

THE CONN. CLIPPINGS

October/November 1981

Volume 14, No. 5



President's Message

The success and failure of any organization is determined, most often, by the degree of involvement by the members of that organization. The feeling for, and dedication toward, the goals of an organization will, in turn, determine an individual's degree of involvement. It becomes necessary for all of us, as human beings, to undertake a self-review concerning all that we do and why we do it! Do we agree with the stated goals and in the methods by which they are attained? Do we criticize **without** offering constructive alternatives? What degree of assistance do we offer to anyone of the varied programs of the organization? If one is a member of an organization, then one must feel there is something to be gained by membership. The old adage, "you get out of something what you put into it," remains as true as ever. With the above in mind, I would ask that each of us, as members of CAGCS, undertake a self-reviewing, asking ourselves some of the above questions. Such a review might stimulate many to become further involved with our professional association. In so doing, the association improves and offers more to each member, but most importantly, increased involvement benefits one directly and immediately. The experience gained from involvement on the governing body or on a committee can be of great help in your personal employment situation and can help to further develop one's character.

I have included the above in this, my last "President's Message," for I believe it to be true. The experience of these past six and a half years serving on our Board, and especially the past two as President, have been extremely beneficial times. Such involvement can do the same for you if you let it. Give it a try.

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS

Don't forget . . .



to make plans this year
to attend the annual
CAGCS Christmas party!

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIES

A "Super" Breath!

A peep of glow says it's dawn,
As he leaps from sleep to adorn,
The framed window facing the lawn,-
Thrusting his chest to an oversized norm,-
Not really to exercise - or fret,
But to squeeze-out with every breath,
All the Chemicals of the summer past.

Frank Paladino

Looking back over my two terms as President, there have been successes and failures I thank all who have assisted me in the successes and who have assumed responsibility for the failures. The organization is in excellent financial condition and enjoys well-established goals for the future. I have enjoyed the past two years immensely and thank the entire membership for the opportunity of serving as President.

Hats off to golf course Superintendents

Golf course superintendents are professionals. . . They should call the shots and develop the programs at their clubs rather than the members," so believes Dr. Richard Skogley, Professor of Turfgrass Management at the University of Rhode Island.

Dr. Skogley and Dr. Noel Jackson, Professor of Plant Pathology, were guests at the golf outing and monthly meeting of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents Tuesday at the Pautipaug CC.

They have been associated with the Connecticut Superintendents for many years and are constantly called for guidance and direction when problems of turf cultivation arise.

"We are interested in all types of turf," remarked Dr. Skogley. "Whether it be lawns, roadside areas, or athletic fields." Both agreed, however, the most demanding field turf management is that of the golf course superintendent.

"The problems of the golf superintendent far surpass that of anyone involved in turf," said Dr. Jackson, who specializes in diseases of the turf. "The standard of perfection is higher than any other related turf professions. The slightest irregularity on such a fine surface as, say a green, will be quickly brought to the attention of the course superintendent, and he must act as quickly to correct the problem."

As to whether New England Course Superintendents have it tougher in maintaining courses than other parts of the country, Dr. Jackson commented, "It is easier to grow turf in New England than any other part

Continued on page 2

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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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.

Greg Wojick, Editor

49 John St.

Willimantic, CT 06226

CAGCS Nominations

The 1981 Nominating Committee, Chairman Frank Lamphier, Eric Johnson and Fred Bachand, have submitted the following names for office:

President:	Mike Wallace	Rockledge C.C.
Vice-President:	Peter Pierson	Edgewood G.C.
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Director 1 Yr.	Bob Phipps	Shorehaven C.C.
Director 2 Yrs.	Greg Wojick	Willimantic C.C.
Director 2 Yrs.	Tom Fletcher	Smith-Richardson G.C.
Director 2 Yrs.	Mark Fuller	Longshore G.C.
Imm. Past Pres.	Steve Cadenelli	C.C. of New Canann

The following directors have completed one year of their two-year terms:

Jim Medieros	Brownson C.C.
Stan Sablak	The Farms C.C.
Steve DeVito	Hop Brook C.C.

