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CONN. CLIPPINGS



APRIL 1977

VOLUME 10 No. 1

Grass Catcher

Once again spring arrives with talk of unusual weather. After a winter of more severe conditions than normal an early spring popped upon us bringing with it those early spring golfers. Fortunately, the deep frost moved out rather quickly and at least in southern Connecticut, only moderate debris was left from winter's wrath. The key question facing most everyone seems to be: how about that irrigation system? Inevitably, most courses will be faced with breaks and uprooted heads. Let's hope the damage will not be more than normal.

Harry Meusel reports that the effort to rescind the ban on mercury for snow mold control in Connecticut is now in a Legislative Review Committee for recommendation to the entire legislature. Some opposition has been voiced, however. It is too soon to predict the outcome of this decision.

4 4 4 4

Please report any change of addresses to myself or to Dave Stimson. It is very difficult to keep up-to-date mailing lists without your help. Also, if you are receiving the newsletter or information from the association and you do not wish to or you are no longer a member, please let us know. We need your help to run this association efficiently and effectively.

* * * * * *

After a review of the by-laws and with considerable discussion it has been decided that no reason exists for barring non-members from our business meetings. The board feels, as do others, that we are insulting and being rude to potential members and guest speakers by asking them to sit out in the bar during the business meetings. Our business is not a secret and deserves to be reviewed by those who are

seeking membership. Only Class A members will be allowed to vote as always.

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The Scholarship and Research Fund is now self-sufficient and as such is totally dependent upon its own fund raisers and through individual or club donations. Please make an effort to get your club to hold a toutrament to raise funds for S & R. The future of our profession is dependent upon these activities.

* * * * *

The winter conference tour was excellent as always and well attended by C.A.G. C.S. members; however, the UMASS Conference stood out this year as one to watch in the future. Held for the first time at the Springfield Civic Center in Springfield, Massachusetts, it offered an equipment show as well as the usual presentation of fine speakers. Comments from both those in attendance and exhibitors were extremely favorable. This conference is sure to grow and offers professional turf managers every opportunity to enrich their storehouse of knowledge.

It was my pleasure to serve as the alternate advisory and voting delegate at the Annual GCSAA Conference in Portland, Oregon. This experience was extremely interesting and rewarding. During the Advisory Committee meeting several items were passed and sent on to the Executive Committee for further consideration. These included a motion to require all officers of GCSAA to be certified; a recommendation that the general manager concept be studied and reported on; voluntary reclassification of GCSAA members be cleared through the local chapters; and finally, a recommendation that Dr. Fred Grau be considered for honorary member-

continued on p. 3

President's Message

The toughest thing about success is that you have to keep on being a success. This statement certainly applies to each of us as each year passes and the golf season quickly approaches. This winter has been the most severe winter in 50 years which makes us wonder what to expect of Summer '77. As is always the case, our ingenuity will be tested daily while solving con-

stantly emerging problems.

The winter period is that time of year when we recharge our storehouse of ingenuity and prepare for the coming season; and so it was extremely gratifying to see so many of our Connecticut Association members in attendance at the G.C.S.A.A. Conference in Portland and at the University of Massachusetts Conference and Show. These conferences offered the latest in research information, technical knowledge, and professionalism. G.A.G.C.S. members illustrate by their attendance at these affairs their continuing effort to upgrade themselves and their association. Congratulations and a hearty thanks to the national organization and to Joe Troll for providing such excellent learning experiences.

Each member must now accept the challenge ahead; to direct this knowledge toward more efficient management of the golf course and also toward this association. Only through continued participation, such as completing the present survey and by attending all meetings, can a member reap the benefits of association. Output of this association is directly related to the input of each member. As president of C.A.G.C.S. I challenge each member to be involved and look forward to the promise of the new year.

