



CHIPS & PUTTS

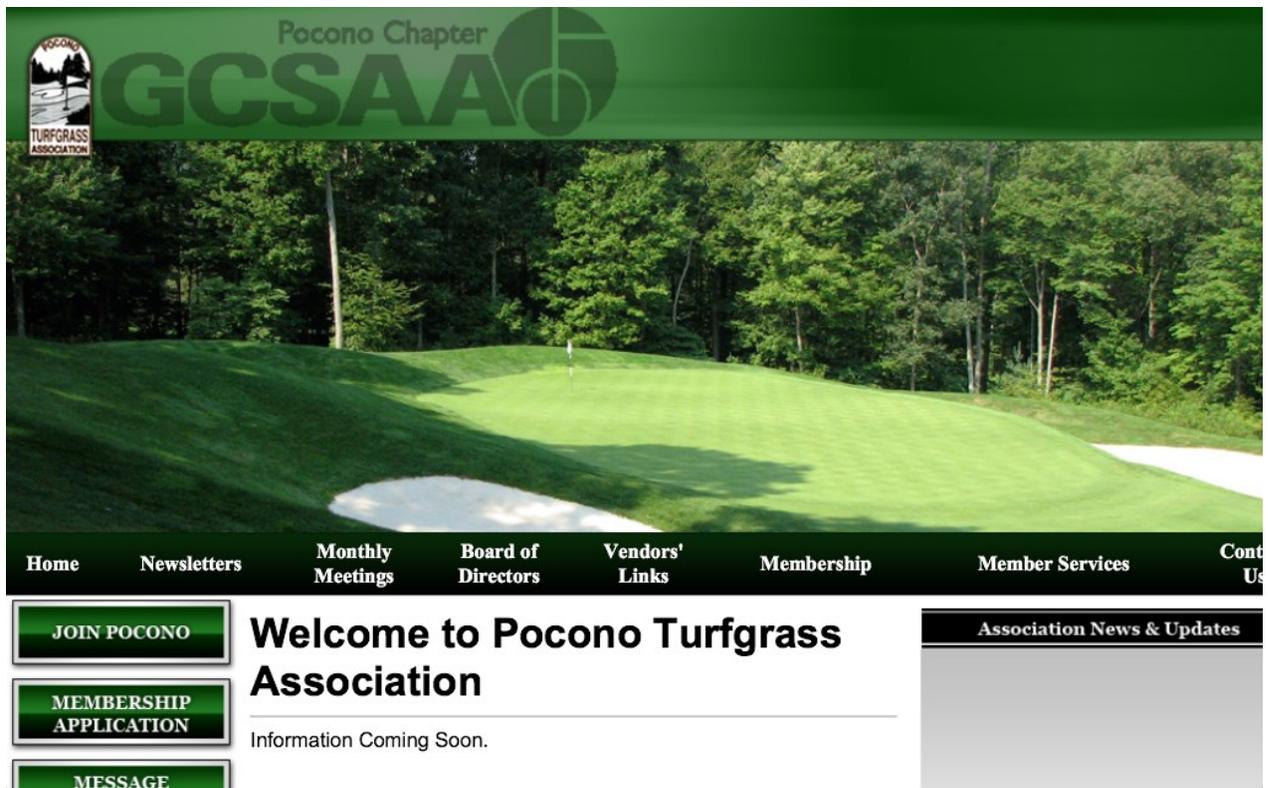
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POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION
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The website is coming, the website is coming!!!!



The above is a snapshot of how the new PTGA.org website will look. In an effort to improve the Association and experience for all our members, the Board has decided to completely redo our website. Nearly everything PTGA will be available through the website, including membership applications, meeting notices, and old newsletters. The change to the website is long overdue and we hope everyone will enjoy and utilize the website as we keep up with the technological times in the Association. There are some final details to be done, but look for the new website to be up and running in the next 2 weeks.



President's Message.....

After a very long winter it is good see signs of spring. This being the first newsletter of the new year I want to take the time to thank all of our participating vendors for their support in the past and future.

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is very strong. The Board of Directors has worked very hard over the winter months; building a new and easier to use website, setting up a tremendous meeting schedule, new formats and creative ideas. Feel free to contact any of us if you have a suggestion. If any member has any great photos they would like to share on our new website, please contact us.

The meeting sites have been posted and it is a great line-up. Be sure to attend and take home the wisdom that is gained.

John Downer

Editor's Notes.....

