



# CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

Founded in  
1936

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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GCSAA CONFERENCE AND SHOW

Whether the culmination of one season or the beginning of another, the GCSAA Conference and Show surely is one of the highlights of the season for anyone in the turf industry. And this year's extravaganza in sunny Orlando, Florida, was no exception. A record 21,784 people registered for the event, and 693 exhibiting companies occupied almost five acres of exhibit space at the three-day trade show. GCSAA's 67th annual event included more than 90 educational seminars, sessions and forums. In addition to all that, everyone had an opportunity to see all the latest in golf course management products at the trade show. Needless to say, to do all and see all was quite the impossible task for any one individual. Highlights from the week included:

- \* Bruce R. Williams, CGCS from Highland Park, Illinois, was elected president of GCSAA. Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, of Phoenix, Arizona, was elected vice-president and George E. Renault, III, CGCS, of Bethesda, Maryland, was elected as secretary/treasurer. Gary Grigg, CGCS, of Naples, Florida, will continue to serve on the board for one year as immediate past president. Re-elected as director was R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, of Bozeman, Montana. Ken Mangum, CGCS, of Duluth, Georgia, was elected for his first term on the board from a field of six candidates. Michael Wallace, CGCS, of Simsbury, Connecticut, was re-appointed to the board. Dave Fearis, CGCS, of Kansas City, Missouri, and Tommy D. Witt, CGCS, of North Barrington, Illinois, will continue to serve as directors.
- \* At the GCSAA Annual meeting one Article of Incorporation change and all 12 bylaws changes on the ballot were approved. Briefly, all chapters must have an Affiliation Agreement with GCSAA and dues for Class C members is now one-half of Class A and Class B members.
- \* Lou Holtz, head football coach at the University of Notre Dame, delivered the keynote address at the opening session. Holtz diagrammed his personal philosophy for success. According to Holtz, ATTITUDE is the most important thing in the world, and he expects five things from the people who surround him. "I want to surround myself with people who take pride in making a sacrifice. I want people who can accept criticism. I want to surround myself with people who think Notre Dame is important. I want to surround myself with people who are willing to do the little things. I want to be with people who have a passion for excellence." The attitude you have is critical to the overall success of the organization you are with.
- \* Arthur R. Miller, Harvard Law Professor and legal editor of ABC TV's "Good Morning America", acted as moderator of a panel discussion at the Environmental General Session. Panelists, including superintendents, professional environmentalists, and educators engaged in an unrehearsed dialogue on golf's environmental challenges. At times cordial, at times combative, the discussion generally followed two themes involving the role of the superintendent: the use of pesticides in tending to a golf course; and the issue of golf course construction, and the closely related issue of community development. Golf and the environment will continue to take center stage in the coming years.
- \* The Trade Show... Just about everyone had something new to show or had improvements to existing product lines. Too numerous to mention it all here, but, from the size of the show, the turf industry is at an all time high.
- \* After a week of conventioning I was glad to head back to good 'ol PA. Despite a sore, aching back, mentally I was refreshed and excited for another year ahead. The GCSAA Conference and Show has a way of doing that. See you all in Las Vegas!



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE....**

Spring has finally arrived, and with its warm sun comes a burst of enthusiasm to young and old alike. Your Board of Directors has been busy through the winter months coordinating plans with the hope that we can capture some of our membership's enthusiasm and direct it toward our Association.

Turnouts at monthly meetings in 1995 were good, and a positive feedback was received from members attending. We have tried to schedule this year's meetings so they are spread out geographically throughout our region. We hope this will give everyone an opportunity to attend at least one meeting that is in their area.

Our Golf Committee has devoted itself to making each of our outings an enjoyable time for all levels of players and to diversifying formats to keep the memberships' interest. Our Education Committee has planned an agenda that promises to be stimulating for all who attend. The combined efforts should produce a day to which everyone looks forward.

I would also like to take time to thank all the Directors and their Committees for the time they have given during the winter months preparing for the '96 Season. Let us, as an Association, show our support by becoming an ACTIVE member. It is only with your participation that the Pocono Turfgrass Association can continue to grow.

*Jeff Peters, C.G.C.S.*

## **EDITOR'S**

### **DESK.....**



Never did I dream this newsletter job would be so difficult, yet so rewarding. Like anything in life, the more difficult, the more rewarding. It seems I am really on a roll with this issue (See Page 6). But, I am excited, motivated, and ready for spring and all its challenges ahead. (This spring can't possibly be as bad as last season or this past traumatic winter — can it?)

This has been one of the more difficult issues to put together, probably because of my procrastination and frequent winter travels, but there is a lot of tidbit information. So pay close attention - and enjoy!