Bob Tosh

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS CHANGE OF EDITOR TO 127 Country Club Road New Canaan, Connecticut 06840

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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 127 Country Club Road New Canaan, CT 06840

Meeting Dates and Locations — 1977

- April 19 Shorehaven Golf Club Nine Blind Holes Host Supt. — Bob Phipps
- May 10 Hartford Golf Club Point Tournament Host Supt. — Al Hawkins
- June 28* Aspetuck Valley C.C. CAGCS Invitational Host Supt. — Frank Lamphier
- July 7 H.B. Brownson C.C. Scholarship Tournament Host Supt. — Jim Medeiros
- Aug. 9 OPEN
- Sept. 13 Shennecossett Golf Club Second Round Championship Host Supt. — Bob Chalifour
- Oct. 4 Cliffside C.C.
 McLaughlin Trophy
 Host Supt. Ron Holcomb

Nov. OPEN

Editorial: "Now" is the Time

Spring is on the horizon and with it the hopes of another good season. Optimistic plans have been made for this new season and have been set in motion. Are these plans complete? Have any real objectives been set? Yes, our goals of disease-free turf, efficient management, and peer recognition are obvious goals, as well they should be; but another goal of working with each other, of sharing knowledge and expertise, of "association" should be a goal held as high. IS IT?

The time has come to take a realistic look at ourselves and make the proper evaluations. Petty jealousies, personal feuds, and geographical differences can no longer detract from the lifeblood of our group. If we are to be effective in dealing with the complexities of our profession then we must find a common denominator which resolves our differences and serves as a springboard to effective 'association'.

The coming year should see new personal objectives for participation set by each member. Everyone must make an effort to get to meetings, speak your peace, and be heard. Make an effort to call a neighboring superintendent, offering to bring him to the next meeting. Introduce yourself to new faces. In short, OPEN UP, and do your part. The results might be surprising!

S.G.C.

Portland, Oregon Hosts GCSAA

Ken Kelliher, Public Relations Chairman

Portland, Oregon hosted the 48th International Turfgrass Conference and Show sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, February 7-11, 1977. The conference was opened by keynote speaker, Heywood Hale Broun, who, dressed in one of his trademark kaleidoscopic sport coats, spoke conversationally to more than 5,000 turfgrass experts from the United States and eight foreign countries. His thoughts on the important part of playing games shouldn't be to win or to reach perfection, but rather to enjoy the game and to triumph over self.

The exhibit space in the Coliseum was filled with 164 exhibitors showing nearly eight million dollars worth of equipment and products. Items on display ranged from the newest in hydraulic mowing equipment costing thousands of dollars to the latest design in golf course pins and flags.

Fifty-nine speakers from university professors, industry experts and golf course superintendents offered a wide variety of educational opportunities. Areas covered included irrigating with effluent water, tree planting and maintenance, fungicide tolerance in turf grass disease organisms, and new concepts in crew management. Our own association was well represented by two members who gave talks. Dr. Joseph Troll offered "Another Look at Nematodes in Turfgrasses" and Bob Osterman discussed "Hard to Maintain Golf Courses in New England".

The International Conference offered anyone who attended the opportunity to return home with new ideas, a fresh outlook, and new solutions to problems. Attendance at this conference insures the golfing public that their course superintendent is staying abreast of advancing technology, new research, and is striving to provide them the finest golf course possible.

"Turfgrass Bibliography" Available

A bibliography of turfgrass literature from 1672 to 1972 has been completed and is now available. It was compiled and edited by James B. Beard, Harriet J. Beard, and David P. Martin. For the first time, the turfgrass literature has been assembled in an organized reference format in one single publication. The Turfgrass Bibliography contains more than 16,000 references listed alphabetically on an author basis. These references are then cross listed in a subject index containing more than 40,000 entries. Included are scientific, semitechnical, and popular writings covering all phases of turfgrass science, culture, and management.

