

# CONNECTICUT



## CLIPPINGS

JUNE - JULY 1982

Volume 15, Number 3

### President's Message

It has become clear to me that there is need for a change in our current policy concerning registration for our monthly meetings. At present, it is extremely difficult to get an accurate attendance count, which is unfair to the host club, its superintendent, and manager. The present system is just not working.

After researching the problem and conferring with others with similar problems, the policy will be the following; an incentive plan to encourage Association members to send in their registration cards and then attend the meetings. One dollar should be added to the cost of the dinner at our monthly meetings. That extra dollar collected on each dinner will be set aside. At the end of every meeting, a registration card will be drawn from those returned, with the person whose card is randomly selected will receive the sum collected that evening. The winner, however, must be present. Those members who return their cards but do not attend the meeting or do not call the host superintendent before 9:00 A.M. the morning of the meeting to cancel will be billed for the cost of the dinner, if the Association is held responsible for the cost of that dinner.

It is the feeling of the Board of Directors that this new policy will help in arriving at a more accurate attendance count for our host clubs.

*Mike Wallace, CGCS*

#### NOTE TO EDITORS

PLEASE NOTE  
ADDRESS CHANGE  
OF "CONN. CLIPPINGS"  
EDITOR

### The Superintendent's Tour

#### Watertown—Bob Viera

Tuesday, July 20, the superintendent's tour will stop at the Watertown Golf Club where we will be greeted by one of the states' longer courses. Fortunately for most of us, the superintendents will be playing the white markers where the course measures around 6,300 yards. The real length is from the blue markers where the course stretches to around 6,900 yards. The Watertown Golf Club was originally designed as a nine-hole course in 1915 and was not enlarged to 18 holes until 1971 when the addition, designed by Jeff Cornish was opened. The original nine holes are numbers one, two, three, and 13 through 18. Host superintendent Bob Viera says that we will easily be able to recognize the newer holes with their larger greens and tees.

Bob is in his 24th year at Watertown having taken the job immediately after completing the turf course at UMass. He maintains the course with three year-round crew members, six during the spring and fall and 11 during the summer months. He says that he tries to play golf both Saturday and Sunday which helps to explain his 11 handicap. That handicap, incidentally, is up from a seven two years ago, but Bob says he's determined to get it back down again this year.

An all-around sports enthusiast, Bob has been a member of CAGCS for all of the 24 years he's been a superintendent, serving in just about every possible capacity there is within the Association, including President in 1972-73. Bob is married, and he and his wife, Betty, live in Watertown.

I, for one, am looking forward to the challenge of Watertown. We will be playing there the week after the State Junior Championships. They are held there every year, so it is a good chance to see how your game stacks up against the kids'. Bob says to watch out for the 12th with its very tight landing area—water on the right, OB on the left, a crossig brook about 235 to 240 yards off the tee. Sounds scary. See you there!

#### Hartford—Dave Roule

This year's Superintendent-Professional Invitational was held at the prestigious Hartford Golf Club, on Monday, June 14. Twelve-year Association member Dave Roule is the host superintendent, Gary Reynolds the host pro and Joseph Sanady the host manager.

The Hartford Golf Club's original 18 holes were designed in the late 1800s by Donald Ross. A third nine, added in the 1950s, was designed to capture the style of the original eighteen as closely as possible, preserving the Donald Ross character.

To say the Hartford Golf Club has 27 holes is a slight misnomer, as it actually has 29 golf holes, with the extras used for practice or for spares in the event a regular hole is temporarily closed for maintenance activity. The club's 1,400 members play a total of around 45,000 rounds a year, meaning all 29 holes are probably in use a fair percentage of the time.

In addition to the 29 holes of golf, Dave is responsible for the maintenance of the club's six paddle tennis courts,

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*Steve Cadenelli, CGCS Imm. Past President*  
*John Ferry Associate Director*

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.

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Greg Wojick, Editor  
1347 Newfield Avenue  
Stamford, CT 06905

### (Supt's Tour con't.)

six squash courts, three swimming pools, nine Har-tru tennis courts, six bowling alleys and six acres of flowers. No doubt, his year-round crew of eight and summer crew of 23 have plenty to keep them busy. The crew includes Dave's assistant, Association member Les Scheiber, and a full-time horticulturist to watch over the flowers.

Drainage problems, primarily on the newer nine, have resulted in an ongoing renovation project at Hartford. To date, three greens have been rebuilt, with another five to go. Since Dave became superintendent three years ago, a total of one mile of new drainage lines have been installed. As if that weren't enough, Dave also has a large landscape project in progress in the clubhouse area.

