

CHIPS & PUTTS

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

Founded in 1936

VOL. 20 NO. 3





May Meeting Lehigh Country Club Host: John Chassard, GCS

In 1910 the name of Lehigh Country Club came into being. The golf course and clubhouse were completed in 1912, and by 1917 the membership totaled 456. World War I was declared on April 6, 1917, and the Club was closed until April 1, 1918, and then opening only for the summer months.

The 1919 Prohibition Amendment required the disposal of all alcoholic beverages. Dues at this time were \$100.00 Entrance fee for a family; Annual dues \$120.00 and Golf dues \$10.00. 1920 Membership decreased to 375.

In 1923 there was considerable interest in obtaining additional land to add nine holes to the existing course, or a new site for an 18 hole course. The Board recommended that a location for a new course be investigated. In January of 1924, a committee was formed to examine two sites — the Schadt Estate on the Jordan Creek near Sherersville, and the Penna. Trojan Powder Co., also along the Jordan Creek. Neither site was selected.

In 1925 membership dropped to 349. The decrease in membership was not due to any failure on the part of the Club to function properly, but mainly due to the fact that during those years both the Northampton Country Club and Saucon Valley Country Club came into being, both with an 18 hole golf course. This put the



President's Message.....



Officers & Directors 2014

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VICE PRESIDENT Patrick Knelly, Sugarloaf Golf Club 570-384-4724

TREASURER Greg Boring, Country Club of Scranton 570-587-4046

SECRETARY Patrick Healey, Scranton Canoe Club 570-378-2249

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Ray Waddell

Editor's Notes.....

Spring is starting.....somewhere.....I think. The common conversation is the cool weather we've been having and the varying degrees of winterkill around the area. Hopefully, soon the weather will be conducive to recovery and everyone will have their courses right back where they want them to be.

Please keep the pictures coming....I could use some new ones, as well as articles or items of interest you'd like to see in the newsletter.

Hope to see you all at Lehigh C.C. on May 12!

Brian Bachman



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financial burden solely on the Allentown area members.

In June the new President, Mr. C. R. Harned, announced that a group had found a site that was considered acceptable. It was located near Wieda's mill, consisting of two farms that dated back to a Penn Grant. The Kemmerer and Kline farms were the choice totaling 206 acres along the Little



Lehigh River for \$55,000. A syndicate of 42 members met in September, and each provided \$500 for a sum of \$21,000 to purchase the farms with a mortgage of \$38,000. On October 10, 1925 at a special meeting of the Board, a resolution was approved to accept the syndicate's offer to convey the property to the Club, including cash approximately \$4,000 less \$450 in expenses. The Club was to reimburse each Syndicate member \$500, payable over two years without interest.

On December 19, at a special membership meeting each member would be issued a Certificate of Proprietary Membership on payment of \$500. A limit of 400 Proprietary members and 100 golf members was also enacted. The entrance fee was established at \$100, annual dues \$100, and \$50 for golf.

On March 15, 1926 Mr. Henry Williams was employed as Golf Pro for the new course. (He was preceded by Mr. George Parr, originally from Carnoustie Golf Club in Scotland. He resigned prior to the start of the new course.)

At a May 17, 1926 meeting the Board approved a contract with Toomey and Flynn of Philadelphia for construction of the golf course at their bid of \$109,120 and by December 20, 1926, they had completed their contract on the course. All work was done by hand labor, drop bottom wagons, horse drawn scoops, and one trailer tractor. Mr. Paul Weiss who had been the construction supervisor for Toomey and Flynn was employed as Greenskeeper.

The full year of 1927 was spent in developing the course into a playing condition. It was not an easy task as heavy rains created gullies in a number of areas. One gully of considerable damage occurred running through the present #17 and #2 fairways with depths of 3 to 4 feet and a width of 4 feet. A sinkhole also developed on #10 green with about one-third of the green dropping down some 6 to 7 feet. The Chairman of the Golf Committee at this time was Mr. Joseph S. Young, assisted by Mr. Leland E. Smith. Water diversion proved to be a continuing problem for a number of years.

At a January 9, 1928 special meeting of the membership, approval was given to issue debentures not to exceed \$125,000 as funding for the erection and furnishing of a new clubhouse. On April 12, the Board awarded contracts for construction of a new clubhouse. The course was opened on Memorial Day with President Harned driving the first ball from what is now #5 tee. During construction, the farmhouse (which is now the manager's home) was used as a temporary clubhouse. The present clubhouse was opened on December 31, 1928. Shortly after the completion of the clubhouse the original clubhouse was gutted by fire, and then the land was sold. Since 1928 with the opening of the clubhouse, many additions and improvements have been and continue to be made to the Club.