*Scott A. Schukraft*



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### **EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

Hal Parr, Jr., CGCS  
Jim MacLaren  
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### 1996 MEETING SITES

March 19, 1996 - **Edgewood In the Pines**

Host: Anthony Barletta

April 15, 1996 - **Southmoore Golf Course**

Host: Kelly Kressler

May 21, 1996 - **Pocono Farms Country Club**

Host: Gene Huelster

\*Met Team & PTC Valentine Qualifier

June 17, 1996 - **Valley Country Club**

Host: Jeffrey A. Peters

July 1996 - **Scranton Municipal Golf Course**

Host: Edward Cimoch

\*Met Team & PTC Valentine Qualifier

August 19, 1996 - **Blue Ridge**

Host: Paul E. Weiss, Jr.

September 16, 1996 - **Clinton Country Club**

Host: Mike Vella

October 1996 - **Four Seasons Golf Club**

Hosts: Mark Soback / Jonathon Suitch

\*In 1996 the PTGA Golf Committee set two qualifying dates for the Met Team Championship and the Valentine Tournament. You must post a score at both qualifiers and attend at least three (3) PTGA meetings to qualify for either team.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR ON THESE IMPORTANT DATES!**

### 1996 SPEAKER

### PROGRAM

### ANNOUNCED



- March 19 - John Chassard - Lehigh C.C.  
Dr. Don Waddington - Retired PSU
- April 15 - Neil Cleveland - Bayer Corp.
- May 21 - Keith Happ - USGA
- June 17 - Dr. Jack Harper - Retired PSU
- July 15 - Dr. Paul Heller - PSU Entomologist
- Sept. 16 - George Hamilton - PSU
- October 21 - Bill Landsdowne - C.C. of Scranton

MORE INFORMATION FORTHCOMING  
ON PESTICIDE CREDITS.

### ALLIED NEWS

The Allied Golf Course Superintendents Association of Pennsylvania held a Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, March 6, at the Elks Country Club in State College, PA.

The Allied consists of the seven GCSAA Chapters in Pennsylvania. They are Philadelphia, Central, Pocono, Pittsburgh, Keystone, Northwestern and Mountain Valley with each chapter having two representatives on the Board of Directors. Hal Parr and Mark Monahan are the PTGA representatives on the Allied Board.

A budget for 1996 was proposed and approved by the board. Each member Association will be assessed the percentage of the budget that is equivalent to their percentage of the total membership in the Allied. The Pocono share of the budget is 7%, Philadelphia 23%, Central 17%, Pittsburgh 21%, Northwestern 13%, Keystone 7%, and Mountain Valley 11%. Fees are used to cover costs for the hospitality suite at the GCSAA Conference. A huge success this past year.

The proposed bylaw amendments were reviewed and approved by the board. The changes will then be sent to the member associations for ratification. The primary change is that every year the member association will elect one representative to serve on the Allied Board for a term of two years.

The next Allied Board meeting is scheduled for April 10, 1996.

## THE CIBA LEGACY AWARD



The Ciba Legacy Award, administered by the GCSAA Foundation, offers educational aid to the children and grandchildren of GCSAA members. For a student to be eligible for an award, the following requirements must be met:

- 1 One or more of the applicant's parents or grandparents must have been a GCSAA member in one of the following classifications: A, B, C, Retired-A, Retired-B, or AA-Life.
- 2 The student must be studying or planning to study in a field unrelated to golf course management.
- 3 The student must be enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher learning, or in the case of high school seniors, must be accepted at such an institution for the next academic year.
- 4 The student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

Any PTGA member who may be interested in this scholarship should contact Scott A. Schukraft ASAP. The application deadline is April 15, 1996.

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## NEW MEMBERS...

The Pocono Turfgrass Association would like to welcome the following new members:

Keith J. Snyder, Class A  
Great Bear Golf & C. C.

Greg McElhatten, Class A  
Wilkes-Barre Municipal G. C.

Phillip Portelli, Class B  
Wilkes-Barre Municipal G. C.

Darryl W. Fritzing, Class C  
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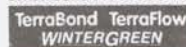
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## Just My Opinion....

(And other related thoughts as they come to mind)

For better or worse, I have elected to voice my opinion on what I suppose amounts to a state of the association editorial. Not having much knowledge about the past history of the association, I have only been in the area four years, I can only editorialize on what I would call recent events. The past is past anyway!

I am still getting to know the people, the places, and the association, but I must say that at times I am impressed with what I observe. The good thing is the more people I meet, the more impressed I become. The recent Pro-Lawn Seminar is a good example. Dennis Watkins, Superintendent at Lords Valley and one of the speakers on the program, spoke on the monitoring of temperatures, both air and soil, and the influence they have in the maintenance of his golf course. What really struck me was the graph comparing last year's soil temperatures to a previous year. For the first time, I was hit with the realization of how difficult a year it really was. Wow!! This gentleman is doing some top-notch, leading edge research. And he is one of our own. My immediate reaction at the conclusion of his talk was that I needed to pin him down for an article in "Chips & Putts". This is the kind of information we need to get out to our membership and maybe other associations, as well. This is the kind of information that will make our publication stand out among the rest.

He left me wondering how many other superintendents out there are doing something unique and special that we should all know about. I have to believe Bill Landsdowne at the Country Club of Scranton will have many good insights to offer. I don't know about the rest of you, but I am truly looking forward to his talk at our meeting in October; if for no other reason than he is one of our own speaking about something he did at his club.