Hats Off continued from page 1
of the country." Jackson cited the moderating influence of the ocean in this area as an advantage.

"The superintendent in New England must stay on his toes, be ready for any weather extremities that may suddenly occur, whether it be bitter cold and wind of the Mideast or the constant dry, hot weather of the Southwest," he added.

Jackson also stated that area superintendents must constantly read weather reports and act accordingly.

"The major problem of the New England states is the lack of soil," said Dr. Skogley. "The soil is characteristically very thin, and doesn't hold moisture well. If extreme weather conditions hit the area, this type of soil will put more stress on itself which makes for added problems for the superintendent."

It is equally difficult across the country for course managers, only the problems may be different in various regions, according to Dr. Jackson.

Both Dr. Skogley and Dr. Jackson agreed wholeheartedly that the two-year dry spell experienced in southern New England has been devastating in growing areas.

They both commented that something like this dry spell is bound to reflect on the condition of a course and may be the extra strike against the course superintendent.

Sometimes members unjustifiably compare their course with a top flight course which works within the framework of a triple figure budget.

"Courses with comfortable budgets and plenty of water do not suffer as much as those with marginal course budgets," said Dr. Jackson.

"The superintendent is a professional," said Dr. Jackson. "He should be appreciated as one and he should be allowed to develop his programs and sink or swim by that program."

Dr. Skogley's closing comments were directed to the members of the club. "The club members must always recognize that he (the superintendent) is the subject to the environment."

Our hats off to the areas CAGCS (Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents) members for their outstanding management this season of our respective home courses: Greg Wojick (Willimantic), Bill Hamm (Norwich), Fran Rogers (Pautipaug), Dick Cook (Black Hall), Bob Chalifou (Shennecossett), Paul Grover (New London), Kevin Clements (Pequot), Abby Cook (Old Lyme), Hy Stollman (Chantclair), and Pat O'Connor (Cedar Ridge).

By John Nowobilski
PGA Golf Professional

Reprinted from the Norwich Bulletin



Meet Your Hosts

H. Smith Richardson Golf Club - Tom Fletcher

Everyone who played the Smith Richardson Golf Course on October 13 enjoyed not only a beautiful warm autumn day on the golf links but also learned a little about what it's like to maintain a municipal golf course that averages 45,000 rounds of golf per year and has a predominately clay soil. Superintendent Tom Fletcher has been battling his soil problem for 3 and a half years and is doing a good job at it.

"We have seen a definite improvement in the golf course since Tom has been superintendent here. The golfers are very pleased with the job the Tom is doing," says head golf professional Mick Homa.

The H. Smith Richardson golf course was opened in 1972 and is run by the Town of Fairfield. In addition to maintaining the Smith Richardson course, Tom oversees the maintenance operation at the South Pine Creek golf course, which is run by Barry Patraska.

Tom Fletcher is a 1966 UMASS winter school graduate and has been in the golf course maintenance business for 20 years. In addition to Smith Richardson Tom has worked at South Pine Creek and Fairfield Wheeler golf club. Tom and his wife, Sharon, have two daughters and one son.

Meet Your Hosts

Glastonbury Hills Country Club

- Roger Barrett

The CAGCS annual meeting will be held at the Glastonbury Hills Country Club on November 10. This corporate-owned, private membership country club was designed by Al Zikorus and then later re-designed by Geoffry Cornish. As you play the golf course, you will notice that it was carved from ledge and rock which makes for some interesting golf holes and some difficult drainage problems for superintendent Roger Barrett.

Roger Barrett has been the golf course superintendent at Glastonbury Hills since the course opened in 1965. After graduating from the UMASS turf program in 1962, Roger worked at the Orange Hills Golf Club and later became superintendent at the Manchester Country Club. Roger's wife, Barbara, is an administrative secretary at the University of Connecticut. Roger and Barbara have four children.