John Chassard has been extremely blessed and fortunate to be employed by Lehigh Country Club for the last 31 years. He has begun his 27th season as Director of Grounds and contributes the success of those years to a strong faith, his staff, and strong leadership in the Club headed by General Manager, Zen Mikulski and numerous dedicated members that have strived to maintain the best interest of the Club. Outside of the Club John's main priority are his children, Luke and Madaket, which he considers his greatest gift and reward.



Pocono Turfgrass Association 2014 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, 2014. 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**, **2014**. 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.

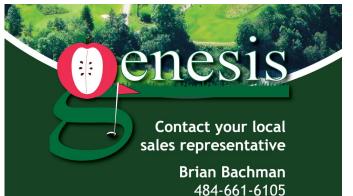
3. The applicant must submit, in writing, why he or she would like to be considered for the scholarship. The essay should include information pertaining to field of study, educational achievement, and future goals with respect to utilization of his or her education.

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

Applications should be submitted to:

Patrick Knelly Sugarloaf Golf Club 18 Golf Course Road Sugarloaf, PA 18249 psk114@sugarloafgolfclub.com





bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com



Proposed changes to the By-Laws for the PTGA

As required in the by-laws, any changes made by the board must be presented to the membership for review over a 3 month period and must then be voted on by the membership. What follows, while not an exciting read, are the proposed changes (highlighted in red) and the explanation for those changes. They will be presented in the newsletter for the next three months and will be voted on at the annual clambake meeting in August (which is our best attended event). Below is a link to the current by-laws on the PTGA website. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Ray Waddell, president, or any board member.

http://www2.cybergolf.com/sites/images/1270/BYLAWS.pdf

Class C - Assistant Golf Course Superintendent

To qualify for Class C membership, an applicant shall be, at the time of application for membership, an Assistant to a Golf Course Superintendent, and shall be presently employed in such capacity. Class C Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, subject to the provisions of Article V, Section 1 hereof. *Sentence moved to Article V, Section 2.*

Class D – Golf Course Employee

To qualify for Class D membership, an applicant shall be any person of good character who at the time of application for membership is employed at a golf course *(phrase omitted)*. Class D members shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting or holding office.

SECTION 2 – QUALIFICATIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Class A, Class SM, Class C and Class AF members are eligible to serve as Directors of this Association. Assistant Superintendent (C) Members and Affiliate (AF) Members can hold positions on the Board of Directors as long as their numbers are in a minority to the Class A and Class SM Board Member summation. The Directors of this Association shall hold office for a period of two (2) years and an election shall be held each year for those Director positions whose terms are to expire in order to maintain a total of ten (10) Directors. These will include the following named Officers who shall serve on the Board of Directors: a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall perform the duties hereinafter prescribed for each of such offices. The Board of Directors will also include one (1) Assistant Superintendent (C) Member who will serve as a "C Liaison" on the Board of Directors as voted on by the membership. The Immediate Past President of the Association shall continue to serve as a Director until he is succeeded by the presiding president. The Officers of the Association, as hereinabove provided for, together with the Directors as above constituted, shall constitute the Board of Directors of this Association. Each member of such Board of Directors shall be entitled to vote at the meetings thereof and a quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be not less than a majority of said Board of Directors. The majority of a quorum must be made up of Class A and Class SM Board Members. In the event a Class A, Class SM or Class C member of the Board of Directors becomes unemployed, he/she has six (6) months to become employed again as a Class A, Class SM or Class C Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent before having to resign his/her seat on the Board of Directors. In the case of an Affiliate Member, a vacancy shall occur, and a replacement found under the guidelines of Section 3 of this Article.



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SECTION 4 - DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have general charge and management of the affairs of the Association. The Board of Directors shall, at each annual meeting, make a full report of its activities during the preceding fiscal year. A financial audit shall be completed within thirty (30) days of the end of each fiscal year and a reconciliation thereof shall be presented to the membership at the next annual meeting.

