



# The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 15 Issue 1

April 2008

## May Meeting

### Blue Ridge Country Club

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

11:00 AM - Speaker

12:00 Noon - Lunch

1:00 PM - Golf

**Hors d'oeuvres/Cash Bar - Following Golf**

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

## Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

### Slow Spring in the Mid-Atlantic Region

By Darin S. Bevard, Sr. Agronomist  
April 2, 2008

The start of spring has required one thing from golf course superintendents and golfers alike, patience. While early spring has not provided any bitter cold weather, it also has not provided much warm weather either. When temperatures have warmed up, it has coincided with rain and a quick cool down to below average temperatures. The result has been slow turfgrass green-up and top growth, but in early season visits roots have been deep and healthy overall.

While daily mowing has not begun, most fine turf areas have been mowed a few times with the exception of the northern most parts of the region. Additionally, greens on many golf courses have been aerated, and many more will be punched soon. With cooler temperatures, healing is slow. This is one of the risks of early season aeration. Yes, you get the process out of the way. However, cool temperatures lengthen the window of healing and bumpy greens are the rule. Aerating later in the spring can be difficult because of the golf schedule, but healing times are greatly reduced. Do your best to fill aeration holes completely to accommodate healing. Periodic, light topdressing and even rolling can improve ball roll while you work through healing from aeration. No one enjoys aeration, except, of course, the turf.

On *Poa annua* greens or mixed *Poa annua*/creeping bentgrass greens, growth regulator applications to inhibit seedhead formation are close at hand. In fact, in parts of the region, *Poa* seedhead control applications have already been made. Keep in mind that application timing is critical so regular monitoring for seedheads on fairways and greens is critical. If you are close to proper timing, at least some level

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

## Superintendent Profile

Scott Fischer has been at Blue Ridge Country Club since 2003. Scott started out at Manada Golf Course during high school. After receiving his two year certificate from Rutgers in 1993, Scott was the Assistant at Colonial Country Club and Dauphin Highlands before taking his first superintendent position at Red Lion Country Club. After three years at Red Lion Country Club, Scott went to the dark side as a Sales Rep for Lesco before going to Blue Ridge Country Club. Scott is married to his beautiful wife, Michelle and has three daughters, Cassidy - 5 and twins Caitlyn and Jessica - 3. Scott's activities include golf, duck hunting, and beer tasting.

## Golf Course Profile

Blue Ridge Country Club was built in 1932 as a public golf course before going private in 1937. It was designed by George Morris and Calvin Black. The course is laid out over a gently rolling property, with scenic views and a nice atmosphere for golf. Blue Ridge is relatively narrow off the tee with small undulating greens. The greens are usually kept at a fast speed and can be quite tricky to putt from above the hole.

**Blue Ridge Country Club**  
3940 Linglestown Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17112  
www.blueridgeclub.org

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## President's Message

First, I would like to thank all that attended our winter events. Central Penn Night, OSHA Training and the Winter Educational Meeting were all excellent events and thanks to those involved with the organization. As was mentioned at the winter educational, we are working on a web page and a new sponsorship program for our affiliate members. Until the sponsorship program is completed, we are accepting all ideas and comments for the program. In line with that topic we are accepting meeting, hole, or prize sponsors for this year. These items will be part of the new program. I would like to thank the affiliates who have already come forward to help our association get through this difficult time. We have a great meeting schedule this year, so mark your calendars. In July, we are going to try a new event. As we all know, by July everyone is stressed and pulling their hair out. This year, we are going to have a social event at Lebanon's Shop. Starting after work hours, come and kick back and chat with your colleagues about your season so far. Good Luck with Aerification and we will see you at Blue Ridge Country Club in May.

Dan Brickley  
Lebanon C.C.

## 2008 David Rafferty DSL Award



On January 19, 2008 the Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association honored Jeffery L. Fry, CGCS, with the David Rafferty Distinguished Service and Leadership Award. Established in 2002, this award is given to members of the association who exemplify dedication, leadership, and service to the field of golf course management, as did its' named honoree, David Rafferty.

Jeff is currently the General Manager of Lebanon County Club, located in North Cornwall Township. Some of Jeff's accomplishment include; past president of CPGCSA, past president of the Pennsylvania Council of Farm Organizations, and current president of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council.

