CONNECTICUT



CLIPPINGS

MAY/JUNE 1983

Volume 16, Number 2

President's Message



Spring is upon us and with it a flood of tasks. Mother Nature is not helping us in our efforts to ready our courses for play. The last thing on most of our

minds now is the need for more water. Indeed, most of us are looking to rid ourselves of a few thousand

I am sure most of you have started to fill out the required forms for the Department of Environmental Protection in regard to registering your water supplies. This is just a reminder not to let this important issue fall by the wayside in the spring rush and have it be forgotten. It would be a tragedy if it did.

We on the board have done all we can to inform you of this important issue. Please help us and contact your neighboring club and just remind them of the requirement to register. This requirement is too important to leave to chance. We also mailed out cards in our last mailing which you could mail back for more information. If you have any questions please call me and I will help you to get the answers or put you in touch with someone who can.

P.S. Don't forget to smell the roses along the path of life.

Michael Wallace, C.G.C.S. President C.A.G.C.S.

Plenty of people miss their share of happiness not because they never found it, but because they didn't stop to enjoy it.—William Feather



Arnold Palmer accepts the first annual old Tom Morris award at the GCSAA Banquet in Atlanta at the Conference & Show. Pictured left to right are: Mike Bavier, Jim Wylie, Arnold Palmer, Eugene Baston, Bob Osterman.

Bob Osterman — A Success Story

Few who have known him for any length of time question his willingness and ability to succeed. An intense man with an incredibly uncanny sense of assessing any given situation as it relates to him and how he might make the best of that situation. A driven man with goals who is not easily defeated and who will follow through to the nth degree. A self-confident, assured, and compassionate man with convictions who does not hesitate to put those convictions into practice. These and many other traits are Bob Osterman, GCSAA's 47th President and Connecticut's bearer of the leadership role within our national organization, a leadership role inaugurated by Charlie Boskin in 1974.

Bob's career in golf course management is somewhat unique in that the nearly sixteen years spent in the profession, all have been spent at the Connecticut Golf Club, formerly the Golf Club at Aspetuck. After a four year stint in the Navy and a brief fling in the banking industry, Bob went to work for the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company. While employed there, he and wife, Bev lived on an estate in Easton. As luck would have it, the estate was purchased by developer Lawrence Wien, who with architect Geoffrey Cornish, built the very exclusive all men's club. Bob went to work as Assistant Golf Course Superintendent under Superintendent Jim Gantley during construction, and in 1969 became Superintendent, a position he has held ever since.

(con't. 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 1347 Newfield Avenue Stamford, CT 06905

Meet Your Class "C" Members



Our class C member for this issue is Steve Kotowicz, sales representative for Pro-Lawn Products, Inc. of Syracuse, N.Y.

In addition to a background of working in agriculture since 1959, Steve possesses

Steve Kotowicz an associates degree in Nursery Management from Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture, 1961, and also a B.S. in ornamental Horticulture from UConn College of Agriculture, 1966.

He has spent two years in the U.S. Army, worked for a landscape construction firm, and held a managerial position for several years at Kelley Nurseries in Darien, Ct., before reaching his current position.

Living in Bethel, Ct., with his wife Jeanne and children, Susan 16, Diana 12, and David 11/2, Steve enjoys gardening, getting involved with various church and grange activities, and refinishing old houses.

(con't. from page 1)

During his career Bob has been very active in professional and civic organizations; active in the Democratic party of Easton, Little League and as everyone knows, extremely active within CAGCS. Bob's involvement within our association included nearly five years as Newsletter Editor, He has also served as director, Treasurer, V.P. and President, During this involvement, CAGCS made numerous forward strides in terms of membership development, recognition within the state golfing community, and programs for membership. Obviously, his interest and involvement with the national organization was natural and expected.

So much for the past. What are Bob's thoughts as he begins his year as GCSAA President as well as plans beyond 1983? It would be a great understatement to say Bob is excited, enthused, and anxious regarding the tasks ahead. His main goals during his year as President are to solve the expansion/relocation issue regarding headquarters; to activiate the long range education plan; and to develop more membership involvement within the association, as well as increasing membership.