SECTION 7 - DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary shall be an officer of this Association and be present at all meetings of members of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and shall be responsible for and keep a record of all the transactions at the meetings in a book, belonging to the Association, kept for such purposes. The Secretary will maintain a record of election results and terms of office for all Directors of the Association and will within ninety (90) days of the Annual Meeting inform the Nominating Committee of any Directors whose terms are expiring. The Secretary shall read the minutes from the previous Association meeting and all appropriate correspondence of the Association. The Secretary shall ascertain that due and proper notice, as provided by the Bylaws, has been given of all the meetings of the members of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and shall be the custodian of the corporate seal, and shall perform all other duties usually performed by the Secretary of a like corporation and such other additional duties as may be required by the Board of Directors. The books of the Secretary shall be open at all times for inspection by the members of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 8 - DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies, bills, notes, bonds and similar property belonging to the Association and the safekeeping of the same in the name of the Association. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget and submit it for approval to the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall keep such financial records and accounts as may be required of them by the Board of Directors and in accordance with standard accounting and bookkeeping procedures and shall make a monthly report of all Association transactions. The books of the Treasurer shall be open at all times for inspection by the members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS

SECTION 1

The Board of Directors shall meet prior to monthly meeting preferably the same day as the monthly general meeting of the Association members. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the President, providing the request is made fourteen (14) days in advance of such meeting. President's request may be in writing or verbal communication. There must be a majority of members present at said meeting. A majority of members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any Board of Directors meeting, provided that the majority of the quorum is made up of Class A and Class SM Directors. The general meeting of the Association's members shall be held on the third Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise specified in advance. General meetings shall be held each and every third Tuesday, provided a quorum is indicated by the return attendance card provided by the Association Secretary. The Association's annual meeting shall be held in the month of August on the third Tuesday as provided by Standing Rules or as designated by the Board of Directors and be conducted at this time. The annual election of Officers and

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Directors will be held at this time with the Nominating Committee Chair acting as elections Director. The ballot of such elections shall be by secret written ballot and shall be provided for by the Association Secretary. A simple majority vote shall be required to be elected. All standard and proper election procedures shall rule at all elections. A quorum at any annual or general Association meeting shall be fifteen (15) voting members.

SECTION 2 - ANNUAL REPORT

The Association Board of Directors, or specially appointed committee by the Board of Directors, shall prepare an annual chapter financial statement in accordance with general accepted accounting principles and a summary thereof shall be filed with the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America. The Association shall submit an annual report to GCSAA which shall contain an outline of Chapter activities for the year, current Bylaws, current Officers, a current membership roster, a certificate of good standing from the state the Association is incorporated in, a certificate of insurance, summary of the annual financial statement and a copy of the Association's annual tax return. This report will be submitted to GCSAA within sixty (60) days following the Association's annual meeting.

SECTION 5 – INSURANCE

The Association shall procure Insurance coverage for its operation, activities and conduct to include, but not limited to, premises, operations, property, personal injury, special events, and Directors and Officers Liability. A Certificate of Insurance shall be provided to the GCSAA with the annual report confirming that the minimum requirements for General Liability and Directors and Officers coverage are met.





Explanation of proposed bylaw Changes:

The red highlighted sections show what the proposed changes are and are explained section by section below.

Page 1: To reflect the date of the current revision if the changes are adopted.

<u>Page3, Article II, Section 3, Class C</u>: This sentence is moved because it isn't really part of the description of the class and seems to it better in the Qualifications and Terms section.

<u>Page3, Article II, Section 3, Golf Course Employee</u>: To allow a golf course employee to be a member of the association without requiring that the Superintendent that they work for be a member.

<u>Page 5, Article V, Section2</u>: This section is completely rewritten. Instead of stipulating that only one Class C can serve on the board this simply says now that they can serve on the board the same as AF members as long as the majority of the board is made up of (A) and (SM) members and wording has been added to make certain that a quorum of the board must be comprised mostly of A and SM members. This allows the possibility of more than 1 assistant (C) member serving on the board because it doesn't seem reasonable that they should be more restricted than the affiliate (AF) members are. The position of Secretary and Treasurer is separated instead of designating one officer as Secretary/Treasurer to reflect our current practice. Instead of stipulating a 1 year term for the officers and a two year term for the other directors the new wording states that all directors will serve 2 year terms and that at the annual election enough directors will be elected to replace those whose terms are expiring so that we maintain a 10 member board. Also eliminated is the stipulation of no more than 3 successive terms.

<u>Page 5, Article V, Section 4</u>: This is changed so that the audit is performed within 30 days of the end of the fiscal year rather than within 30 days of the annual meeting, because it has not been completed within the time frame outlined in our current bylaws because our fiscal year ends about 15 days after the annual meeting. We have agreed to make the fiscal year end on March 31st and changing the annual meeting to August would make it possible to get the audit done in time for a report of it to be made at the annual meeting. It is hoped that these changes will increase membership awareness of and involvement in Association activities and make the Annual Meeting more relevant.

