the Mid-Atlantic Region. In most areas, this concern has been put to rest for now (although the state remains under a drought watch). Rainfall totals approaching 10 inches in some areas and generally 1 to 2 inches across wide portions of the region have left golf courses saturated. Fortunately, unlike last year, afternoon temperatures have remained in the high 70's and low 80's which prevents wide scale turf loss due to wet will and scald. The biggest concern is mechanical damage.

Several superintendents have indicated that greens have not been mowed for two to three days. Growth regulator programs have prevented the grass from growing out of control, but eventually, the greens will be mowed. When they are, raise mowing heights and/or consider a switch to solid rollers if you have not already done so. This adjustment will limit scalping and mechanical damage. The greens will be softer and the greens will be slower, but this is a short term problem. If you try to maintain the same putting green speeds under these wet and soft conditions, you may suffer long term damage. Be conservative and communicate the reasons this management plan to the golfers until drier conditions prevail and more aggressive management can again be safely implemented.

When conditions are this wet, disease pressure increases and spray intervals decrease. Remember, if diseases are active on your fine turf areas, spray at curative rates. There is acontinued on page 3.....

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President's Message

As I write this, it is raining here...believe it or not! I just hope the only rainfall I get here is not from tropical storms or hurricanes. As much as I need the rain, I don't want it at someone else's expense or disaster.

Thanks...no a very BIG THANK YOU to all that came down and attended the June meeting at Waynesboro CC, my home course. This is truly my home club, since I was born and raised only about a mile away. Now you got to see "my little part" of Central Penn and the journey I make every month to attend meetings. So, just remember that when you are deciding not to go because it is "so far away". The camaraderie is worth the hours spent in the vehicle. Hey, car pool and get to know someone a little better!

I appreciate all the compliments and comments about our club and the event. It really makes me feel good when it is coming from my peers. You are always welcome to come back, and for those of you who did not make the trek, you can come around also.

A point I must make is that even though our golf event is for fun, we still need to follow the USGA rules of golf. There is some money to be won and we need to be fair to everyone playing. Clubs need to conform to the USGA guidelines and the maximum number of clubs in your bag is still 14. We don't get too excited about things, but let's have a level playing field.

Our next meeting is at Heidelberg CC, somewhere way up there (as I point north and east). It has been a while since we visited Tom and Chad, and I am looking forward to it! So get out, attend a meeting, get reacquainted with some long lost buddies and enjoy the day away from the fun at your home course. See ya there!

And no, you did not hear dueling banjos in the neighborhood as you approached WCC!

Faron Stoops

Directions to Heidelberg Country Club

From Allentown and East

Interstate 78 west to exit #19 (old exit #7) Strausstown/Route 183. Follow 183 south approx 10 miles to Bernville. Follow the detailed directions below at the asterisk.

From Harrisburg and West

Interstate 81 / 78 east to exit #19 (old exit #7) Strausstown/Route 183. Follow 183 south approx 10 miles to Bernville, Follow the detailed directions below at the asterisk.

From Lebanon Route 422

Route 422 east to Robesonia. Turn left at West Side Auto on Bernville Road (later changes to North Heidelberg Road). Follow this road approx 5 miles. Turn left onto Christmas Village Road, travel approx 1/4 mile turning right onto Koenig Road. Continue on Koenig Road, turning left onto Clubhouse Drive. Bear to right for the golf parking lot, bear to left for the banquet parking lot.

From Lancaster and South

Route 222 north to Reading. After passing the city of Reading on your right, stay to the left lane and follow signs for Route 222 north. Continue approx 2 miles and exit at Route 183 north/Reading Airport. At the top of the exit ramp turn left onto Route 183 north. Follow 183 north approx 9 miles to Bernville. Follow the detailed directions below at the asterisk.

* Turn off Route 183 (just before the town of Bernville) onto North Heidelberg Road, drive 1/4 mile and turn right onto Christmas Village Road. Continue another 1/4 mile and turn right onto Koenig Road. Continue around the bend to the left staying on Koenig Road and turn left onto Clubhouse Drive. Approaching the clubhouse you can bear to the right for the golf parking lot, or bear to the left and approach the main entrance under the canopy. You may drop off and circle around to the banquet parking lot.