A 1968 graduate of UMass, with an Associates degree in both business and agronomy, Dave was the superintend-

ent at Clinton Country Club for seven years before moving on to Hartford. Prior to Clinton, he served three years as John Perry's assistant at Farmington. Dave and his wife, Janice have two daughters: Katie, who is two years old, and Tara, only ten weeks old. Tara had a few problems when she was born, requiring her to spend quite some time in intensive care. She's fine now, though, and Dave's enthusiasm when talking about this new family addition revealed just how happy he is to have her home. Somehow, this guy also maintains a five handicap, playing golf about once a week!

The annual "Pro-Superintendent" is always a special event, and with Hartford Golf Club as the site, it's bound to be that way again!

### Stanley-John Napieracz

The regular June CAGCS meeting was held at the Stanley Golf Course in New Britain. Stanley is a municipal course, consisting of 27 holes, the first nine of which date back to 1930. The entire course was renovated in 1973-1975, one nine per year, at which time greens and tees were rebuilt, and new irrigation systems were added. Jeff Cornish was the renovation architect. The 18 we play will measure 6,463 yards from the blues and 6,044 yards from the whites.

Although he didn't say it, host superintendent John Napieracz's biggest problem must be how to cope with the heavy play. Last year, a total of 93,139 18 hole rounds were played over the 27 holes. John has a year-round crew of five, with an additional six in the summer, to maintain the 27 holes.

This year, in an effort to save mowing time, John has begun mowing roughs and fairways at different heights. Prior to this year, everything was mowed at the same fairway height, resulting in 116 acres of fairway to mow. With only one fairway mowing unit on the equipment list, there just wasn't time enough in the week to mow all 116 acres more than once. As a result, about nine holes went with only one mowing per week resulting in some rather long fairway grass by the week's end. By adding some rough, the fairway mowing time will be drastically reduced. John and the rest of the Stanley management only hope that those 93,000 plus golfers will find their balls soon enough to keep play moving.

John began working at Stanley part time in 1970 while in high school. In 1974, he began Turf School at UMass,

and when he graduated in 1976, he became the assistant superintendent. Then, in 1978, John was named superintendent. He has been a member of CAGCS since 1977. Unlike the other two superintendents interviewed this issue, John is not a low-handicap golfer. He says he rarely plays more than once a month—at our monthly meetings. Like many of us, he became interested in the golf business because it afforded an opportunity to work outside. And he must love the outside, because he says he is allergic to grass and trees, switching from one allergy pill to the next as he develops immunities to them. I guess it still beats that stuffy office downtown somewhere.

Truly the outside lover, John enjoys skiing in the winter, and as a diversion in the summer, he operates a part-time irrigation installation business.

*John Motycha*

## GCSAA Highlights

April was an extremely busy month at GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence. Three of GCSAA's key groups, the Education Committee, Industrial Advisory Council, and the Executive Committee met with discussions aimed at evaluating the recently held New Orleans conference and the numerous information being assembled via the various surveys. Many far-reaching proposals having to do with the Association and its members in regards to future educational and marketing programs were discussed. These will be geared to further assisting the superintendent as well as improving the visibility and understanding of the Superintendent's profession.

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During a time when many conferences are suffering from the current economic slowdown, GCSAA's New Orleans conference enjoyed an increase in attendance. Although total registration was down slightly from Anaheim, paid attendance was up 11.7%.

\*\*\*\*\*

Should Golf Course Superintendents be voluntarily licensed as professionals by their respective states? A study group in Nebraska is looking into such a proposal with hopes of making a report in the next few months. The group is studying other licensed professionals in Nebraska such as landscape architects for reference and comparisons.

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## Meet Your Class "C" Member

### Steve Smith

Our featured member for this issue is Steve Smith from I&E Supply Corp. in Milford, Conn. Originally a golf course superintendent for 11 years, Steve is now an irrigation equipment salesman. A family man living in Montgomery, New York, his hobbies include fishing, hunting and antiques. Steve, a member of six professional associations, points out that salespeople have a wealth of information and valuable input, and he would like to see commercial members more involved in association committee activities.

