



# CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

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1936

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September 2006



## October Monthly Meeting and Annual Meeting Glen Oak Country Club Greg Boring, Golf Course Superintendent

October brings us to Glen Oak Country Club in Clarks Summit, PA. This month, in addition to golf, we have our annual meeting and elections, so please try to get out and help drive our association.

Greg Boring is our host superintendent. Greg came to Glen Oak in 2005. Prior to Glen Oak Country Club, Greg worked at John's Island Club in Florida, Oakmont Country Club, The Pete Dye Club in West Virginia, and Preakness Hills in NJ. Greg is a 1999 graduate of Ohio State University. Gino Marchetti is the Assistant Superintendent under Greg. Gino has worked at Valley Country Club, Eagle Rock, Fieldstone Country Club and Old Westbury Golf and Country Club in Long Island. Gino earned his Bachelor's from Penn State in 2001.

Since taking the reins at Glen Oak, Greg has constructed tees on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hole. Future projects include a complete bunker renovation and re-contouring of the 7<sup>th</sup> Green.

Greg has a summer crew of 17 and a winter crew of 4 to maintain the 130 acre property. There are 3 acres of greens, 2 acres of tees, and 24 acres of fairways. The course measures 6,548 yards from the tips and is a Par 72.

James Harrison and his son-in-law, Ferdinand Garbin, designed Glen Oak Country Club, which was constructed in 1961. Mr. Harrison got his start with Donald Ross in the early 1920's. He worked as a Teamster, then as a foreman. After this, he went to work with Orrin Smith before striking out on his own to plan and build his own courses. He was later joined by his son-in-law "Fred". As a team, they worked on Battleground C.C. in NJ, Blue Ridge Country Club in Palmyerton, PA, Latrobe CC, Oakmont CC, Penn State University GC, Willowbrook C.C.,

(Continued on page 3)



## President's Message.....

It is hard to believe five years have passed since the September 11, 2001 tragedy. I am sure all of you remember vividly where you were when you first heard the news. I was on my way home to change clothes for our monthly meeting. That day Keith Snyder at Great Bear Golf and Country Club hosted our meeting. As I played golf on this beautiful sunny day at this great course, it was hard to imagine what was going on only an hour and a half away. I am sure all of you who were there remember this meeting very well. My thoughts and prayers go out to anyone who was affected by this horrific act of terrorism.

On a much brighter note, I would like to congratulate John Bodock on his retirement. John has been a member of the PTGA since the late 1960's. Thanks, John, for all your support of the Association through the years. I wish you the best of health and happiness in your retirement. (And may many trophy bucks come your way.)

The September golf meeting was hosted by Jeff Lipics at Fernwood Resort. Unfortunately, I could not attend due to aerification. However, I would like to thank Jeff and his staff for hosting the meeting. It was encouraging to hear the turnout for the meeting was very good. I would like to remind you the importance of pre-registering for each golf outing. I appreciate the turnout, however, out of respect for the club, please try to contact Melinda if you even think you may attend. If you send in your check and cannot attend, we will credit you for another meeting. This will only help us be more organized for our future meetings.

*Duane Schell*

## Editor's Notes.....

As I write this month's message, many factors have delayed the publication of the previous two months of the newsletter, for this the board of the PTGA is profoundly sorry to our sponsors. We are striving to improve the publication with useful information, as well as other items to improve enjoyment and increase readership. Those of you who have mentioned items written in the newsletter, thanks. I appreciate hearing feed back so that I know it is being read.

This month, I have articles about 3336 and PCNB. PCNB, Thiphanate Methyl and MSMA are currently in the review process and EPA use changes will be forthcoming. Also this month is the article on Glen Oak Country Club, site of this year's election. If you can't make it for a day with your peers, please make it a point to attend for the elections after golf.

The September meeting at Fernwood was a resounding success, many compliments were offered to Jeff Lipics and the staff for the great conditions and wonderful food.

*Jim Gurzler*



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570-499-1441  
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#### PTGA Office

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

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and Sewickley Heights CC, among others in PA. Mr. Garbin also did work prior to the 1983 U.S. Open at Oakmont Country Club and received praise from both the members and competitors about the reworking done there. Both Mr. Harrison and Mr. Garbin later went on to become president of the ASGCA.

Kurt Aaron, Meteorologist for WNEP in Scranton, will be our speaker this month. Kurt is a Dallas native and is a graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Thanks to Seeton Turf Warehouse and Grass Roots for sponsoring this month's meeting. Hopefully, we will have another great turnout for our annual meeting at this wonderful venue.



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# Reminder!

Did you move? Change jobs? New telephone number?

Please notify Melinda of any changes you may have as soon as possible. We try to keep our member information up to date, but we need you to let us know when a change has been made.