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Matthew W. Strader Penn National Golf Club 717-352-7360 greens@penngolf.com

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

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Daniel W. Achenbach
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William P. Ramsey

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.

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Terry Bennett, 717-770-4725 or Matt Strader at 717-352-7360.

Golf Results

The course and weather were perfect for an afternoon of golf. Thank you to Faron and his crew for an enjoyable day. I was surprised to see that Superintendent Members well outnumbered the Affiliate members at this meeting, which from my short time on the board I have not observed until this meeting. I hope this is a good sign that everybody is able to come out and take full advantage of the networking opportunities to share their ideas and information with all. I know that I have benefited numerous times by talking with others about my problems and I have also shared my limited experience with others for what that is worth. Every piece of information helps me get better and even more knowledgeable about what I do. So please come out to the Heidelberg to support the CPCGA and industry, but most of all meet others and share your valuable information.

Each meeting we arrange a different format and last month we played a Stableford format using handicaps. The results were as follows:

1st place Low Gross Bob Wert 77 Mark MacDonald 79 Terry Bennett 81

Long Drive Dan Brickley

1st place Stableford Format John Segui 43 Reid Mitchell 42 Ron Nichols 41 Closest to the Pin Bob Wert

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USGA Update.....continued from page 1

distinct reason why preventative and curative rates are listed on many fungicide labels.

Japanese beetles are in flight in our region. If you have not already done so, applications of long residual, white grub insecticides should be applied if you are planning to use these materials to control these insect pests.

Remember last year with all the problems of putting greens associated with mowing too low and too often when the ground was wet and saturated; water mold diseases like *Pythium*, brown patch, wet wilt, etc. were problems. Be careful and conservative in how you manage your grass through this period. Tell the golfers to expect less than perfect conditions while this weather pattern persists. None of us wants history to repeat itself!

As always, if the Mid-Atlantic regional 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.

Statewide Drought Watch Lifted - June 30, 2006

HARRISBURG – The Department of Environmental Protection today lifted the drought watch for all 67 counties in Pennsylvania.

Although recent heavy rains caused widespread flooding, groundwater was slow to rebound. Flooded rivers and streams generally move water away too quickly to allow it to soak immediately into the ground to recharge underground aquifers.

As of today, groundwater monitoring wells are beginning to respond to the recent rains, with readings reaching or nearing normal levels across the commonwealth.

Groundwater is especially important in Pennsylvania, which has more private water wells than any other state. There are nearly 1 million private wells that draw from groundwater sources in Pennsylvania, and they are the sole source of water used in homes, restaurants, schools, hospitals, office buildings and churches across the state.

Groundwater also provides the base flow for streams and rivers, which will be critical as flood waters recede and the hottest, driest months approach. In the summer, when vegetation intercepts rainfall, it takes more precipitation to have a measurable impact on groundwater.

Even after the recent heavy downpours, total precipitation in most areas is now only at normal levels for the year. When the drought watch was declared April 11, two-thirds of the state's counties were 50 percent or more below their normal precipitation levels, and the remaining counties were reporting a deficit of at least 25 percent.

A drought watch is the lowest of three levels of drought status, asking for a 5 percent reduction in water use by residents.

More information on drought conditions, as well as realtime monitoring of drought indicators, is available on DEP's Web site at www.depweb.state.pa.us, Keyword: "Drought."

DSL Award Deadline

Nominations will be accepted for the David Rafferty Dedication, Service, and Leadership Award until August 15, 2006.

If you need additional forms, please contact Wanda at 717-279-0368 or cpgcsa@comcast.net

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How Many Clubs Can I Keep in My Bag?



Scott Fischer at Waynesboro Country Club

Heather and Gorse

By Mark DelSantro

"Cineri gloria sera venit." (Fame comes too late for the dead!) - Martial, Epigrammata, XXV, 8

Rain, rain, go away come again another day! Please! Pretty please, with a cherry on top!!! It seems this has become the decade of twos... 2001 and 2002 were both hot and dry... 2003 and 2004 were both cool and damp... now there is 2005 and 2006... well, for the second straight year, right around the same time, we've gotten ourselves into a rather strange weather pattern. In 2005, excessive rain created by a stalled front was followed by extreme heat and humidity. One year later, the stalled front is currently in place, we've gotten anywhere from 6" to 12" (depending on your locale), and we're about to jump into hottest and steamiest part of the summer. What in the world is going on with this weather?