Bob truly believes that membership in GCSAA offers numerous benefits to the superintendent. Beyond the tangible items such as the Conference magazine, insurance programs and educational offerings, is the opportunity to associate oneself with a professional, dynamic and progressive organization. He feels that the organization is receiving greater recognition and appreciation within the national golfing community for the contribution made by the superintendent in preparing and maintaining the golfing facilities throughout the country. Bob points to the tremendous reception he and Executive Director Jim McLoughlin received at the recently completed Masters Tournament in Augusta, as a prime example of the developing status of the Golf Course Superintendent. He believes the image of the superintendent, that many members feel has been lacking, is fast developing and will continue to do so given the fact that the organization now has the tools (dollars) to insure our being seen and heard!

Finally, Bob believes that is is impossible to overstate the personal benefits of being involved with such an organization. He urges members to seek involvement with GCSAA for the opportunity to develop self-respect, self-confidence, respect from employees and staff, as well as the professional respect of your peers.

It is hard to imagine Bob settling into "semi-retirement" after his year as President ends. Surely there will be new and different challenges. He looks to spending more time at the club where he will be putting into action a long range plan that calls for considerable tree planting, bunker restoration and possible fairway renovation. He also looks to further his overall business and management skills through part time study and maybe, just maybe, relax a bit! Steve Cadenelli

Grass Catcher

The details are currently being worked out regarding CAGCS sports jackets. These jackets will add a touch-of-class to our association and our professional image. I hope every member will put some money aside for this distinctive addition to your wardrobe.

CAGCS vice-president, Peter Pierson, has recently notified Golf Course Management editor, Zahid Iqbal, regarding the poor coverage of the GCSAA Golf Tournament in the magazine. Hopefully, through Peter's efforts, coverage of this important event will be significantly improved next year.

The CAGCS information survey of golf course maintenance costs will be conducted this year. Mike Reed, Ted Maddocks and Steve Cadenelli will conduct the survey and compile the results. Participation was excellent for the 1979-1980 survey (54 class A members responded). Let's all participate this year. Remember that in order to receive a copy of the results, you must fill out the survey completely and accurately. The survey results will remain confidential information.

The organizational study committee is onceagain active. A re-evaluation of our class D member category is on the agenda for the next meeting. Comments about this or any other issue regarding the by-laws will be welcomed by the committee. The 1983 organizational study committee consists of Peter Pierson-chairman, Mike Wallace, Greg Wojick, Mark Fuller and Steve Cadenelli.

Richard Marcks, superintendent at the Black Hall Club, has been appointed to the CAGCS board of directors by President Michael Wallace. Richard assumes the responsibility as the public relations committee chairman. Richard has already outlined the responsibility and guildelines of his committee. They are as follows: Arrange media coverage for organization events. Keep the CAGCS informed of legislation affecting us, so that action can be taken before any bills become final. Act as intermediary between the association and the public to present the best possible image.

Dick Parsons will be admitted to Hartford Hospital on April 17 for heart surgery. We all wish you the best, Dick, and we know that you'll soon be back at the golf course growing fine turf.

(con't. on page 5)

The Superintendent's Tour

Black Hall Club

Black Hall, in Old Lyme, Connecticut, was the first 1983 superintendent tour stop. Host superintendent, Richard Marcks, had the course in super shape despite three inches of rain just two days before we got there. Rich has been the superintendent at Black Hall for just a year and a half, coming there from Westchester Country Club in Rye, N.Y. where he had worked his way up to assistant after having started out as mechanic.

Connecticut superintendents may remember the program Rich gave last fall on burn victims and their recovery. Rich was a burn victim himself six years ago when the radiator of the Econoline van in which he was riding blew up, resulting in second and third degree burns over 45% of his body. Rich is now very active helping similar burn victims recover. He is president of the Burn Recovery Association at Bridgeport Hospital and on the board of directors of the Connecticut Burn Care Foundation. In addition to CAGCS, Rich is also an active member of the MGCSA, New Jersey and New York turfgrass associations, as well as the GCSAA. He is married, and he and wife Evelyn, have three children, two boys and a girl ranging in age from 16 months to seven years. Although not a great golfer, Rich enjoys the game.

Rich and his ten-man crew have quite a few ongoing projects at Black Hall. These are underway or planned for the near future: a new practice green near the club-house; automating the irrigation system; automation of the pump house; major tree renovation and pruning program; and a five year overseeding program to convert the fairways to bentgrass.

John Motycka

Silver Springs-Peter Rappoccio



for the superintendent's tour will be Silver Springs Country Club in Ridgefield, Ct. The Silver Springs course measures about 6400 yds. with a tight, woodsy front nine, and a more open back

The June 1983 stop

Peter Rappoccio

nine. The club has 215 golf memberships with a resulting play of about 23,000 rounds per year.