A limited edition of 1,500 copies has been published by the Michigan State University Press, a non-profit organization. Financial assistance in publishing the book was given by the O. J. Noer Research Foundation, United States Golf Association Green Section Research and Education Fund, The Michigan Golf Association, and The Michigan Seniors Golf Association. Turfgrass professionals interested in purchasing a copy should contact Mr. Lyle Blair, Michigan State University Press, Harrison Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48824. Advance orders are being taken now.

The bibliography was compiled over a 10 year period while the senior author was writing the textbook *Turfgrass: Science and Culture*. It should be a valuable reference source for scholars of turfgrass culture, private and commercial turfgrass researchers, teachers, adult extension workers, students of turfgrass culture and management, and practicing professional turfmen involved in the preparation of articles and talks concerning turfgrass culture and management.

Handicaps and Rules

Only Class A, B, & D members are eligible for superintendents championship.

Associates will have their own division

and championship.

Seniors will be allowed to play in a senior division or in Class A, B, D, or Associate; however they must determine at the first meeting which division they prefer to play in and must stay within that decision throughout the season, champion-ship included.

Each Class will have handicaps divisions of: 0-16 and 16-40.

HANDICAPS 0-15

0-13	
Anderson, Ken	7
Barrett, Roger	8
Bedus, Ed	6
Cadenelli, Steve	14
Caswell, Paul	12
Cook, Dick	8
Dellabianca, Leo	12
Dziedzik, Lou	17
Furgess, Bert	13
Gorton, George	18
Grywalski, Tom	12
Horvath, Kal	6
Kowalski, Ben	11
Kowalski, Lee	12
Kristoff, Steve	
Lamphier, Frank	4
Lasage, Armand	13
Ovian, Karnig	12
Ovian, Kay	9
Ovian, Mike	12
Parker, John	15
Parsons, Dick	12
Perry, John	13
Phipps, Bob	12
Rodgers, Fran	14
Roule, Dave	9
Viera, Bob	10
16-40	
Anderson, Ed	17
Ajello, Al	17
Bachand, Fred	28
	28



"You now have exactly 20 minutes to transform yourself into an alert, dynamic, brilliant greenskeeper."

Barratt, Paul	19	Stimson, Dave	24
Baskin, Charlie	22	Suchinski, Hank	22
Bidwell, Joe	26	Tosh, Bob	18
Chalifour, Bob	27	Medeiros, James	25
DeBlasio, Allan	25	Wydra, Adam	22
Dest, Bill	30	Wydra, John	29
Ferry, John	27	McCarthy, Bob	20
Gresh, Tom	35	York, Charles	40
Hawkins, Al	27	Zenisky, Ed	32
Holcomb, Ron	37	ASSOCIATES	
Johnson, Eric	17	Arison, Al	22
Kelliher, Ken	40	Barber, Bob	9
Kowalski, Lee Jr.	17	Bryant, Gary	17
Ladzinski, Paul	16	Callahan, John	23
Lynch, John	37	Downey, Frank	17
MacDonald, Jim	30	Hosking, Dick	24
Meusel, Harry	22	Kennedy, Bob	8 17
Michaud, Tim	27	Prindle, Bill	17
Mitchell, Lyle	40	Russell, Lloyd	40
Moore, Sherwood	33	Ruiz, Paul	6
Mulhearn, John	25	Somers, Bill	16
Osterman, Bob	22	Wallace, Carl	34
Pepe, Tom	27	Wright, Jim	30
Queen, Bill	26	Sibley, Roy	38
Sihua, Bob	18	Gajdosik, Karl	6
Stachura, Doug	26	Jarvis, Bob	30

Course Preparation Includes Superintendent's Peace of Mind

"Forefront"

Preparing a golf course for a show event like a club officials' tour or a golf tournament isn't easy for the person in charge. The overall mental approach of the golf course manager can make the difference between a nervous breakdown and a successful showing of his course.

To build a positive overall mental approach, try the following steps:

1. Insure yourself peace of mind by doing everything you possibly can to solve major problems in advance. This includes attending to your regular turf management. Give yourself credit for doing the best job you can.