The inconvenient truth of this matter according to Al Gore is that it is all tied to Global Warming. He believes that if the current trend continues that within 25 years, annual deaths from global warming will eclipse 300,000 people! Y'all know I've had a tendency to bust a bit on these global warming theorist, but 300,000 people per year dying is not cool no matter the cause! The problem that I have with these theories is that they are in fact theories. The most educated people in this world can't seem to agree on whether global warming is real. Does anyone believe that purposely destroying the ecosystem could benefit us in the long run? Dude, it bugs me just to see garbage tossed on the side of a road. There is no doubt that there is a general, blatant disregard for the environment and I am seriously concerned in many ways for the future of our world. That being said, when one human being introduces more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere in a day than the average automobile, it makes you wonder if these environmentalists ought to consider changing their tune.

Seriously, it is always nice to know that the former vice president is still alive and kicking. And of course the timing is about right for him to reintroduce himself to everyone in an effort to push for the democratic presidential nomination a few years down the road. I'm sure he and Hillary will have a beautifully socialistic battle for the nomination. I think it will be interesting to see how they will attempt to differentiate themselves from the issues that they essentially both agree upon. The planet... save it! Health Care... give it to everyone! Education... leave no child left behind... oops, that was a GOP program! Hey, maybe Al could ride the coattails of the Hillary and Bill for an unprecedented second two terms!!! I don't believe that there are any term limits on being a vice president!??!

One final thought on Al Gore, especially if he's looking for differentiation... I don't recall hearing whether or not his family ever got rid of that tobacco farm in Tennessee... I sense they did not. Did you know that there are currently 440,000 annual deaths from tobacco use?!!? By the way, that's nearly three times the annual number of people who die from Global Warming! Smokers die, on average, 14 years younger than non-smokers and have a 22 times greater chance of contracting lung cancer. Hmmm, I wonder how much atmospheric pollution is caused by the tobacco industry!!! One thing that is factual regards Al Gore accepting over \$100,000 in soft money from the tobacco industry, even after his sister died from lung cancer and he vowed to fight against the tobacco companies?!!? Where's the love, man?

Alright enough bustin' on Al Gore... seriously, if the democrats want the White House back, they need to get Hillary to move more to middle of the road and she'll need to keep her distance from the former vice president. Additionally, she'll need to take some advice from PA Governor, Ed Rendell on how to run a successful campaign. If she needs a reference she should be able to contact Lynn Swann (the former Pittsburgh Steeler) for his Rendell endorsement. Unfortunately for Al Gore, this may leave him relegated to taking over Ralph Nader's position as head of the Green Party. Alright already, no more politics!

Speaking of the Pittsburgh Steelers... This just in for all of you Steelers fans... Ben Roethlisberger has committed to playing the entire 2006 NFL season without a helmet! I heard a rumor that he stated that playing professional football was actually safer than riding a motorcycle, especially since he didn't need a license and/or a registration card to play! Additionally, I heard a rumor that the woman driving the vehicle that Big Ben collided with was none other than the mother of Cincinnati Bengals "All Pro" wide receiver Chad Johnson? Of course, the facts surrounding this case have been disputed... another rumor floating around is that in actuality the person driving the car may have been Kordell Stewart dressed in drag!??! Y'all know the rumor mill these days. Ex-starting QB bygones!

Seriously folks, I know many of you love the Steelers, but what in the world was going through this guy's head besides the windshield of this older ladies' car? Big Ben you just won the Super Bowl at age 23 and are on top of the world, what are you going to do now... I'm going to go ride my Suzuki Hayabusa, the fastest legal street bike in the world, without a helmet, risking life, limb, salary, and my future all at the same time! Didn't this guy learn anything from Kellen Winslow Jr. early last year? Now I'm no blinking beacon myself, but this guy can't be the brightest lamp on the block. In the standard NFL contract a player is prohibited from any activity involving significant risk of personal injury apart from football. Furthermore, Bill Cowher warned him about riding his motorcycle after Winslow Jr. blew out his knee last year in his motorcycle accident. Further furthermore, Terry Bradshaw preached to him about his responsibility to his team and the fans at the Steelers Summer Camp last year. Obviously, all this must have fallen on deaf ears.