*Mike Reeb*

*(Highlights, con't.)*

The various surveys being conducted by GCSAA are providing reams of interesting and useful information. The excellent response of the membership to these surveys is providing information that will assist staff in developing educational as well as other programs in the future. An initial analysis of the demographic survey shows that the average Class A GCSAA member is 40.87 years of age; is a superintendent of an 18-hole private course where he has full grounds responsibility and has been in his present position 8.35 years. It is also the third position he has held. He is college educated, plays 21.14 rounds of golf per year, maintains a 10 handicap and is generally satisfied with the progress of his career. He and his wife, who works, have 1.5 children. Above all, he is proud of his profession and his Association.

\*\*\*\*\*

GCSAA is developing what, hopefully, will be a significant resource center worthy of national recognition in the golf community. Any contributions of technical, golf or business related books or periodicals will be welcomed. Contributions should be mailed to GCSAA Headquarters, 1617 St. Andrews Dr. Lawrence, KA 66044.

\*\*\*\*\*

Gold GCSAA membership cards will gain admittance to all USGA, PGA, and LPGA events as well as the Masters and PGA Championship. For your convenience, simply present your card at the "Will Call" booth at the tournament.

*Steve Cadenelli, CGCS*

## Experiment Station Studies Accidental Death of Bees

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven is checking the cause of death of bees that beekeepers suspect die from unintentional contact with pesticides.

The tests are a result of cooperation between the Station and beekeeper organizations. There are 2,500 registered beekeepers and about 8,000 colonies of bees in the State.

"Because bees are insects, several insecticides can kill them," said John F. Anderson, chief entomologist at the Experiment Station. "Now, we are learning whether, in fact, pesticides are accidentally responsible for many deaths of bees." Bees may encounter pesticides in flowers that have been sprayed directly, or have been subjected to spray. The impact of the deaths on the colonies may be minor to significant.

Last year, several pesticides were found in measureable amounts in six of eight samples of dead bees examined at the Experiment Station. Three samples contained methyl parathion. Other pesticides found were: chlor-dane, diazaron, and thiodan.

So far this year, the Experiment Station has analyzed six samples. Of these, four contained measureable amounts of Sevin, another contained Thiodan, one contained no pesticide. Ten other reports of bee deaths are under investigation.

"The Experiment Station will continue monitoring of the deaths of bees throughout the season," Anderson said. "As the spring and summer progress, different pesticides will be in use in the state, depending upon the insects to be controlled."

Anderson has urged the beekeepers to notify him of dead bees. Upon receiving a report, Bee Inspector Alan Poole goes to the hives to collect information and to obtain frozen bees from the beekeeper. The inspection will reveal if disease or other obvious causes are responsible. The freezing prevents any pesticide from deteriorating.

The bees are taken to the Station for analysis. "We check for three types of pesticides: chlorinated and organophosphates and for Sevin," said J. Gordon Hanna, chief chemist.

## Grass Catcher

As many of you already know, I have left the Willimantic Country Club and have begun work at the Sterling Farms Golf Course in Stamford. I will be replacing retiring superintendent Joe Gillardi, a MGCSA member, who is moving to Florida. The responsibility of the Willimantic Country Club golf course is now in the very capable hands of Steve Radcliff, formerly Dave Stimson's second assistant at Tumblebrook. Steve, his wife, Meg, and his 10-week-old son, Ben, will soon be moving to the Willimantic area. I wish Steve well at Willimantic and look forward to having him as a new CAGCS member.

\*\*\*\*\*

On May 6, 1982, CAGCS members Mike Wallace, Peter Pierson, Tom Fletcher, David Stimson, Jim Medieros, Mike Chrzanowski and I attended the annual Pro-Media day at the Edgewood Golf Club. Members of the press, Conn. section PGA pros and golf equipment representatives also attended. We all enjoyed a round of golf at the future site of the Greater Hartford Open.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mike Reeb, superintendent of the Redding Country Club, has agreed to accept the membership committee position on the CAGCS Board of Directors. Although Mike has been busy not only maintaining Redding's existing nine holes but also bringing nine new holes into shape, Mike says he will be happy to make time for the board. Welcome a—board, Mike!

\*\*\*\*\*

Passes to the 1982 GHO at the Wethersfield Country Club will be available through our association. Contact any member of the board regarding these passes.

*Greg Wojick, Editor*

*(Bees, con't.)*

The Station is continuing its regular monitoring to locate and destroy hives contaminated with foulbrood, a contagious disease of bees. Preventing the spread of foulbrood is the reason for the monitoring required by a State law.

## CAGCS History —1970

### Those Were The Days

On September 1, our association will hold its Press Day. All Connecticut sports writers are cordially invited to attend this meeting. Golf will start at 11 a.m. with dinner scheduled for 7 p.m. We are hoping for a good turnout of writers for this event. The meeting will be held at one of the finest golf courses in Connecticut, the Hartford Golf Club, where Al Hawkins supervises the golf course operations.

