

THE CONN. CLIPPINGS

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DECEMBER 1976

VOLUME 9 No. 5

GCSAA's 48th Turf Conference Readied For Portland

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will sponsor its 48th International Turfgrass Conference and Show February 6 - 11 in Portland, Oregon.

With over 150 companies filling exhibit space of 100,800 square feet in the \$8 million Portland Memorial Coliseum and Exhibit Hall, a record-breaking attendance of over 5,000 persons is expected.

"Turfgrass Management: A Synergistic Approach" is the theme of the conference, and its education program will focus on the interdependence and interrelationship among the many parts of golf course management. A total of 70 speakers from universities, industry, government and the ranks of the Association itself will present the most up-to-date information in the world of turfgrass management.

Heywood Hale Broun, famed sports writer and CBS television sports essayist and commentator, will be the keynote speaker of the conference. He will speak on "The Role of Big Games in Society."

Prior to the official opening of the conference, the Association will once again hold Certification and Recertification examinations and a series of seminars on landscaping, management, pesticides and turfgrass nutrition.

Other features of the week-long event are the association's annual meeting and election, tours of Portland-area golf courses, tours of the Oregon grass seed industry, a ladies' program and social events during the week.

Also, the 1977 GCSAA Golf Tournament will be February 3 and 4 at three courses on the Monterey Peninsula in California, including the prestigious Spyglass Hill layout.



**CHRISTMAS PARTY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1976
WATERTOWN GOLF CLUB**

Guernseytown Road
Watertown, Ct.

Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres 7:00 - 8:00
DINNER 8:00

Dancing 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Open Bar 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Choice of Baked Stuffed Shrimp or
One Pound New York Boneless Strip Steak
\$35.00 per couple

Rte. 6 in Watertown to Guernseytown Rd.
(next to Taft School)

[Please send cards in promptly]



Grass Catcher

The October meeting, hosted by Dick Cook at the Black Hall Club, was greeted by absolutely fine weather and an excellent turnout. The course played very well and chewed up a hefty number of golf balls. Dinner at the 100 Acres Restaurant couldn't have been better. A salad bar of all you could eat followed by an enormous portion of prime rib proved to be the undoing of several diets. The day was capped off by a "few" comments from Dick and an interesting talk on irrigation by Mr. William Cluster.

[Continued on page 3]

President's Message

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents during the past year. Many long hours have been put in by your Board of Directors to insure better management of the association and to make it a more efficient and effective organization. It has been a year of accomplishments and disappointments.

After two years of struggle I am pleased to say that the by-laws revisions were completed and were approved at the annual meeting. Also during this past year our association was incorporated. I worked with the Department of Environmental Protection in setting up a pesticide program for the members of our association. This proved a disappointment in that so many of our group chose to ignore the program entirely. This will hopefully change in the future.

The past year also saw our group meet with members of the P.G.A. Executive Board to establish better lines of communication between the two groups. Our initial meeting dealt with drawing up an improved format for the *Pro-Superintendent Tournament*. It is my hope that these meetings will continue.

The association was also active in the area of scholarship and research. It was my pleasure to represent C.A.G.C.S. at the Annual Fine Turf Conference sponsored by the University of Massachusetts where I presented scholarship plaques to two deserving students as well as a grant to Dr. Troll. A grant was also awarded to Dr. C. Richard Skogley at the University of Rhode Island.

In closing I would simply like to thank the membership for their continued support and I look forward to serving you in the future.

Respectfully
Robert Tosh, President

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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Home 914-764-4425

Vice-President Robert Osterman
The Golf Club At Aspetuck
Office 203-261-2544
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Sec-Treasurer David Stimson
Tumble Brook C.C.
Office 203-243-0150
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Anderson Jim Medeiros
Ron Holcomb Bob Viera
Ken Kelliher Steve Cadenelli
Lloyd Russel, *Associate Director*
Frank Lamphier, *Immediate Past President*

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.

