



**Edward Beidel Design Associates**  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE • SITE & LAND PLANNING • GOLF ARCHITECTURE



*American Society of Landscape Architects • American Society of Golf Course Architects*

***Purely Green.....Design solutions for the Game, the Environment and the Bottom Line***

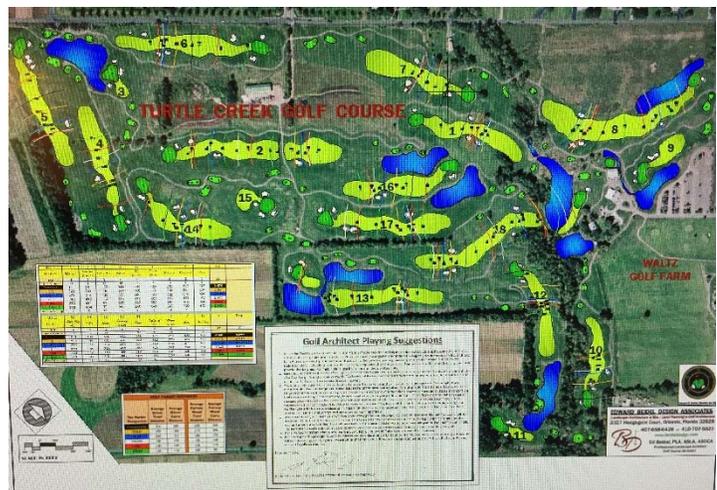


Ed Beidel, the Golf Architect of the Turtle Creek Golf Course has been involved in golf architecture and landscape architecture since graduating from Penn State in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture. Ed has worked on projects throughout the eastern United States and the Caribbean. Ed is licensed as a landscape architect in Florida, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and South Carolina and has been affiliated with the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) since 1988 where he served on the ASGCA Board of Governors (2009-2011) and the Membership Committee from 2008-2013. He is also a full member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). Ed has been the lead or sole designer on more than 240 golf / land planning projects in his career, stretching from New York to Florida to Bermuda to Puerto Rico. Other courses designed by Ed Beidel in Eastern Pennsylvania are Five Ponds Golf Club in Warminster Township, Bucks County (2018 Course of the Year by PA Golf Owners Assn); The Highlands of Donegal Golf Course in Mount Joy, Lancaster County; and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine at Ebensburg Country Club in Ebensburg, Cambria County.

On the golf component side, Ed was introduced to the game of golf at an early age while caddying primarily at the Fox Chapel Golf Club and on occasion at the Pittsburgh Field Club and Oakmont Country Club in his hometown of Pittsburgh. Ed is a strong proponent of "affordable / practical golf", "family golf" and "growing the game" and has spoken at various golf conferences, workshops and seminars on the subjects. He has also authored numerous golf design related articles that have appeared in a variety of industry publications. Ed Beidel courses are neither standardized nor manufactured in appearance. His landscape architectural perspective allowed him to blend a distinctive course into the natural environs of the host community. Designs are generally traditional and site-specific, with the existing site features strongly influencing the routing, appearance and character of the golf course. The courses are then refined to meet the client's objectives and the golfing abilities of the intended users. Golf holes are designed to be more than photogenic. They are playable, easily maintained, environmentally sensitive and offer diversity. The finished products are aesthetic, fun and challenging, but fair, layouts that can be enjoyed by a wide range of golfers with varying skill sets.



The Turtle Creek Golf Course became a goal of brothers Bill and Ray Waltz and Bill's wife Bobbie to honor the vision of Sandy Waltz, a former Montgomery County Extension Agent. Bill Waltz had made an initial inquiry in July 1988 to Xenophon Hassenplug a Golf Architect and Civil Engineer of Hassenplug Associates in Pittsburgh. Ed Beidel was the Chief Designer and Project Manager for the firm and held that title for sixteen years with the firm. Mr. Hassenplug (81 years young at the time) made the first trip to visit the Waltz property in early March 1989. The trip was so memorable for many not because of what was discovered about the property but the fact that Mr. Hassenplug after investigating the site, left the Limerick property in a snowstorm and drove across the State and arrived home safely late that night after phone calls by his wife to the Waltz family. The Waltz's probably didn't know what to think – this guy is persistent and daring or he is just plain crazy. I guess it took several months to decide because it wasn't until the Fall when the Hassenplug Associates team was engaged as the course architect. On September 20, 1989, Ed Beidel toured the property for the first time and met with the Waltz family to discuss their golf course dream and its potential. After boundary and topographic surveys were completed near the end of 1989, it wasn't until the new year that preliminary design studies were begun for the course routing. Three routing schemes were developed for the property and a routing option was chosen by March of 1990. As smoothly as the design development process started the next two and a half years would be frustrating and non-productive from an Owner's standpoint even though the regulatory process was not a huge surprise to the designers. At the State and Federal level alone, wetland delineations,



