

Turf Talk



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Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Newsletter

Gary Crone Hosts June 12 Meeting at Chestnut Ridge

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 (remember Gary's background) 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.

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

DIRECTIONS : From Washington and Baltimore, take I-95 north to 695 west toward Towson. Exit off 695 at exit 23B (Falls Road) and continue about 2 miles north on Falls Road. On the left hand side will be the Chestnut Ridge Country Club. Enter at the club's sign. The cocktail hour will be at 6:30 and dinner will follow at 7:30 pm. The cost of dinner is \$25.

Golf Notes

Congratulations to our 1990 Superintendent-Pro champions, for the second year in a row, Craig Rhoderick and Mike McGinnis. They had a fine round of 64 over a fantastic golf course at Prospect Bay. We would also like to thank all of our sponsors that helped make the event possible. Ace Tree Movers, E-Z Go, Finch Golf and Turf, G.L. Cornell, Grounds Irrigation Technology, Lea's Green Meadows, McDonald & Sons, Mid-Atlantic Irrigation, Share Corp., and T.E.S.C.O.

Our June meeting at Chestnut Ridge will begin with golf available between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Please call the pro shop for a tee time at 301-252-8779. It would be a great help if you have the names of everyone in your foursome when you call. Cart fees will be \$10 per person. See you at Chestnut Ridge.

Notice

The July Meeting
Will be on
Wednesday July 11
at noon

Caroline Country Club

Speaker:
Dr. James Beard