



# CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION  
[www.ptga.org](http://www.ptga.org)

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April 2015



## April Meeting

### **Pine Hills Country Club**

*Hosts: Eric Duffy and Gregg Kozar*

Speaker: Dave Schell, 2 core credits available

We kick off the golfing season with a trip to Pine Hills C.C. in Taylor. Pine Hills is a family tradition for our hosts, Eric and Gregg. The course started out as a par 3 course in the late 60's, built by their uncle. In the early 70's the first 9 holes were built and the 18-hole course was finished by the mid 70's. In 1998 cousins Greg and Eric (along with Greg's brother Scott) purchased the course from their uncle, and they've been running it ever since.

Since they've taken over, Greg and Eric have started working on a master plan created by Ron Cutlip that improves on the original design of their uncle. There been many changes and additions to the course that they've overseen, including the installation of a complete irrigation system in 2000 (complete with a 1.5 acre pond), a new pro shop in 2002/03, 18 new bunkers, and 15-20 new tees. Planned improvements this year include re-working the greens complex on #8 and the installation of a foot-golf course on the existing par 3 course.

*Continued on page 5*



## President's Message.....

It has been another difficult winter for a lot of us in NEPA. For many of us the record cold temperatures led to some damaged Poa Annua greens this Spring. The Winter Injury Meeting that was held at Fox Hill Country Club on April 7 was a huge success with nearly 70 attendees. Many of our attendees were club officials. I would like to thank Steve McDonald and Elliott Dowling for speaking at the meeting.

We are approaching our first Monthly Meeting of the year. We will be visiting Pine Hills in Taylor on April 28. Dave Schell from BASF will be speaking and **you will receive 2 Core Credits for attending**. This is a great opportunity to get those allusive core credits that I know I struggle to get to renew my pesticide license. Dave has also donated a case of Lexicon (approx. \$1,600 value) to be given out during a putting contest. I know everyone is busy this time of year but this meeting will be worth getting away from the course for the day.

If you are attending, please remember to pre-register and pre-pay with Melinda, or bring a check to the event. We will no longer be billing for monthly meetings. It should be a great day.

*Greg Boring*

## Editor's Notes.....

It's been a stretch of a rough couple of weeks for many as we've removed covers to see what the brutal winter left behind. In every difficult circumstance we get to see others rise to the occasion. It's been great to see the brotherhood of our profession as so many have been helping each other with the borrowing of equipment, covers, advice, etc.

Hope to see you at the meeting and PLEASE send me some pictures....

*Brian Bachman*



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## Pocono Turfgrass Association 2015 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, 2015**. 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. 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, 2015**. 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. Applicants must include a letter of endorsement from their PTGA relation with their application.

For a copy of the application, please go to the Pocono Turfgrass Association website at:

**ptga.org**

### Applications should be submitted to:

**Greg Boring**  
**Country Club of Scranton**  
**P. O. Box 269**  
**Clarks Summit, PA 18411**





## PTGA Billing Changes for Monthly Meetings

### Attention all Members of the Pocono Turfgrass Association

We, as your Board of Directors, have voted and approved the following changes:

- All payments for our monthly meetings must be received before or on the day of the meeting. Credit will no longer be extended to any member or guest. We accept cash, check or credit card.
- Dues must be paid in full in order to attend our monthly meetings.

The above changes are necessary and long overdue to keep our Association operating efficiently. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. Healey, Jr.  
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Continued from Page 1

The course is a modest 6,000 yards par 71, but don't let that fool you. Pine Hills is a challenge to anyone who plays it. With rolling hills, terrain changes, and the ever present Pocono course staple—trees, we're sure to have a challenge.

While both cousins are involved in all aspects of the business, Eric acts as the superintendent most days. Originally from Connecticut, Eric has an MBA from American University and has completed one of the intensive courses offered through Rutgers in Turfgrass Management. He is married with one child.

We look forward to our first event of the year, and don't forget....there are **2 core pesticide credits** available here as well!! See you there.....

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# 2015 | EARTH DAY

Highlighting golf's environmental stewardship

## 5 facts about golf for Earth Day (April 22)

- 1.** Golf courses are professionally managed landscapes where environmental stewardship is important – from using water and nutrients efficiently to implementing better methods of erosion control.
- 2.** In general, the golf industry is striving to deliver firm and fast playing surfaces that are better for everyone and improve the bottom line. More than two-thirds of golf courses report that they are keeping turfgrass drier than in the past.
- 3.** The golf industry is continually investing in research to identify drought-tolerant grasses, promote water conservation and improve best management practices.
- 4.** Golf courses provide habitats for wildlife, including protected species.
- 5.** Many golf courses have recycling programs to reduce and reuse.