\*\*\*\*\*

Noise pollution is a term we are becoming more aware of today. The superintendent should consider this factor in the choice and use of equipment. The decibel rating for most tractors is between 80 and 110. Speech and hearing specialists say the danger level of sound is 85 decibels. The decibel scale is used to measure sound intensity. Doctors say hearing loss caused by noise does not respond well to hearing aid treatment and is usually not improved by surgery. Some danger signs to look for: (1) difficulty in talking while tractor engine is running, (2) ringing ears or head after engine is turned off and (3) muffled speech when others try to communicate.

\*\*\*\*\*

While on the subject of noise, the Rosewood in Simsbury should be a real noisy place on Sunday, August 9, as our association holds its annual outing for members and their wives. Softball, swimming, shuffleboard, girl-watching and great food are on the agenda. Join the fun starting at 1:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

Watertown Golf Course, where Bob Viera is superintendent, is moving ahead with its plans to construct six holes to replace six holes in the existing 18-hole layout. Taft School, which owns the land that the course is on, plans to expand their network of buildings over five holes of the present layout. The new holes will be built on 90 acres of land with an approximate cost of land purchase and development of about \$250,000. The new holes will add considerable length to the golf course.

*Reprinted from  
"Conn. Clippings" 1970*



Part of the early Spring golf contingent at Shorehaven include (from left to right) Dan Cancelleri, Tony Savone, Al Arison and Bert Furgess

### Front Nine – Back Nine

If we had not been headed for the Shorehaven Golf Club on April 13, we might not have played at all. The snow was still visible in many other parts of Connecticut, but the coast was nearly clear of snow.

There were 33 golfers at Shorehaven which included a number of superintendents from the Metropolitan Association. Paul Caswell, from the Greenwich Country Club, had a fine 38-44-82 which, with his 14 handicap, gave him first net of 68.

The results:

Paul Caswell	- 82-14-68
Bert Furgess	- 85-16-69
Bob Osterman	- 90-20-70
David Stimson	- 93-22-71
Dennis Flynn	- 93-22-71
Bob Phipps	- 84-12-72
Greg Wojick	- 87-12-75
Dan Cancelleri	- 89-14-75
Sam Longo	- 98-23-75

I was very pleased that everyone came prepared with their handicaps, and I want to express thanks to Dale Khalden, Golf Professional at Shorehaven, for his great cooperation at our April meeting.



Steve Smith and Bob Alonzi interrupt concentration of serious golfer attempting to make big money putt.

The results from The Farms Country Club:

Superintendents:

Gross - P. Pierson	73
Net - F. Lamphier	72
D. Duncan	72
H. Lenon	72
R. Hedden	73
G. Wojick	73

Managers:

Gross - L. Vigne	80
Net - G. Torcellini	74
L. Reeves	76
R. Lacoursiere	77
G. Poole	77
J. Lippke	78

Closest to Pin: Mgr. - J. Grillo  
W. Warner

Supt. - W. Somers  
B. Petrasko

Closest to Line: D. Pierson

Peter Pierson

### Don't Get Beat By The Heat

As you get older, your body becomes less able to respond to long exposure to heat or cold. During hot and humid weather, a buildup in body heat can cause heat stroke or heat exhaustion, particularly in the elderly. This is especially true of those with heart and circulatory diseases or diabetes.

Heat stroke is a medical emergency requiring immediate attention and treatment by a doctor. Among the signs and symptoms are faintness, dizziness, elevated body temperature (often 104°F (40°C) or higher), rapid pulse and hot, dry skin due to absence of sweating.

Heat exhaustion or heat prostration is the most common of the heat-related disorders. A heat collapse usually occurs suddenly and may be preceded by weakness, heavy sweating, nausea and giddiness. It is usually brief and relieved by placing the victim in a prone position in a cool place.

## Future Happenings

### June 23

UMass Annual Field Day

Turf Plots

South Deerfield, MA.

### June 24-27

Manufacturers Hanover Classic

Westchester Country Club

Rye, N.Y.

