



The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 15 Issue 2

May 2008

June Meeting

Valley Green Golf Course

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

9:00 AM - Speaker

10:00 AM - Golf

Hors d'oeuvres/Beverages - Following Golf

There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting at 8:00 AM.

Your Help is Needed!

Please voice your opinion on the proposed rate increase by the SRBC. To find out more, check out www.srbc.net. If this will not effect you, then please do it in support of your brother superintendent. Your communication needs to be made **before the end of this month.**

Send an email to: srbc@srbc.net

1. Upon review the PGCSA Board suggests the following points be included in your email (feel free to copy and paste):
2. As a group we understand the reason for the increase. We would like increases smaller and more often.
3. There is a lack of communication between DEP and SRBC.
4. Superintendents are frustrated by trying to understand all of the rules and regulations that both SBRC and DEP place on water usage.
5. Many times the same reporting information is sent to both SBRC and DEP, which takes extra time and money to do.

We would like to see SBRC take over drought restrictions to simplify the process and clarify who is in charge.

Thanks for your time and consideration of this matter,

Nancy L Williams
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association
Phone/Fax: 814-466-2747
Email: pgcsa1@verizon.net

A copy of the letter that was forwarded from PAGCS is printed on the next page.

Superintendent Profile

Jeff Green received his Bachelor's Degree in Turfgrass Science from Penn State University in 1999. After college he went back to the Cincinnati Ohio area, where he lived for 14 years, and worked as an Assistant Superintendent at Ivy Hills Country Club and Heatherwoode Golf Club until 2004. It was then that his wife Angie had enough of Ohio and wanted to move back closer to home in Carlisle, PA. After one season at Lebanon Country Club as the Assistant Superintendent, Jeff got the Superintendent position at Valley Green where he has been for the past 3 seasons. Jeff and his wife Angie live in Mechanicsburg, PA and enjoy golf, camping, and especially Penn State Football.

Golf Course Profile

Valley Green Golf Course is conveniently located between Harrisburg and York and is a classic Northeast style golf course that was built in the late 1960's. Many course enhancing projects have been done over the past several years including lengthening of the golf course with the addition of many new tees and the addition of some fairway bunkers. A new clubhouse was built 3 years ago which includes Hogans Restaurant and banquet facilities.

Valley Green Golf Course
1227 Valley Green Road
Etters, PA 17319
www.valleygreengolfcourse.com

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President's Message

A huge thanks to Scott Fisher and staff for a great Meeting on May 7th. The course was wonderful and we had over 70 people in attendance at the meeting. This was a promising sign for meeting attendance this year. Also, a special thanks to Brad Helcoski, Matt Rayman and Rob Woodring for the prize donations.

As stated at the meeting, make sure you are sending letters to the Susquehanna River Basin. I don't think we can or should do anything about the water increase from \$0.14 to \$0.28, but now is the time to try to organize the overlap between DEP and the River Basin. As you know, it is a mess trying to keep the rules, amounts and paperwork organized between the two. If we can send enough letters, maybe we can have them re-examine the drought restrictions and who regulates them. The cut off date is May 31st.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the next meeting at Valley Green on June 4th. I'll see you there.

Dan Brickley
Lebanon Country Club

Dear SRBC Staff,

As president of the Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association (PGCSA), which represents over 1,100 golf course superintendents in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, please find this letter to serve as public comment to be reviewed by your Commission staff prior to the next SRBC scheduled meeting on June 12th, 2008. This letter is to address the consumptive water use mitigation fee increase from \$0.14 to \$0.28 per 1,000 gallons effective January 1, 2009 as well as reporting with the DEP and SRBC.

The PGCSA would encourage the Commission staff to entertain the following:

1. The PGCSA understands the reason for the increase, but would request the increase to be more frequent but smaller to lessen the economic impact on its members facilities.
2. The PGCSA would like to see increased communication between the SRBC and DEP in regard to water usage reporting.
3. The PGCSA requests further information to improve education of its 1,100 superintendent members on all of the rules and regulations of both the SRBC and DEP.
4. The PGCSA requests a reduction in duplicating reporting between the SRBC and DEP. This could potentially save time and money.
5. The PGCSA would encourage the SRBC to assist in drought restrictions to more simplify the process.
6. The PGCSA would like to see a more unified reporting system and improved communication across the state of Pennsylvania. This would increase awareness, efficiency, and improved knowledge of water usage within the golf course community.