Welcome to 2013, and a new season filled with renewed hope and optimism for the industry which we love. I'm sure that all of us are hoping for a great year as we tackle the tasks, challenges, defeats, and victories that we will all certainly face.

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize Matt Brown for all his years of service to the PTGA. Matt stepped down from the Board after 9 years of service last fall. His energy and contributions over the years were invaluable to our Association and he deserves a big "Thank You" from all of us on the Board.

Additionally, I'd like to thank Patrick Knelly and Jim Gurzler for spearheading the initiative to update the website. It has been a lot of work and hours and I know that I for one will appreciate the new website.

As always, I continue to look for pictures and articles from anyone who is willing to share. Thanks to Patrick Knelly for sending me the link to one of this month's articles, and to Steve Chirip and Dr. Mike Fidanza for providing more articles that will be in over the next several months. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Brian Bachman



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Pocono Turfgrass Association 2013 Scholarships

The Patterson Scholarship for Turfgrass Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting scholarship applications for the Patterson Scholarship. The deadline for application is June 30, 2012. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be in his or her final year of study or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year turf related program.
2. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of PTGA.
3. The applicant must submit, in writing, why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship. The essay should include what he or she feels their contribution to the turfgrass field will be.
4. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

The Pocono Turfgrass Association Scholarship for Non-Turf Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting applications for a non-turfgrass related field of study scholarship. The deadline for application is June 30, 2012. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be in his or her final year of study or a recent graduate of a two- or four-year non-turf related program.
2. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of PTGA.
3. The applicant must submit, in writing, why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship. The essay should include information pertaining to field of study, educational achievement, and future goals with respect to utilization of his or her education.
4. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

Applications should be submitted to:

John Downer
461 Swartz Valley Road
Springbrook, PA 18444

Scholarship Update

2012

There were no applicants for either of the PTGA scholarships offered in 2012, so therefore there was no recipient.

2013

We have had 1 applicant this year, Joseph Kohut, who has been awarded a scholarship from the Association. Joseph recently graduated from the two year program at Penn State. Details on Joe will be provided in upcoming newsletters.

THERE ARE STILL SCHOLARSHIPS REMAINING, SO IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE,
PLEASE TELL THEM.



5 Leadership Trees Every Leader Needs To Plant

By: John Bossong posted on Turfnet

A Chinese proverb states "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is today." You can't do anything about 20 years ago.

Today is different. You can do something about today. You can create the next 20 years.

A good decision today (now) is better than a great decision later. You just need to commit to it and drive forward. Do something. Start. Until you decide the next 20 years can't get started.

What tree can you plant today?

Get Past Your Past

Everyone has a 20 years ago. The deal you didn't do. The risk you didn't take. The relationship you didn't put enough time in. The failure you wouldn't let happen. The degree you earned but the education you missed. The leadership opportunity you passed up. The family events you missed to climb the ladder.

Today's 20-years ago is now 6 months, 1 year, 2 years and 5 years. Change is exponentially faster. It's complex. The key is to simplify it. Make sense of it.

Five years ago Twitter and Facebook were nothing. The tree grew. You can focus on the opportunities you've missed or you can plant today.

Don't let your past mistakes or missed opportunities dominate you. Don't be trapped in the past or by it.

Let it die so you can live.

What trees do you need to plant today?



#1 Self-Leadership

This is a great tree. You may be 25 or 55. It doesn't matter. Cultivate this tree. Plant it. Water it every day. Feed it. Nurture it. Invest in yourself. The return is huge. Leadership starts here. It's the foundation. Self-mastery is where leadership starts.

Continued on Page 5

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lee.kozsey@syngenta.com www.syngenta.com	



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#2 Impact

This tree makes a difference. Influence someone every day. Make an impact. Be a difference maker. The people you lead are always watching. It doesn't matter what level you lead at. The impact tree doesn't care about titles or positions. It cares about character, integrity and influence. Plant this tree today.

#3 Servant

The servant tree is one every leader needs to plant. Leaders serve. If you don't serve you don't lead. You control, dictate, intimidate or command but you don't lead. Leaders serve with humility.

#4 Knowledge

What are you reading? Leaders are always learning and growing. Sit with this tree every day. Opportunities to get better are everywhere. Get better at leading and life. What leadership conferences are you signed up for? Who is your mentor? What leadership material are you soaking up? Leaders learn.

#5 Communication

Leaders are faced with information overload. The speed of change and information make communication more complex than ever before.

The key is to simplify the complexity. Sounds difficult and it is. The great leaders simplify the message and process so everyone understands.