Jeff is also proud of the list of turf professionals that he has mentored. Several of his previous employees hold superintendent's positions within the industry to include Daniel Brickley, Superintendent of the Lebanon Country Club and current CPGCSA president. Countless turfgrass professionals look to Jeff for his leadership. He has truly made a difference in our industry and his continuing service is motivation for others to follow in his footsteps.

### President/Bylaws/Social

Daniel Brickley  
Lebanon Country Club  
717- 273-1944  
djb301@yahoo.com

### Vice President/Scholarship

Matthew W. Strader  
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### Past President/Scholarship

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Country Club of York  
717-843-2190  
jcolo@ccyork.org

### Education/Career Development

Ryan Freed 2008  
Regents Glen Country Club  
717-505-4665  
rfreed@regentsglen.com

Curtis King 2010  
Moccasin Run Golf Course  
610-593-2600  
cgking@zoominternet.net

### Nominations

Barry Bollinger 2009  
Rich Valley Golf Course  
717-691-8805  
turfdpra@yahoo.com

### Golf

Rebecca Matis 2009  
Golf Club at Felicita  
(717) 599-5703  
turfgirl03@aol.com

### Media/Public Relations/Membership

Jed A. Vail 2008  
Heritage Hills Golf Resort  
717-755-1919  
jed\_vail76@hotmail.com

### Media/Public Relations

Craig Esbenshade 2010  
Lancaster Host Inn  
717-397-8928  
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### Affiliates

Paul Wickey 2008  
717-697-1013  
turfwick@aol.com

Brad Helcoski 2010  
856-466-9049  
bhelcoski@atlanticirrigation.com

### Newsletter

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cpgcsa@comcast.net

### PAST PRESIDENTS

George Morris  
Ed Tabor  
Riley E. Heckert  
Richard T. Funk  
Harry L. Latschaw  
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  
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 Heintzen  
Terry L. Wueschinski, CGCS  
Greg Borzok  
Gregory C. Fantuzzi, CGCS  
James W. Jones  
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. Oepek, CGCS  
Daniel W. Achenbach  
William E. Brooks  
William P. Ramsey  
Faron J. Stoops  
John M. Colo

## GONE FISHING (Not Really)

On June 30, 1990, we did our first job at Mt Airy Lodge with our brand new Vertidrain 145 greens model. Talk about being excited! We broke or bent eighty seven ½" x 12" solid tines. What the hell were we thinking?

Over the past eighteen years we have witnessed enormous change in our business. In the early years, the process of deep tine aeration was not fully understood by a lot of people in turfgrass management (we may have been two of them) but it was paying the bills. We went on to introduce fairway core aeration as a contract service. Think of how many of you today leave that chore to a contractor. That was probably our first good idea although we didn't think so at the time. It was, and continues to be, very hard work. Core aeration was followed by hydroject aeration, equipment sales, drill and fill aeration, topdressing, drainage work, and greens aeration. The business evolved with the ever changing needs of our industry.

Bill and I would like to take this opportunity to say good-bye and to thank all of you who entrusted us with your golf courses; especially at a time when this type of work was not a commonly accepted practice. On February 15, 2008, Bill and I sold Aer-Core, Inc. to Steve Thompson and Bill Mast. The company has been left in the hands of two very capable, hard-working individuals. Most of you already know Bill Mast and are aware of his work ethic; in the months ahead, you will have the opportunity to meet Steve. Steve, Bill and I will continue to be involved in the industry and look forward to seeing you from time to time. Thank you again for your many years of support.

Sincerely,



Bob Eichert



Bill Rahling

## DSL Winners - Past and Present



Jim MacLaren, Jeff Fry, Greg Borzok, Terry Wueschinski

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## Directions to Blue Ridge Country Club

### **From Lancaster:**

Route 283 West to 283 North. Route 283 North becomes Route 83 North. Stay Northbound on 83 until it ends at Interstate 81. Look for signs for 81 South...merge. Once on 81 South get over in the right lane ASAP. Get off 81 Southbound at Exit 69 Progress Avenue. Take a left at first light onto North Progress Avenue. Follow North Progress Avenue for approximately 1 mile. Turn right onto Linglestown Road/PA 39 East. Blue Ridge Country Club is 1 mile on left.

### **From York:**

Route 83 North and then follow Lancaster directions.

### **From Carlisle:**

Interstate 81 North to North Front Street, Exit 66. Take North Front Street to Linglestown Road/PA 39 East. Follow 39 East for three miles. Blue Ridge Country Club is on the left.

