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THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



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Automatic Irrigation At Oak Hills

by Bruce Cadenelli,
Golf Course Superintendent

Oak Hills Park Golf Course, a municipal golf course in the City of Norwalk, opened for play in 1968. The initial and present irrigation system, which utilized quick couplers throughout, is presently being converted to a fully automatic system using Buckner irrigation equipment.

The golf course possesses several different characters, thus the need for varied design features. The front seven holes, being quite narrow, utilize a single row fairway design. The remaining holes are all double row. All greens are two-zoned. The main line piping is being used with new pipe being installed on tees, greens, and fairway laterals. The control system is the KCS Central Program System with satellite microprocessors used as well. Brass piston valves are being installed along with all brass heads.

The system was designed by the Andrew Wilson Company and is being installed by White Turf Engineering.

If any superintendents in the area are considering an automatic irrigation system and would like to see such an installation in progress, please contact me. I would be more than pleased to show you our project.

Future Happenings

April 17, 1979 CAGCS Monthly Meeting
New London Country Club
New London, Ct.
Paul Grover - Host Superintendent

May 14, 1979 CAGCS Monthly Meeting
Manchester Country Club
Manchester, Ct.

Ken Kelliher - Host Superintendent

June 11, 1979 CAGCS Invitational
Country Club of Fairfield
Fairfield, Ct.

Details in June *CONN. CLIPPINGS*

Grass Catcher

by Steve Cadenelli

Excellent reports continue to filter in regarding the past GCSAA Conference and Show. Besides being the largest conference ever both in terms of attendance and floor space sold, it also offered the greatest variety of topics in the educational sessions. Regarding these sessions cassette tapes are available for many of these topics. These tapes are a great source of information for crew training. Contact myself or another officer of the association for information on how to obtain these tapes.

Committee assignments are available for GCSAA Committees. If interested contact myself for the names of the various committee chairman or contact them directly through GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas.

Finally, as you can see, you're missing a great deal of information by not being a member of GCSAA. A professional organization such as GCSAA is not going to guarantee your job or provide greater awareness among those that you work for. Only you can deal directly with your superiors. However, membership in a professional organization offers you the tools to better equip yourself so that you can accomplish the above. Don't hesitate — Join Now!

Spring 1979 sees several within our association on the move. Dave Roule has left Clinton C.C. to become super at the Hartford Golf Club. His assistant at Clinton, John Halibozek, moves to the superintendent position there. Gary Bryant, a former superintendent and most recently employed at TPC, has come back to the fold as a superintendent at the Minnechaug Golf Club. Tom Gresh left Blackledge C.C. last fall to go into sales with TPC. Ken Pierce is another former super who is back in the field as the assistant at Manchester C.C. Peter Burnham is the new superintendent at Richter Park while Ken Burlinson has left

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President's Message

Not only does a new season begin for CAGCS, but also a milestone in a profession.

Fifty years ago a small group of men gathered together to form an organization that is now known as the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Inc. Their goal was a simple one, that of meeting on occasion to discuss their common interests and perhaps move the profession of "greenskeeping" forward.

There were few educational institutions available to teach these men the basics of their profession. Their work was strictly on a "trial and error" basis. Their equipment left much to be desired. They worked from sunup to sundown for wages that were among the lowest of any profession.

From this handful of men CAGCS has grown to nearly 200 members. Men who have the same dedication to their profession. However, many other things have changed. There are educational institutions around the world devoted to Turf Management. Our work is no longer a "trial and error" experience. It is highly technical, and includes much more than just the growing of turf. The last few years, Superintendents are being compensated for their knowledge, capabilities and responsibilities. The wages are reflecting the recognition that those first Superintendents of fifty years ago started to build on.

Today, we have what I feel is one of the best local associations going. Our growth and maturity reflects in the membership. We are getting more and more members at our monthly meetings. Our educational programs at these meetings are outstanding. Membership participation on committees are at an all time high, with more information coming out of committee than ever before.