Metropolitan Area Team Championships Results

Chuck Fatum's low gross score of 76 led the Metropolitan GCSA team to a convincing victory in the annual Met area championship held this year at the Country Club of New Canaan. Their team score was 326 (best four balls of six). Ten strokes back in second place at 336 was the defending champion Connecticut AGCS led by Peter Pierson's 77.

The cold and windy conditions kept the scores high but the condition of the golf course was nearly flawless. Host Superintendent Steve Cadenelli and entire staff at the Country Club of New Canaan are commended for making the entire day very enjoyable.

The results are:

1. Metropolitan GCSA - 326

Chuck Fatum	-	76
Scott Niven	-	81
Jim Fulwider	-	83
Tony Savone	-	86
Dan Cancelleri	-	89
Paul Petracca	-	NC

2. Connecticut AGCS - 336

Peter Pierson	-	77
Dick Cook	-	85
Greg Wojick	-	86
Steve Cadenelli	-	88
David Roule	-	88
Jim Fabianni	-	91

3. Long Island GCSA - 344

Kay Ovian	-	84
Angelo Scola	-	86
Pete Bass	-	87
Lynn O'Neil	-	87
Richard Struss	-	88
Rich McGuinness	-	93

4. Hudson Valley GCSA - 349

Sam D'Auria	-	84
Jerry Kane	-	87
Ed Walsh	-	88
Dick Doyle	-	90
Fran Berdine	-	91
George Ulbrich	-	99

5. New Jersey GCSA - 354

Angelo Petraglia	-	78
Barry Shawn	-	88
Floyd Staats	-	94
Wayne Remo	-	94
Jim Remo	-	96
Steve Finamore	-	97

Another Scientific Marvel: Finding What Turned the Greens to Browns

By Haywood Klein
Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

CHICAGO—Dead grass in the front yard may be just an ugly nuisance. On the putting green, it's a disaster.

Over the past year or so, disaster has been attracting more attention in the Midwest, where the putting greens of hundreds of golf courses sprout a special grass called Toronto C-15. A mysterious disease has attacked the greens of about 50 courses, including at least one course on the Professional Golfers of America tour.

In response, a histopathologist was flown from Virginia to examine the grass fibers. A mycologist in Ohio checked for fungi, and a nematologist searched for worms. A pathologist, a microbiologist and a chemist also tried to diagnose the disease, Houston B. Couch, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute histopathologist who coordinated the investigation, jokes that to pro golfers an epidemic "would be like all the Lincoln Continentals and Mercedes-Benzes dying at the same time."

Bumps and Bacteria

All the victimized courses can trace their grass to an experimental plot grown in the 1940s on the ninth green at Westmoreland Country Club, Wilmette, Ill. The disease makes greens so bumpy and discolored that some golfers call them "browns."

After other diagnostic tools failed, David L. Roberts, a graduate student at Michigan State University, solved the mystery with an electron microscope. He found a strain of bacteria, the first known to attack golf course grasses. "There were so many in there," he says, "they were stopping the water movement. The plant would wilt and eventually die."

Spikes or Putter?

Researchers suspect golfers spread the disease when they walk on an infected green in spiked shoes and play their next round on another course. Other possibilities: mowers, putters, even birds' feet.

Tetracycline, the antibiotic used to control bacterial infections in people, can cure the grass. But the cure is expensive and probably only temporary; eventually, the bacteria are likely to resist the medication. Reseeding ailing greens with another grass can take years, and the results can leave greens uneven.

The only other known cure: Kill the grass and soil beneath, and then replant with another variety. That has been done at Butler

Upgrading the K301 Kohler Engine

I am writing this article because I feel my mechanic and I have found a very inexpensive way to upgrade the Kohler K301 twelve-horse engine.

