



CHIPS & PUTTS

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

Founded in 1936

VOL. 18 NO. 3

May 2012



May Meeting

Mt. Airy Golf Club

<http://www.mountairycasino.com/golf/index.cfm>

Host: Andy Faist, GCS

Speaker: Jim Nedin, TESCO

May will bring us to Mt. Airy Golf Club (and Casino). For those who like to gamble as well as golf, the package that Mt. Airy is putting together for the PTGA will definitely get your attention, so keep your eyes open for the meeting notice. The club history goes like this.....

The original Mount Airy Lodge opened in the early 1950's and holds a place in history as the cornerstone of the legendary Pocono Mountain vacation retreats. Considered America's premier "Honeymoon Highway" for almost half a century, Mount Airy Lodge once had 890 hotel rooms, indoor and outdoor pools, skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, archery, sports center and a variety of other recreational activities.

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President's Message.....

Thank you, to all who attended the April meeting. It was a good showing and a great day. This month's meeting will be held at Mt. Airy. The resurrected course is in fabulous shape. I look forward to seeing all of you there. Andy has worked very hard and with a new clubhouse it is a jewel of the Poconos.

I recently attended the Rutgers Turfgrass Day at Fiddlers Elbow. It was a record crowd of Turfers; 370 attended. It was great to see so many old friends and catch up. Breakfast was followed by an informative education session. There are always advancements in this industry and it sure seems that Rutgers is a leader. If there is an opportunity for you to attend in the future, I would highly recommend it.

Now that the irrigation system is somewhat functional, and we are in pretty normal routine, I can't wait to finish all my special projects. I hope that all is well with the membership. Take time to enjoy family, friends and life in general.

John Downer

Editor's Notes.....

We had a great day for our first meeting of the year at Berk-leigh G.C. on April 25th. The course, weather, and food were awesome. Thanks to Nick Curry and the staff for a great day. There was a nice turnout as well with nearly 50 golfers. Let's keep it going with this month's meeting.

Speaking of that....I got a little ahead of myself with write ups about the courses that we'll be playing in the PTGA monthly meetings, so this month will once again feature the write up for Mt. Airy.

I hope everyone gets a chance to come out and enjoy this great design and see all the improvements that have been made over the past few years.

Thanks to those who have provided pictures and info for the newsletters so far.....keep them coming.

Brian Bachman



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Pocono Turfgrass Association 2012 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.

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PTGA Membership Drives

Thinking of becoming a PTGA Member??

Know someone who would like to be a PTGA Member??



The Pocono Turfgrass Association has revived some old initiatives to make your membership even more valuable than it already is by introducing two new membership drives:

Drive #1:

Any Class A superintendent member who joins the Association (with their paid dues and approved application, of course) will be able to attend the monthly meeting immediately following their membership for FREE!!!

Please Note: Free meeting excludes the clambake in August

Drive #2:

Any existing member who signs up 3 new members (with their paid dues and approved application, of course) will be able to attend the monthly meeting of their choice (excluding the clambake) for FREE!!!

Talk to any Board Member for additional details.

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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In the late 1970's, resort owners developed the 18-hole Mount Airy Golf Club to add to the long list of resort amenities. A premier golf course for its day, the eighteen holes of Mount Airy were said to be designed after the 1966 Sports Illustrated article "The 18 Best Holes in the United States."

With the decline of Pocono mountain tourism in the 1980's and 1990's, Mount Airy Lodge would eventually go into foreclosure in 1999. As the original hotel and much of the property fell into disrepair, the golf course would remain open as bank management companies sought a buyer for the property.

In 2004, the property was purchased by Dunmore businessman, Louis DeNaples, with the ambition of redeveloping Mount Airy into a casino/resort under Pennsylvania's newly approved gaming laws.

Over the next several years, the entire original Mount Airy Lodge was demolished and subsequently replaced with the new Mount Airy Casino-Resort. Opening in 2007, the four-star resort includes a casino with 2500 slot machines, casino table games, a 188-room hotel, spa, restaurants ranging from casual to high end Italian and steak house....and of course the original golf course.

The early stages of development of the \$412 million Mount Airy Casino-Resort project saw little attention directed toward the golf course, as focus was understandably on the revenue generating foundations of the casino and hotel. Recent years have seen a firm

commitment by management to invest in the golf course and bring it back to its original glory as Mount Airy Casino-Resort once again seeks to establish itself as a premier resort destination in the Poconos.

Since 2010, the Mount Airy Golf Club has seen the installation of a new irrigation system, re-surfacing of cart paths, extensive tree work, new equipment purchases and an increased maintenance budget.

Construction of a new clubhouse is underway and will be completed by the beginning of the 2012 season. Plans are in place for bunker renovations and the construction of new practice areas to replace the original ones which were lost during the Casino/Hotel road construction.

Mt. Airy is overseen by Golf Course Superintendent Andy Faist, who has been there for 5 years. Assisted by Dio Alvarez, they supervise an in-season staff of 9 on the par 71 golf course and another 4 just for the casino landscaping. Andy, originally from the New England area and a UMASS grad, uses his history as an assistant at three different clubs, including Glenmaura, to manage the 6500 yards of poa/bent greens, rye/poa tees, and Heinz 57 fairways at Mt. Airy.

So come on out...play some golf, enjoy some camaraderie, and have a chance at taking home a lot more than just the 50/50 money.



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Another Opportunity for Those Looking to Finance their Education!

Jacobsen Turfgrass Scholarship

This scholarship is sponsored by Jacobsen, a Textron company and your local Jacobsen dealer. Jacobsen manufactures high quality turf maintenance equipment for golf courses, sports fields and large green spaces including parks and recreational areas.

