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# THE CONN. CLIPPINGS

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APRIL 1974

VOL. 7 No. 1

## SO YOU THINK YOU WANT TO BE A GOLF COURSE SUPT.

What if you came across this advertisement in a local chapter's newsletter or national magazine: "HELP WANTED: Executives, Good Pay, and Fringe Benefits. Applicants must thrive on competition and pressure, enjoy wrestling with sticky problems that affect subordinates' egos and careers. Position requires plenty of time away from family".

You'd probably think that's not a very good way to attract applicants. Yet the Ad summarizes several features of a Golf Course Superintendents job, and there's no shortage of people ready to try their hand. If you think you'd enjoy being a Superintendent read the Ad again. Then give some thought to these points. A promotion to a Supervisory position is a tangible vote of confidence in your ability. It's a sign that you're doing well at your job, that you're a success. So it's only natural to accept promotion gladly and even pursue them consciously.

There's the rub. The promise of more money and the lure of power and status can make you jump at the chance to be a Superintendent without stopping to think about what is really means. As a result you bite off more than you'd like to chew and wind up miserable in a job you looked forward to with relish.

A successful Superintendent needs more than superior knowledge and experience in his particular line of work, though he certainly benefits from those to be happy at the job, he should be equipped also with the mental attitudes that make for survival in the upper echelons. The pressures a Superintendent must face can sap the health of anyone not equipped to handle them.

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## THE GRASSCATCHER

by BOB OSTERMAN

Well, here we are again, at the start of a new season. First, I would like welcome everyone back to Connecticut. During the winter, Connecticut Superintendents were spread across this great country of ours as well as Mexico, Hawaii, Europe and other places I will not mention for fear of getting someone in trouble.

The Conn. Association was well represented in Anaheim. Those who I ran across were: Ed Anderson, Fred Bachard, Roger Barrett, of course Charlie Baskin, Dick Bator, Ed Bedus, Joe Bidwell, Bob Chalifour, Bob Clark, Dick Cooke, Tom Grywalski, Al Hawkins, Dick Hoskings, Bob Kennedy, Lee Kowalski, Frank Lamphier, Russ LeClair, Mark Loper, Jim MacDonald, John Perry, Dave Roule, Dale Sandin, Bob Scully, Bob Silva, Dave Stimson, Curt Stimson, Bob Tosh, Bob Viera, Fred Zeytoonjian.

I am sure there were more whom I didn't see for one reason or another.

Most conferences and vacations are behind us now for this year and it's time to get back to WORK!!! I hope we all have a good season (it's got to be better than last year) and I look forward to visiting the courses we have scheduled for our monthly meetings.

Harry Meusel would like to announce anyone, wishing to see the floral display at the Yale Golf Course, should come the second and third week in May. You may play golf anytime during the week and after 2 p.m. on weekends. Please show your Conn. or National Association card at the clubhouse.

Having seen slides of Harry's course during the spring display, I urge everyone, if you get a chance, stop by Yale

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## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

After all that happened at the National Conference, my 1st thought is, "where do I start"? The most logical choice would be with Connecticut's own Charles Baskin. Congratulations on a fine choice for National President. Charlie, from the C. C. of Waterbury, was our 1st. ever director from Connecticut and now, of course, our 1st. President. Our membership is indeed proud of Charlie. Thanks go out to all the delegates and associations who participated in your endeavor.

Other results and congratulations go out to Palmer Maples, Jr. of Georgia, our new Vice President, Mel Lucas of Long Island, Charles Tadge of Ohio, and for a 2nd term as director, Ted Woerhle of Michigan. May you all have successful terms on our National Board.

The annual G.C.S.A.A. Golf Championship was held prior to the conference and show in Anaheim Over 200 participants played 36 holes on the Mile Square Golf Course and the Yorba Linda C.C. The Conn. team of "Steady" Eddie Bedus of Indian Hill, Dick Cook of Black Hall, Leon Kowalski, Sr. of the C. C. of Fairfield, and Frank Lamphier of Aspetuck Valley successfully defended the team championship won the previous year. Lee has to be classified as the "hero" of the year, placing 3rd. in the individual, and but for a missed 10" putt, would have been in the playoff for the National Championship. Lee won our Conn. Championship in a playoff last season. The Championship was won by Ennio Latini of Long Island on the 1st. hole of sudden death over Ed Newton of Texas.