Stephen G. Cadenelli, Editor
161 W. Broad Street
Pawcatuck, Conn. 02891

New Members

**THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN VOTED
IN AS NEW MEMBERS OF OUR ASSO-
CIATION. CONGRATULATIONS AND
WELCOME!**

Peter D. Burnham
Assistant Superintendent
Golf Club of Avon
Avon, Connecticut

Paul Mierzejewski
Assistant Superintendent
Farms Country Club
Wallingford, Connecticut

James H. Rowe
Fern Clo Golf Car Company
Danbury, Connecticut

Thomas Porter
Alpine Tree Care, Inc.
New Canaan, Connecticut

Editorial

In an attempt to better organize state government in Connecticut, Governor Grasso earlier this year appointed a commission to formulate ideas in this regard. This commission, known as the Filer Committee, issued its preliminary discussion draft in October. Stated simply, the committee recommends placing approximately 256 agencies into 14 superagencies with more efficient government being the net result. At first glance this seems acceptable but given further thought it becomes alarming and downright frightening. Government is already extremely slow in moving to action and coldly unresponsive to the needs of the individual. Superagencies would create more, not less, inefficiency and red tape. An agency with greater responsibilities requires more employees, more departments, and more special interests. Thus greater bureaucracy, not less. But even more frightening is the thought of the Department of Agriculture and the Experiment Station coming under

the control of the Environmental Protection Agency.

EPA is a regulatory agency. Its duties are to protect our environment from further damage. It provides a much needed watchdog service against those who would abuse what's left of our natural resources, our atmosphere, and our water supplies. This is not to say that this agency hasn't overreacted at times. It has! However, to give control of agriculture and agricultural research to EPA would result in stifling the independence needed for successful research and continued advances in agriculture. An independent experiment station is required to insure residents of the state that their needs will be handled promptly and that those involved in scientific study will be free to carry out their research without outside interference. An independent Department of Agriculture and Experiment Station is a must.

S.G.C.

S & R Fund Raiser

The following is a letter which Ed Anderson received from Mr. William M. Tuach, Greens Chairman at the Race Brook Country Club. It is a follow-up to a tournament held there recently to raise funds for scholarship and research which were donated to the S & R fund of C.A.G.C.S. It is hoped that this type of tournament might be held at other courses throughout the state to help in raising funds which are badly needed by the S & R fund.

Mr. Edward Anderson
5 Wayne Road
Wallingford, Conn. 06492

Re: Conn. Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Dear MR. Anderson:

Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$65 from the members of Race Brook Country Club. This check is a donation to the Scholarship and Research Fund of the C.A.G.C.S. and represents the proceeds from a special club tournament held on October 24, 1976.

Having learned of your recent difficulties in raising funds for the Scholarship and Research Fund, our Greens Committee voted to hold a special golf event called "Revenge" with the proceeds going to C.A.G.C.S. The tournament was played with pin positions and tees located in places which our members had never seen before. Prizes of fertilizer were donated by the Greens Committee and the response was enthusiastic although weather conditions limited our turnout. Post round conversations about 4 putt and 5 putt greens were heard all through the locker room. Our members agreed that it was a "fun" type of tournament.

We, as golfers, are interested in the professional activities of your Association as we know that Scholarship and Research Funds will ultimately benefit all Connecticut golfers. As member of Race Brook C. C., we support the membership and interest in your Association through our Mr. Maurice Ryan, Greens Supt., and MR. Armand LeSage, Assistant Greens Supt.

Race Brook Country Club hopes that other golf clubs in the State will join us in supporting your activities.

Sincerely,

William M. Tuach
William M. Tuach, Chairman
Greens Committee
Race Brook Country Club

Future Happenings

Scott's Proturf Seminar
Holiday Inn, Hartford
Thursday, December 16, 1976
9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

C.A.G.C.S. Christmas Party
Watertown Golf Club
Saturday, December 18, 1976
7:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.

GCSAA National Conference
Memorial Coliseum
Portland, Oregon
February 6 - 12, 1977

UMass Fine Turf Conference
Springfield Civic Center
Springfield, Massachusetts
March 2 - 4, 1977

Maples Directs GCSAA Education

Palmer Maples, Jr. has been appointed Director of Education for GCSAA, according to an announcement by the Executive Director, Conrad L. Scheetz. Maples, a past President of the Association, will begin his new duties the first of December.

His qualifications are impressive: He has been a golf course superintendent for 17 years, first at the Charlotte (N.C.) Country Club and most recently at The Standard Club in Atlanta. He is a certified golf course superintendent. He completed a two-year turf course at Abraham Baldwin College in Tifton, Ga., and he studied agronomy at North Carolina State College and Texas A & M before graduating from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy.

As Director of Education, Maples will produce and disseminate teaching aids, coordinate the educational program for the International Turfgrass Conference and Show, oversee GCSAA's certification program, develop educational seminars and assist with the Association's Scholarship and Research Fund.

