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GCSAA Announces Internal Reorganization

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has put into operation a new department and expanded an existing department, Conrad Scheetz, GCSAA executive director, has announced.

The new Department of Chapter and Industrial Relations will promote the growth of the GCSAA Conference and Show, while also strengthening the advertising section of *The Golf Superintendent* magazine. It will handle chapters relations and recruit new members in a more personal way. The new director is James R. Brooks, who has been director of membership services since 1974.

The Membership Services Department has been expanded to become the Department of Membership and Administrative Services. Its director is Janie Storm, formerly administrative assistant to the executive director since 1975.

Brooks will concentrate on contacting potential exhibitors, necessary for the expansion and growth of the GCSAA-sponsored International Turfgrass Conference

and Show. He will be the on-site show manager for the San Antonio Conference and Show, February 1978.

Another major goal of his department will be to aggressively attract new members to join GCSAA. The first membership drive will be conducted in the Southwest, where new members will be close to their first conference and show. Brooks will be the principal headquarters staff member to communicate with chapters.

Storm's department will provide essential administrative functions for the headquarters office and perform all services for members, including Employment Referral Service; audio-visual services; membership applications, reclassifications and terminations; data processing; circulation for *The Golf Superintendent* magazine and registration for both the GCSAA conference and show and all educational sessions.

Centralization of these services into one department will improve efficiency.

President's Message

Although the dog days of August are just arriving, the summer has been such that I'm sure everyone feels as though it will never end. The very long hot spell of July has taken its toll on many courses especially those with high percentages of poa. Seed suppliers will be kept busy providing seed for those who did lose turf.

It has been encouraging to your board of directors to see attendance at the monthly meetings on the rise especially when golf had been rained out at two of the meetings. I have long felt that attendance at meetings will increase when well organized meetings that provide sound educational programs are the order of the day. This is the goal of the board and any suggestions for speakers or programs are welcome.

A Landscape Seminar which has been in the planning for nearly a year will be offered on November 2 & 3 of this year at the Holiday Inn in Meriden. This seminar is put together by GCSAA and offers the latest in golf course and clubhouse landscaping. Brochures will soon be in the mail and attendance is limited to thirty so return the reservation forms as soon as possible.

Bob Tosh

program, meeting agenda, and others. If you have any ideas regarding these or other areas please inform Bob or any member of the committee so that they might be discussed.

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Dave Stimson has discovered that a Group of Forty fare is available to San Antonio for the national conference. A savings of \$104 per person is available if 40 people can be put together to fly to San Antonio. Return flights can be at your own convenience. If enough interest is shown at the next meeting Dave will organize the group with a deposit of \$50 dollars per person being required to hold a spot.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

President Tosh has announced that Bob
continued on p. 3

Grass Catcher

Fred Baschund has again arranged for members of CAGCS and/or GCSAA to attend the Greater Hartford Open on a complimentary basis. To gain entry a member should go to the Ramada Inn Steak Club, which is just off Exit 24 on Rt. 91, identify himself as a member of either association and a one day pass will then be issued. Many thanks, Fred!

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Attendance at our last two monthly meetings was quite good considering how the weather has been. At our June meeting President Tosh led an open discussion concerning the problems that everyone was facing to date. A good discussion followed with the general feeling being that this type of session was good for the association

and should be continued.

The July meeting at the Brownson Club was highlighted by a talk from Bill Dest. Bill discussed some of the work that he had seen being done at Rutgers in the areas of plant breeding, soils, and so on. He also expressed his feeling as to where turf research should be headed and what type of program he hopes to develop at UCONN.

It must be noted that both meetings, Tumble Brook and Brownson, were well organized by the superintendents and manager and that dinner was excellent.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

The Organizational Study Committee headed by Bob Osterman has been meeting bi-monthly and is developing some ideas to be presented to the membership in September. A few of the areas under study include: objectives of the association, membership classification, S & R, speaker

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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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

Editorial Education or Golf Outings

Much of our regular meetings during the first part of this year and indeed, during past years, have been devoted to golf; that is, the actual playing of the game by members and guests at our meetings. A great deal of time is wasted in discussing minor little items such as prizes, divisions, etc., while much more important areas of discussion are pushed aside. In an attempt to remedy this problem your board had worked with Jim Medeiros, golf chairman, to set up guidelines that would make for well run golf tournaments with as little hassle as possible. It has not, nor will it ever be the intention of the board to eliminate golfing at our meetings. Golf is an integral part of the educational aspect of each meeting in that a superintendent can always learn from other superintendents through viewing their golf course. Education and increased professionalism must be the emphasis of our meetings and all that occurs there should work towards that goal. S.G.C.

