

CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION
www.ptga.org

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1936

VOL. 11, NO. 1

APRIL 2005

April Meeting Notice Enclosed.



BROOKSIDE COUNTRY CLUB Superintendent Mel Leaver, Jr.

Brookside Country Club in Macungie, PA, will host our first meeting for 2005. Brookside was founded in 1929 and was designed by architect Thomas Mehean. This private club features 6,602 yards of challenging ryegrass fairways and poa/bentgrass greens. Six years ago Ron Forse was commissioned to design and implement extensive renovations on the course. These changes included adding tees, rebuilding the 18th Green, adding a chipping green, renovating the bunker complexes, and extending the course length by 600 yards.

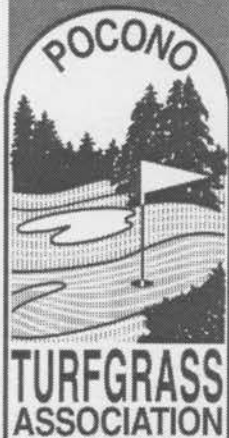
Brookside's signature hole is Hole # 12, known as the "Quarry Hole." This is a 100-yard, par 3 hole with the tee shot over an indigenous quarry and the green being surrounded by bunkers.

This course will be undergoing stream bank restoration starting this spring. The work will be coordinated by the Wildlands Conservancy with the actual work being performed by the Landmark Company. A new member of the PTGA, Mark Gutshall of Landmark Company, will be our guest speaker, and will give an on-site presentation of the work being performed.

Mel Leaver, Jr. is the Superintendent at Brookside C.C. Mel is a local high school graduate and received a B.S. degree in Agronomy from Penn State in 1980. He was previously employed as an assistant at Lehigh C.C. and Brookside C.C. before accepting as superintendent at Shepherd Hills Golf Course. Mel returned to Brookside as the superintendent and has been in charge for the last 15 years.

Mel currently resides in Emmaus, PA, with wife, Karen, daughters Rebecca and Megan, and son, Stephen. Mel enjoys coaching basket ball, playing golf, and fishing in this spare time.

The Assistant Superintendent at Brookside is Jeff Flemish. Jeff is also a local high school graduate and a 1996 Penn State graduate in Turfgrass Sciences. Jeff was previously employed as an



(Continued on page 6)



President's Message.....

Greetings to all as we embark upon a new golf season. The Editor's reins have been returned to me with the departure of Charlie Koennecker, who has assumed a position with Finch Services in the Philadelphia area. We wish him the best of luck. You have probably already noticed the revised appearance of the newsletter. We have streamlined it in order to get back to producing more timely issues. I would also like to remind you to take a look at the new PTGA website—www.ptga.org. Our staff webmaster, Darrin Larkin, has done a tremendous job putting it together. Meeting notices, a member directory, as well as contact information for our affiliate members will be available on the site, as well as a plethora of other pertinent info.

We are also expanding some of our mailings to include a number of superintendents who are not currently part of the PTGA. Even if you are a member of another association, we would be honored to see you at one of our meetings, and we want you to know that you are always welcome.

Eric Reed

The First Annual PTGA Fourball Championship

The PTGA is considering organizing a Fourball (net better ball of partners) Tournament, similar to the tournament run by the Philadelphia Association, if enough people are interested in participating. The tournament would be open to PTGA members and they would be welcome to team up with any amateur golfer with a valid handicap, whether it would be their green chairman, employer, friend, affiliate, another turf professional, etc. The tournament would be single elimination and teams would have approximately one month to complete each round of play. Teams and their opponents would be responsible for scheduling their match at a location and time that is agreeable to both teams. More details will be available later. Right now, we just need to know if at least sixteen teams would be interested in participating. Please call Eric Reed @ (570)788-4277 if you are interested.

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CHIPS & PUTTS STAFF

EDITOR

Eric Reed
Barley5@ptd.net

Managing Editor

Melinda Wisnosky

Editorial Committee

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PTGA Office

R.R. 1, Box 219
Harding, PA 18643
Phone/Fax: 570-388-2167



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The Patterson Scholarship for Turfgrass Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting applications for the Patterson Scholarship. The deadline for application is June 30, 2005. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

Applicant must be in his or her final year of study, or a recent graduate of a two or four year turf related program. The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of the PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of the PTGA.

The applicant must submit in writing why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship, and should include what he or she feels their contributions to the turfgrass field will be.

Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with the application.

The PTGA Scholarship for Non Turf Related Studies

The Pocono Turfgrass Association is now accepting applications for a non turf related field of study scholarship. The deadline for application is June 30, 2005. The following is a list of guidelines for all individuals interested in applying for the scholarship:

Applicant must be in his or her final year of study, or a recent graduate of a two or four year non turf related field of study.

The applicant must be a member of the Pocono Turfgrass Association, employed by a member of the PTGA, or an immediate family member of a member of the PTGA.

