

# CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

[www.ptga.org](http://www.ptga.org)

Founded in  
1936

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December 2005



## OCTOBER MEETING RESULTS AND ELECTIONS

From IREM TEMPLE Country Club

As with all our events this season, this was a wonderful day and a great venue. Thanks to Kris Pries, John Potera, and the rest of the staff at Irem Temple for the great food and the fine golf.

Thanks also to Ed Biedel, Biedel Designs, for the talk on renovation work and construction issues at golf courses. The implementing of improving and expanding practice facilities to drive new players to the game is taking off in many areas and seems to be having a positive influence on rounds. Most studies have shown rounds to be up and construction expenditures on the rise.

The elections were to be held at Irem Temple as well, but as no quorum was available, elections were postponed until a quorum was available, at which time the following results occurred: President Duane Schell, Vice President Darrin Larkin, Treasurer John Downer, Secretary Jeff Koch, Sergeant at Arms Steve Chirip. The following directors were also elected: Andy Jubinski, Matt Brown, and Rick Anglemeyer.

Resulting from the tournament played at Irem Temple were the winners of the Affiliate Championship won by Chuck DeAngelo of Golf Cars Inc. and the Superintendent Championship won by Duane Schell, of Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club.

Thanks to our outgoing President Eric Reed for a great term and congratulations to our new board members. Let us lend our Association our support as we strive for another productive year and continue to grow our Association.



## President's Message.....

First and foremost as your new president I would like to pass on some thanks to all who volunteered their time and efforts to improve the PTGA this past year. I would like to thank Eric Reed as our outgoing president and last year's board members for all their hard work on getting the Association back on track for the future. This year was the first for a PTGA website. All the thanks for this go to Darrin Larkin of Panaroma for taking his time to develop and maintain the website. This year was a great year for golf. I would like to thank all the meeting hosts and their staffs for allowing us to enjoy their facilities. In addition I wish to pass on thanks to all the affiliates for sponsoring the meetings and supporting our Association.

As I mentioned, this past year was a great year for golf. Most people I spoke with said rounds were up from the two previous rainy years. However, it was not a great year for growing grass. Dry and humid conditions plagued much of the Northeast leading to not only drought conditions, but also a barrage of diseases we normally do not see in this area. Hopefully many of you made it through without losing too much grass. When I think about the weather this past season, I can not help but think about the Tsunami and Katrina victims. It puts things in a different perspective. I was worried about losing a little grass and there are people in the world who lost everything; homes, family members, loved ones, their whole life as they once knew it. It is unfortunate in this business that losing a little grass could also mean losing your job. At this time of year we all need to step back and be thankful for what we do have, for there are many people in the world who have had things much worse this past year.

Enjoy the snow, enjoy time with the family, and I hope all the members of the PTGA and their families have a happy holiday season.

*Duane Schell*

## Editor's Notes.....

Since this issue will be the final of 2005, I am hopeful that next season will bring as many sunny days, although some well dispersed evening rains mingled in would be nice. Winter is here, snow has fallen, crews are smaller, holidays approach. Recharge those batteries. Take time to stop and see the family. "Wow! The kids got big, when did they grow?" "JUNE, JULY, and AUGUST" the hostile spouse responds. Make up for that long summer now, and here's to a "normal" year next season.

The new officers are in place and plans for next season's meetings are underway. We look forward to seeing new venues and returning to old ones. We hope to see all those faces again next year, as the meeting attendance was great. Thanks again to our speakers and sponsors.

As always, articles are welcome, as are notes about happenings, such as Steve Stranzl, CGCS completing his certification. Congratulations, Steve! Remember your friends and associates would like to hear about these things, and others like births, marriages, engagements, or awards. So please send the information to me so that we may get it in a "Pocono Roundup." Also included in this issue is the scholarship information. This must be submitted by March 31, 2006. We will have two scholarships this year — one for a turf related student and the other for a general studies student. The only requirement for entry is that the submission come from a member, their family, or the member's staff.

Don't forget to stop by the Allied party in Atlanta. It will be held on



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## Pocono Turfgrass Association 2006 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 March 31, 2006. 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 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 contributions 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-turf related field of study scholarship. The deadline for application is March 31, 2006. 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 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:

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

## Pocono Turfgrass Association Meeting Notice: January's Meeting: Elk Mountain

The Pocono Turfgrass Association would like to extend an invitation to all members along with their families, friends, and employees to attend what has become an annual tradition for our association.