*Source: Golf Course Superintendents Association of America*



## GCSAA Launches Marketing Campaign

GCSAA is launching an exciting new outreach campaign, hoping to stir golfer appreciation for the great work of our members. By utilizing TV, radio, print, and internet media, GCSAA's new "thank a superintendent" campaign aims at reaching the 25 million golfers who enjoy the fruits of our superintendents' labors. The television spots (15 and 30 seconds long, respectively) are headlined by the Golden Bear, Mr. Jack Nicklaus, and feature other marquee names like Rory McIlroy, Rickie Fowler, Jordan Spieth, Matt Kuchar, Michelle Wie, and Nick Faldo. These big-name golfers have big-time influence, and GCSAA is using their testimonies to show the golf world why superintendents are a key component of the game's success and enjoyment. These ads will run on the golf channel throughout 2015 and you can check them out at <http://www.gcsaa.org/thankasuperintendent>.

The radio ads, similar to the TV ads, also feature Nicklaus and other brand-name golfers and will air on Sirius XM PGA Tour Radio (Sirius 208, XM 93) as well as local golf radio shows throughout the nation. Both TV and radio ads can be co-branded by GCSAA chapters and aired in their local markets. The radio spots can be heard on the same link provided above.

By tracking internet traffic on golf-related websites, these ads will take advantage of dynamic internet marketing to pinpoint golfers' web browsers and lure them in with a chance to win a trip to the 2015 PGA Championship at Whistling Straits. When golfers view the ad, they are prompted to fill out a "thank your superintendent" form for their chance to win the trip to the PGA Championship. On the back end, GCSAA will then send that thank you note to the golfer's superintendent and the superintendent's employer. Pretty cool.

The project is spear-headed by two new faces to the GCSAA team – Associate Director of marketing Russell Sypowicz, and Director of communications and media, Craig Smith. Both bring great experience to the GCSAA team, and look to continue making headway in future outreach and marketing initiatives.

In other news, Jenny Pagel-Guile is the new face of the GCSAA Certification Program, replacing recently retired Penny Mitchell. Jenny is working to help further develop and grow the CGCS program, and wants to hear member feedback in order to provide more directed services. 2014 saw 22 newly certified members, and 8 members have started the process in 2015. Please feel free to reach out to her directly for questions regarding the application process or eligibility at [JPagel-Guile@gcsaa.org](mailto:JPagel-Guile@gcsaa.org).

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### **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](mailto:bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com)) and share it for everyone to enjoy (or laugh at).



### **April Photo of the Month**

Winter Injury Meeting at Fox Hill CC....attendance was great.

Thanks to Steve McDonald and Elliott Dowling for speaking!!



# *Chips & Putts*

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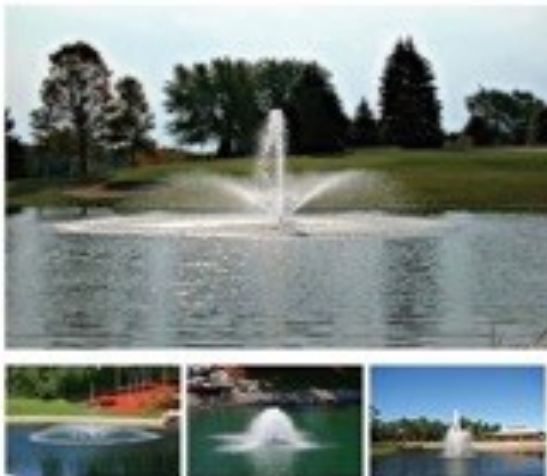
## PTGA SCHEDULE

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>April 28</b> | <b>PTGA Golf Meeting</b>                           |
| <b>May 19</b>   | <b>PTGA/Central Golf Meeting<br/>Schuylkill CC</b> |
| <b>June 1</b>   | <b>PTGA Golf Meeting<br/>Scranton Canoe Club</b>   |
| <b>July 6</b>   | <b>PTGA Golf Meeting<br/>Glen Oak CC</b>           |



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