### **From State College:**

Route 322 South to the Linglestown Exit PA 39 East, Blue Ridge Country Club is 2.7 miles on the left.

## Membership News

There were no new membership applications to review this month.

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

Phil Easton.....Class AF  
Sales Representative, UAP

Peter Froelich..... Class SM  
Superintendent, Hershey Country Club

Timothy Hill..... Class C  
Assistant Superintendent, Foxchase Golf Club

Mike Janzer .....Class AF  
Sales Manager, Plant Food Company

Ken Jeinnings .....Class AF  
Sales Manager, Lawn & Golf Supply Co.

Tadd May..... Class SM  
Superintendent, Lykens Valley Golf Course

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Jed Vail (Heritage Hills Golf Resort) at 717-755-1919 or Steve Ludwig (Gettysburg Country Club) at 717-334-0441.

## Equipment For Sale

The following equipment is available for purchase. Please contact Bob or Matt at 717-898-500 or email: matt@usaturf.com.

- John Deere 2653A Triplex Reel Mower, diesel, 1235 HRS, 5 Blade, Very Good Condition, diesel, asking \$6,500.00
- John Deere 2653 Triplex Reel Mower, gas, 1288 HRS – 5 Blade. Very Good Condition, asking \$5,500.00
- TIP GROOM-IT Plus -'02 model Serial # 2002216, Excellent condition, Wings fold down to a 12' width and fold up for easy transport, Electronic height included. adjuster switch, white brushes are set up for topdressing set of new brushes. Asking price \$3,950.00
- Redexim Charterhouse Speedseed 1600, '06 model, brand new condition, individual cast spiker rings, used only once! Asking \$5,600.00

Matt Strader at Penn National Golf Course is looking for used lockers for his grounds staff locker rooms. Please contact Matt at 717-352-7360 or greens@pennngolf.com if your club has any lockers for sale.

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.

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## Heather and Gorse

By Mark DelSantro

Happy April Fool's Day to everyone out there in Heather and Gorse land. Hard to believe we're about to begin another golf season. Man-o-man, let me tell you, the older I get the quicker time seems to traverse. Between the travel and the kids activities, the winter was once again a proverbial blur.

By the way, as we quickly approach another Masters at Augusta National coming up in a week or so, I'm reminded that with the submission of this article we're entering our 12<sup>th</sup> year of writing Heather and Gorse for the Green Sheet of the CPGCSA. All I can say is holy cow, I never thought we'd make it! I still remember my first board meeting back in 1997, following Jim Loke's recruitment of me to the board of directors, when I naively volunteered for the Newsletter Editor position. I remember me laughing as I boldly stated to my board-mates that they had no idea what they had just allowed to happen. I confidently bloviated something to the tune of the power of the pen being mightier than the sword! Eleven years later I can honestly tell everyone that, for the most part, I actually look forward to writing this every month. Outside of my wife, Trish, it has really been one of the few constants in my life since that fateful moment in time.

So I'm thinking of everything that has happened in my life since we last corresponded. Let's see, there's the job change, there was a really interesting PTC raffle up at PSU, and oh yeah, a little trip to paradise and back. In early October 2007, we took a little golfing trip to St. Andrews, Scotland. It's funny looking back now six months ago, the trip was so surreal that it almost seems like a dream.

The first two hours upon arriving was one of the most remarkable experience ever as we got to St. Andrews just in time to catch the final few groups of the Dunhill Cup's third round, playing up #18 at The Old Course. Following the final foursome, as we were walking towards the eighteenth tee, I decided to call up Mr. Gordon Moir, the Director of Grounds at St. Andrews to check his whereabouts. Gordon and I had corresponded a few times via e-mail and he had given me his cell number and told me to contact him when we got to town. It just happened that when I called he was about 50 yards from us on the eighteenth tee. Unfathomable to me, he instructed us to simply jump the fence and walk towards the tee to meet him. Having been to many big PGA events where if you even considered sitting six inches inside the ropes you'd be flogged, strip searched, and quickly escorted for the gate, we felt a bit like we were doing something terribly wrong. But like good little soldiers, we followed his instructions and met him at the tee.

This is where it really got surreal! After twenty minutes of friendly introductions and small talk, Gordon invited us to take a personal tour of course with him. He ran off and got a "people-mover" while we took pictures of each other on "The Bridge." Upon returning, we were off driving straight down the eighteenth, over to the first, and down every fairway in order. We stopped on every hole to get golfing advice, as well as to take photos. It was the most unbelievable first two hours of a vacation we'd ever experienced and, oh by the way, we hadn't even taken our clubs from our travel bags!