Lee just couldn't go out and play well, he had to pull the spectacular, registering the 1st. hole in one ever in National competition, on the 6th. hole

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### CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

President ..... Frank Lamphier  
Vice President ..... Robert Tosh  
Secretary ..... Bob Osterman  
Treasurer ..... James MacDonald

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Alfred Bachand      Karnig Ovian  
Robert Chalifour    Edward Anderson  
                         Robert Viera

Richard Hoskings, Associate Director

The object of this association is to promote research, education and an exchange of practical experiences in the field of turf grass culture so that the increased knowledge will lead to more economic and efficient management of golf courses and related turf areas.

The CONN. CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Robert W. Osterman, Editor  
937 Black Rock Turnpike  
Easton, Conn. 06612

### CAGCS 1974 SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS

A schedule of 1974 monthly meetings has been submitted by Fred Bachand. They are as follows:

#### APRIL 9

Patterson Country Club, Bob Clark, Host.

#### MAY 6

Waterbury Country Club, Charlie Baskin, Host.

#### JUNE 4

Luncheon Meeting, Tallwood Country Club, Mike and Karnig Ovian, Hosts.

#### JULY 9

Simsbury Farms Country Club, Hank Suchinski, Host.

#### AUGUST 6

Farmington Country Club, John Perry, Host.

#### SEPTEMBER 10

Yale Golf Club, Harry Meusel, Host.

#### OCTOBER 8

Watertown Golf Club, Bob Viera, Host.

#### NOVEMBER 6

Luncheon Meeting, Madison Golf Club, Fran Rogers, Host.

#### JUNE 10

Pro, Supt., Greens Chairman, President Tournament. Country Club of Fairfield.

### SO YOU THINK YOU WANT TO BE A GOLF COURSE SUPT.

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How well would you be able to cope with the forces at work.

The closer you get to the top of your profession the fewer the positions available and the tougher the competition for them. Once in a supervisory position your performance is subject to constant scrutiny and comment by those above and below. Eventually, some member of the Greens Committee is likely to feel that another person could do a better job, and there's always someone waiting to take your place.

Most people avoid conflicts and problems if they can, not the Superintendent. A big part of his job is to track them down, face them, prescribe solutions. Problems involving members, co-workers, subordinates' home lives, all these and many more have a way of ending up at the Superintendents desk. If he ignores them, they can pile up to the point where they can seriously undermine the course and organization.

Overall then, getting people to work together smoothly is at the core of the job. He needs a nose for trouble and the ability to handle it without making a bad situation worse. Tact, understanding, discretion are traits he can't do without.

It's no news that Superintendents as a rule can expect to put in longer hours than foremen or even assistants. In addition to day to day matters competing for their immediate attention, they have other responsibilities — planning, analyzing new products, preparing reports, keeping up with developments in the field. Many of these tasks require long days on the course and in the office, and overtime may be taken for granted.

A Superintendent spends as much time on the job as necessary to fulfill his obligations to the people he works for and the people who work for him. He gets paid for results, not for eight hours a day.

Even with all that, the demands on his time don't stop when he leaves the course. He may be expected to make business a part of his social life too. Business oriented dinner meetings, conferences and seminars can cut mightily into truly personal time.

Some Superintendents have been on the job for many years, sometimes starting on a course as a laborer and working his way up. The assumption was that years of loyal service, plus experience and knowledge gained in climbing the ladder rung by rung, made for the best Superintendent's.

That's still a traveled route, loyalty to an organization and its mission is still praised. But a different kind of superintendent has also attracted attention lately. These are what I call "Mobile Superintendent's". They spend enough time on one course to master the job, then begin casting about for a better job or one with more challenges somewhere else.

One of these "Mobile Superintendents" explained his thinking this way: "The key idea is the fact that most courses can be mastered in a few years, bring them, to what he thinks is the courses peak condition, and from then on the Superintendent is doing the work with a minimum of effort. He knows the job "out of his back pocket". However if then he moves to another job, masters it's requirements and then is moved to still a other job, he can get more intensive training and development than the previous Superintendent who usually stayed in one job long after he had brought the course to what he considers its peak.