On behalf of the 1,100 members of the Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association, I want to personally thank you for your time. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance with communication to our membership. We can be reached at 814-466-2747 or pgcsa1@verizon.net and I can be reached at 814-865-1635 or rmp15@psu.edu.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Pagett
President, PGCSA
Superintendent, The Pennsylvania State University Golf Courses

President/Bylaws/Social

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

Vice President/Scholarship

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

Secretary/Treasurer/Chapter Relations

Stephen J. Ludwig, CGCS
Gettysburg Country Club
717-334-0441
stephen.ludwig@comcast.net

Past President/Scholarship

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

Education/Career Development

Ryan Freed 2008
Regents Glen Country Club
717-505-4665
rffreed@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
turfdpa@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
cesbenshade@hotmail.com

Affiliates

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

Brad Helcoski 2010

856-466-9049
bhelcoski@atlanticirrigation.com

Newsletter

Wanda S. Fry
717- 279-0368
cpgsca@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
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Thomas C. Oepek, CGCS
Daniel W. Achenbach
William E. Brooks
William P. Ramsey
Faron J. Stoops
John M. Colo

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.

Jonathan Bennett..... Class C
Assistant, Phoenix Links Golf Course

Thomas Bettle..... Class AF
Territory Manager, Harrell's

Robert Cooper Class SM
Superintendent, Phoenix Links Golf Course

Timothy Jeffcoat..... Class SM
Superintendent, Carroll Valley Resort

Robert Waldeck..... Class AF
Manufacturer Rep

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.

2008 Membership Directories are complete and will be distributed at the June Meeting.

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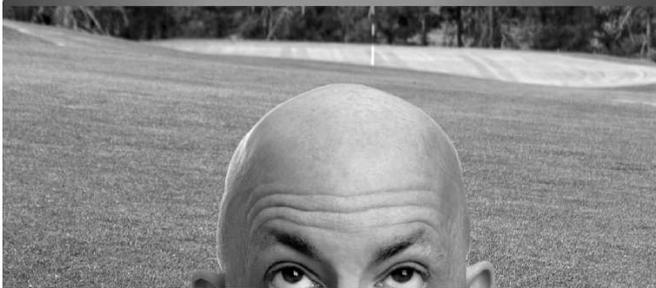
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Directions to Valley Green Golf Course

Directions from Harrisburg:

Route I-83 South to Exit 33, Yocumtown Road. Take right off exit and go approx. 1/4 mile through light, then turn right on Cartref Road. Then follow Cartref Road approx. 2 miles, which will become Fairway Drive. At 2nd stop sign, turn left onto Valley Green Road. Valley Green Golf Club will be on your left.

Directions from York:

Route I-83 North to Exit 32. Straight through traffic light at end of exit ramp onto Pines Road. Approximately 1 1/2 miles to left onto Valley Green Road. Approximately 1/2 mile on left will be Valley Green Golf Course.

Q: "What abandoned course is that?"

A: "That, sir, is no abandoned course, that is where we play the Open championship."

Sam Snead's conversation with a fellow passenger upon arriving by train at St. Andrews in 1946.

2nd Place Low Gross



Dan Davis, Eric Kline, Reid Mitchell, Paul Brandon

Brain Fog Moments

An elderly couple had their friends over for dinner one evening. While the ladies were clearing the table and getting the dessert ready in the kitchen, one of the gentlemen was relating a new discovery to the other man.

"We discovered a new restaurant in town that is just fabulous. The service was great, a wonderful variety of foods to choose from, great ambiance. We really loved it and thought you two would enjoy it."

"What's the name of it?" inquired the friend.

"Oh, let's see. I'm not sure I can remember. Let's see. What is the flower that is red and you give it on Valentine's day and it represents love?" he asked.

The friend replied, "You mean a rose?"

"Yes, that's right," he said. Then he hollered into the kitchen, "Rose, what is the name of that new restaurant we tried the other night?"

A blonde goes to vacation in Las Vegas. She gets in line at a coke machine. She puts a dollar in, out comes a coke. She puts another dollar in, out comes another coke. She puts yet another dollar in, out comes another coke. As time passes a long line ensues. The man behind her can't take it anymore and asks her if she sees the long line behind her. She replies, "DUHHHHH I'm winning!!!!!!!"