Host superintendent at Silver Springs is Peter Rappoccio. Pete has been at Silver Springs since 1978, coming there from Fairview C.C. in Greenwich. Pete first earned a bachelor's degree from the University of New England and then followed that up by graduating from the two year turf program at Rutgers. He finished with all that schooling in 1975. Shortly after that, he was appointed assistant superintendent at Fairview where he had worked summers for many years.

Peter and wife, Birdie, have two boys, 4 and 1 years old. With a name like Birdie, you'd think she was an accomplished golfer, but she is just now learning the game. Peter plays about nine holes a week and maintains what is, by his own admission, a suspicious 18 handicap. Pete is an avid sports enthusiast, participating in hunting, fishing and bowling among others. In addition to being a member of CAGCS, Pete is vice president of the MGCSA—A busy man.

The Silver Springs superintendent also is responsible for 6 har-tru tennis courts and 2 paddle tennis courts. He has a summertime crew of 12 to maintain the entire facility. This year many greens and collars are being recontoured and plans are in the works to automate the fairway irrigation system. Only tees and greens are automatic at this time.

The Silver Springs course was constructed 53 years ago, having been designed by Robert White, then pro at Wykagill C.C. in nearby 'Westchester County, N.Y. Local contractors were used to build the course, assisted by many neighborhood kids, one of whom was Gino Torcellini. Mr. Torcellini is now the Club Manager at Silver Springs and has been for the past 35 years. Other Club officials are: President, Dr. Theodore Safford; Greens Chairman, Mr. Willis N. Mills, Jr.; and Pro, Bob Broska.

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

David Roule 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 1800's 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, 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 superintendent 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, one year plus. 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!

Future Happenings

May 10

CAGCS Meeting Suffield Country Club Host Superintendent—Tom Watroba

June 6-12

Westchester Classic Westchester Country Club

June 13

CAGCS Superintendent's Invitational Hartford Golf Club Host Superintendent—David Roule

June 23

CAGCS Meeting Silver Springs Country Club Host Superintendent—Peter Rappoccio

July 12

CAGCS Meeting
Tumblebrook Country Club
Host Superintendent—David
Stimson—CGCS

CAGCS Golf Schedule 1983

\$7.00 Entrance Fee for Golf Tournaments in 1983

April 12

Black hall G.C.—Host Supt., Richard marcks, NASSAU Tournament.

May 10

Suffield C.C.—Host Supt., Tom Watroba, Individual Stroke Play Tournament, McLaughlin Trophy, (Low Net for the day.)

June 13

Hartford G.C.—Host Supt., Dave Roule, CAGCS Invitational.

June 23

Silver Spring C.C.—Host Supt., Pete Rappoccio, Joint meeting Managers Association—Supt./Managers, 4-ball Stroke Play Tournament. Also Individual Stroke Play; managers, supt. flights.

July 12

Tumble Brook C.C.—Host Supt., Dave Stimson, Individual Stroke Play Tournament.

*Scores turned in will count toward CAGCS championship.

August 9

Washington G.C.—Host Supt., Bob Witowski, Individual Stroke Play Tournament.

*Scores turned in will count toward CAGCS championship.

September 13

Madison C.C.—Host Supt., Mike Chrzanowski, Individual Stroke Play Tournament.

*Scores turned in will count toward CAGCS championship.

October 4

Edgewood G.C.—Host Supt., Pete Pierson, S&R Tournament.

October 18

Pine Orchard—Host Supt., Harvey Lenon, Supt./Ass't. Tournament (4-ball Stroke Play) AND Individual Stroke Play Tournament. Conn. State Golf Association prize (low net for the day).

For the 1983 season you must have an official handicap (State or Club) to play in the following tournaments:

CAGCS Championship (July, August & Sept.) two of three Conn. State Golf Association prize (Oct.) CAGCS Invitational Match Play Tournament

Please establish a handicap for these tournaments.

O'Neill Strikes Again

Ah, for those good old days when Uncle Sam lived within his income—and without most of ours.—Barclay Braden

Taxed again! In February I received a copy of Governor O'Neill's Budget Address. The state must find more money somewhere and it's looking to find it in increased taxes.