I really can't say I agree with that theory because everytime I turn around new problems seem to pop up. For both, there likely will come a time to pause and weigh the alternatives. They ask, or should ask, "will the next step bring with it more of the stresses I don't like and less of the kind of work I do like?" Do I have the stamina and drive to do the job? Or am I better off where I am now? What will another move mean to the time I spend with my family and in activities I enjoy? The lures of more income, increased status in the eyes of the family, friends and co-workers make questions like those difficult to answer. The challenge and excitement of a bigger job make them difficult even to ask.

But if you ask them before you've had many opportunities to move "up" to a Superintendents job, you may be able to get a clearer idea of where you're headed and why.

The first couple of jobs you have either as a laborer, forman, assistant or superinteandent will make all the difference in the end rsult. The added money will be welcome as your position rises, the added responsibility probably minimal. Some people ascend gladly until they're overwhelmed by a position they accepted without thinking about what it entailed. Others decide to drop out of the race at some period along the way. They feel content several rungs down the ladder and lack either desire or ability or both to go higher.

The difference between them and many a sour-faced Superintendent who dislikes his job is they made a choice.

## CAGCS TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

### APRIL

Blind Partners. 18 hole twoball-bestball. Low grass, low net, low putts.

MAY 6th Monday C.C. Waterbury  
Host Supt. Chas. Baskin

McLaughlin Trophy — Low Net.  
Beat the Champ. Net basis — who beats him the most. (Lee Kowalski)

JUNE 4th Tuesday Tallwood-Luncheon  
Host Supts., Mike & Karnig Ovia  
Twoball-bestball. Draw partners.

JUNE 10th Monday C.C. Fairfield  
Host Supt., Lee Kowalski  
Pro-Supt. Pres. Chairman \$60.00 per team.

JULY 9th Tuesday Simsbury Farms  
Host Supt., Hank Suchinski  
Criers Tournament — revert 4 worst holes to par.

JULY Stratton Mountain  
Host Supt., Casey Rowley  
Joint meeting with Northeast and New England

AUGUST 6th Tuesday C.C. Farmington  
Host Supt., John Perry  
Association Championship — First 18 holes. To be announced.

SEPTEMBER 10th Tuesday Yale Golf Club  
Host Supt., Harry Huesel  
Association Championship — Final 18 holes. Best threes, Worst Fives, Most sixes.

OCTOBER 8th Tuesday Watertown Golf Club  
Host Supt., Bob Viera  
Consolation Non-winners only. Gross and net.

NOVEMBER 6th Wednesday Madison Country Club-Luncheon  
Host Supt., Fran Fogers  
Fourball-Bestball. Draw partners. Gross and net prizes.

## GOLF TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Anyone playing golf must stay for dinner or he will be charged.
2. Ball to be played as host supt. dictates.
3. ALL tournaments to be played from regular markers.
4. Rules will be posted for each tournament. It will be your responsibility to read them. There will be no sympathy for those in the wrong.
5. Keep puffs at all times — Putting prizes may not be announced.
6. There will always be a KICKERS TOURNAMENT.

7. There will always be a gross and net prize.
8. There will always be other prizes. We want everyone to feel that he has a chance to win a prize. Some will be announced; others will not. Never "pick-up"; your disaster may be a winner.

### Potential Prize List:

Putting — low or high. High putts on one hole.

Highest hole. Lowest nine — highest nine — highest eighteen.

Most balls in pond.

Most penalty strokes.

Closest to pin.

Any others that we or you think of; let us know!

9. There will be as many prizes awarded as entries will permit.

10. No person may win more than one prize.

11. Tournament Feels will be as follows;

Association Tournament \$2.00

Pro's Kickers Tour \$1.00.

Committee will draw .25 from each entry. Trophys an accounting of which will be given the membership at the annual meeting.

12. Handicaps will be adjusted each month. However, it will remain the same during Championship play.

13. Copies of tournament results will be given to the Public Relations Committee and to the Newsletter editor.

14. ELECTRIC CAR USE; THINK; BE CONSIDERATE. Use them as you would on your own golf course.

15. The Golf Committee serves for your enjoyment. You can help us with your comments and suggestions. Please feel free to do so.