For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the June newsletter, please fax information to Wanda at (717) 279-0368 or e-mail to cpghsa@comcast.net by June 13, 2008.

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Heather and Gorse

By Mark DelSantro

Man oh man, the whole wide world must be going mad! There are catastrophes going on around the globe impacting millions and millions of people, including the children. There are rogue Mormons in Texas, a serious fruitcake in Austria, a cyclone in Myanmar, and the Guinness is drying up in local pubs? Say it ain't so, Joe! Hmmm, all I can say is holy humdingers, Batman!

OK, let's start with these wild ass Mormons! Polygamy is an awful interesting concept. I'm thinking that if my religion suddenly required me to practice polygamy, I'd most certainly have to change religions. With me it is always the path of least resistance and I believe that in this particular situation it would most definitely be easier on me to switch religions than to tell my wife. Can you imagine that conversation? Hey honey, I just got back from church and well, I have some exciting news. It looks like I'll be getting a few more wives in the very near future. But don't you worry because you'll always be my favorite!!! Remember you've always said that you always remember your first one! Yes Ma'am! I could only imagine her response. Honey, that's fantastic news! Let me mix you up a special batch of Kool-aid so you can celebrate with your new wives! Oh, and by the way, please don't share your drink with any of the kids, nor anyone else that's alive and well!

The other pseudo sick, yet interesting thing about this Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints is that it seems to be a great hideaway place for perverts and pedophiles. Did I understand it correctly that the young boys were being sent away so that the old men could have sex with the teenage girls? Can we dance with your dates? Where are the Girls Gone Wild cameras when you need them! Furthermore, I heard that something like eight of the fathers were registered sex offenders. Dude, I'm sorry, but something is terribly wrong with this digital picture! So, say you happen to be a pedophile, who is tired of the dirty looks you get from Moms as you drool while staring at the kids on the playground. Looking for a safe haven to carry on with your sick habits? Just move to Texas and join the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints! Amen brother! This smells about as bad as the entire Catholic Church's priest-altar boy sex scandal five to seven years ago. Not good in any way, shape, or form!

Moving from smelling bad to smelling absolutely rancid; enter Mr. Josef Fritzl, an Austria man who drugged his daughter Elisabeth when she was 19 years old and handcuffed her to a bedpost in a secret soundproof room in the basement for 24 years. Sounds hard to believe? Believe it! She had been raped repeated, giving birth to seven children (six that survived) during the nearly two and one half decades of her captivity. As bizarre as this seems on the surface, it's like an onion in that it smells worse as you peel away the layers! Three of the children that were boys, ages nineteen, eighteen, and five years old, never saw daylight until April 29th, 2008 when this guy was busted. The other three, two girls and a boy lived with Mr. and Mrs. Fritzl and supposedly lived normal lives??? This is utterly inconceivable! This is right out of a script from the X-files or the Twilight Zone. Somewhere up in heaven, Rod Serling is smiling!

Seriously, so many questions; let's talk about Mrs. Fritzl. OK, he kept them in this secret room that must have been sound proof with an electronic lock for which only he had the combination. You're going to tell me that she seriously had no clue? What about the three children that lived with them? Did Mr. Fritzl just come home one day from work with a baby and tell his wife he decided to adopt a child or two? Was this guy in sales? Absolutely bizarre!

Now, the question becomes what do you do with this guy? Is jail enough? What about castration? And what about the daughter he held hostage and repeatedly raped, who is now 42 years old. I can't imagine what's going around in her head. Forget her head; my head is spinning just thinking about this one! How sick! How unbelievably sick! And they say water boarding is bad? There is no punishment and/or torture that even comes close to what should conceivably happen to this man.

Onto some more tragically bizarre news; moving on to Myanmar, which is known to most of us as Burma? I know I'm not the brightest lamp on the block, but can anyone tell me why the USA had to negotiate to send relief supplies to this cyclone ravaged country? The hazy, hot, and humid part in my head can't seem to grasp the idea of having to negotiate with the Myanmar dictator for not one hour, not seven and one half hours, but seven and one half days in an effort to get some aid to these victims. Listen, I'm all about helping out when we can and doing the right thing, but should we be forcing ourselves onto these countries when they obviously have no interest in utilizing our assistance? While I know that doing the right thing is a strong leadership characteristic, sometimes I wonder if there isn't some vast reservoir of oil over there of which the general public is unaware? OK, I know that was a cheap shot! Bygones!

