Gary Crone started in the golf course maintenance business by working as a groundsman at the Saucon Valley Country Club in Northeast Pennsylvania. He attended Penn State University where he worked for Dr. Joseph Duich at the Penn State Turfgrass Research Center as a student technician. After graduating in 1981, Gary worked for John Tutich as assistant superintendent at Herndon Golf Course. Two years later he went to work for Wayne Evans, CGCS, at the Indian Springs Country Club, also as assistant superintendent. At the Mount Pleasant Golf Course in 1985, Gary got his first position as golf course superintendent. Now at Chestnut Ridge Country Club, he has been superintendent since 1988.

At about the same time that Gary took the position at Chestnut Ridge, he took the big leap and married Tiffany. They currently reside in Dickeyville, Maryland, in the historic preservation area. They share the house with Tuffy, a two year old German Shepherd. Tiffany and Gary enjoy snow skiing and like to make the pilgrimage to Utah occasionally, where some of the best skiing conditions in this country are found.

As for Chestnut Ridge Country Club, it is a private, 18 hole golf course designed by George McKay. The golf course was built in 1954. The 350 members play approximately 21,000 rounds annually. The country club also boasts tennis court and swimming pool facilities.

The golf course has seen many renovations since Gary took the helm. In 1989, the #12 and #13 holes were completely remodeled. The next year, five greens were rebuilt (#3, #4, #8, #9, and #13). They were sodded with Penncross bentgrass provided by Alex Rohoza. The other 13 greens on the golf course are a bent/poa mix and were built on what Gary calls a micaceous silt that drains poorly.

The greens are mowed at 5/32", the tees are mowed at 1/2" and the fairways are mowed at 5/8". The tees and fairways are a rye/poa mix.

Finally, last year Gary became the proud owner of a new computer-driven Rainbird Maxi irrigation system. Unfortunately, he hasn’t had a lot of opportunity to use it because of the recent weather conditions.

June speaker will be Mary Ellen Setting, Chief of the Pesticide regulation Section of the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

**Notice**

The July Meeting Will be on Wednesday July 11 at noon

Caroline Country Club
Speaker: Dr. James Beard