Since I have been at Troy C.C., we have had a problem with the Super Pro and Greenmaster three triplex mowers overheating. Discussing this with other superintendents, I have found this to be a problem on hilly courses, such as ours with this engine.

Four years ago, we purchased a new Greenmaster three triplex mower. It had a new upgraded engine, the K301 fourteen horse. The added two horsepower was enough to alleviate our problem. We also learned the manufacturer had upgraded the Super Pro engine in the same manner to solve the overheating problem.

Three years ago, we were going to put short blocks on our Super Pro and Greenmaster three, which had the twelve-horse engines. Both engines have had the cylinders bored to .030 a few years before. We thought we could not have them bored again because the cylinder walls would become too thin.

We began comparing the K301A fourteen-horse engine with the K301 twelve-horse engine. The model numbers being almost the same meant the blocks themselves were identical. Only the specification numbers were different, meaning internal parts would differ. With a Kohler small engine manual, we started comparing the different specifications. We discovered the only difference was the cylinder bore size. In the twelve-horse engine it was 3- $\frac{3}{8}$ " versus the fourteen-horse which was 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". This being the only difference, all we needed to purchase was a piston and a set of rings for the fourteen-horse engine. Then we took the engine to a machine shop and had the cylinder bored to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". We put the engines back together, and these two machines are currently in their fourth summer of use. They have never overheated and have performed as well, if not better, than I could have ever expected. Our cost analysis was a savings of approximately \$325. on the two machines.

I am passing this information along as it is an easy way to upgrade these engines at very little cost.

Mark Graves

National Golf Club in Oak Brook, Ill., (site of the Western Open) and, more recently, at the Village Links in Glen Ellyn, Ill. Replanting at Glen Ellyn cost \$30,000 but the course will be closed until next spring, costing the club another \$200,000 in revenue.

Grass Catcher

Recent rumor of job openings have precipitated the sending of resumes to clubs where the job has not opened. Such actions shows a total lack of adherence to the bylaws of both CAGCS and GCSAA and most importantly demonstrate a complete lack of courtesy and sensitivity to the superintendent whose position may or may not be in jeopardy. Please refrain from this type of activity until a particular position opening has been publicly stated or until you have confirmed that the position is open by talking to the superintendent involved.

Steve Cadenelli

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The third annual CAGCS Winter Seminar is scheduled for January 13, 1982. Make plans now to attend.

* * * * *

Steve DiVito has been appointed to replace Ray Beaudry as director and social committee chairman for our association.

* * * * *

Tumblebrook Country Club's Golf Course Superintendent David Stimson has successfully completed the necessary requirements to maintain his Certified Golf Course Superintendent status. Congratulations and keep up the good work Dave.

* * * * *

Barry Patraska recently scored a hole-in-one on the third hole at the H. Smith Richardson Golf Course. Way to go Barry!



The 18th at
H. Smith Richardson

Meet Your Class "C" Members

A class "C" member is a commercial member -any member who is supplying or servicing the turf industry. They cannot vote or hold office in our association.

In an effort to acquaint our membership with our commercial members, "Conn. Clippings" will run a feature on a commercial member drawn at random for each edition of the newsletter.

Our featured member for this issue is Roy Sibley, products salesman for the C. Hart Seed Co. of Wethersfield, Connecticut. Roy has been selling seed and chemicals from Hart Seed Co. to Connecticut Superintendents for the past three years. Roy is no stranger to the sales field. Before Hart seed, Roy sold turf equipment for Turf Products Corporation in South Windsor for five years. And for 18 years before that, he sold chemicals for the Agrico chemical company.

When Roy is not on the road, he is usually enjoying some fishing, duck hunting or a round of golf. Roy and his wife, Dianne, have two sons and two daughters. Roy has been a member of CAGCS since 1975.