Golf Course May Hold Answer In Sludge Disposal Problem

GROTON — The town is getting ready to experiment with the use of sludge from the town sewage treatment plant for a top dressing for greens and tees at Shennecossett Golf Course.

The sludge, mixed with sand, will replace expensive loam now used for the greens and tee areas, and could save up to \$1,000 a year, says Town Recreation Director R. Peter Ledger.

A pile of the sludge mixed with sand is now stored by the 12th tee, and will be used on the practice putting green by the clubhouse soon, says Robert Chalifour, golf course superintendent.

Chalifour attended a conference at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst last week on uses of sludge and was surprised at what he learned.

He said that although studies of the use of sludge in place of soil are now in their infant stages, the field appears to have a great future.

Chalifour notes that treatment plant operators have had difficulty in disposing of sewer sludge, but the situation could turn around.

He said that in the South and West, the effluent from treatment plants is being used to water golf courses, and in mining areas, a sludge mixture is being used to reclaim areas which were strip mined.

He said sludge is a good agent for improving bad soils, and that because of sterilization, no health hazard is present.

Improve Your Decision-Making Process

The golf course superintendent makes decisions every day in every area of his work. Most are good decisions, or he wouldn't be where he is. But some aren't so good, and then the superintendent should review his decision-making process. Here are four suggestions for making good decisions.

First ask others for their opinions. Incorporate worthy ones into your thinking but don't base your decisions solely on someone else's opinions.

Second, approach decision-making with creativity, as explained above. Don't assume that what worked in the past will still work today — check it out.

Third, use your intuition and play your hunches, but temper them with facts. Legitimate hunches can be easily confirmed by seeking out relevant information.

Fourth, attack the problem. Don't procrastinate, hoping it will go away or solve itself. Fight problems with action, not inaction. Reprint from "Forefront"

The conference he attended was sponsored by the Massachusetts Commission on Organic Waste Recycling and a Pennsylvania publishing firm.

Chalifour said no one at the conference had yet thought of using the sludge as a dressing for greens and tees as he is proposing to do.

He said his experiments will begin as soon as he gets a final recommendation from the University of Rhode Island on the best type of sand to use for mixing the sludge.

He said another use of sludge from the town plant under consideration is for creating an athletic field on land adjacent to the new town library.

The sludge would replace expensive top soil and keep down the cost of the project, he said.

Ledger, the recreation director, said a benefit of using the inexpensive sludge for dressing tees and greens is that the golf course could be kept in better shape at minimal cost.

The areas are generally covered with expensive loam in the spring and fall, but the procedure can be repeated more often with less expensive material, he said.

Come! Let Us Be One!

Come! Gather —
Solid And Strong —
Quit The Ill-Chatter —
Right The Wrong; —

Take Part —
Play Your Role —
Not Acres Apart —
Or This House'll Fold; —

The Important Matter —
Is To Truly Belong —
Pull Tightly Together —
Stir Progress Along; —

Come! Let Us Be One; —

Un-guided By Logic —
What Can We Accomplish —
Void Of A True Target —
Ideals Perish; —

Laws Prevail —
Over The Highs and Low —
Waive — And Chaos Unveil —
Like a "Watergate" Fiasco; —

Our Bi-Laws Are Fair —
To Prevent Such Woe —
Aren't Rules Everywhere? —
So Don't Be A Foe; —

COME! LET US BE ONE!

Frank Paladino

Future Happenings

AUGUST 2 - MONTHLY MEETING

Clinton Country Club, Clinton, Connecticut
Dave Roule - Host Superintendent

Our host for the August meeting, Dave Roule, has been at Clinton Country Club for just under six years. During his tenure there he has initiated several new programs and has generally upgraded the course condition. Among the many programs include the overseeding of the greens to Penncross, overseeding of the fairways to a Baron, Manhattan, and Jamestown mix, installation of nearly one and one half miles of drainage, planting of over 200 trees, and just recently, installation of automatic irrigation on two holes.