Here are the details:

**Where:** Elk Mountain, Union Dale Pennsylvania ([www.elkskier.com](http://www.elkskier.com) )

**When:** Friday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006.(Lunch starts at 11:30 am)

Please note: If you want to get Pesticide Credits, the Northeast PA Turf Conference is on Thursday January 27<sup>th</sup>. (See [www.paturf.org](http://www.paturf.org) for details)

**Cost:** \$45.00 Total (\$27.00 for Skiing and \$18.00 for Lunch)  
Payment should be made at the mountain.

**Speaker Topic:** Networking- Discussing interesting winter projects over lunch/lift rides

### **Other important details:**

A PTGA representative will greet everyone in the main lodge during the morning with ski passes.  
Lunch will be at the Winter Garden Restaurant in the main lodge between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00p.m.  
Ski rentals available at Elk or Idlewild Ski Shop. ( [www.idlewildskishop.com/](http://www.idlewildskishop.com/) )

### **Menu:**

Meatloaf, Vegetable Lasagna, Penne with Chicken Strips and Broccoli, Soup, Tossed Salad, Potato, vegetable, Rolls w/butter, Soft Drink, Coffee/Tea, Dessert Selection  
There will be a cash bar available at lunch.  
There will be beverages and snacks available at the halfway house all day long.

### **Directions to Elk:** (approx. 2 hours from Plymouth Meeting)

Take 380 to Scranton or the turnpike Northeast Extension Exit # 39(absolutely last exit - Clarks Summit) to I-81 North.

Follow I-81 North to Exit # 206

Follow signs for Elk Mountain

Turn Right onto Route # 374. Follow till you get to a stop sign.

Turn Left onto Routes # 106/# 374.

After couple miles # 106 and # 374 split and # 374 turns to the right.

There is a small blue country store and gas station at this turn.

Follow # 374 until you get the Elk.

For More information or any questions check our Website: [www.ptga.org](http://www.ptga.org)

# Chips & Putts

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*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
to all the members of the  
Pocono Turfgrass Association  
from the Board of Directors*

#### Results of the 2005 Met Area Team Championship

Monday October 24, 2005  
Held at Aronomink Golf Club  
Newtown Square, PA

- 1st Place Philadelphia Association of GCSA
- 2nd Place Pocono Turfgrass Association
- 3rd Place GCSA of New Jersey
- 4th Place Central PA GCSA
- 5th Place Central NY GCSA
- 6th Place Mid Atlantic Association of GCSA
- 7th Place Connecticut GCSA
- 8th Place Met GCSA
- 9th Place Northeastern GCSA
- 10th Place Long Island GCSA
- 11th Place Hudson Valley GCSA

Pocono Turfgrass Team Members were:

Eric Reed, Duane Schell, John Downer, Steve Chirip, Chuck DeAngelo, Matt Fronzak, Tim Sage and Paul Brandon.

Congratulations team on your strong second place finish!

#### Winter Ski Trip to Killington

Eric Reed and Matt Brown are trying to arrange a ski trip for February 20 thru the 23<sup>rd</sup> to a house in the Killington area. The housing will accommodate 20 comfortably. Eric and Matt need to know who is interested by Jan 5 to confirm the housing. The trip will be as follows: Leave February 20 for Killington, ski February 21, 22, and half a day on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Depart for home early afternoon on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Contact Eric Reed at [EReed@epix.net](mailto:EReed@epix.net) or 570-788-4277 or Matt Brown at 484-357-6312.

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### POCONO ROUNDUP

#### NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to **Steve Stranzl, CGCS** on his certification.

Welcome new member **Greg Boring**, Superintendent Glen Oak Country Club

Congratulations to **Jim and Chris Gurzler** on the birth of their third son Daniel Aug. 22.

Congratulations to **Bryan Nuss** on his new position as Supt. at Jack Frost National.

Continued from Page 2

February 9th in the Hyatt Regency Hotel at 7 pm. Come out and mingle. Here's to an ice free year. Have a wonderful holiday season and make sure the deer you kill isn't one of Santa's.

*Jim Gurzler*

### Upcoming Events

#### EASTERN PA TURF CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW

January 10 - 12, 2006  
Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA

#### NORTHEASTERN PA TURF CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

January 26, 2006  
The Woodlands Inn & Resort, Wilkes-Barre, PA

#### POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION WINTER SKI MEETING

January 27, 2006  
Elk Mountain, Union Dale, PA

#### GCSAA EDUCATION CONFERENCE AND GOLF INDUSTRY SHOW

February 6-11, 2006  
Atlanta, GA

#### Allied Association Hospitality Suite

February 9, 2006 @ 7 pm  
Hyatt Regency Hotel



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