2. Insure your emotional peace of mind by keeping major family commitments even when things are hectic at the course. You won't be calm if you feel guilty about missing your daughter's graduation in order to watch a crew member water the greens.

3. Mentally trace in advance everything you will do while your guests are on your course. Imagine what you will say and what they will see. The more detail your imagination can create, the better your chances of avoiding unforseen problems are.

4. Maintain as normal a lifestyle as you can. Eat normal foods at about normal times for you, and keep your same sleep and rest schedules. Change is an enemy when stress strikes, and routine is a great tranquilizer.

5. Understand and accept internally that the sky won't fall if something goes wrong. No amount of preparation can insure a perfect performance for anyone.

6. Switch your concentration quickly so you can concentrate **completely** on whichever problem you are handling at the time. Trying to solve one problem while worrying peripherally about another confuses the picture, clouds your judgment and creates stress. Deal with them in rapid succession if necessary, but only one at a time.

7. If your event lasts more than one day, check your performance each evening. What is successful? What went wrong? Correct the problems you can and restore your mental calm before moving on to the next day.

No one can guarantee harmony and peace for himself or for anyone else, but attention to these seven points will help ease your path and organize your inner self to handle whatever comes your way.

GRASSCATCHER

continued from p. 1

I wholeheartedly recommend that anyone who is interested in GCSAA to take part in the workings of the national at a yearly conference. I'm sure you would be pleased with your participation.

* * * * * *

A survey committee made up by Roger Barret, Fred Bachand, and Ken Kelliher has spent several hours in putting together an updated survey intended to help all superintendents throughout Connecticut. It can be of no help if it is not filled out and returned. The information provided will help each superintendent in regards to budget, benefits, and personnel. TAKE PART and make this association work for you.

Steve G. Cadenelli

Choosing the Best Summer Crew

Although it's still early, now is the time to think about hiring summer crew help. Some young people may already have contacted you during the Christmas holidays or during their semester break; more will come during spring break, and the crunch will hit as the end of the school year approaches. How you choose your summer help could make a big difference in the kind of summer you have.

Most superintendents hire from two pools of labor — turf students and nonturf high school and college students. Experience has shown that men and women work out equally well. Turf students often need on-the-job training as part of their education, and you can influence the future of your profession by helping them learn on your course.

Turf students are interested in turf management, not just in a summer job, and they bring a certain degree of expertise and understanding.

Your supervision during the summer can be of real benefit to the students when they return to school in the fall, too, especially if you have given them genuine experience over a broad range of tasks. Many superintendents have a list of operations a turf student should try during a summer internship — mowing greens, managing equipment, calibrating spray equipment and numerous others. If you give the students broad experience, they will give you hard work and effort in return, and your good will rating will be boosted as well.

Aside from turf students, what kinds of people make good summer golf course employes? Those who want to work outside and who enjoy hard work, those who can be on their feet and operate machinery all day, those who will get to work on time, stay the required number of hours and follow through on assignments — these are the people who belong on your golf course.

Before you hire a summer employe, consider exactly what you want that person to do and be sure that you will have enough work to keep him busy all day every day. Boredom robs your employes of enthusiasm and a lack of enthusiasm robs you of quality workmanship.

When you know clearly what you want from an employe, choose persons to hire by evaluating their job application forms and conducting a thorough interview. Have them use a standard application form that asks for personal data, job experience and educational background. The form, available at most office supply stores, should have a place for your comments and for

recording the date work began and the salary. This will give you similar information on each person so you can compare one to another.

During the interviews try to ask each person about the same questions so you can compare their answers. Ask each to expand on his work experience and try to assess some of the following: Is this person interested in the work? Has he shown leadership? Does he seem forceful and appear to have good reasoning ability? Is he sincere about his ambitions and objectives? Does he really want to become involved? What is the extent of his knowledge in the field and his interest in learning more? Does he show pride in a job well done? You can ask about the person's future plans as well as his past experience, and certainly find out what his job goals are. Ask what he expects from this position and why he wants the job.