The next evening, following the conclusion of the Dunhill Cup, we imbibed with Gordon, his staff, and several of the volunteers at the DunVegan, which ultimately became our second home for the week (Extra Cold Guinness on tap? Are you kidding?). It was on this night that we socialized with the likes of Alan Strachan from Royal County Down and Fintan Brennan from the Links at PortMarnock, as we watched and cheered for the Scottish National Rugby team as they battled Argentina in the semi-finals of the Rugby World Cup. Aside from teaching us a little about what goes on inside a rugby scrum, this whole experience convinced me why the USA has so much difficulty defeating the Europeans in the Ryder Cup every other year. The passion exhibited by these fanatics was so intoxicating and energetic, it was unlike anything I've ever seen in the US. Infinitely more deathly impassioned than the Philadelphia Eagles fans in 2004 Super Bowl! It was truly indescribable!

St. Andrews, itself, has an energy about it that also is extremely unique. It is a quaint little town on the Scottish Sea that is full of culture. There is St. Andrews University, St. Andrews Castle, a few old churches, and a rather old cemetery, all wrapped around St. Andrews Bay. Honestly, it is one of those utopian places to which you could envision yourself retiring, if only the food was a bit more enticing!

About the only tie to America is a Starbucks located on one of the main streets. Considering the breakfasts were nothing to write home about, I quickly became intimately involved with this familiar brand establishment. The Starbucks business model never ceases to amaze me! I went in there on the first day and ordered my normal she-she foo-foo latte and muffin from the barrister (a venti, non-fat, mocha, with whipped and a chocolate chip muffin, which by the way, tasted exactly the same as if I had gotten it in Exton, PA!) and upon returning the next morning to the same barrister, before I could tell her my usual order, she blurted it out verbatim from memory with a rather large smile on her face. Talk about an exceptional customer experience! Uh, you had me at hello!!! Needless to say, you can only imagine where I ate breakfast each of our remaining days.

Quaint little town and Starbucks aside, did I happen to mention the golf courses? We played six rounds in five days, including The Old Course (enchanting), The New Course (built in 1895), Carnoustie (the hardest golf course I've ever played), Kingsbarns (Magnificent! The best lay out and best conditioned of the group), St. Andrews Bay (a real treat),

*Continued on page 9*

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Fax: 717-697-0447  
paul@genesis turfgrassinc.com



**QUELANT**

## USGA.....continued from Page 1

of suppression will be realized. Remember, each putting green represents a different growing environment that could have slightly different "ideal" application timing. This confounds seedhead inhibition efforts. The goal is to control the majority of seedheads in one or two applications. Research clearly shows that excellent *Poa annua* seedhead inhibition can be realized with proper timing. This timing is as much art as science with the variety of weather experienced during the spring.

Finally, now is the time to begin monitoring greens and fairway edges if you have encountered problems with Annual Bluegrass Weevil. It is still a little early, but once the first wave of warm weather occurs, you can bet these critters will be active and looking to mate. Monitor traditional hot spots on your golf course so that treatments to control adult weevils can be implemented.

From a non-agronomic aspect, one challenge that has arisen is labor. The fate of many H2B workers is tangled up in immigration reform. For those who are not familiar, the H2B program is one that allows migrant workers to enter the country to work in various industries. The golf course industry relies on this labor pool in many areas. Congress failed to extend the exemption of returning workers under the H2B program, which means there is a shortfall in workers compared to H2B requests. This is unfortunate because many of these workers are experienced and have been working at the same golf course for several years. Many golf courses are not getting the workers that they thought would be starting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, which could provide further challenges for early season preparations. Golf courses will need to recruit and train additional workers, and potentially at higher hourly rates. This is not a good situation and it is causing angst for more than a few superintendents.

Course conditions will quickly improve with warmer weather. Aeration holes will heal, and routine maintenance operations will commence. We are still very early in the golfing season, and it takes time for the grass to wake-up. **Patience!**

*Always remember, the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists are part of your agronomic support team. If you have questions or concerns, give us a call or send an e-mail. You may contact the agronomists of the Mid-Atlantic Region, Stan Zontek ([szontek@usga.org](mailto:szontek@usga.org)) and 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.*

## 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](mailto:cpgcsa@comcast.net) by May 12, 2008.



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## Happy 69th 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, **69 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.

