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THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



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JUNE 1976

VOLUME 9, No. 2

Annual Picnic

The CAGCS annual picnic was held Saturday May 15 at Brookville Park in Hamden, Connecticut. The weather this year was superb, even though showers were predicted.

The softball game this year was a tie. A committee was quickly formed and it was decided that the score of 17 to 17 would be final. Heading up this year's teams were Bob (Slugger) Osterman and Bill (Prowl) Dest. Strong potential for next year was shown by Carol (Heavy Timber) Stimson and Bob (White Shoes) Tosh.

As usual ample cheerleaders were in attendance and once the game started even more people stopped to watch. Some were heard to say that it was a terrible thing to do to our national pastime during the bicentennial year. Oh well, wait until next



Bob Osterman demonstrates his all-star form at the annual picnic softball game.

year.

This is a great time to get away and spend a day with the entire family. Hopefully in the future more will attend to make for a better time for all.

Bob Chalifour

Your Appearance Is Impressive

Just inside the employee's entrance to most post offices is a full length mirror and a poster which reads, "Check Your Appearance, Everyone Else Does!" Judging by the appearance of most postal employees, the approach has a good effect.

The poster slogan might well be placed in every superintendent's maintenance building, just as a reminder of the examination your golfers give each member of your operation.

Obviously, there will be times when it is totally impractical to expect everyone to pass an inspection, but more often than not, care could be taken to improve personal appearance when going to the clubhouse or other high traffic areas.

It takes very little time to wipe-off your grass covered boots, wash your hands and face or check your hair and clothes, but the impression it makes on "viewers," could be great. Personal appearance makes a lasting impression on most people, an impression that determines many other factors, such as how the individual is spoken to or what is asked of them and how that request is made.

Check your own appearance and encourage your crew to follow your example.

Hurley, Superintendent at the Tavistock Country Club in Tavistock, N. J. were presented plaques of appreciation for their presentations at our meetings. Mr. Hurley spoke at the April meeting on improving relations between the superintendent and the golf professional while Mr. Baschund spoke at the March meeting on preparing a golf course for a P.G.A. tournament.

IMPORTANT

Our mailing list is well over 350 and rising. This is fine as long as those receiving the newsletter desire it. Please, if you no longer wish to receive a copy drop a line to the editor so that your name can be dropped from the mailing list.

Grass Catcher

By Steve Cadenelli

Beginning with this issue there will be printed listings of all events, locally and nationally, that are of interest to members of CAGCS which occur during the period between each issue. As the "Conn. Clippings" is published only five times a year it becomes important to save each issue for future reference. This will provide everyone with a second notice of events that are happening. (The monthly mailing being the first.) This should provide excellent notice of coming events and help to make your monthly scheduling that much easier.

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The April meeting at Shorehaven Country Club hosted by Bob Phipps was an excellent start for the new season. Well over forty golfers enjoyed the fine weather and a very well manicured golf course for so early in the season. Bob is to be congratulated for the excellent condition of the golf course. Over sixty members and guests attended the meeting and dinner which followed. Richard Hurley, Superintendent of the Tavistock Country Club in

Tavistock, New Jersey gave an interesting talk on improving the relationship between the superintendent and the golf professional. He raised many good points which, although seem like common sense, are all too easily forgotten. All in all this meeting was a tremendous start for 1976.

There continues to be much discussion surrounding pesticide licensing in Connecticut. Many superintendents have obtained the needed license while others are preparing to take the tests. There is no easy solution to this difficult problem. Many hours must be spent in preparing for the test. However, there is nothing that today's superintendents cannot handle which are on these tests. Our everyday practices involve us with a great majority of the needed information. We as professional turf managers owe it to ourselves and our profession to continually upgrade our education and to establish higher professional standards. Pesticide licensing must be viewed in this light.

Fred Baschund, superintendent at the Wethersfield Country Club and Richard

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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Vice President Bob Osterman
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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
34 Trumbull Street
Pawcatuck, Conn. 02891

Editorial

CAGCS and You

Article II of the by-laws of CAGCS states: "That 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 increased knowledge will lead to a more economic and efficient management of golf courses and related turf areas." Is this being done and are *you* contributing your part to reach these objectives.