*Ted Horton, Superintendent*

### July 20

CAGCS Monthly Meeting/Luncheon

Watertown Golf Club

Watertown, CT

*Bob Viera, Host Superintendent*

*Brian Silva, Guest Speaker*

### August 10

CAGCS Monthly Meeting/Luncheon

Highland Golf Club

Shelton, CT

*Kevin D'Amico, Host Superintendent*

### August 12-15

TPA Greater Hartford Open

Wethersfield Country Club

Wethersfield, CT

*Fred Bachand, Superintendent*

### August 25

URI Field Day

Turf Plots

South Kingston, RI

### September 30

Superintendent Team Championship

Ridgewood Country Club

Ridgewood, NJ

### October 5

CAGCS S&R Tournament

Edgewood Golf Club

Cromwell, CT

*(Heat con't.)*

The National Institute on Aging's *Age Page* offers the following tips to remain cool in hot weather:

- Stay out of direct sunlight and avoid strenuous activity.
- Wear lightweight, lightcolored, loose fitting clothing that permits sweat to evaporate.
- Drink plenty of liquids such as water, fruit and vegetable juices, and iced tea to replace the fluids lost by sweating.
- Take cool baths or showers.
- Cool yourself with icebags or wet towels.
- Try not to drink alcoholic beverages or fluids that have too much salt, since salt can complicate existing medical problems, such as high blood pressure.
- Above all, take the heat seriously, and don't ignore danger signs like nausea, dizziness and fatigue.

*Aetna*

## Study Last Summer's Disease Problems To Plan This Summer's Control Program

Summer is the season when you want your course to look its best, but it's also a time of increased stress on turf, which makes disease more likely.

"Summer's warm, humid conditions encourage such turf diseases as brown patch, dollar spot, leaf spot and pythium blight," says Todd Cutting, TUCO agricultural chemical technical extension field representative. "At the same time, the heavy play a course gets during this time places additional stress on the turf, making it more susceptible to disease problems."

That's why a superintendent who wants to keep his course free from ugly disease blemishes—and himself free from golfer complaints—should carefully plan a program that will prevent summer diseases.

"The best way to plan a disease control program for this summer is to go back and analyze what happened on your course last summer," Cutting suggests. He recommends that superintendents analyze these factors:

1. Which disease or diseases caused you the most problems last summer, and where? When did these problems first appear and can you pinpoint the cause? If you can answer these questions, you'll know what your most likely disease threat will be this summer, when you're most likely to face it, and where.

2. The next step is to analyze cultural practices. Fertilization should provide minimum levels of essential nutrients; excessively high nitrogen levels may increase turf's susceptibility to such diseases as Fusarium patch and brown patch. Thatch levels thicker than a half inch also encourage disease development, particularly if the area is poorly drained.

Turf which remains damp for long periods of time is more susceptible to disease, so it is recommended that brushing, poling or hosing be used to remove dew from grass blades. It also is recommended that sand be used to improve subsurface drainage and aeration. Avoid planting foliage in areas where it will block movement of wind through the turf to dry off grass blades.

Avoid daily, light applications of water, particularly in late afternoon or evening. It is recommended that water be applied as infrequently as possible, but at a depth of six inches or more, with each irrigation.

By analyzing last summer's disease problems and where they occurred, it may be possible to pinpoint specific cultural practices that are encouraging the problems.

3. Use of cultural practices that discourage turf diseases often is not sufficient to prevent disease outbreaks, because weather stress, coupled with the stress caused by heavy course play, cannot be controlled.

"This is why a preventative program should include regularly scheduled fungicide applications every 7-10 days, when weather conditions favor disease development," Cutting says. "By analyzing last year's problems and where they occurred, you can select a fungicide that will be effective against those specific problems and plan applications in areas where problems are most likely to occur."

Cutting recommends use of broad spectrum antibiotic fungicides which are economical enough to allow a greater number of treatments than many other fungicides and is effective against major summer diseases. In addition, it is compatible with most insecticides.

"A successful disease prevention program should include both proper cultural practices and a scheduled program of fungicide applications before disease signs appear," Cutting emphasizes. "Planning and carrying out a total preventative program can minimize turf disease problems at a time of the year when your course needs to be in top shape."

*The Upjohn Company*

## Would You Believe...

For 18 Years, **Anthony Lo Russo** tended fairways and greens as a golf course greenskeeper and when he retired he said—OK, that's it. He ripped up his front yard and paved it over with 6 inches of concrete. Then he slapped some green acrylic paint over the whole

thing. "All it takes is a can of paint that costs about \$11," he said. "I only need to paint it every two years and I get about two paintings out of a can. He didn't stop there, either. He also has an empty flower box and his yard has no trees. Lo Russo says, "I'd guess you'd call me kind of lazy."

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