JOHN PERRY, *Chairman*

MARK LOPER

DAVE ROULE

## CAGCS HANDICAPS

### FLIGHT "A"

Anderson E	15
Barrett R	6
Bedus E	6
Caswell P	12
Cook D	9
Dziedzie L	12
Fenn F	8
Furgess B	13
Gorton G	14
Grywalski T	9
Kowalski B	7
Kowalski L	8
Kristoff S	12
Kurk T	12

Lamphier F	4
Lowell W (Pro)	0
Manning T	10
Mierzwa M	14
O'Connor P	15
Ovian K	10
Ovian Kay	7
Ovian M	11
Parsons D	15
Perry J	12
Polidor T	15
Queen W	14
Rogers F	15
Roule D	8
Ryan M	7
Scully R	10
Viera R	9
Whlen R	15
Wilson	15

### FLIGHT "B"

Ajello A	24
Bachand F	28
Barrett P	17
Baskin C	16
Bator R	16
Bidwell J	22
Chailfour B	22
Christie G	21
Dest W	20
Hawkins A	23
Kellither K	36
Knobloch K	20
Ladzinski P	21
Lentine A	20
Lesage A	16
Iindenmuth H	22
Loper M	25
Lynch J	30
MacDonald J	24
Meusel H	22
Osterman R	19
Pepe T	27
Sandin D	35
Silva R	18
Suchinshi H	16
Tosh R	18
Whitley B	23
Wydra A	24
Wydra J	18

### ASSOCIATES

Arison A	20
Bryant G	14
Callahan J	24
Carson P	16
Cubbage J	35
Downey F	12
Hosking R	30
Kennedy R	8
Purdy A	30
Russell L	30
Ruiz P	10
Sanson E	17
Sherman H	16
Somers W	13
Terhune S	23
Wallace C	31
Wright J	30

## THE GRASSCATCHER

(Continued from Page 1)

and see spring in bloom. Harry takes great pride in this display.

On February 2, 1974, a testimonial dinner was held in honor of Karnig Oviaan at Hop Meadow Country Club, honoring him for his twelve years of service to the club.

Karnig was presented with a watch, a sum of money, and a lifetime membership at Hop Meadow Country Club. Congratulations Karnig!

Karnig has joined his brother Mike in the operation of their Tallwood Country Club.

Joe Torok has replaced Karnig at Hoe Meadow and we all wish Joe the best of luck. Joe is from Mel Lucas' area in Long Island. Welcome to Conn. Joe! (Actually we are not as isolated and provincial as some of our neighbors think we are.)

I would like to remind our readers and members if you have any news concerning yourself, your club or organization, either note it on your return monthly meeting card or drop me a note.

## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

(Continued from Page 1)

at Mile Square. Witnesses to the event were Kayem Oviaan of Long Island, Ted Martinez of New Mexico, and Harry Cirata of Calif. Wonder who the partners were in that 4-some? Congratulations Lee, on leading our team to its 2nd. victory in 2 years.

Charlie Tadge of Ohio will be the new tournament chairman for the competition in New Orleans in 1975.

The conference itself was held in the Anaheim Convention Center, a very new and modern facility. Once again the attendance record was broken, with 5017 registered by the So. Calif. group.

The host So. California group went out of their way to bring us 14 days of sunshine and 70 degree weather. Perhaps they learned from Boston. The highlight for th Connecticut delegation was at the annual banquet, witnessing Charlie receiving the gavel from Cliff Wagoner the outgoing President, who has indeed done a fine job as President.

Now is the time to start planning for 1975 in New Orleans. The conference is your one chance to greet old friends, meet new ones, and benefit through the exchange of ideas. See everyone in New Orleans next February, only 10 months from now.

FRANK LAMPHIER  
National Affairs Chairman

## IT'S NOT HOW BUT HOW MANY . . . GALLONS

The sports world . . . of which golf is an integral part . . . is looking at the energy crisis with added concern since it is a certainty any wholesale restrictions on the use of fuel will be felt hard by the games that men, women and children play.

The Motor Sports Marketing Corporation, obviously in an attempt to play down the role of auto racing as a fuel glutton, has prepared an interesting report on leisure time activities. It takes each sport and reviews its fuel consumption for the latest full season. And by some strange but legitimate turn of figures, auto racing turns out not to be the culprit many people label it.