The applicant must submit in writing why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship. The letter should also include information pertaining to field of study, educational achievement, and future goals with respect to utilization of his or her education.

Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with the application.

Applications for either scholarship should be sent to:

Duane Schell, Scholarship Committee Chairman
Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club
260 Country Club Drive
Mountaintop, PA 18707

POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION BYLAW CHANGE PROPOSAL

The following proposal for bylaw change of the Pocono Turfgrass Association has been recommended by the Board of Directors:

Current:

Article V, Section 2- Qualifications and Terms of Office

Only Class A or Class SM members who are actively employed as Golf Course Superintendents are eligible to serve as Directors of this Association, with one exception, that being ***one seat on the Board of Directors may be held by an Affiliate (AF) Member.***

Proposed:

Article V, Section 2- Qualifications and Terms of Office

Class A or Class SM Members who are actively employed as Golf Course Superintendents, and Affiliate (AF) Members are eligible to serve as Directors of this Association.



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MEETING NOTICE

Date: Monday, April 18th, 2005

Location: Brookside Country Club
901 Willow Lane
Macungie, PA 18062

Hosts: Mel Leaver, Golf Course Superintendent
Jeff Flamisch, Assistant Golf Course Supt.

Meeting Officials: Matt Brown, Eric Reed, Steve Chirip

10:30 am Registration

11:00 am Lunch Buffet: Soup de jour, Deli cold cut sandwiches, Mixed greens,
Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Potato Chips, Fruit Bowls, Hamburgers,
Grilled Chicken Breast, BBQ Pork, Cookies and Brownies

11:30 am Speaker: Mark Gutshall, Land Studies, "Stream Restoration Project
at Brookside Country Club."

12:30 pm Golf: Shotgun Start, 2-man teams, six holes scramble, six holes net better
ball, six holes alternate shot.

5:00 pm Draft Beer, Cash Bar, and Hors d'oeuvres: Cheese Table, Fresh Fruit and
Vegetables, Crackers and Dips, Spinach Popovers, Coconut Chicken,
Scallops in Bacon, Puff Pastry Franks, Spring Rolls, Stuffed Mushrooms,
and Beef or Chicken Kabobs.

Meeting Cost:

\$10.00	Lunch
\$19.00	Cart Fee
\$2.50	Host Fee
\$2.50	Speaker Fee
\$5.50	Prizes
<u>\$13.00</u>	Hors d'oeuvres

Total Cost: \$53.00 \$18.00 Hors d'oeuvres only

Directions: N.E. Extension- Exit #33 to 22 East to 309 South to 222 South, Exit #54- Hamilton Blvd to the 3rd Traffic Light, ***.
Harrisburg- 78 East to 309 South to 222 South, Exit #54- Hamilton Blvd to 3rd Traffic Light, ***.
Pottstown/ Exton/ Lansdale- Route 29 to 100 North thru Macungie, Right on Willow Lane at Stop Light (just past
Wawa), Clubhouse approximately 1 mile on Right.
Doylestown/ Quakertown- 309 North to Exit #54A, right onto Hamilton Blvd to 4th Traffic Light, ***
***- Left onto Brookside Road, go 2.2 miles, Right onto Sauerkraut Lane at Stop Light (Brick Lutheran Church on
Left), go to stop sign and turn Left onto Willow Lane, Clubhouse Entrance ¼ mile on left. If lost, call 610-966-2354.

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Pocono Turfgrass Association April 2005 Meeting

Member _____

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Amount Enclosed _____

Send Payment to:

PTGA
R.R. 1, Box 219
Harding, PA 18643

Deadline: April 14, 2005

If you are not a member of the PTGA, please accept our invitation to be our guest



POCONO ROUNDUP

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

(Continued from page 1)

assistant at Lehigh C.C. and Paupack Hills C.C. before taking the position at Brookside C.C. Jeff is married, and he and his wife are expecting their first child any day now.

This meeting at Brookside C.C. should be an enjoyable and informative day. Please plan to attend.

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Thank You!

The PTGA would like to thank all the affiliate members who helped sponsor the Allied Hospitality Suite in Orlando at the GCSAA Conference and Show. Unfortunately, a list of sponsors was not made available, so we are unable to thank you individually. We would like to say a belated "thank you" to Mark Monahan, who had impeccably organized the hospitality suite for numerous years prior to this year.

PTGA MEETING SCHEDULE

April 18	Brookside Country Club
May 18	Blue Ridge Country Club
June 16	Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort
July	Joint Meeting w/ NJ at Fiddler's Elbow
August 15	Water Gap C. C. (Clambake)
September 8	Elmhurst Country Club
October 5	Irem Temple C.C.
November	Whitford C.C. w/Philadelphia

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Darrin Larkin and his wife Heather on the birth of their baby girl, Genevieve Grace, on February 17, 2005.

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