Golf Results

CLINTON COUNTRY CLUB

"A" Division			
Low Gross	-	P. Pierson	
Low Net	-	J. Fabiani	
2nd Net	-	D. Roule	
"B" Division			
Low Gross	-	D. Hosking	
Low Net	-	R. Phipps	
2nd Net	-	E. Johnson	
3rd. Net	-	A. Arison	
4th Net	-	B. Somers	
"C" Division			
Low Gross	-	T. Fletcher	
Low Net	-	J. Wistrand	
2nd Net	-	P. Grover	

Guest Division

Low Gross	-	D. Cole
Low Net	-	R. Jefferson

PAUTIPAUG COUNTRY CLUB

"A" Division			
Low Gross	-	P. Pierson	
Low Net	-	G. Wojick	
2nd Net	-	C. Meyers	
"B" Division			
Low Gross	-	B. Furgess	
Low Net	-	G. Bryant	
2nd Net	-	B. Pope	
3rd Net	-	M. Fuller	
"C" Division			
Low Gross	-	T. Fletcher	
Low Net	-	D. Cooper	
2nd Net	-	T. Maddocks	
Guest Division			
Low Gross	-	Brunetti	
Low Net	-	N. Jackson	

National News



GCSAA Highlights

Brochures have been sent to all GCSAA members outlining the Fall Seminar program for 1981. GCSAA's Insect Seminar is being presented by Dr. Harry Niemczyk at the Sheraton Tara Hotel in Framingham, MA on October 20 and 21. The Disease Seminar is being presented by Dr. Houston Couch at the Tappan Zee Townhouse in Nyack, NY on October 28 and 29 and at the Sheraton Airport Inn in Colonie (near Albany), NY on Nov. 10 and 11. All of these locations are easily reached from all points in Connecticut with only moderate drives involved. Don't hesitate to take advantage of these excellent educational opportunities that are being presented by two of the finest educators in turf management today. Nonmembers of GCSAA or member who may not have received the brochure should contact Steve Cadenelli who will gladly forward the brochures to you.

GCSAA celebrates its 55th anniversary in 1981 having been founded at the Sylvania Country Club in Toledo, Ohio on September 13, 1926. The association has changed quite a bit since the original sixty members came together, swelling to a membership in excess of 5,000. Along with this growth has been the tremendous change in the profession of golf course management developed over the years by members of GSCAA and others who have striven to provide the best possible conditions by which the game of golf could be played. Let us hope and work for continued growth and development over the next 55 years.

Shortly, GCSAA members will receive all the necessary ingredients to ensure a most successful 1982 conference experience . . . and what a conference GCSAA has put together! Highlighted by keynote speaker Jim McKay, world renowned host of ABC's "Wide World of Sports" and anchorman for ABC's coverage of such premiere golf tournaments as the Master's and the U.S. Open, and as expanded educational format with major emphasis on water management and conversation, the 1982 conference promises to be a worthwhile and useful experience. Your conference package will include information aimed at assisting attendees every step of the way to New Orleans. Steve Cadenelli

Future Happenings

October 28-29, 1981

Disease Identification & Control Seminar

(Sponsored by the GCSAA)

Instructor: Dr. Houston Couch

Location: Tappan Zee Townhouse
Nyack, NY.

Fees: \$140.00 MEMBER Pre-regis-
tration

\$160.00 NON-MEMBER and
ALL on-site registration

(fees include all training sessions, reference materials, optional examination and certificate of achievement, refreshment breaks and two luncheons. All other meals and housing are the responsibility of each individual.) Contact Steve Cadenelli for more information on the seminar.

November 10, 1981

CAGCS Annual Meeting

Glastonbury Hills Country Club

Glastonbury, Connecticut

Host Superintendent - Roger Barrett

December 12, 1981

CAGCS Annual Christmas Party

Chippanee Country Club

\$55.00/couple (Price includes your choice or Prime Rib of Beef or Baked Stuffed Shrimp, cocktail hour, gifts for the ladies, door prizes, and dancing to the music of Four plus Four.)