## Mid-Atlantic USGA Update Has Spring Arrived? (It Probably Has)

By Stanley J. Zontek, Director

It's good that golf courses are slowly emerging from their winter dormancy. We were surprised to see early flowering trees during a visit to the Tidewater area of Virginia this past week. The daffodils, crocus and hyacinth also are emerging from the soil. Interestingly, this agronomist has always said, "the grass talks to you." I may have to amend this to say, "plants talk to us." The plants are ready for spring. Are you? Is your golf course ready?

The first concern needs to be spring applications of preemerge herbicides for crabgrass control. The broadleaf weeds will not be far behind. Are you ready? Have you received your inventory? After all, weed control is most effectively accomplished in a fairly narrow window timing. Once the application window passes, it takes a lot more work, time, materials, and aggravation to catch-up.

Has winter completely passed in the Mid-Atlantic Region? Probably not. It was still snowing in the mountains of western Pennsylvania, however the warmer weather is creeping north as witnessed by the plants. They are talking to us; be sure to listen.

Finally, we would like to thank all who attended our two USGA Regional Meetings in Monroeville, PA and at DuPont CC, Wilmington, DE. Both meetings had nearly 200 in attendance. Of special note and importance was that the audience was split almost evenly between professional turf managers and course officials, golf professionals and general managers. Our meetings continue to be unique in this regard.

Our regional meetings for 2009 return to the ExpoMart in Monroeville, PA on February 23, 2009 and our eastern regional meeting returns to Woodholme CC, home of their world famous crab cakes and desserts in March, 2009 (date to be determined).

*Remember, the Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists are part of your agronomic support team. If you have a question or concern, give us a call or send an e-mail. You may contact the agronomists of the Mid-Atlantic Region, 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.*

### Congratulations to:

Stephen J. Ludwig, CGCS for completing the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. Steve is the Golf Course Superintendent at Gettysburg Country Club and has been a member of GCSA for 13 years.



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Soil Ammendments & Topdressings

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Buffalo Turbine Ferris, Earthway, Land Pride,  
Soil Reliever Greens Groomer Brush: Call for Demo

**CONTACT: Rich Gdovin**  
(607)761-9465  
[rgdovin@andreandson.com](mailto:rgdovin@andreandson.com)

### Central Penn Night Committee and Speakers



L-R: Pete Ramsey, Greg Borzok, Jeff Fry, Abbey Fry,  
Dan Brickley, Jim MacLaren, Terry Bennett

## **Berks Man Reaches Top Enlisted Rank in Pennsylvania Air National Guard**

**By Dan Kelly, Reading Eagle**

Eleven days after September 11, 2001, Pennsylvania Air National Guard Master Sgt. Scott A. Keener and the men and women of the 193rd Special Operations Squadron were in the air over Afghanistan. The highly specialized unit, the only one of its kind in the U.S. Military, flies a radio and television broadcast studio into harm's way in the belly of a C-130 transport plane. The message they send to their viewers and listeners on the ground isn't all hearts and flowers. It's more of an explanation of why bomb and bullets are raining from the sky. Keener said the broadcast from the big studio in the sky over Afghanistan essentially was, "We mean no harm to the Afghan people, but the Taliban has got to go". "Our message, like our mission, is classified, but that's basically it," Keener said. "My wife doesn't even know where we go."

Over the weekend, after more than 20 years in the Air National Guard, Keener was promoted to chief master sergeant. In the new assignment, he will oversee about 1,500 enlisted airmen and airwomen in Pennsylvania. Major Gen. Stephen M. Sischo is commanding officer of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. As chief master sergeant, the highest noncommissioned officer rank in the guard, Keener said he will report directly to Sischo. "I will advise the general on the quality-of-life issues and concerns of the enlisted corps," Keener said last week.

Keener, 57, of North Heidelberg Township said he has been deployed overseas four times since the 2001 terror attacks, but he may not say exactly where those deployments were because of their classified status. It's safe to say he has served in Bosnia, Kosovo and throughout the Middle East. Because the 193rd is the only unit of its kind in the world, it often is deployed at a moment's notice. The 193rd is the only American unit that conducts psychological warfare by broadcasting messages to civilians in war zones to convince them that American troops mean them no harm. Their motto is, "Never seen, always heard." Keener said the value of being able to broadcast a friendly message to citizens of a country we are waging war against or in other conflict with is invaluable. Without the 193rd, the only news the civilian populations would get would be broadcasts of the Arab TV network Al Jazeera or the messages of the Taliban and other anti-American propaganda, he said.