Furthermore, the whipped cream atop of that heaping pile of smelly dung is that the junta, who are the Myanmar military, are hoarding all the supplies for themselves and only distributing the rotten food stuffs to the victims?!?! Hello, hello, hello, is anybody in there? Is it possible that they feel that this is a natural way to thin the overpopulation? If this doesn't make you wonder about the world in which we live, then I don't know would!

Finally, in this current heather and gorse world of extremely depressing news, I heard a story about my favorite nectar of the Gods drying up in the local pubs and I must say I was beside myself. No more Guinness, you can't be serious!

Continued on page 6



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Heather and Gorse.....

continued from page 5

But alas, upon further review into the story I found that even with all of the negative energy in this world, there is still hope! Turns out the story was about changes in Irish Pub life and how there has been a two-year decline in the consumption of Guinness. Seems many are trading in their pints of Guinness for pints of Green Tea. To all of this I simply say hogwash! I have run an extensive search of Heather and Gorse Guinness files and there is no empirical data to support a drop off in my consumption of Guinness over the past few years. In fact, I would say that in the past two years my consumption, if anything, has increased. There is still nothing that I can imagine could taste better following a tour around a nice golf venue or for that matter, on the back deck during a barbecue. Still the best light, dark beer on the planet on which we attempt to survive! Amen!

That is my Kool-aid drinking, sick in so many ways, utterly inconceivable, bizarre, unbelievable, often stinky and thankfully hopeful point of view from the heather and gorse!

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



Closest to the Pin



Barry Bollinger, Don Benner

*Growing Older is Mandatory.
Growing up is Optional.
Laughing at Yourself is Therapeutic.*

It's Spring...The Best of Times!

By Stanley J. Zontek, Director
May 5, 2008

Spring definitely is here. There are always a number of things associated with golf and turfgrass management in the spring – both good and bad. Generally though, spring is good because the flowers are in bloom, the birds are returning, the grass is growing, golfers are playing the game, and, for those associated with the business aspect of the game, the cash register is ringing.

There also are a few negatives mixed in that literally bring reality back to focus. These include:

- Bugs on the car windshield; what a curse. They are a reminder that turf insects are active. Do you have your insecticide applications planned?
- Birds are nesting. While this positive is a beauty of spring, it also reminds us that Canada Geese also are nesting. Obviously, if these birds are a problem, begin your diversion efforts.
- The grass is actively growing. Unfortunately, so are the weeds. Have your dandelion control sprays been applied? Are your crabgrass applications down? Get cracking if they aren't or get ready for some pretty yellow flowers in short order.
- Do you have enough labor to keep your roughs cut? While golfers appreciate the importance of rewarding a good shot and penalizing a bad shot, they tend to forget this point when the rough is long and thick. What a curse.
- Green speed. Have you heard the question, "why aren't our greens faster?" As USGA agronomists, we have heard this question asked throughout the region. April only ended this week so it is hard to achieve peak season green speeds when the grass is frosted in the morning and *Poa annua* seedheads exist. The greens will get better, but has anyone ever wondered why the US Open championship is played in June and not earlier?

Enjoy the spring, but prepare for the summer.

The Mid-Atlantic Region agronomists are part of your agronomic support team. If you have a question or concern, especially now, give us a call or send an e-mail. You may contact Stan Zontek (szontek@usga.org) or Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 610/ 558-9066 or Keith Happ (khapp@usga.org) at 412/ 341-5922.

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Golf Results

Thanks for making our first meeting of the year a big success!! Without your continued support we could not be what we are today.

After our informative speaker, our joint meeting with the Keystone Association went without a hitch with great course conditions, great weather and great camaraderie. The CPGCSA would like to thank Atlantic Irrigation and John Deere Golf for tournament prize donations Thanks for your continued support of the chapter.

We look forward to seeing you at the next exciting event at Valley Green Golf Course. The format will be Ryder cup – 6 holes Better Ball, 6 holes Scramble, 6 holes Alternate shot, so choose your partner carefully!!! Handicaps are needed for this tournament, so please remember to include them with your registration. See you on June 4th!!