A member of GCSAA for 16 years, Maples served as Secretary-Treasurer in 1973, as Vice President in 1974 and as President in 1975. He is currently serving as a Director in his capacity as immediate past President, but he will resign when he joins the GCSAA staff.

Maples also has been a member of the Carolinas GCSA, which he served as Vice President and President, a member of the Georgia GCSA, which he served as a Director, and a member of the Southern Turfgrass Association and the USGA Green Section Committee.

He is married and the father of six children.

"Forefront"

Tosh Re-Elected President At Annual Meeting

Bob Tosh, superintendent at the Rockrimmon Country Club was re-elected President of C.A.G.C.S. at the annual meeting held at The Woodbridge Country Club on November 12. Also elected were Bob Osterman, Golf Club at Aspetuck, Vice President; Dave Stimson, Tumble Brook Country Club, Secretary-Treasurer; Ed Anderson, Wallingford Country Club, Director; Bob Viera, Watertown Golf Club, Education Chairman; Ken Kelliher, Manchester Country Club, Public Relations Chairman and Jim Medeiros, H.B. Brownson Country Club, Golf Chairman. Also voted in at this meeting was the adoption of the revised by-laws which had been worked on for nearly two years. These revisions, which had been mailed to each member and which have been discussed at several monthly meetings, are streamlining in nature. For the most part they are intended to make the business meeting run more smoothly and allow for more decision mak-

ing on the part of the Board of Directors.

Also given approval was an increase in dues for the following year. Bob Osterman, who has acted as Budget Chairman for the association, pointed out to the membership that our income for the coming year would be severely below our anticipated needs. This was due to increased services to the membership, greater printing and mailing costs, and a lack in alternative methods in raising funds. It was also noted that even with an increase to \$40.00 for regular members and \$50.00 for associate members, our dues structure is equal or below that of neighboring associations.

Finally, Harry Meusel volunteered to represent the association in asking the state DEP to lift the ban on mercury. This has been done at the national level and needs only to be okayed by the individual states. Letters to the state DEP in this regard would be of great help.

Grass Catcher

[Continued from page 1]

Although the annual meeting is described elsewhere in this issue, many thanks must be given to Jack Lynch who hosted the meeting at the Woodbridge Country Club. Although few played golf due to the coldness of the day, all that was needed to see the fine job that Jack does there was a short walk around the grounds. The clubhouse there is breathtaking and is accented by the excellence of the grounds surrounding it. Many thanks to the members of Woodbridge for having us there.

•••

Bob Viera posted a net score of 72 to take the Roy McLaughlin Trophy and the Connecticut State Golf Association trophy which are offered annually. Although usually played for at separate meetings, a scheduling conflict necessitated their being played for in October. Congratulations, Bob!

•••

The Sprinkler Irrigation Association voted at its annual meeting to change its name to The Irrigation Association. This was done "in accordance with plans to broaden its scope and purpose."

•••

The 50th anniversary celebration of GCSAA held at Sylvania Country Club in Sylvania, Ohio, was a thorough success. Although some discourteousness was shown to a few of our members who attended, the over-all opinion was that the event was handled well. Arnold Palmer speaking at the banquet, challenged golf course superintendents to "aspire to greater personal and professional heights". Palmer's was a personal and heartfelt appearance before golf superin-

tendents in that his father was a golf course superintendent in Ohio for many years prior to his death this past year.

•••

On behalf of the Board of Directors of C.A.G.C.S. I would like to extend our best wishes to everyone for a very Merry Christmas and a most prosperous New Year!

Life and Honorary Members Elected At Annual Meeting

The membership at the annual meeting approved life memberships to two regular Class A members and voted an honorary membership to three people in the academic world. Vernon Burnam, retired from the Country Club of Darien and Robert Capstick, who will retire from the Country Club of New Canaan at the end of this year, were approved as Life Members of C.A.G.C.S. These men, with a combined total of 43 years in our association, have served well and have been fine representatives of our association. It is hoped that each will find every happiness in their retirement years.

Another highlight of the annual meeting was the election of William Dest, Dr. C. Richard Skogley, and Dr. Joseph Troll as honorary members of C.A.G.C.S. These men from the Universities of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts, respectively, have contributed extraordinarily to turf management, turf research, and to the world of golf course superintendents in general. It is with great pride that the association welcomes these individuals and looks forward to working closely with them in the future.

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