On the last page of his address, O'Neill says, "The basic rate of our Sales and Use Tax should be cut from seven and one half percent to seven percent and the tax should be extended to motor fuels at the tank wagon price, to children's clothing, to meals under one dollar and to fertilizer and seed for non-farm use." After three tries, the budget was finally approved by the House of Representatives—but with the tax raised to seven and one half percent. This tax has been levied on all types of seed, fertilizer,

Editorial

The money in our research fund should not be divided up between Cornell, UCONN, UMASS, and URI research as has been the practice in the past. The total amount of the fund would be put to better use if all of it went toward one project. Let's put all our eggs in one basket and get some concrete benefit from our donation. With a large gift to one research project, CAGCS can take substantial credit for the results of a project that we can derive direct benefit from.

Let's ask area researchers for proposals and reasons why our money would help them and also demand progress reports and eventual conclusions from their work. We may want to give up to \$2500 dollars per year for five years if that's what it takes to complete our pet project. At the conclusion of the project we will have the results we want and, in part, take pride in the fact that we significantly contributed to its success.

Greg Wojick, Editor

Classifieds

WANTED:

Used reduced pressure back-flow preventer, 3" or 4".

CONTACT:

Steve Rackcliffe Willimantic Country Club (203) 423-4711

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Roll-Pac tennis court roller \$1000.00
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CONTACT:

Mike Reeb Ridgewood Country Club all chemicals and pesticides, lime and manure for everyone but farmers, nonprofit organizations and municipalities.

The effect of these taxes on an average 18 hole golf course ranges from \$2500 to \$3000 per year. The tax on gasoline in this state has been raised to fourteen cents per gallon.

How much of this are we going to sit back and take? Write letters! Make phone calls! Don't let it just happen! Now, more than ever before, we need a lobbyist to keep us informed of political actions that affect us. If we had know about this tax proposal in September, before it was presented to the House (and therefore too late to stop) we might have been able to kill it or at least, modify it.

New taxes, the Water Diversion Act, the raising of chemical license fees and the 24D issue are a few of the recent problems I believe could have been resolved more in our favor if we had engaged a lobbyist. Let the Board know how you feel about these issues and support a lobbyist to fight for the golf industry.

Richard Marcks

The income tax has made more liars out of the American people than golf has.—Will Rogers

The Office of Secretary-Treasurer



David Stimson

Let me explain the duties of the secretary-treasurer. As secretary, it is my duty to attend all board and membership meetings. I record and read all transactions of these meetings and keep them on file. I also

send out notice of all upcoming meetings to the membership and board.

As treasurer, I keep a record of all transactions of the association and give a report on the financial status of the association at the annual meeting, I am also responsible for billing of all dues of the association. Also the "duty of the treasurer is to receive and disburse all funds of the association with the approval of the board of directors."

Recently I have heard considerable discussion regarding our "uninformed membership." It is certainly not the intention of the board of directors to keep the membership uninformed. If any member would like to attend a CAGCS board meeting, you are always welcome. If any member would like to receive a copy of the minutes from board meetings or membership meetings, simply send me a self-addressed stamped envelope and I will be glad to send a copy to you.

Although the job of secretary-treasurer is time-consuming, I enjoy the challenge. If any member has any suggestions or ideas that may be helpful to me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

David C. Stimson CGCS Secretary-Treasurer

GCSAA HIGHLIGHTS

IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR-ACTU-ALLY, the start of a very good year and hopefully, many good years! Yes, the 1983 GCSAA Conference and Tournament provided those attending numerous opportunities for education, debate, controversy, golf, relaxation and above all, the opportunity to interact with colleagues from around the country. From the weather delayed shotgun start of the tournament at Myrtle Beach to the acceptance by Arnold Palmer of the Old Tom Morris Award at the annual banquet, enthusiasm and participation was at an all time high. So you askwhat all went on to create such excitement? Read on!!

Ans. #1 Some 260 participants met headon the challenges of Arcadian Shores Golf Club, Myrtle Beach National West Course, and some very soggy conditions during the well managed tournament. A very definite Connecticut influence was apparent throughout the tournament from Tournament Chairman Frank Lamphier, who performed excellently as usual, to the Connecticut #1 team of Mike Chrzanowski, Lamphier, Peter Pierson and David Roule which placed second net overall. Also, Bob Alonzi of Fairview Country Club in Greenwich won 1st place gross in the Blue Flight with scores 85/88-173. Others from Connecticut who finished "in the money" individually, included: Peter Pierson. Dave Roule and Mike Chrzanowski. The Connecticut contingent also included Ted Maddocks, Peter Rappoccio, Mark Fuller, Steve Cadenelli, Bob Osterman and Bob Phipps, all who saved their better scores for next year!