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**Date:** Thursday, August 17, 2006 01:55 PM  
**From:** Paul Vincelli [pvincell@uky.edu](mailto:pvincell@uky.edu)  
**Topic:** Thiophanate methyl and gray leaf spot

The US Environmental Protection Agency is required by law to review pesticides originally registered before 1 Nov 1984, in order to assure that these products meet today's standards of safety and environmental protection. That process is called re-registration.

The re-registration for the fungicide thiophanate methyl (the active ingredient in Cleary's 3336 Plus, Fungo, Pro-turf Systemic Fungicide, SysTec 1998, Cavalier, Absorb TM, T-Storm, and Tee-Off) recently was completed. As a consequence of this process, product labels for thiophanate methyl underwent some significant changes, including reductions in maximum rates for individual applications and the imposition of a maximum allowable amount per season. Some of these changes are highly relevant to gray leaf spot control and should be highlighted, since thiophanate methyl is one of the most effective fungicides for gray leaf spot available, and this year is shaping up to be a season of at least moderate disease pressure.

With the recent label changes, the maximum allowable rate for an individual application of thiophanate methyl on fairways is now 4 oz of Cleary's 3336 50WP (or an equivalent rate of a similar product). Thiophanate methyl has performed very, very well against gray leaf spot in many tests across the country. However, in the large majority of these, it was tested at rates of 6-8 oz of Cleary's 3336 50WP (or equivalent). There are few studies where the 4 oz rate was tested against a higher rate, and in those studies which I found, the 4.0 oz rate performed as well as higher rates. While I think we need more study on this issue, this sounds hopeful. However, I believe that if I were in the middle of a raging epidemic, I might be tempted to tank-mix at least a low rate of some other fungicide, such as chlorothalonil or mancozeb, just as a precaution until more data come in. Under light to moderate pressure, the 4 oz rate is probably fine.

The 2 oz rate of Cleary's 3336 WP (or equivalent) is now the labeled rate for residential and public areas, which would include athletic fields. This rate is probably inadequate for complete control of gray leaf spot, and tank-mixing would be recommended, at least under high disease pressure.

Hang in there, folks. Autumn is not far away!

Paul Vincelli  
 Dept. of Plant Pathology  
 University of Kentucky

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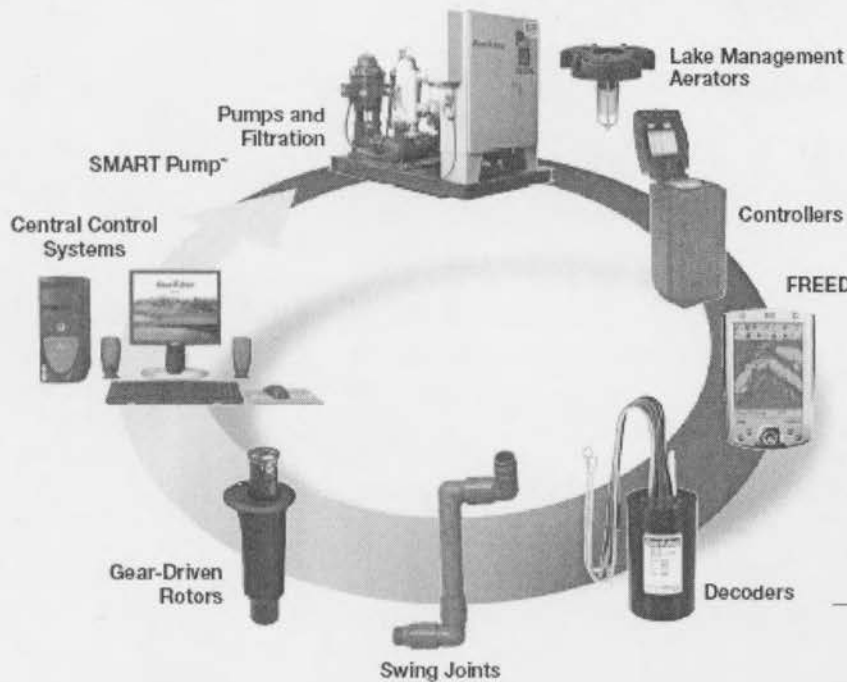
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From the USGA Mid Atlantic Regional Update page:

## More Problems To Contend With

**Stanley J. Zontek, Director**  
**August 14, 2006**

None of us needs more problems, however, the gods of turfgrass management in the transition zone continue to surprise and challenge golfers and turf managers with new problems. The culprits are fire ants and the *Hyperodes* weevil.

While making a Green Section Turf Advisory Service (TAS) visit to a golf course in Newport News, Virginia, I was told by a public parks administrator that they had just identified a colony of fire ants in a city park adjacent to the golf course. Not good news! This discovery means this insect has now entered Virginia in a location where it can readily spread. The golf course staff will now monitor and scout for any insect mounds and treat accordingly. Those from southern Virginia, be forewarned; if these insects have existed in Virginia before we were never aware of this fact.