There are several outstanding courses scheduled for our monthly meetings this year. Come and participate in golf and the

(Continued on page 2)

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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Richard Cook Charles York
Douglas Stachura

Al Arison, *Associate Director*
Robert Tosh, *Immediate Past President*

The object of this association is to encourage increased knowledge of golf course management and greater professionalism through education, research, exchange of practical experience and the well being of each individual member.

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

Stephen G. Cadenelli, Editor
127 Country Club Road
New Canaan, CT 06840

President's Message (Cont. from page 1)

meeting. If you don't play golf, come and walk around the course before the meeting and dinner. This is a special year for our association. Participate, get involved in the activities we have scheduled to celebrate this Golden Anniversary of CAGCS. The majority of us probably won't be here at the end of the next fifty years.

It is a special year for special people who do a special job. So try to make a special effort to attend the association meetings, Picnic, Field Day, Anniversary Dinner-Dance, Annual meeting and Christmas Party. It is only through membership participation can we continue to grow, achieve, contribute and perhaps leave a little more than we found.

I am convinced that the Superintendents of Connecticut will not only meet the challenges of this coming season, but the seasons of the next fifty years as well, if not better than the last fifty.

Robert Osterman, CGCS
President CAGCS

Editorial

Do you sit back and criticize without offering alternatives for that which you find at fault? Do you condemn decisions that are made without knowing the reasons behind those decisions? Do you ask *why* to the people who make those decisions? These are pertinent questions that each of us should ask ourselves.

How easy it is to criticize without offering alternative possibilities. If one is not willing to at least provide new insights into that which he criticizes, then he should say nothing. For an association such as CAGCS, it is important that members ask questions of their elected officers and directors to get, firsthand, the information which resulted in a decision making process. An open forum of this type provides those making decisions with important information. How else can plans and policies, which represent the thinking of the membership, be formulated.

Your association can only be strengthened by this kind of interaction.

March Meeting Report

by Bruce Cadenelli,
Education Chairman

Our 50th year jumped off to a great start with 82 people in attendance for the year's first meeting, held at the Hawthorne Inn. All directors presented reports outlining plans for the coming year.

The speaker for the day, Thomas Porter of the Alpine Tree Care Co., Inc., gave a brief outline as to the proper management practices for trees on the golf course. A major point mentioned is that we, as golf superintendents must secure funds in the budget for tree care and planting. A basic management program for trees should consist of pruning, fertilizing, spraying, and the installation of cables and/or lightning protection where necessary. Also, when selecting trees, select a tree that fits the soil condition it will be grown in. Disease and insect resistance should also be considered when selecting trees.

While it's early in the year, make a commitment to attend CAGCS meetings this year. Take part in the social and educational benefits of your association.

For Sale

Contact Dave Roule at the Hartford Golf Club for the following: Call 236-5151

1968 International Scout w/plow	\$1200
1970 Ryan A-5 Greensaire	\$650
1968 Greens spiker	\$250
1970 Bean 200 gal. sprayer	\$1000
10 GPM pump	

Meet Your Hosts

Paul Grover —

Although our host for the April meeting is a relatively new superintendent, he is no newcomer to the golf course business. Paul spent thirteen years as the assistant superintendent at New London Country Club before becoming superintendent in 1978. Paul, who is married, joined CAGCS and GCSAA in 1978 as well. From what Paul says his wife must see very little of him 'cause "When I'm not working — I'm fishing!" Those playing New London will notice that Paul is in the midst of an extensive tree planting program averaging around 200 trees and shrubs a year. He is also doing some drainage and remodeling work around the eighth green.

Ken Kelliher —

A fifteen year member of CAGCS, Ken remains very active within the association. Presently, Ken is chairman of member applications as well as keeping tabs on 150 plus regular members. Ken graduated from Stockbridge School in 1963 and soon after became super at the Willimantic C.C. After nine years there, he traveled to Manchester C.C. where he is today. Manchester is always well groomed and a good test of golf. This spring Ken is completing some 1300 feet of drainage work begun in the fall on the fourteenth and fifteenth holes. He is also supervising the construction of a new cart storage building and doubling the size of the sixteenth tee.