All too often only a handful of people are interested in putting in the many hours of work that are needed to manage an association such as ours. This in itself is not completely wrong in that it becomes difficult to make decisions and handle day to day business with a large group. However, what is wrong is to criticize decisions that are made or not made when you have sat back and not expressed your various viewpoints. There is no room for those who refuse to attend meetings where all issues are discussed and to then criticize decisions. It is your responsibility to attend meetings and be a part of its business. This is the exchange of practical experiences that is needed to fulfill the objectives of CAGCS as well as to improve ourselves as golf course superintendents.

S.G.C.

Certified Superintendents Report Favorable Response to Program's Value

The value of becoming a Certified Golf Course Superintendent, according to a recent survey of Certified GCSAA Members, is dependent upon the desires of the individual, and his personal abilities to realize those goals.

A companion survey of employers indicates a strong interest in the program, particularly when the individual superintendent has fully advised the club about Certification. In monetary terms, salaries of the Certified Superintendent averaged more than \$2,900 higher than the salaries of all superintendents, as determined by GCSAA's national survey in 1974. Nearly a quarter of those responding to the certification survey indicated they received a pay raise upon attaining the CGCS status.

Especially revealing in the survey were personal comments made in response to various questions. As to why the individual took the Certification examination, answers ranged from remarks such as, "Felt it could only be of benefit and think someday it will mean much more to the people who hire superintendents. 'You'll need CGCS to get the good jobs,'" and "I feel that Certification is an advancement and any educational advancement should be taken advantage of," to remarks such as, "Why do you climb a mountain?" or "To find out if I was capable of passing."

Employers, in response to the question, "Do you feel it is to your advantage to hire a Certified Superintendent?" noted, "Certification provides the employer assurance that the employee does possess expertise and knowledge in Golf Course Management, and that his knowledge is recognized by an organization comprised of Golf Course Management Professionals." Others commented, "By all means, no course should be without a Certified man." or "We feel we can rely on an individual with credentials."

Public relations aspects of the program were most often criticized in the survey by CGCS Members. They noted that little was made of the event at the club, and perhaps even at the chapter level. Although GCSAA is embarking upon a stronger overall public relations program, it was concluded that a major responsibility for the program's success lies with the individual making his achievement known personally.

Opportunities of announcing this achievement have been expanded now that the newly Certified individual may deter-

mine when and where the plaque presentation will be made, and could therefore ask that it be held during a club function, or other time when people he would like to know about the achievement would normally be present. Additionally, upon a request of the individual, a news release is sent by GCSAA to all news outlets he desires.

It was generally agreed by those responding to the survey that Certification will become more and more important to the profession as more people become Certified and word spreads through the superintendents, employers and golfers about the advantages of the program.

Currently more than 300 GCSAA members have become Certified with a third again that number in some stage of progress. Basic eligibility now requires current employment as a golf course superintendent and at least two years status as a Class A member of GCSAA.

The six-part written examination required for Certification covers the areas of practical turf management, plant protection chemicals, business administration, leadership, golf and GCSAA. A maximum of six-hours is permitted for completion of the open-book test.

To maintain Certification status, a CGCS Member must accumulate a minimum of six points during the five years following his initial Certification. The points are granted by the following method: GCSAA Conference will provide one-half a point per conference, GCSAA Seminars successfully completed will provide two points, the two-hour Recertification Examination will provide four points upon successful completion, or the individual may choose to take the then current six-hour Certification exam for six points.

Although the Certification Program contained a "grandfather clause" at its inception in 1971, that option is no longer available, and all members, regardless of age or years of Class A membership, must complete all parts of the program to attain Certification.

Application forms and additional information concerning the program are available from the GCSAA Director of Education, 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

Future Meetings

JUNE 4 — Pro — Sup't. — President — Greens Chairman Tournament
Ellington Ridge Country Club, Ellington, Connecticut
John Ferry — Host Superintendent
(Please call John as soon as possible to reserve golf carts — 872-4052.)

John has been at Ellington Ridge for six years, the past four years as Superintendent. John is a 1973 graduate of Stockbridge School, a three year member of CAGCS, and a bridegroom of several weeks! John has recently been appointed Public Relations Director of our Association. Those of you who played Ellington Ridge last year will remember those very slick greens. Well, be prepared once again for a light touch! John promises that they will be even quicker this time around.