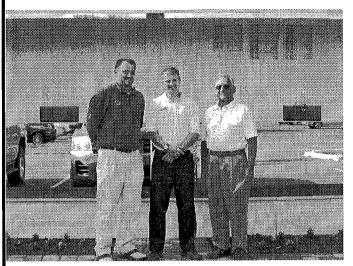
Heather and Gorse......continued

Listen, I think we're all thankful that Big Ben survived with minimal injuries. As for the nose and the jaw... hell, with his previous looks, he was never going to make the cover of GQ anyway. But if life is nothing more than a perpetual learning curve, my hope and prayer is that Big Ben has reached enlightenment. He is blessed with size, strength and football talent of which 999,999 out of 1,000,000 people can only dream. And the cold, hard reality of professional sports, especially professional football, is that you have a very small window of opportunity to make your money and build your legacy. Make it to the age of 28 in the NFL and you're suddenly sliding down the right half of the Bell Curve towards what most players consider lucky. Furthermore, Big Ben ought to think about his power and influence over the younger folk of this world, who worship the ground on which he walks and follows everything he says like it's the gospel. When you make it to that level, regardless of whether you want to be or not, you are a role model for the young Steelers fans. If anything Big Ben... do it for the children!

In conclusion, we are only a few months away from another closing of the summer golf season and the beginning of another NFL season. Hang in there and keep that air conditioner running. That's my overly saturated, conveniently truthful, blatantly disregarded, cigar smoking, full of hot air, soft money and Hillary endorsed, low risk, helmet wearing, always learning, always GQ, save the children and world point of view from the heather and gorse.

Mark DelSantro can be reached via cell phone at (724) 433-8332 or via e-mail at mdelsantro@comcast.net

Golf Winners -

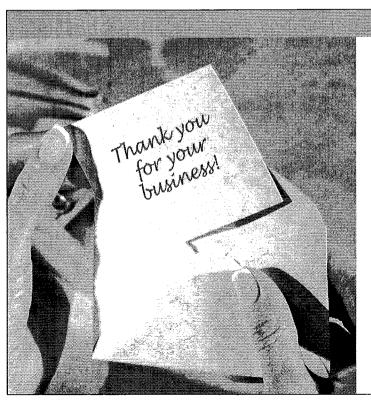


Ron Nichols, Reid Mitchell, John Segui

Advertising

Space is still available for advertising in the "Green Sheet" for the 2006 meeting year.

Please contact Wanda, for information on sizes, pricing, and deadlines.



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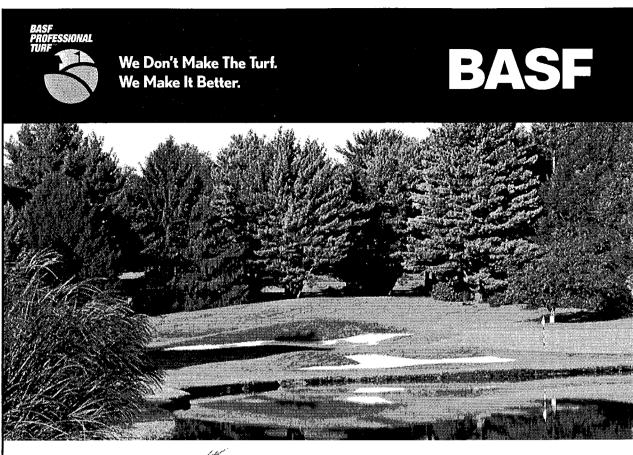
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GCSAA Update

The Environmental Institute for Golf is funding a research project that will benefit us all, "A Critical Review of Water Quality Impacts by Golf Courses: Update and Trends." The USGA is cosponsoring this effort, which is a continuation of a previous national assessment published in Golf Course Management (November, 1997) and the Journal of Environmental Quality.