Ken and his wife, Barbara, have two children. When not working he enjoys swimming and cross country skiing.

If You Must Fire An Employee

Now and then, every supervisor must face the unpleasant task of firing an employee. When that time comes for you, prepare as carefully as you did when you interviewed that employee for the first time.

Before the meeting, think carefully about the specific nature of your complaints and whether you have given the employee ample warning and an opportunity to improve. Don't throw away a potentially valuable employee just because you have not adequately communicated your desires to him.

If no improvement takes place, make the termination interview clean and quick. Now is not the time to dwell on past failures, especially if there is nothing that can be done about them. Get to the point and end the meeting quickly. Be sure that the employee understands your decision is final and you will not be swayed by pleas for "one more chance".

Grass Catcher (Cont. from page 1)

Redding C.C. to lease a golf operation in Brookfield, Connecticut.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!

The Education Committee is making preliminary plans for a GCSAA Seminar to be held in Connecticut sometime in the fall. A show of hands at the last meeting illustrated a preference for a one day seminar, which is being planned.

Keep in mind that 1979 is the 50th Anniversary of CAGCS. Plans are being formulated for a gala Dinner-Dance and Field Day to commemorate the occasion. Our profession has come a long way in fifty years. Plan to be a part of this celebration.

CAGCS Rules for Golf

Players must use their State or Club handicap. If a player has neither, handicaps will be kept by the Association. Players will be entered in four divisions:

1. A (0-15 Handicaps)
2. B (16-40 Handicaps)
3. Seniors (Age 50 or over)
4. Associate

Guests will be kept in a separate category.

Prizes will be awarded in each division for low gross and low net.

A player may win only one prize but may be eligible to enter more than one division.

It Seems Nothing Is Immune From Rising Prices

The *Wall Street Journal* recently reported that prices for "natural" fertilizers, especially cattle and horse manure, are up sharply from last year.

Processing and transportation costs are partly to blame, says the article, but increased demand by home gardeners trying to escape high bills at the grocery store have also contributed. Increases range from five percent in the Cleveland area to 20 percent around Chicago.

Dealers are trying to soften the blow by reducing the size of a \$2 sack, "like candy bars".

The newspaper went on to tell readers that hope is not lost, however. "Forty bushels of leaves mixed into the soil do as much good as 15 bushels of manure, according to a University of Illinois agronomist," it says.

Scholarship Applications

The S & R Committee wishes to remind all members that applications for scholarships for the 1979-80 school year must be in by June 1, 1979. Applications should be sent to Doug Stachura, Chairman of the S & R Committee. His address is 23 Oxford Lane, Cromwell, Ct. 06414.



Photo by C. York

L. to R. Bob Tosh, Lee Kowalski, Bob Viera, Charlie Baskin, John Perry, Harry Meusel, Frank Lamphier.

Past Presidents Honored

Recognizing the contributions of the Past Presidents of CAGCS was the main order of business at the recent March meeting. Citing the need for such recognition, the Board of Directors last fall initiated the awarding of a Past President's Jacket and appropriate patch to be presented to each President upon completion of his term. This was begun with the presentation of a jacket and patch to Bob Tosh, Immediate Past president, at the Annual Christmas Party. Unfortunately, jackets with patches could not be presented to all Past Presidents for obvious reasons. Therefore, the presentation of patches to the above recipients. Others who were unable to attend and who will receive their patch at a future meeting include: Everett Pyle, Kay Ovia, W.A. Jaschinsky, and Mike Ovia.

It is with great pride and thanks that the association honors these individuals. These men established a sound foundation for which the association of today can continue to develop the profession of golf course superintendency.



Photo by C. York

Immediate Past President Bob Tosh models his newly received Past President's Jacket with emblem.

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