Ans. #2 A very diversified educational program which offered a myraid of topics to digest was at hand. Personal Finance, Computers, Business Management, Results from Turf Research, Dressing for Business & Style, Irrigation Management and Practical Solutions by Superintendents were but a few of the topics presented. The pre-conference seminars available offered a more intense program and were very well attended also.

Ans. #3 The unveiling of the new GCSAA Education and Certification Program opened many eyes, and, promises members an ongoing and varied course of career study. Also unveiled was a new Merchandise Program with sweaters, shirts, hats and other items with the GCSAA logo.

Ans. #4 The debate and controversy raised by the Coalition of Concerned Superintendents generated much interest on the part of many members. Points raised included staff salaries and expenses, relocation, dues structure, overall management policies and elections. This debate provided a positive open forum to discuss the listed points.



Conn. #1 Team members, left to right, D. Roule, M. Chrzanowski, F. Lamphier & P. Pierson.

Ans. #5 The approval by members in attendance at the annual meeting to raise the dues to \$145. The realization being that the continuation of existing programs, the development of new programs, and the ability to maintain superior staff could not be accomplished without additional revenues.

Ans. #6 An improved and more intense Ladies Program for the spouses attending proved highly satisfying and well received. Feedback to date has provided even more ideas for future improvement.

Ans. #7 The election of officers and directors with Connecticut's own Bob Osterman elected as GCSAA's 47th President. Others elected were Jim Timmerman, Michigan—Vice Preisdent; Dick Slivinski, Arizona—Director; Don Hearn, Massachusetts.

Ans. #8 The decision by the Executive Committee to appoint a separate committee to thoroughly sutdy the relocation issue. This Relocation Committee will make recommendations to the entire membership for a vote at the '84 Conference in Las Vegas.

YES-GCSAA is that dynamic. An organization with enthusiastic, intelligent, and well meaning leadership, a dedicated staff, and a goal to meet. That goal—the number one professional association in golf. So what are you waiting for? Associate yourself and organization that will help you help yourself as well as assisting you in better managing that golf course you're responsible for. Too expensive you say! Equate \$145 to a week's groceries, a half-dozen bedknives, or a new car payment. Think about it-\$145 is just \$2.80 a week. Really, it's too costly not to belong to GCSAA! Join as soon as possible and start realizing just how good it feels to be a part of a group on the go!!!!

Steve Cadenelli

(con't. from page 2)

Jim Medieros has, once-again, assembled a fine staff of assistants to help him with the education committee. The are: Gary Bryant, Byron Johnson, Al Arison, Steve Duran, Steve Cadenelli and John Callahan.

CAGCS board members are now required to write articles for Connecticut Clippings. This kind of input will undoubtedly improve our newsletter. Hopefully these articles will encourage other members to contribute as well. It is my job, as editor, to correct spelling, grammar and punctuation—so don't let that stop you from contributing. Consider these topics: editorial comment or reply (as Armand LeSage did in the last issue), an interesting project or observation at your course, evaluation of a new chemical (maybe you are trying embark or aqua-gro for seed head reduction or experimenting with vorlan or rubigan), growth habits and care of your favorite tree, shrub or flower, a cartoon, poetry, comment on a new piece of equipment you've acquired, views on clipping removal on fairways, your thoughts on computers, etc. The list could go on and on! Articles of this sort will make the newsletter more interesting and fun to read. Of course it will take time to sit down and write the article, but anything worthwhile does take

Connecticut Clippings did not win a newsletter award in the recent GCSAA newsletter contest. However, it did receive honorable mention in the 1982 National Golf Foundation golf publication contest.

New green books have been printed and will be distributed soon.

The following people have applied for membership in our association: Cindy Johnson-class B-Tumblebrook Country Club, Charles Marsala-class A-Farmingbury Hills Country Club, Harry Williams-class A-Norfolk Country Club, Steve Rackcliffe—class A—Willimantic Country Club, John Faricelli-class A-City of Meriden, Kim Dietal-class B-Madison Country Club, James Kilburnclass B-Ellington Ridge Country Club, Pat Lewis—class B—Sterling Farms Golf Club, Henry Lesinski-class C-Old Fox Chemical Co., and John Pluta-class A. Let's welcome these prospective members with a warm smile and a hand shake.

CAGCS will fail in its purpose if it is not closely geared to your needs. Your suggestions will be appreciated.

Greg Wojick, Editor

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