JUNE 8 — Monthly Meeting
Wampanaug Country Club, West Hartford, Connecticut
John Mulhearn — Host Superintendent

John has been superintendent at Wampanaug C.C. for the past six years. He came to Wampanaug from the Dutchess Golf and Country Club in Poughkeepsie, New York. John is a 1961 graduate of Stockbridge School and a six year member of CAGCS. It has been some time since we have visited this fine club and everyone is looking forward to playing Wampanaug's layout. John warns everyone to head for the clubhouse in the event of thundershowers. A brief shower can flood several fairways in a very short time.

JULY 13 — Monthly Meeting
Wallingford Country Club, Wallingford, Connecticut
Ed Anderson, Sr. — Host Superintendent

Ed is a familiar face to everyone within our Association. A twenty-four year member of CAGCS, Ed has seen many new faces come and go. He has been at Wallingford C.C. for the past eight years and prior to that was at the Farms Country Club. Ed is a director of the Association and head of the Scholarship and Research Committee.

Guidelines to Hiring A Superintendent Now Available

Suggestions for properly locating and hiring a golf course superintendent are contained in a new publication of GCSAA. The 20 page booklet, written for the person charged for hiring a superintendent, carefully details the ins and outs of filling this important position. Included in the booklet are samples of contracts and GCSAA's Employment Referral Service form. This latest booklet was designed to augment an earlier publication, "How to find a new position," which has been distributed to all members. Superintendents are invited to present this new booklet to their employer when leaving a position, thereby assisting the course, and helping to insure a qualified superintendent is hired.

**University of Massachusetts
THIRD ANNUAL
TURF FIELD DAY**
At The South Deerfield Turf Station
South Deerfield, Mass.
July 28, 1976 - July 29 rain date

This is an enjoyable as well as an educational day and is well worth the drive to South Deerfield. The plots will be open for inspection in the morning with descriptions of the various experiments by Dr. Troll and his staff. Lunch is a picnic on the top of Mt. Sugarloaf which overlooks the turf plots and the Connecticut Valley. Contact Dr. Troll for further information.

Aphids in Connecticut — 1976

Aphids are tiny insects, which have complex life cycles, and are found on most every plant that grows in Connecticut.

Dr. James Kring, an entomologist at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven, is an expert on these insects of which there are over 350 varieties in Connecticut.

This year the first aphids hatched on maple trees about two to four weeks earlier than normal due to warm weather. "But this is no cause for immediate alarm," Dr. Kring says. "Although the aphids get a head start, so do natural enemies such as lady beetles and lacewings." This usually means less trouble with aphids later in the summer.

However, aphids can be serious problems for plants. If it isn't their drinking of vital sap, it's the plant diseases they spread or the honeydew that they excrete, which attracts ants.

Aphids reproduce without males, and as a colony gets crowded, winged, rather than wingless forms are produced. These winged aphids take to the air to look for new plants to attack.

Dr. Kring has found that flying aphids are initially attracted to the ultraviolet light of the sky. But after three hours, the aphids are repelled by ultraviolet light, and are attracted to the color yellow — which is what they see in the leaves of plants.

Knowing this allows some control. For instance, Dr. Kring points out that if a householder wants to put his favorite plant outside for the summer, he should make sure that it is not in a yellow pot. If it is, the yellow pot will attract aphids, and they will settle on the plant. Red, black, or silver tend to repel aphids, so are ideal colors for pots.

Another means of control is to use the knowledge that aphids fly away from ultraviolet light when they are looking for a place to land.

Dr. Kring has been able to use aluminum foil or surfaces painted with wet-ground mica to reflect the light of the sky, and to trick aphids into thinking they are flying up as they start to land on protected plants.

Reprint from "News of Science," Paul Gough Editor.

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

William Arnold
Supt., Edgewood G.C.
Southwick, Mass.

Stephen Arnold
Ass't. Supt., Edgewood G.C.
Southwick, Mass.

Frank Johnson
Supt., Norfolk C.C.
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John Callahan, CAGCS member
(203) 677-7054

HELP WANTED

Full Time Mechanic — must be capable of servicing small engines, reel grinding, and be familiar with all phases of golf course machinery. Contact Bob Tosh, Superintendent at the Rockrimmon Country Club, Stamford, Conn.

**URI Receives
Research Grant
From C.A.G.C.S.**

Ed Anderson, head of the Scholarship and Research Committee has announced that C.A.G.C.S. has awarded a \$250 grant for the study of poa annua and top-dressing to Dr. C. R. Skogley of the University of Rhode Island.

Please Support These Companies

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