Golf Chairs
Brad Helcoski and Rebecca Matis

1st Place Low Gross

Tom Derr
Jeff Derr
Roby Walizer
John Walizer

1st Place Low Net

Rob Brown
Thom Mahute
Chris Martin

2nd Place Low Gross

Paul Brandon
Dan Davis
Reid Mitchell
Eric Kline

2nd Place Low Net

Terry Bennett
Scott Fischer
Rebecca Matis
Jon Szekeres

Closest to Pin

#2 Don Benner
#16 B. Fritchman
#6 Barry Bollinger
#13 Manny Scalia

Long Drive

#18 Robbie Walizer
#7 Rebecca Matis

PGCSA Progression

By Jay Parisien, CGCS

The big news out of February's Board meeting of the PGCSA in Monroeville was a budget reduction of over 27%. Some of the local chapters are experiencing reduced income for various reasons and have in turn looked at reducing their expenses by possibly excluding themselves from the PGCSA. The Board would like all chapters to be involved with the association and therefore felt they could help all chapters by reducing this year's dues. The Board clarified that the balance carried forward from previous years is a "nest egg" for future needs which address issues that effect Superintendents at a statewide level.

The Philadelphia AGCS, with assistance from LandStudies, is planning an educational workshop in conjunction with the local watershed district. The workshop will cover what can be done to clean up the watershed and what golf courses are already doing.

The Mountain & Valley GCSA will be hosting the GCSAA Board of Directors, October 10th and 11th at Penn State. Your PGCSA Board will be invited to attend. This will be great opportunity for all our members to get any thoughts or ideas to the GCSAA from the local level. Please contact your chapter's PGCSA representatives with your information.

A renewed interest in establishing a PGCSA website arose. Representatives from Pocono TGA have been exploring the possibilities of creating a page off of their website. We'll keep you posted.

Hopefully, everyone has had the opportunity to visit the PGCSA hospitality suite at the GIS at one time or another. This year's event was nothing short of spectacular, and the PGCSA Board would like to thank all of the sponsors and attendees for your support. If you were not already aware, spouses and family members are always welcome to attend.

Central Pennsylvania GCSA presented to the Board suggestions of topics that they would like to see implemented though the PGCSA. Their primary suggestions for the PGCSA to align itself with other golf and green associations, and provide activism with political and environmental issues, were taken under advisement.

Jeff Borger, Turfgrass Weed Management Instructor at Penn State University, has offered to publish in hardcopy at Penn State any internship's that are sent to him via email. Jeff can be reached at jab267@psu.edu. Thanks Jeff.

Responsible Industry for Sound Environment (RISE) will be counting on members of the PGCSA to alert them of local legislative activity for issues such as pesticide and herbicide usage. PGCSA President, Rick Pagett, volunteered the PGCSA to cover Pennsylvania and suggested that each chapter have a representative also. RISE operates an email network that will rapidly respond with contact information on who to address concerns to.

The next PGCSA Board meeting will be a webcast on May 14th. Please contact your local representatives on how to better serve you, our members.



Rebecca Matis, Scott Fischer, Terry Bennett, Jon Szekeres



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1st Place Low Net



Chris Martin, Thomas Mahute (Missing – Rob Brown)

1st Place Low Gross



Jeff Derr, Tom Derr, John Walizer, Roby Walizer

The speaker for the June 7th meeting at Valley Green Golf Course will be Mark Gutshall from Land Studies. Mark will be speaking about Best Management Practices.