<u>Page 6, Article V, Section 7 & 8</u>: This is simply the separation of the duties of the secretary and treasurer with the addition that the secretary will be responsible for keeping track of the board members terms and letting the nominating committee know whose terms are expiring.

<u>Page 7, Article VIII</u>: To reiterate that a quorum of the board must be mostly superintendents, and to change the annual meeting to August.

<u>Page 7, Article IX, Section 2</u>: Lengthens the time frame for getting the report to the GCSAA. The GCSAA doesn't stipulate a time frame so we are at liberty to change this.

<u>Page7, Article IX, Section 5</u>: We currently stipulate a minimum dollar amount for the Association insurance coverage and this is something that is likely to change over time so it would be better to simply say we will meet the GCSAA's minimum requirement rather than specify a dollar amount.

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Board Members Needed

If you are interested in joining the Board of Directors, please contact one of the Board members. Contact information can be found on Page 2 of this newsletter. Office & Home Phone White Haven 570-443-9596 Fax 570-443-9590 Top Dressing Bunker Sand Infield Mix

Blue Ridge Peat Farms, Inc.

White Haven, PA 18661-9674

Potting Soil Soil Mixes Gene Evans, Owner Professional Engineer

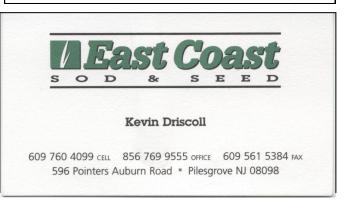


Photo of the Month

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

Superintendents are a creative bunch, inventing products and devices to make their jobs easier all the time.

I'm not sure who the superintendent was that made this little gem, but sure looks like a good idea.

So, what's your million dollar idea??

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	William Mast	610.327.3390
Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Lawn & Golf	Chris Butler	710.933.5801

IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

John Deere	Brent Wood	570.499.1441
Turf Equip. & Supply	George Skawski	610.554.9366
	Michael Longyhore	610.390.8827

PLANT PROTECTANTS			
Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575	
	Rich Gdovin	570-278-1131	
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756	
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105	
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468	
John Deere	Brent Wood	570.499.1441	
Growth Products	Craig Lambert	973-601-3303	
Lawn & Golf	Chris Butler	610.933.5801	
Syngenta	Lee A. Kozsey	610.861.8174	

SEED & SOD

John Vojick	607.768.0575
Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Ted Zabrenski	484.614.6436
Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
Chris Butler	610.933.5801
	Rich Gdovin Ted Zabrenski Bob Seltzer Brian Bachman Steve Chirip

TOPDRESSING / SOIL AMENDMENTS			
Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575	
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131	
Blue Ridge Peat Farms	Gene Evans	570.443.9596	
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756	
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105	
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468	
Lawn & Golf	Chris Butler	610.933.5801	

EQUIPMENT Stephen Thompson 610-972-5933 Aer-Core

	William Mast	610.327.3390
Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Lawn & Golf	Chris Butler	610.933.5801
Turf Equip. & Supply	Michael Longyhore	610.390.8827
	George Skawski	610.554.9366
Finch Services	Ted Zabrenski	484.614.6436

FERTILIZER

John Vojick	607.768.0575
Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
Craig Lambert	973-601-3303
Chris Butler	610.933.5801
	Rich Gdovin Bob Seltzer Brian Bachman Steve Chirip Craig Lambert

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ond and a set		
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	Rich Gdovin	570-278-1131
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
John Deere	Brent Wood	570.499.1441
Lawn & Golf	Chris Butler	610.933.5801

Support our Sponsors - They support us!

POCONO ROUNDUP

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Tom Height** on accepting his new position as Golf Course Superintendent at Pleasant Valley C.C. in the Pittsburgh area. We'll miss you, Tom! We would also like to congratulate Tom and his wife Angie on the recent birth of their son, Russ.

Congratulations to **Patrick Healey** and his wife Marissa on the birth of their first child, Ella Elizabeth Healey, born on Monday, April 28.

Nothing like holding your first child!

PTGA SCHEDULE

May 12tPTGA Joint Golf Meeting
with Central Penn
Lehigh C.C.June 9PTGA Golf Meeting
Elkview C.C.July TBDPTGA Golf Meeting
Schulykill C.C.Aug 15PTGA Annual Clambake
and Meeting
Water Gap C.C.

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POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION 309 TERRACE AVENUE HARDING, PA 18643

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