Travels
With
Terry

Globetrotting
consulting agronomist
Terry Buchen visits
many golf courses
annually with his digital
camera in hand. He
shares helpful ideas
relating to maintenance
equipment from the golf
course superintendents
he visits – as well as
a few ideas of his own
– with timely photos
and captions that
explore the changing
world of golf course
management.

Terry Buchen, CGCS, MG, is president of Golf Agronomy International. He’s a 41-year, life
member of the GCSAA. He can be reached at 757-561-7777 or terrybuchen@earthlink.net.

BEDKNIFE RACK

Robert Smith, equipment manager at the Merion Golf Club in Ar
dmore, Pa., built this rack to keep the bedknives from warping by
hanging them vertically. Three-quarter-inch plywood was used measuring
5 feet long by 12½ inches high by 4½ inches deep. A 2-by-4 board, with
¼-inch-by-4-inch hex-driver ceramic-coated nails mounted to it, with
the nail heads ground off, hold the bedknives in place. A ¼-inch plywood
cover using the same dimensions, with 3-inch hinges, folds up
and down nicely. This rack is mounted with concrete bolts into
the cinderblock wall in the grinding room of the new state-of
the-art maintenance facility and it was painted the same color
as the walls. It took about one hour to build and scrap materials
were used (about $20 if purchased new).

CUSTOMIZED EQUIPMENT
MANAGER’S VEHICLE

This 2010 Kubota RTV900 4 WD has a homemade
lift tailgate ($200) for easy lifting of walk-behind
greens mowers for transporting them back and forth to
the mechanic’s shop. A separate winch is used with a
1,500-pound capacity that has the yellow-colored up-and-down control mounted on the left
side rear. The bed was extended approximately
15 inches on either side using the existing
tailgate cut to fit and welded in place. A used
ramp from a Dual Express Model 3000 DX
reel grinder is used as the new tailgate – and a
4-foot by 12-inch by ¾-inch piece of flat steel
tailgate extension is used that slips in place
over two 1½-inch diameter steering-shaft rods
from a Toro Workman. Two pieces of ¼-inch “L” channel welded together, with the grooves cut vertically on
each side, is where the tailgate slides up and down from the ½-inch winch cable. Two chains hold the tailgate in
a horizontal position. Additional equipment includes
a Mile Marker PE 2.5 electric winch ($100), with a
2,500-pound capacity, that is bolted to the front bumper,
which is bolted to the frame with ¾-inch box steel added
for bracing. A 1,500 watt/12.5 continuous amp 12-volt to
110-120-volt inverter ($150) is mounted underneath the
hood for operating an air compressor with air tools, a battery
charger and grinder. A 6-inch vise ($30) is mounted behind
the passenger seat that slides 2
feet outwards from the bed that
is mounted on a steel plate and sliding square tubing. Two
red flashers ($10) are mounted in the rear below the roof,
as this vehicle is licensed with a recreational license plate.
A Craftsman toolbox is mounted on the left side with “L” brackets and angle iron. The 3-cylinder, 36-horsepower
Kubota diesel engine has a SSS Turbo ($1,600) installed
for 15 additional horsepower. Robert Smith, equipment
manager, at the Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pa., has
been spending about two months on and off on this proj-
ect and he is still adding more custom features.