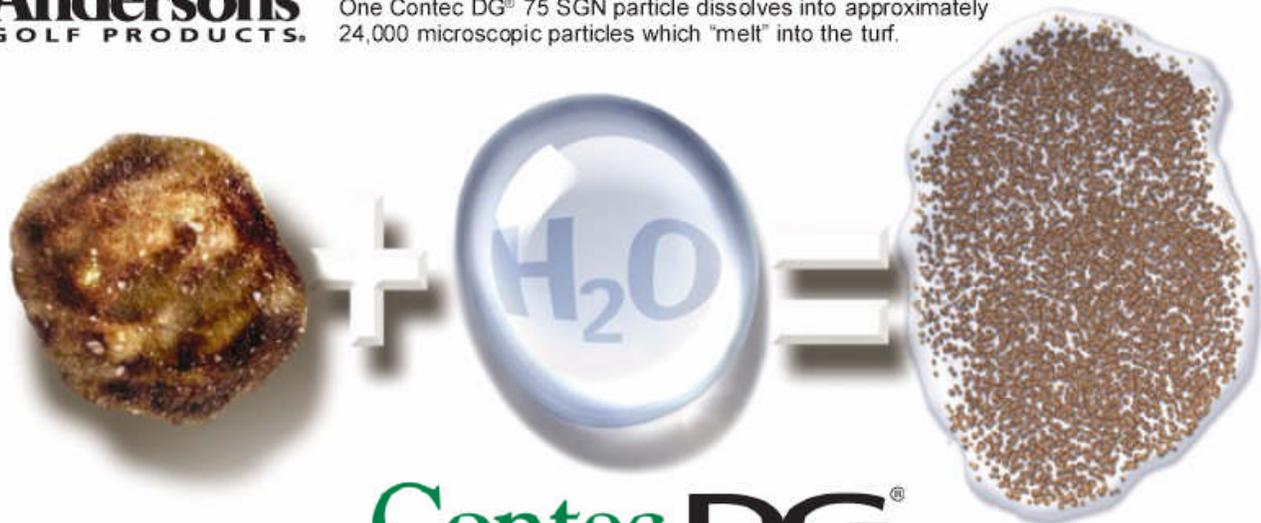
GOLF SAYINGS

- Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle.
- "I wish I could play my normal game...just once."
- "Golf is harder than baseball. In golf, you have to play your foul balls."
- If you find you do not mind playing golf in the rain, the snow, even during a hurricane, here's a valuable tip: your life is in trouble.
- Golfers who try to make everything perfect before taking the shot rarely make a perfect shot.
- The term "mulligan" is really a contraction of the phrase "maul it again."
- A "gimme" can best be defined as an agreement between two golfers...neither of whom can putt very well.
- An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play; it is always possible to get worse.
- Golf's a hard game to figure. One day you'll go out and slice it and shank it, hit into all the traps and miss every green. The next day you go out and for no reason at all you really stink.
- I play in the low 80s. If it's any hotter than that, I won't play.
- If your best shots are the practice swing and the "gimme Putt", you might wish to reconsider this game.
- Achieving a certain level of success in golf is only important if you can finally enjoy the level you've reached after you've reached it.
- Golf is the only sport where the most feared opponent is you.
- Golf is like marriage: If you take yourself too seriously it won't work... and both are expensive.
- The best wood in most amateurs' bags is the pencil.
- To some golfers, the greatest handicap is the ability to add correctly.
- In golf, some people tend to get confused with all the numbers... they shoot a "six," yell "fore" and write "five".
- Swing easy. Hit hard.
- If you find yourself pleased that you locate more balls in the rough than you actually have lost, your focus is totally wrong and your personality might not be right for golf...it is also just a matter of time before the IRS investigates your business.
- Why is it twice as difficult to hit a ball over water than sand?
- Golf! You hit down to make the ball go up. You swing left and the ball goes right. The lowest score wins. And on top of that, the winner buys the drinks.



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Penn State Turfgrass Field Days

Wednesday and Thursday, August 6th and 7th, 2008

Joseph Valentine Research Center Landscape Management Research Center
Mascaro-Steiniger Turfgrass Museum University Park, PA

In 1928, Mr. Joseph Valentine, a golf course superintendent from Merion Golf Club, Mr. T.L. Gustin of Philadelphia Toro, and Mr. James Bolton of Reading Country Club traveled to University Park and asked President Ralph Hetzel if Penn State would begin providing technical assistance for turfgrass managers. Penn State has been doing so ever since. We owe a tremendous amount of gratitude to all who have helped us develop into one of the world's finest turfgrass educational institutions. PSU Field Days is our chance to show you the results of research that we hope will assist you with your turfgrass management decisions.

This year we will be showing studies on:

- Dollar Spot Resistance in Greens-type *Poa annua*
- Disease Control Studies
- Weed Control Studies
- Insect Control Studies
- Fertilizer Evaluations



- Turfgrass Variety Evaluations
- Athletic field Research
- InFill Systems Research
- Low Maintenance Lawn Turfs

Please join us and see the results of our field research. We look forward to sharing the latest technology with you and hearing your input! Above all, we thank you for your continued support, and we appreciate your passion for success. Come witness ours!!

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2008 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule

(Dates subject to change)

June 4	Valley Green Golf Course
July 10	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

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