Tell each applicant exactly what the job and working environment will be and what you expect in the way of standards of conduct and quality of work.

Discuss salary in full. Most summer employes will be paid a little above the minimum wage. Tell the person when payday is and about how much each check will be. Discuss vacations and other requests for time off in advance, make clear whether holidays will warrant more than the standard hourly rate and what overtime arrangements there are, if any. Discuss withholding tax, and tell students about the special W-4 forms that will exempt them from having money withheld.

Mention equipment or clothing that is provided by your course and explain OSHA regulations that will affect the employe. Ask the applicant if he has any questions, and evaluate what he asks as you provide answers.

How you start the new person working will depend on his experience or lack of it and on the job to be done. For the novice, some superintendents provide a map of the course, lead the person to the first tee, and send him around the course to pick up trash, sticks, etc., to familiarize him with the physical layout. Sometimes new employes are encouraged to play a round of golf first, to get a feel for the course. Then start the person on the first task, with complete instructions and with someone around to help for a few days.

When you thoughtfully and thoroughly choose your crew members and when you keep them busy and give them lots of encouragement throughout the summer you will have few personnel problems and your work will be well done.

Cold Weather Effects On Red Pine Scale In Connecticut?

The recent cold spell may have meant discomfort and increased heating bills for people, but for an insect pest in Connecticut the cold snap may have meant a decrease in numbers.

George Stephens of The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is running laboratory experiments this winter to determine the survival of the red pine scale in cold temperatures. He also plans to run field checks to see if the recent cold spell has killed off an unusual number of the scale insects.

The scale, an insect of unknown origin, was first discovered in Easton in 1946. It now has spread as far north as Canton and as far east as Killingworth.

The problem is unusual in that the natural range of the red pine lies mostly to the north and west of Connecticut. The scale has not yet been reported in the natural range of the host tree.

Although red pine is native to only a

small area in northwestern Connecticut, it was widely planted throughout the state on abandoned farmland during the 1920's and 1930's because it appeared to have the ideal attributes for softwood timber. Many of these trees are just reaching a marketable size at a time when they are killed by the scale.

Stephens plans to collect scale from red pine plantations to see if the rate of mortality observed in the experiments is also occurring in the field. Stephens said red pines in two-thirds of the state "are ultimately doomed" because of the scale.

The scale has not yet reached large natural stands of the red pine in northern New England, Canada and the Great Lakes states. Thus, it may be possible to determine from these studies whether the scale can survive in the natural range of the red pine.

Reprint "News of Science" Conn. Experiment Station

Future Meetings

APRIL 19 — Monthly Meeting Shorehaven Golf Club, Norwalk, Connecticut Bob Phipps — Host Superintendent

Bob is welcoming our group to his club for the second time in two years, [no one quite believes how quick his greens are!], and is looking forward to our visit once again. Bob has been at Shorehaven for five years and has done a remarkable job there. During this time he has built a USGA green and nursery, several tees, and has begun updating the irrigation system there. Presently, he is building a 2 million gallon pond for irrigation Bob has been a member of CAGCS for three years and a member of GCSAA for 10 years. Prior to his arrival at Shorehaven he was superintendent at the Cohassey Country Club in Southbridge, Massachusetts and got his start on golf courses under Bill Dest.

MAY 10 — Monthly Meeting Hartford Golf Club Al Hawkins — Host Superintendent

Al has been at Hartford Golf Club since 1948 becoming superintendent there in 1964. Prior to that he spent his high school days working on the East Hartford Golf Club. Al has been a member of CAGCS and GCSAA since 1964 and has attended the Winter School at the University of Massachusetts. During the past two years he has built two new greens at the club and has been adding flower beds to dress up this fine golf course.