The champion gulper happens to be football which should come as no shock because of its popularity. The tabulation of fuel burning takes in the three levels of the sport — professional, college and high school. And one side result is worth mentioning. In 1972, the total attendance at high school football games throughout the country was 299,740,000, almost 170 million higher than schoolboy basketball

With the country club set wondering how any reduction in fuel allocation will affect it, there is a sprig of hope. It seems that golf is way down on the list of petroleum eaters and drinkers. Total consumption — based on servicing just over 10 million golfers — runs to 14,500,000 gallons. This is a drop in the bucket compared to some of the other games.

Football's total, for example, goes almost to the 600 million mark and is far and away the leader in burning petro. The next biggest user is basketball but its total is some 300 million gallons less than football.

It should be pointed out that spectator travel stands as the major determinant in the placing of the sports on a fuel consumption graph. This is why football is tagged as the largest gulper. Remember those near-300 million high school football viewers? Well, they accounted for a burning of 359,688,000 gallons of fuel. On the same breakdown some 60,000 high school night games used 15,987,200 gallons of fuel to light stadiums housing them.

For the record, this is how the sports studied lined up: Football, basketball, horse racing, motor racing, rodeos, bowling, major league baseball, professional wrestling and golf. It also is pertinent to note two discrepancies in the report. Major league baseball was treated separately as no figures on college and high school baseball were available. And . . . in the basketball

grouping . . . there was no tabulation of team travel. This might have made some difference in the standings since the NBA and ABA — basketball's professional loops — probably pull more travel time than the rest of the sports combined.

The intent of the report is honorable, not to mention being most timely. Restriction forces probably are at work right now. Sports are ready for them. (Taken from *The New England Newsletter* — BY GERRY FINN)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A most interesting and enlightening meeting on March 20th at "My Dad's Steak House." Dr. Stephen Hitchcock of the Conn. Dept. of Environmental Protection, provided us with an insight into the licensing of supervisory and applicators permits. In a nutshell, this means all Superintendents and Asst. Superintendents will be required to take and pass the exam for supervisory status. Any laborer handling chemicals and spray guns will be required to pass the exam for applicators. The law will take effect on Oct. 1, 1974.

A turnout of over 60 members proves how vitally interested CAGCS is in compliance with the state pesticide laws.

At this writing, approximately 40% of the golf courses in the state are open, even though on a limited basis. Reports of golf cars being used were also being circulated. What the cumulative effect of the cars will be will be determined in July and August. A most interesting situation!

Our Superintendent, Professional Greens Chairman, and President Tourney will be held on June 10th. at the C. C. of Fairfield. Every member should do his utmost to bring team together for this event, on one of the finest courses in the state. Club officials may be substituted to make up your team.

Our April meeting will be on the 9th. of April at the Patterson Club in Fairfield. Bob Clark will be host for the day's activities. Let's see a great turnout for our 1st golfing meeting.

A card, (ticket) system will be in effect for this meeting. The dinner tickets may be purchased either before playing golf, or at any time before dinner for those not playing golf. John Perry and his Golf Committee will be in charge of the tickets. No tickee, no dinee!!!

As we approach another busy season, may I wish the best to all in our ever expanding business.

FRANK LAMPHIER, *President*  
Conn. Assn. Golf Course Supt.

**CHECK LIST FOR  
HOST SUPERINTENDENTS**

*(Clip Out And Save)*

**WITH GOLF PROFESSIONAL**

- Date of meeting.
- Time of golfers arrival.
- How many players expected?
- Will caddys be available?
- How many golf cars will be needed?
- Blackboard to post days tourney (best-ball, low gross, Supt. Champs, etc.).
- Expected help from shop, Asst. Pro to register players, collect money, figure results with chairman, negotiate prizes.

**WITH CLUBHOUSE MANAGER**

- Date of meeting.
- Will lunch be available?
- Will signing privileges be allowed? If not, cash, script, or whatever.
- Price of dinner not to exceed \$7.50.
- Number expected for dinner?
- Find out in advance what the menu will be.
- Anyone playing golf will be expected to stay for dinner.
- Head table for 12 facing membership.
- If membership is to hold meeting other than at dinner, make arrangements for separate room, with head table for the 4 officers facing membership.
- Small table next to head table for use by the tournament chairman.
- Projector and screen for speaker if needed.
- Public address system if needed.

**WITH LOCKER ROOM ATTENDENT**

- Date of meeting.
- Will lockers be available?
- Towels, showers, etc.

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