The bad news from Virginia continues.

While making another TAS visit in Williamsburg, Virginia, three greens consisting of a nearly pure stand of Penncross creeping bentgrass suffered significant turf loss from what, at this point, potentially looks like *Hyperodes* weevil. The insect is in the process of being positively identified. However, from someone who has seen this insect for more than 35 years, the adult and immature weevils sure look like the *Hyperodes* weevil to me.

Controlling the *Hyperodes* weevil is relatively straightforward. You need to apply surface-active insecticides to control the adult weevil before eggs are laid in the leaf sheath. Turf loss is caused as the insect larva eats its way down the stem of the grass plant. Once inside the plant, the insect is difficult to control making preventative applications to control the adult all the more important. The first step, though, is to do some scouting to ensure the insect is present before any chemical applications are made. The best way to identify the insect is watching them crawl across wilted turf, verify the identification in any insect guide and confirm this diagnosis through state extension specialists or a USGA agronomist.

The transition zone has always been recognized as being one of the most challenging regions of the country in which to grow golf course turfgrass. We now have two additional insect pests to add to our list of concerns. That's the bad news.

The good news is that there has been a welcome break in the weather. This is giving turfgrass managers the first opportunity in a long while to topdress, brush, broom, surface aerate, and, maybe, even take a day off.



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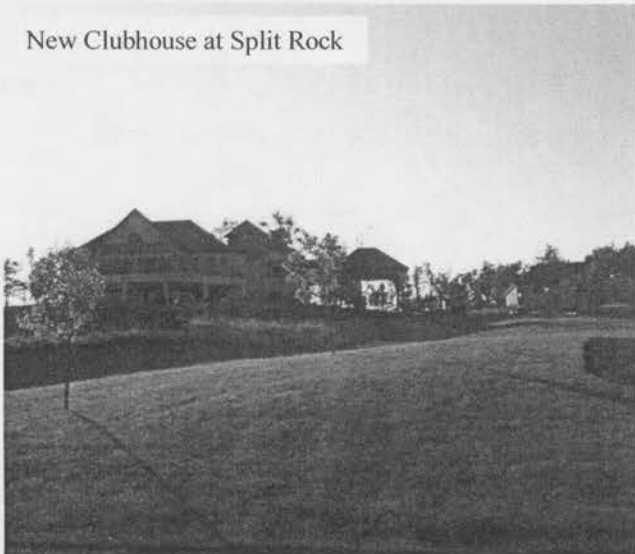


## 2006 Hurricane Names

- Alberto
- Beryl
- Chris
- Debby
- Ernesto
- Florence
- Gordon
- Helene
- Isaac
- Joyce
- Kirk
- Leslie
- Michael
- Nadine
- Oscar
- Patty
- Rafael
- Sandy
- Tony
- Valerie
- William



New Clubhouse at Split Rock



## From a GCSAA News Release:

The U.S. EPA has issued a decision making turf uses of PCNB ineligible for reregistration. If this recommendation takes effect, it means that fungicides containing PCNB will no longer be available for use to control snow mold on golf courses in the U.S.

Earlier this week, the public policy department posted an action alert on the home page of GCSAA Online ([www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org)) related to EPA's decision to ban the use of PCNB on golf courses. GCSAA will submit comments to EPA in support of the continued registration and use of PCNB on golf courses. GCSAA members are urged to submit comments to the federal docket by the **October 2 deadline** to let EPA know that PCNB is a critical tool for golf course professionals for the control of pink and gray snow mold, particularly in high disease pressure areas.

The PCNB action alert includes background information, a link to EPA's decision, and instructions for submitting comments to EPA. Talking points are also available to assist members with writing their comments. Please distribute this information to your chapter members and post a link to the action alert on your chapter's website.

Here is a direct link to the PCNB action alert: <http://www.gcsaa.org/resources/advocacy/pcnb.asp>

Please let us know if you have any questions or need assistance with preparing your comments.

Sincerely,

Chava McKeel

**Chava Martens McKeel**

Senior Manager, Government Relations

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## September Meeting Results

Fernwood Resort hosted our September monthly meeting. The day was great for golf, the course was a joy and a challenge to play. The course yielded 55 birdies and 2 eagles. The skins competition had 4 winners, two with birdies and the two eagles held up. The skins winners were the four man teams of Darrin Larkin, Rick Anglemyer, Ray Waddell, and Jeff Lesoine on the 6<sup>th</sup> hole, Paul Brandon, Andy Jubinski, Steve Chirip, and Tom Height on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Jim Hill, Mike Orban, John Bodock, and Ed Ladamus on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Matt Brown, Greg Kozar, John Downer, and Rich Pany on 18, and Lee Kozsey, Rodger Zellner, Todd Krauss, and Bob Seltzer on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hole.