Dave, who holds an associate's degree in business administration and turf management, received his earlier experience at several courses. Prior to his arrival at Clinton he spent two years at Farmington C.C. under John Perry, two years at Brookside Country Club in Canton, Ohio and a season at the Benson Harbor Club in Vergins, Vermont.

SEPTEMBER 12 - JOINT MEETING with RIGCSA

Shennecossett Municipal Golf Course, Groton, Connecticut
Bob Chalifour - Host Superintendent

Shennecossett Golf Course, site of our September meeting, is one of the older courses in Connecticut. This Donald Ross layout was built in 1898 for the private use of Morton Plant and friends. It was later purchased by the Griswold Hotel and operated by them until the late sixties when it was purchased by the Town of Groton for \$950,000. Our host, Bob Chalifour, who has been at the club for nearly eight years, came from East Greenwich Country Club in Rhode Island. Some of the many accomplishments at Shennecossett under Bob include an automatic irrigation system for tees and greens and designed for future fairway water, a new fourteenth tee, a new maintenance building presently under construction, and two programs to evaluate the possibility of irrigating with sewage effluent and the testing of composted sewage sludge as a soil amendment and as a greens topdressing.

NOVEMBER 2 and 3 - GCSAA Landscape Seminar I

"Principles of Landscape"

Holiday Inn, Meriden, Connecticut

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

Fertilizer Analysis Report

Over one-third of the fertilizer mixes analyzed this spring at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven failed to contain the amount of nitrogen claimed on the label.

Chief chemist J. Gordon Hanna said the tests were conducted to see if the natural gas shortage and the resulting increase in production costs would increase the deficiency rate.

The 37 percent deficiency rate is more than twice the 16 percent deficiency rate observed last year. This year the analysts found an average of 99 percent of the claimed nitrogen as compared to an average of 105 percent of the claimed nitrogen in 1976.

The lowest amount of nitrogen found was 60 percent of the label claim. The

highest amount of nitrogen found was 152 percent of label claim. The fertilizers, which were collected by the Department of Agriculture, include bulk mixes used by farmers and lawn fertilizers used by homeowners.

A copy of the report, Bulletin 771, is available free from the Editorial Office, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Box 1106, New Haven, CT 06504. The report lists the brands tested, the claims made, and the amount of nitrogen found in each sample.

Reprint from "News of Science"

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN VOTED IN AS NEW MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION. CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME.

Bob Lippman
Associate
Andrew Wilson, Inc.
Union, N.J.

Hemlock Scale Update

An extensive survey for the hemlock scale by The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station shows that the insect is more widespread and attacks a greater variety of evergreens than previously thought.

Dr. Mark McClure, an entomologist at the Experiment Station said that all 16 towns within a triangle running from Greenwich to Danbury to Stratford are infested. In all, 279 locations in 31 towns were checked for the hemlock scale.

The elongate hemlock scale, which throughout most of its life looks more like a fish scale than the insect it is, attacks the underside of needles and feeds on sap. It prefers new needles, and primarily attacks the bottom branches. It may kill a hemlock within a few years.

McClure spent last summer looking at insect parasites and predators that could possibly be used in biological control of the scale. In some towns, he found one parasite which commonly kills 40 to 50 percent of the scale.

But this winter in Ridgefield, where he was investigating an area of hemlocks that was heavily infested, McClure found another parasite that kills between 80 and 99 percent of the hemlock scales.

This parasite must be reared to adulthood before it can be identified, but McClure said that already it is evident that it is different from the others he found.

While conducting the survey in Greenwich, McClure noted a heavy infestation of the hemlock scale in the area surrounding the Montgomery Pinetum in Cos Cob. McClure and Michael Fergione found that exotic firs, spruces, pines and hemlocks that had not previously been reported as hosts for the scale were being successfully attacked.

McClure said the scale is not nearly as successful on many of these trees as it is on eastern hemlock. "However, the mere fact that it can colonize them indicates that races may be developing that will in time be able to flourish on trees other than the hemlock," he said.

Reprint from "News of Science"

GRASS CATCHER

continued from p. 1

Viera will chair this year's Nominating Committee. If you are at all interested in becoming more active in your association, please contact Bob.

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A hearty congratulations and best wishes to Lloyd Russell in his retirement. Lloyd contributed unselfishly to this association for over thirty years. We thank you and welcome you as a life member of CAGCS.

Steve Cadenelli

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