This project is intended to acquire as much data as possible from golf courses that are conducting surface and/or ground water monitoring projects. The intent of the study, conducted by Environmental & Turf Services, Inc., Wheaton, MD, with Dr. Stuart Cohen as principal investigator, is to publish a critical review of the quality of surface and ground water as affected by golf courses. Such data are very important to accurately assess the ecological implications of land use planning regarding the construction and maintenance of golf course facilities. This information can also have implications for pesticide registration decisions. Most important, the results of this study will give important feedback to superintendents who not only manage their courses, but who live in the environment. Target analytes are pesticides, pesticide metabolites, nitrate, and phosphorus.

We need your help. If your golf course is conducting surface and/or ground water monitoring projects or have in the past and you are willing to share the data, please contact Juleen Lam at:

Juleen Lam
Environmental & Turf Services, Inc.
11141 Georgia Avenue, Suite 208
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone: (301) 933-4700
Fax: (301) 933-4701

JuleenLam@aol.com

We would like to have the water quality data as soon as possible but no later than September 30, 2006.

Data from individual golf courses will be held in confidence.

Only aggregate data will be presented.

Our goal is to ensure that golf courses contribute to a healthy environment. Your assistance is very much appreciated.

Please contact Clark Throssell, Ph.D., Director of Research at GCSAA with any questions or concerns.

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For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the August newsletter, please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to cpgcsa@comcast.net by July 21, 2006

 ☆ CPGCSA Merchandise 	☆ ☆ ☆	
☐ There will be CPGCSA logo merchandise available ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐		
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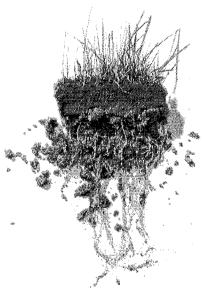
UMASS Web Alert

Date: June 12, 2006 Category: Diseases Subject: A 'New' Turf Disease

Yellow Rings, similar to those seen with Yellow Patch (caused by Rhizoctonia cerealis) have been showing up on putting greens from California to Massachusetts and Kansas to Canada in the last several weeks. The Yellow Rings have been described as Rhizoctonia-like in nature, but also as Fairy Ring and Necrotic Ring Spot. The symptoms, although very similar to Yellow Patch, occur under much warmer temperatures than are associated with the former disease and also occur without the darkened roots and crowns associated with 'patch' diseases like Necrotic Ring Spot. Many of the reports have been on push-up or older greens and the primary turfgrass affected has been Poa annua. New sand greens have not been affected, but there are reports of this new disease on creeping bentgrass. The strange weather patterns of last winter and the wide fluctuations in both temperature and moisture this spring may be responsible for the unusual growth of soil fungi. The disease has been variously named, sheath and leaf spot, Brown Ring Patch, and Waitea Patch; and the causal agent identified as Waitea circinata var. zeae, Rhizoctonia circinata var. zeae, or simply Rhizoctonia zeae. This new pathogen is also closely related to the Brown Patch fungus, Rhizoctonia solani. Although the name and cause of this new disease is academic, the control recommendations are the same as for other Rhizoctonia diseases. Apply azoxystrobin (HeritageTM), fludioxonil (MedallionTM), flutolanil (ProStarTM), polyoxin D (EndorseTM), or propiconazole (Banner MaxxTM) according to the label, at the high rate, and in at least 4 gal water/ 1,000 sq ft to reach the turfgrass crowns and roots.