Golfers Love It

"No More Par 5's?"

NORWALK, CT.—All golf balls are not created equal. At least not any more. A small Connecticut company has introduced a controversial new ball it guarantees will out-distance all legal balls, including Hogan, Top Flight, MaxFli and Titleist. The new ball is so "hot" it threatens to pull the rug on par, as we know it, and that might have the United States Golf Association worried.

For thirty-eight years the U.S.G.A. has strictly enforced the rule that a golf ball may not exceed a velocity of 250 feet-per-second off the club head. Without this and other restrictions, high-powered super balls would soon outmode most golf courses. Par fives could disappear, and even an average player could regularly blast 300-yard drives. So far major U.S. manufacturers have observed this speed limit and other U.S.G.A. rules designed to keep all balls created equal.

But now, a little-known company called H & L Labs is distributing a ball that violates nearly every rule in the book, and the result is a ball that flies down the fairway like a Ferrari on the run.

The ball has provoked heated controversy because it looks, sounds, and feels exactly like a regular ball. H & L refuses the ball's name to anyone but a buyer—they simply call it "The Hot One"—so about the only way another player can tell he's playing against one is to keep a radar set in his bag.

And while golf prides itself on being a gentlemen's game, it seems that more than 40,000 gentlemen—and ladies—are carrying these innocent-looking buzz bombs in their bags. Some say if the U.S.G.A. ever approved the engineering in this ball, pros might start shooting in the 50's.

What's special about the illegal ball? John McGuire, the director of H & L, told me this: "We've doctored up the ball's aerodynamics so that it has less drag than conventional balls. You can tell the difference with your first drive. What's more, the special design could help keep tee and fairway shots straight down the middle... 'bites and sits' with more authority... putts with a steadier roll... and is virtually cut-proof." McGuire believes that more money is going to change hands with this little white bandit than all the tournament purses put together.

So far most pro shops don't dare carry it, but if you want to "test drive" the world's longest ball, H & L will send you one FREE. Just order a dozen balls and they will send you thirteen. They ask you to use the extra ball for a few holes. Tests against the best legal balls on the market prove you could add as much as 22 yards to your tee shots. If you don't, return the remaining dozen for a

prompt refund. The free ball is yours to keep in any case—for fun or profit.

And if you ever cut one of these super balls in normal play, H & L will replace it free. You pay only the return postage, about 25¢.

A dozen hot balls cost \$19.95 (plus \$1.75 postage and handling). Two or more dozen costs just \$18.00 each and H & L pays all shipping costs. The address is: H & L Labs (Dept. HO 63), 18 Lois Street, Norwalk, CT 06851. You can send a check or charge it, but be sure you give them your card's account number and expiration date.

Why Do Superintendent's Belong To GCSAA?

They are proud of their profession and want to improve it.

They recognize that a strong organization can better represent the combined interests of the profession through its unified voice.

They are convinced that professional growth can best be achieved through the union of similarly minded colleagues.

They realize that their active participation in the Association can shape the future of their profession.

They have discovered that the Association's activities, programs and publications can keep them abreast of the latest technological information.

They believe that a strong Association can strengthen their regional and local turf organizations and programs.

They understand that their personal participation can assist other superintendents and the turfgrass industry.

They know that the resources of a vast organization can only act to increase their professional stature, knowledge and abilities.

They appreciate the opportunities they will have to attend national and regional educational assemblies, developed to meet their specific needs.

GOLF IN THE LATER YEARS

My muscles are flabby;

I can't hit a drive.

My mind often doubts if

I'm really alive.

My chipping is lousy,

I never could putt.

I guess I'll just stay home and
just sit on my butt.

My iron plays awful,

my woods are as bad,

I'm describing my game as a
shade short of sad.

So the outlook today is for
grief and for sorrow.

Say! who can we get for a
fourth tomorrow?



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