NOVEMBER GCSAA Landscape Seminar I "Principles of Landscape"

Make plans now to attend this seminar in Connecticut which is being sponsored by CAGCS. Topics of special interest include:

Functionalized Landscaping Identification of Specialized Needs Balancing Beauty and Need Design of Comprehensive Plans Selecting Proper Materials

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!!

National Affairs

Bob Osterman, CGCS

Spring is on us a bit prematurely again, and I would imagine we are all in a mad rush to get our courses open for the season. It seems as if we just got our bags unpacked from the National and U-Mass Conferences, and already it's time to start mowing greens. I am sure winter will not leave us that easily and her fury will be felt once or twice more before we can look for continual good weather.

During these times of bad weather we should reflect on what transpired this past winter. For me and my family, it was the beginning of skiing, negotiating the slopes of Vermont, playling tennis and highlighted by my trip to Portland, Oregon for the 48th Turfgrass Conference and Show. The Connecticut Association was well represented in Portland.

It was my pleasure to serve as Voting Delegate as well as Advisory Delegate for the Connecticut Association, with Steve Cadenelli as my alternate. Both Steve and I enjoyed the active participation in National Affairs. Steve will comment on the Advisory Committee in another article in this newsletter and I will cover the Voting Delegate portion.

Being a Voting Delegate meant meeting many fellow superintendents from across the country. Not only were the candidates for office discussed, but you would inevitably wind up talking about each other's golf course, regional problems, etc. What an education in itself! It was indeed a pleasure to talk with these people. I also learned much about the inner workings of GCSAA.

Having been an alternate Voting Delegate in previous years gave me some small insight into what the Voting Delegate's job was. It was great to have people like Bob Tosh and Frank Lamphier brief you on what to expect. But even if I didn't get this briefing beforehand, the National does a great job in preparing you for the annual meeting and the election of GCSAA officers and directors. Steve and I attended one meeting Monday afternoon where we met and heard the various candidates for office. Tuesday I attended a luncheon where the voting procedures were explained in detail.

Wednesday afternoon at the Annual Meeting, Theodore W. Woehrle, CGCS of Oakland Hill C.C., Michigan was elected GCSAA President. George Cleaver, CG CS of Chestnut Ridge C.C., Maryland was

Lynch, Osterman, Stimson Earn Certification

John Lynch, superintendent at the Woodbridge Country Cub, Bob Osterman, superintendent at the Golf Club at Aspetuck, and Dave Stimson, superintendent at Tumble Brook Country Club have joined the growing list of certified golf course superintendents in Connecticut and throughout the country.

This program, sponsored by Golf Course Superintendents Association of America sets rigorous standards of testing and is aimed at upgrading the professionalism and general image of the golf course superintendent.

These men have set themselves apart from the average; they have put forth the effort to improve themselves and by so doing have upgraded their association. Thanks and congratulations!



elected Vice-President. Louis Haines CG CS of Denver C.C., Colorado was reelected Director and appointed Secretary/ Treasurer. Also elected to a three-year term as Director was Hobart Burgan, CG CS of Quail Creek Golf & C.C., Oklahoma. Appointed to the two-year Directorship was Mike Bavier CGCS Inverness G.C., Illinois. Remaining on the Executive Committee for another year are David Holler, CGCS, Melvin Lucas, Jr., CGCS, and Charles Tadge, CGCS.

Being National Affairs Chairman for the Connecticut Association, I wish the new Executive Committee well and offer Connecticut's continual support.

Having been involved in the capacities previously mentioned as well as attending several committee meetings, I came away with a very positive feeling. GCSAA would like and wants members to participate in National Affairs. The more input they get from chapters such as ours and its members, the better it will be for you. The same holds true at local levels. Get involved! Participate! Put something into the organization so you can get something out of it.

If anyone has any questions concerning GCSAA please don't hesitate to ask me and if I can't give you an answer I will get someone who can.

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