Upcoming Events

- Penn State Field Days
 August 9 & 10
 Valentine Research Center,
 Penn State, University Park
- The Joseph Valentine Memorial Tournament.
 Monday, October 9th
 Merion Golf Club
- Penn State Golf Turf
 Conference
 November 7 9, 2006
 Nittany Lion Inn, State College
- Eastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show
 January 9 – 11, 2007
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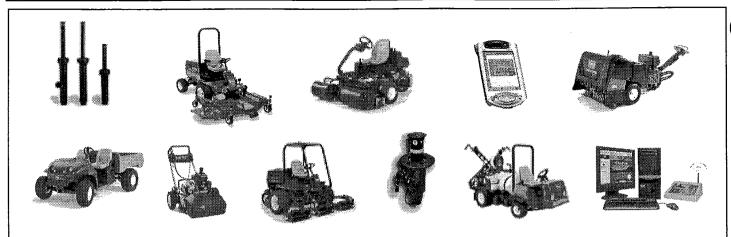
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Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association Golf Outing

The Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association (formerly known as The Allied) will be hosting a golf outing sponsored by BASF. All members of Pennsylvania chapters are invited to play (limited to the first 120 registrants).

Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents are also eligible to participate in the BASF "People vs. Pro" event during the outing. The winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to Pinehurst and a chance to compete against touring pros Retief Goosen and Gary McCord. A USGA golf handicap is required.

Date: Tuesday, August 8, 2006
Place: The Elks Club of State College
Host: David Williams, CGCS
Cost: \$60.00

The deadline to register is Monday, August 1st. To register or for more information, please contact Nancy Williams at 814-466-2747 or by email at agcsop@verizon.net.

Did You Know???

- Everytime you sneeze some of your brain cells die.
- Google is actually the common name for a number with a million zeros.
- When you blush, the lining of your stomach also turns red.
- Roosters cannot crow if they cannot extend their necks.
- The sound you hear when you crack your knuckles is actually the sound of nitrogen gas bubbles bursting.
- It takes about 20 seconds for a red blood cell to circle the whole body.
- The only part of the body that has no blood supply is the cornea in the eye. It takes in oxygen directly from the air.
- Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
- German Shepherds bite humans more than any other breed of dog.
- Large kangaroos cover more than 30 feet with each jump.
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.
- The only 2 animals that can see behind themselves without turning their head are the rabbit and the parrot.

CPGCSA Supporter List

Aer-Core, Inc. Bill Rahling, Robert Eichert, Reid Mitchell, Paul Brandon

1486 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19465 (610) 327-3390

Finch Services 419 Industrial Drive

North Wales, PA 19454 800-875-TURF

Hollingers Sports 'N Turf Leroy Hurst

4126 Oregon Pike Ephrata, PA 17522 (800) 650-1398

Andre & Son, Inc Rich Gdovin

2 Mill Street Montrose, PA 18801 (607) 761-9465

Fisher & Son Company **Thomas Mahute**

3009 Gloucester Street Lancaster, PA 17601 (717) 892-1455

Lawn & Golf Supply Co. Greg Borzok, Ted Zabrenski

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

BASF Ted Huhn

2819 Blue Ball Road Elkton, MD 21921 (410) 398-8244

Golf Cars Inc. Paul Szymanski

Box 247 Buckingham, PA 18912 (215) 340-0880

Philadelphia Turf Company Tom Draver

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

Blue Ridge Peat Farms Gene Evans

133 Peat Moss Road White Haven, PA 18661 (570) 443-9596

Grass Roots Turf Products Steven Chirip

HCI Box 54B Swiftwater, PA 18370 570-839-3399

Syngenta Mark DelSantro

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

Cleary Karen Hartman

30300 Charles Barnes Road Westover, MD 21871 (410) 968-1858

Harrell's Turf Specialty Don Hollinger, Dan Davis, Paul Wickey, Jim MacLaren

858 Mt. Joy Road Manheim, PA 17545 (717) 664-4204

Turf Management Associates Thed Fraleigh, Jr.

151 Valleybrook Drive Lancaster, PA 17601 (717) 569-4025

Davisson Golf, Inc. Tim Davisson, Ron Nichols

200-F Penrod Court Glen Burnie, MD 21061 (800) 613-6888

Thanks

supporters!

Farm & Golf Course Supply **Bennett Wartman**

7725 Ridge Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19128 $(21\hat{5})483-5000$

Watson Irrigation Supply Tim Watson, Chris Thomas

4021 North Sixth Street Harrisburg, PA 17110 (800) 999-1630

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

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2006 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule

August 17

Pilgrims Oak Golf Course

Meeting with PAGCS

September 29

Lebanon Country Club

Golf Championship/Annual Meeting