Scholarship amount: \$500

Eligibility: In order to be eligible for consideration, students must:

- Be enrolled full time in a Turfgrass Management (or other related discipline) program, pursuing a 2 year Associate's degree or a 4 year Bachelor's degree.
- Be entering the final year of their degree program.
- Submit an application with all information provided, including a short essay.
- Provide contact information for two professional references.
- Provide one letter of recommendation. The letter of recommendation may be written by one of the references listed on the application.
- Submit all materials by May 1, 2012 to Amanda Bostian at abostian@textron.com.

Award Process:

Scholarship administrators will review all submissions and award one Jacobsen Turfgrass Scholarship in each Jacobsen dealer territory. Recipients will be notified by Jacobsen on July 1, 2012. We will work directly with your institution's financial aid office to process scholarship payment.

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 too 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).



May Photo of the Month

This photo was submitted by an anonymous superintendent in the Poconos.

This is the reason why superintendents tell their assistants to clean out the spray tanks well after that last snow mold spray of the season.

Sure molds into a nice looking wetting agent pellet though.....

Chips & Putts

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April Meeting Wrap Up

What a great start to the PTGA meeting schedule at Berkleigh G. C.. Though we weren't able to have Matt Shafer as our speaker due to the passing of his mother, we ended up having a beautiful day to play golf. With nearly 50 golfers, it also turned out to be an extremely well attended meeting. The weather, food, and course were great and a big thanks to Nick and all the staff at Berkleigh for a fantastic day.

We had a blind draw at the end of the round with three teams placing:

First Place with a score of 356: Chirip, Wilchak, Weber, and Bartell

Second Place with a score of 366: Hill, Ocepek, Fogel, Razinski

Third Place with a score of 367: Gerrity, McGillaway, Sellers, Moffit

Closest to the Pin:

#3 Ed Ladamus

Longest Drives:

#12 Sandercock

There were a multitude of Sins won:

Shaun Barry on #17

Ed Ladamus on # 3 and #9

Paul Brandon on #1 and #4

Brian Ahrens on #15

Thanks to Barry Goodhart with Advanced Turf Solutions and Brian Bachman at Genesis Turf for their sponsorship of the meeting this month.

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GCSAA names Kevin Doyle Northeast Field Staff Rep *Brings strong agronomic, volunteer background*



The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has selected Kevin Doyle as the association's field staff representative for the Northeast region (New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Ontario) effective March 13. He will be based out of Milford, N.H. Doyle, a GCSAA Class A

member, comes to GCSAA after having served as golf course superintendent at Londonderry (N.H.) Country Club since 2003. During his time, he instituted several facility changes including drainage, design and grow-in of new golf holes and tees, irrigation improvements, and development of best management practices for minimizing inputs. He also served as superintendent at Amherst (N.H.) Country Club and was an assistant at Green Meadow Golf Club in Hudson, N.Y. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1995 with a B.S. in biochemistry, Boyle also earned a master's in business administration from Southern New Hampshire University in 2010. He has authored articles in various trade magazines, including GCSAA's GCM (*Doing More with Less: a Statistical Analysis of fertilizer costs*, December 2011). Doyle has also volunteered as the facilities director and facilities expansion chair for the Milford Community Athletic Association, the Lowell Professional Hockey Booster Club president and a coach for Kids in Disability Sports (golf). "We are pleased to have Kevin join the GCSAA team and continue the implementation of the very popular field staff program," said GCSAA President Sandy Queen, CGCS. "Kevin has an impressive background with a great knowledge and understanding of facility management, volunteerism and professional development. He will be a great asset to GCSAA, and our members and chapters in the Northeast." To assist in the effort of serving members through chapters, GCSAA has continually added resources to facilitate an enhanced relationship between the association and its chapters, including the expansion of the GCSAA field staff program. Initially a pilot program designed to help chapters utilize GCSAA programs and services to a fuller extent, it has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from chapters that are staffed with representatives. These chapters report a greater connection with GCSAA, an enhanced ability to utilize GCSAA programs and services, and access to additional resources to advance chapters in a strategic manner. In expanding the field staff program, GCSAA divided its chapters into nine regions with plans

to place a field staff representative in each. Having resident field staff resources on the ground will help chapters implement programs developed by GCSAA, and will serve as a direct communication link back to GCSAA to share the successful practices chapters have implemented. The program is designed to be mutually beneficial for the association and its chapters. GCSAA's resident field staff representatives include John Miller, CGCS, in the Great Lakes Region (Kentucky, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio), Brian Cloud in the South Central Region (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico and Louisiana), Jeff Jensen in the Southwest region of the country (California, Hawaii, Nevada and Arizona), and Ralph Dain in Florida. GCSAA plans to fill the Northwest (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado), the Southeast (Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi) and Mid-Atlantic (Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, Virginia) regions later in 2012; and the Central Plains region (Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri) in 2013. **About GCSAA** GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to 19,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Find GCSAA on [Facebook](#), follow GCSAA on [Twitter](#), and visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org. The EIFG is the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and has as its mission to foster sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game. Visit www.eifg.org Visit www.eifg.org




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POCONO ROUNDUP

Condolences

Our condolences go out to Matt Shafer and his family on the recent passing of his mother.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rick Anglemyer on stepping up to the GM position at Water Gap CC and to Jeff Lesoine (Rick's longtime assistant) on moving into the superintendent's position.

PTGA SCHEDULE

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| May 14th | PTGA meeting @ Mt. Airy
Speaker: Jim Nedin,
TESCO |
| June 19th | PTGA meeting @ Terra
Greens GC
Speaker: Dr. Landschoot
PSU |
| July 16th | PTGA meeting @ Honesdale
Speaker: |



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