The two contests this month were a scramble and a scramble with a yellow ball. The only team to actually not lose their yellow ball was the team of Rick Anglemyer, Ray Waddell, and Jeff Lesoine, and Darrin Larkin. The scramble winner with a score of 60 was the team of Lee Kozsey, Bob Seltzer, Todd Krauss, and Rodger Zellner.

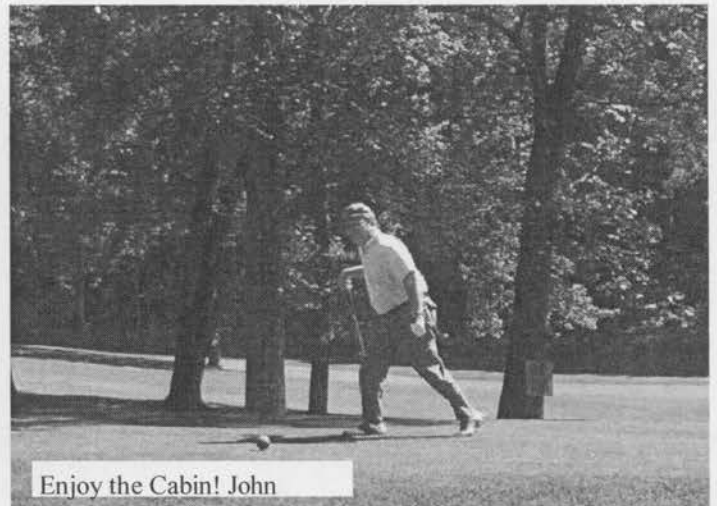
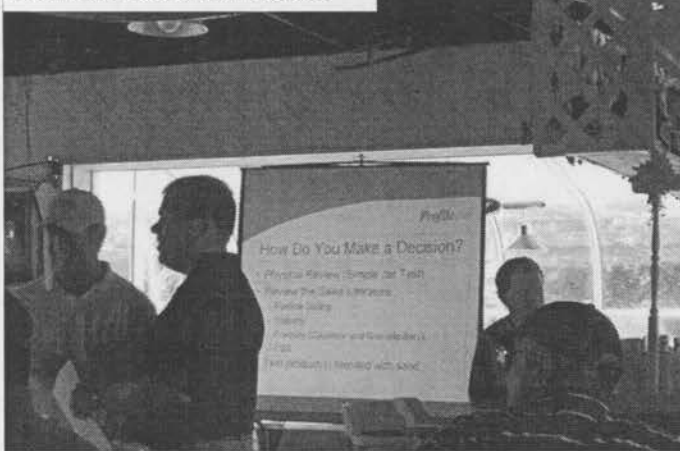
The Skills prizes were a Closest to the Pin on the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole won by Lee Kozsey, and the long Drive on the 8<sup>th</sup> hole won by Dustin Small using his local knowledge as he is a member of Jeff's staff. The Syngenta Ace Golf Challenge was offered, but no winner was had since the pin proved well defended and no one was able to hold the green.

Andy Jubinski and John Downer were recipients of 50/50 money. Thanks go to Matt Brown for making sure everyone reached into their pockets to help grow the scholarship fund with this fundraiser.

Our Speaker this month was John Maeder of Profile products. The topic was the usefulness of inorganic amendments to improve soil porosity with consistency and various techniques to incorporate these materials. Also discussed were the benefits and shortcoming of the various materials commonly found and their basic physical properties.

Thanks to Chuck DeAngelo of Golf Cars Inc. for being our Sponsor this month. Please make an effort to attend the October meeting at Glen Oak Country Club for at least our election if not for the wonderful golf course that Greg Boring will undoubtedly be providing.

Fernwood Education Session



Enjoy the Cabin! John



## POCONO ROUNDUP

### Congratulations!

..... to **Jason Barndt**, Superintendent at Woodstone Country Club.

..... to **John Bodock** on his retirement from Lawn & Golf. And welcome to Michael Orban who will be taking John's place as salesman with Lawn & Golf.

..... to **Jeremy Jones** the new superintendent at Mahoning Valley Country Club.

Welcome to **Ken Givens** who joins Atlantic Irrigation as the Northeast service technician.

Best Wishes to **Patrick Knelly** of Sugarloaf who is getting married on October 7.

## Upcoming Events

### October 9, 2006

Joseph Valentine Memorial Tournament  
Merion Golf Club

For more info see [www.paturf.org/jvTournament.htm](http://www.paturf.org/jvTournament.htm)

### November 7-9

Penn State Golf Turf Conference  
Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA

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