1. Simplify the message (vision).
 2. Be authentic and genuine.
 3. Communicate at the right time(s).
 4. Repetition is a key.
 5. Make sure all of your communication and behavior aligns with the vision.
 6. Don't assume people know and understand everything. They don't.
- There is power in simplifying.

It all starts with you. Your tree begins today. Pick a spot and plant it. Don't wait.

What tree do you need to work on?



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2013 GCSAA Annual Meeting Results

The GCSAA Annual Meeting was held Feb. 7 in San Diego, CA in conjunction with the GCSAA Education Conference (Feb. 4-8) and Golf Industry Show (Feb. 6-7).

Patrick R. Finlen, Director of Golf Maintenance Operations at the Olympic Club in San Francisco, CA was elected president. A graduate of Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO, Finlen began his career in Kansas City at Lake Quivira Golf and Country Club, and has stops in Virginia and at the Bayonet and Black Horse Courses in Seaside, CA. He is a past recipient of the Superintendent of the Year Award from the GCSA of Northern California. A GCSAA member for 27 years, Finlen is a member and past president of both the California GCSA and the GCSA of Northern California. He is also a past president of the Heart of America GCSA.

Keith A. Ihms at Country Club of Little Rock was elected Vice President, and John J. O'Keefe Director of Golf Course Management at Preakness Hills Country Club in Wayne, N.J., was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Peter J. Grass at Hilands Golf Club in Billings, Mont., was re-elected to a two-year term, and Darren J. Davis at Olde Florida Golf Club in Naples, Fla., was elected to a two-year term after serving a one year appointment last year.

Newly elected to the Board was John R. Fulling Jr. at Kalamazoo Country Club.

Bill H. Maynard, St. Alban's Country Club in St. Louis, MO, and Rafael Barajas, at Hacienda Golf Club in La Habra Heights, CA, remain on the Board with one year remaining in their two-year director terms. Sandy G. Queen, Manager of Golf Operations for the City of Overland Park, KS, will serve on the Board for one year as immediate past president. Robert M. Randquist from Boca Rio Golf Club in Boca Raton, FL, retires from the Board after serving the last year as immediate past president.

The vote totals are as follows:

For President- Patrick R. Finlan ran unopposed and was unanimously elected.

For Vice President- Keith A. Ihms ran unopposed and was unanimously elected.

For Secretary/Treasurer- John J. O'Keefe 4,934 (elected)
Peter J. Grass 3,217

For Director- Darren J. Davis 7736 (elected)
Peter J. Grass 7508 (elected)
John R. Fulling 4403 (elected)
Mark F. Jordan 3265
Johnny Walker 1456

Also on the agenda was a dues increase which was passed by a vote of 7,022 to 990.

As a service to our members and a way to say thank you.....all PTGA members will receive their own bag tag to proudly display.



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PTGA DONATES TO THON

The Pocono Turfgrass Association has made a donation to THON, which is the annual fundraising dance marathon done by the student body at Penn State.

The mission of the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon is to conquer pediatric cancer by providing outstanding emotional and financial support to the children, families, researchers, and staff of the Four Diamonds Fund.

This year, Thon raised over \$12 million, and over all the years that the event has been ongoing has now broken the \$100 million level.

If you are interested in THON or donating please visit: www.thon.org

Photo of the Month

We all see interesting things every day....wildlife (like bald eagles and bears), strange turf problems (like a lightning strike), an employee who stayed out to late the night before, etc. So if you have a great photo, send it to me (bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com) and share it for everyone to enjoy (or laugh at).



March Photo of the Month

This photo was taken at Moselem Springs C.C. The superintendent and I had a sample of this all too common disease sent away and the diagnosis came back as "Stupid Punk Patch." The cure is an evening treatment of fear by applying 2 local police officers per door-step of the local offending punk.

Thankfully, the damage from this quad is mostly superficial and should grow out in the spring.

Chips & Putts

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Growth Products	Craig Lambert	973-601-3303
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Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
Lawn & Golf	Chris Butler	610.933.5801

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POCONO ROUNDUP

Long Overdue Congratulations to:

Tom Height on the birth of his first son, John Patrick, on 10/21/2012.

Greg Boring on the birth of his third child, Cole Austin, on 11/27/2012.

Patrick Healy on tying the knot with wife Marissa on 11/2/2012.

PTGA SCHEDULE

April 9th PTGA meeting @
Southmoore GC
Speaker: TBD

May PTGA meeting @
Date Fox Hill C.C.
pending Speaker: TBD

June 11th PTGA meeting @
Pocono Manor GC
Speaker: TBD

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