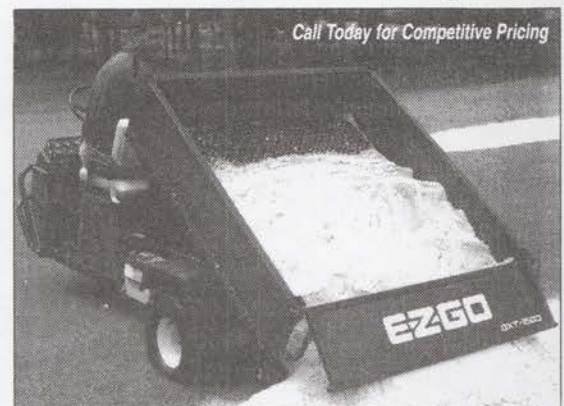
So what does all this have to do with a state of the association editorial? Well, I am beginning to see an association that is headed for bigger and better things. With an admittedly young and inexperienced board, myself included, we have addressed many of the difficult issues of revitalizing an organization that, for one reason or another, had fallen into some difficult times. But not to worry! I see a board that is dedicated to improvement, dedicated to an unprecedented level of

organization, dedicated to GCSAA re-affiliation, dedicated to truly promoting the superintendent and his associates to new levels of professionalism, and most importantly, a board willing to communicate and work with each other for the betterment of each and every one of its members. Some pretty strong statements there. Can we do it? In order to survive we must do it. The Golf Course Superintendents profession is not getting any easier, nor will it in the years ahead. With the age of information upon us, communication and cooperation -- the very reasons this association was formed -- will become increasingly important. We would like all our members to be a part of the exciting times ahead. It is my firm belief that we will, no matter how great or how small, have something to offer. But it is up to you. Your association will only benefit you to the extent that you allow it to benefit you. As Lou Holtz stated at the GCSAA Conference and Show, it is all about attitude, and attitude is one of the things *you* control.

See you all at the monthly meetings

*Scott A. Schukraft*

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## GCSAA BRIEFS....

- ◆ "Par for the Course", the GCSAA television program, will return to ESPN in 1996. The show, which presents a look at the world of golf and its beauty, was renewed by ESPN after a successful inaugural year on America's Total Sports Network.  Twenty-five original half-hour episodes of "Par for the Course" will air weekly on Sunday mornings at 7:30, beginning March 10. GCSAA feature segments, which ran during ESPN televised golf tournaments, also will return in 1996.

- ◆ The United States Golf Association has been selected to receive the 1996 Presidents Award for Environmental Leadership from the GCSAA. The recipient is chosen by the GCSAA Board of Directors based on exceptional environmental contributions to the game of golf — contributions that further exemplify the golf course superintendent's image as steward of the land.
- ◆ **GCSAA ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB!** Statistics show that 73% of GCSAA members have office computers. Many of you will be happy to know that your association will soon have a site on the World Wide Web, which will offer two distinct types of access: public and members-only. The members only section will also provide direct links to numerous other information sites on the World Wide Web. Some of the information available will be:

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## POCONO ROUNDUP

### NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

Fran Berdine, a member of the Board of Directors of the New York State Turfgrass Association, announced effective May 1, Dr. Frank Rossi, recently of the University of Wisconsin, has joined the faculty of Cornell University. His position will be mostly turf extension with a lesser amount of his time spent on research. Dr. Rossi is filling Dr. Norm Hummell's position, who left academia to go into his own business, Hummell & Company, Inc.

AND IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY HEARD....Lesco, Inc. has signed an agreement to acquire the Pro-Lawn Division of Agway, Inc. According to Jim, Pro-Lawn salesman extraordinaire, we can continue to expect the same products and service we have received in the past. Lesco, Inc. has now opened a service center in Moscow (PA, that is!).

Tom Rodden from Rolling Greens in CT has accepted the superintendent's position at Berwick Golf Club. We look forward to having Tom as a member of the PTGA!

## GCSAA GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

One of our own, **Scott Schukraft** of the Huntsville Golf Club, was the Net winner in the Eighth Flight. Other competitors from the Pocono Association who fared well were **Ian Kuensch** who finished second Gross in the 1st flight, and **Ron Garrison** who finished second Net in the 6th Flight.

In the Chapter Team Competition, the Pocono Turfgrass Association fielded a team and finished a most respectable 17th Net and 16th Gross out of 98 teams in the competition. Competing on the Team captained by **Ed Cimoch** were **Ron Garrison, Ian Kuensch, and Hal Parr.**

The Great Bear Golf Club, located in Marshalls Creek, PA, is quickly taking shape. The Jack Nicklaus Signature Design winds its way through gently sloping, wooded land in the Pocono Mountains. The course is shaped and should be ready for grassing in the spring of 1996. Great Bear will be ready for play in late 1996 or early 1997.

The Pocono Turfgrass Association wishes the very best to Steve Campbell, CGCS on his newest venture in New Mexico. Good Luck Steve!!



POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION  
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