hydraulic studies, floodplain impacts, erosion and sediment control, stream encroachment, water withdrawals and storm water management not to mention local land development requirements were on the table. Additional professionals (engineers, soil scientists, wetland / environmental experts, etc.) had to be engaged based on their areas of expertise and all under the direction and coordination of the golf architect, whose vision for the course would be minimally compromised. Visits to Philadelphia (Federal), Harrisburg (State) and Collegeville and Limerick (Local) became a daunting task but the meetings with the PA Department of Resources regarding Erosion & Sediment Control review were the most exhausting. Under somewhat new State regulations, very few golf courses had yet to be reviewed and the reviewers did not understand golf development and the golf course construction process. Ed Beidel made at least two trips to Harrisburg solely to educate DER review staff – "NO, it is just not cost effective to build one putting green at a time and grow-in the turf (grass) before we can start construction on the next green." The project was so unique and different than most construction, that DER ultimately put the review in the hands of a DER Operations Section Chief who Ed Beidel met at a State environmental conference. Just when it appeared that things were starting to move forward, Hassenplug Associates' makeup changed. Xen Hassenplug's health deterioration in 1992 in combination with Ed Beidel's move to Charleston, South Carolina in August for his wife's career advancement seemed to support the definition of "Murphy's Law". However, after the move to

South Carolina and based on his familiarity with the Hassenplug projects, Ed continued to work on Turtle Creek in addition to other Hassenplug Associate projects. Xen Hassenplug passed away in September of 1992 and his son ultimately dissolved Hassenplug Associates knowing that Ed Beidel was in a position to honor service contracts on his own. Ed Beidel



reassured the Waltz family that he would like to see their project to fruition under his newly established company. The regulatory process and the associated service fees expended to date without breaking ground coupled with the remoteness of Ed Beidel's relocation made the Waltz family rethink their project and thus the project was suspended just prior to the end of 1992. Ed Beidel would stay in constant communication with Bill Waltz and his nephew Ray to offer his assistance / direction if and when the project came back to life. Ed's persistence paid off just like it did when he started in the golf design business

upon his graduation from Penn State almost twenty years earlier. To this day, Ed is extremely grateful to Bill Waltz and his family for their confidence and trusting him to help fulfill their dream. In late Spring of 1995, the project's regulatory process was again underway and there now seemed to be a light at the end of the tunnel. From a regulatory standpoint, one major change occurred since the project was suspended in 1992. Counties in the Commonwealth were now charged with the task of reviewing Erosion & Sediment Control Plans for projects located in their counties – a win-win for the local jurisdictional agencies and for the design engineers, who had a working relationship and familiarity with Montgomery County personnel. With the anticipation of acquiring all development permits and approvals by Summer 1996, the Waltz family started to interview potential, qualified contractors showing an interest in building the project. A construction Bid Package was assembled and distributed by Ed Beidel in March 1996 with a contract award on April 17, 1996 to Wolverine Constructors of Quakertown, PA. Once the final permit / approval for E&S Control was issued by the Montgomery County Conservation District on June 11th, the construction was in full swing or so we thought until the rains came. The project was projected

to be completed before the end of 1996, but the extremely wet year pushed some of the seeding / grassing operations into "not-so-prime" germination months of late October and early November. Come Spring of 1997, numerous areas of the golf course that were seeded late in 1996 had to be reseeded due to weak vegetative cover. Good weather in the Spring of 1997 and a lot of hard work by the contractor and golf course personnel under the direction of co-golf course



superintendents Ray "Butch" Waltz and John Welsh allowed for a soft-opening of the golf course in August 1997 with the full grand opening in the Spring of 1998. In August 2017, Turtle Creek Golf Course celebrated their 20th Anniversary.

Recollections by: Ed Beidel, Golf Architect  
March 5, 2018



LISA WALTZ ED BEIDEL BOBBIE WALTZ  
20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, AUGUST 13, 2017



HOLE # 10



HOLE # 18





HOLE # 8



HOLE # 3



HOLE # 12