The goal of the squadron is to save civilian lives by letting the people on the ground know who the bad guys are, Keener said. Keener said he doesn't do any of the actual broadcasting. "My job is to make sure the men and women of the 193rd have everything they need to complete their mission," Keener said. He's sort of the squadron's fixer. "if there is a financial problem, a problem at home, something distracting an airman from their duty, I step in and take care of it for them," Keener said. "It's a tremendous honor to be selected for this position, there's only one chief master sergeant and I didn't set out to reach this position, but I feel proud to have been chosen for the job and I'm going to do everything I can to promote the mission of the 193rd.

Keener's service as a weekend warrior in the Air National Guard was interrupted only once, for about a decade, but his other passion - fast pitch softball. "I joined the Sunners and played for them until I retired," Keener said of the Berks County - based men's softball team. "They played on weekends, so I couldn't do both."

*(This article ran in the Reading Eagle on March 3, 2008. Scott has been a member of CPGCSA since 1991.)*

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## **Heather and Gorse.....continued from page 5**

and Crail (the only dog in the bunch!). While I'm not one who really enjoys that much golf concentrated into a short week, it was truly a treat. And even more interesting is that as I hear from the locals, the best golf course in the region is set to open this year as the seventh golf course in the St. Andrews Golf Club group of courses. It will be called the Castle Course and appears to be a good reason to revisit that little Starbucks to see if they can remember my drink preferences! OK, I'm not laying odds on that one!

While to say following the trip that I had died and gone to heaven may be a bit of a stretch, to say that if my golf clubs had fallen out of the airplane into the Atlantic on the return trip, never to be found again, that in some strange, metaphysical, existential, parallel universal kind of way, I'd have been OK with it is probably as fair as fair can get! All that being said, I believe that this trip has left me thirsting for more of this historical golf utopia conceptual thing. And now, with my new Scottish friends in Ireland, who have extended invitations to come play their venues, well, who am I to disappoint a friend or two!?! Maybe in the near future, I'll have to figure a way to play a mulligan in the Emerald Isle!

Back for at least one more season, lest I retire and move overseas, that's my foolishly April, constantly fateful, remarkably surreal, often terribly wrong, intoxicating and energetic, always unique, occasionally exceptional, died and gone to heaven, and thirsting for more mulligans point of view from the heather and gorse.

*Mark DelSantro can be reached via e-mail at [mark.delsantro@comcast.net](mailto:mark.delsantro@comcast.net) or via cell phone at (717) 725-5520.*

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## May Educational Speaker

The speaker for our May meeting at Blue Ridge Country Club is Mike Brownell. Mike Brownell is the Chief of the Water Resources Management Division at the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC). The Water Resources Management Division is responsible for SRBC's regulatory functions, along with engineering and technical services, including flood management, drought coordination, and water supply planning and management.

His duties at the SRBC include the management of a diverse group made up of engineers, geologists and hydrologists, and biologists. Under Brownell's direction, the division's activities are focused on long-term sustainable utilization of the basin's shared water resources.

Brownell has coordinated the approvals for the withdrawal and use of water for over 800 projects. Brownell is committed to ensuring that these regulatory decisions are based on sound science. Further, he has worked to educate various segments of the community about the SRBC's regulations and the importance of water conservation.

Brownell first joined SRBC in December 1999. Prior to his employment with the SRBC, Mike worked as a consulting hydrogeologist, providing water supply solutions to municipalities, golf courses, ski resorts, and industries. A native of Oneonta, New York, Brownell earned his B.S. in Water Resources from the State University of New York at Oneonta.

SRBC is the governing agency established under a 100-year compact signed on December 24, 1970, by the federal government and the states of New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland to protect and wisely manage the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin. The Susquehanna River starts in Cooperstown, New York, and flows 444 miles to Havre de Grace, Maryland, where the river meets the Chesapeake Bay.

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### **2008 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule**

(Dates subject to change)

May 7	Blue Ridge Country Club Joint Meeting with Keystone Association
June 4	Valley Green Golf Course
July	Lebanon Country Club Social Event
August 5	Moccasin Run Golf Course Joint Meeting with Philadelphia AGCS
September 11	Conestoga Country Club Golf Championship/Annual Meeting
October 7	Regents Glen Country Club Super/GM/Pro/AF Tournament



### **The Green Sheet**

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