

CONNECTICUT



CLIPPINGS

MARCH 1984

Volume 17, Number 1

Roundtable

I was introduced this week to a side of golf unfamiliar to most golfers of my caliber.

Contrary to popular belief, it wasn't pars and birdies. I have seen a couple of them made.

The unsung heroes of golf—some 10,000 strong—were in town this week for their annual convention. They're a group that goes unnoticed when a course is in immaculate condition, but in hot demand when greens are burned or the ball washer doesn't work.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America gathered at the Convention Center for the 55th International Turfgrass Conference and Show displaying the latest innovations in golf course maintenance.

There were aisles and aisles of mowers, tractors, chippers and grinders, golf cars, engines, seeds, fertilizers, herbicides, fungicides and algacides, turfgrass, sweepers, sprayers, sprinklers and irrigation systems.

There were herbicides to eliminate the goosegrass or the crabgrass from the ryegrass or the bluegrass.

There were companies selling flag poles, flags, towels, ball washers, club washers and tee markers.

Also on hand were two Los Angeles Rams cheerleaders, who were escorted to Las Vegas by Sanfu to add a little spice to its booth. They sure would spruce up any golf course I know, and they were more attractive than any Toro mower, deluxe model or not.

One company—Clearwater Farms of Sheridan, Ark.—brought a couple of weed-eating white amur fish. A strict vegetarian, the fish clears lakes and ponds of choking weeds and unwanted vegetation. The company guarantees "live delivery"—a rather nice convenience.

The convention came at the right time for

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President's Message

1984 is upon us already. In a few short weeks we will all be preparing our courses for a new season. It is time to reflect on our performance as superintendents and strive to improve our objectives through attending local, regional, and national turfgrass conferences.

Our January seminar was well attended and provided us with an array of fine topics. I wish to thank Jim Medeiros and Eric Johnson for an excellent job of organizing the seminar.

In 1983 I lost a close friend and devoted member of CAGCS, Richard Parsons. A golf tournament in his name was held in July at Farmington Woods C.C. where he was superintendent. In December, Ron Holcomb and I attended a memorial service at Farmington Woods where a plaque was implanted on a rock as a memorial to Dick. We are now trying to schedule a second golf tournament in July at Farmington Woods and hopefully this will become an annual event. It was the wish of Dick's wife, Alma, that money from this tournament be used to purchase books for students from Connecticut attending winter school at Stockbridge. Dr. Troll has been contacted and hopefully these will be awarded at the banquet at the UMass Turfgrass Conference.

Our monthly meeting schedule is almost completed and hopefully will be mailed to the membership before the March meeting.

Also, Carl Wallace and his committee are actively seeking a site and date for the fall dinner/dance.

May I wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Sincerely,
David Stimson

Coordinated schedules—one key to a successful season



How many times have you been out aerifying the second green and found out that 50 dentists are on the first tee for their annual outing? Have you ever had to put off your aerification or topdressing

because there wasn't time to fit it in between tournaments?

Members cannot expect optimum conditions on your course unless all management level professionals and club officials meet before the season begins, to coordinate their efforts. Management level professionals include the club manager, golf professional, and golf course superintendent. Club officials can include the club president and vice president, tournament chairmen, social chairman, pro shop chairman, greens chairman, and ladies association tournament chairman or president.

Preparation before this meeting is very important and should consist of several steps:

- 1) A thorough examination of when tournaments have been played in the past.
- 2) A list of the dates when you would like to have your major maintenance operations done on the course.

- 3) Review periodicals, letters and other data provided to us by the USGA, GCSAA, UMass or other research organizations or golf course superintendents as to why the maintenance operation should be carried out at that time. Your fellow professionals and chairmen have the right to know—and it is part of being a professional to explain and make sure they understand. Prove yourself to them and be able to back it up.

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Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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James Medeiros, CGCS Steve Divito
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Carl Wallace *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.

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

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two local courses. The Las Vegas Country Club's Jerry Roberts, who begins as head professional at the Spanish Trails Country Club March 1, looked at golf cars for his new course.

Golf car company representatives met with management of the Las Vegas Golf Club which lost 82 golf cars in a recent fire.

I saw one model which was to my liking. It had headlights, tail lights, turn signals, a horn and an AM-FM car stereo. What? No cassette player? One simply can be ordered along with other extras such as a windshield, canopy top or hub caps.

This particular model was a mere \$3,200. A little expensive, sure, but it has its advantages. You could crank up that stereo when your opponent attempts a putt that will take your money. Or how about, "Sorry, I didn't mean to honk the horn"?

It was an interesting day—as well as educational. While I am still not learned in the different grasses and tractors, I do know who to attack when the ball washer doesn't return my Titleist.

*Credit: George Staresinic
Las Vegas Sun*

GCSAA & Las Vegas A Very Successful Combination



There's no doubt that Bob Osterman would, or could have, planned a different or better scenario for a year ending conference to his year as President of GCSAA. Surely the well attended (approximately 9,000 registrants), well orchestrated (120 speakers presenting 230 plus hours of continuing education), conference complete with national publicity (Bob Hope & Arnold Palmer in attendance) must have seemed as some kind of ironic justice to Bob whose year as President was anything but calm. Certainly the membership of GCSAA came away from Las Vegas with a feeling of accomplishment and pride in their association which was able to stage such a remarkable event under the trying circumstances which had prevailed during the previous nine months. It is impossible to adequately compliment John Schilling, Jim Prusa and the entire GCSAA staff for their dedicated and untiring efforts. Enthusiasm continues to

abound concerning the future of the Golf Course Superintendent in the community of golf because of the guidance of the Executive Committee and the abilities of the Lawrence staff.

The beautiful weather of Phoenix and the hospitality of the host golf clubs kicked off conference week (weeks) better than even Frank Lamphier could have hoped. The field for Frank's tournament (rather, GCSAA's Annual Championship) surpassed all previous numbers with 296 players. To a man (and a lady) everyone agreed that the event in Phoenix was unsurpassed. Fellow supers of the Cactus & Pine Association are to be thanked and congratulated for a job exceptionally well done. Once again Frank and Diana Green (of GCSAA staff) did a yeoman's job.

Tournament week was immediately followed by Seminar Weekend where nearly 600 members attended one of the sixteen or so scheduled seminars. Sunday saw the real kick-off to conference week at the membership briefing where Bob and fellow Executive Committee members reviewed the past year to those in attendance as well as answering numerous questions. Most agreed that the tone of the remaining conference week, a tone of compromise and understanding was established at the membership briefing. The rest of the week was clear sailing — a huge and active trade show — educational offerings where seats were hard to come by, and an immensely successful banquet highlighted by Bob Hope and Arnie. Frankly, the success of the entire conference and tournament was more than could have been expected. Congratulations to the Staff, the Executive Committee, and yes, to Bob O. for a job very well done!!!

Steve Cadenelli

Future Happenings

March 20

March CAGCS Meeting
Jacob's (My Dad's Steak House)
Meriden, CT

April 17

April CAGCS Meeting
Black Hall Club
Old Lyme, CT

May 17

May CAGCS Meeting
Greenwich Country Club
Greenwich, CT
Joint meeting with the MGCSA

GCSAA Election Results

President

James W. Timmerman, CGCS —
unanimous

Vice President

Eugene D. Boston, CGCS* 2213
Paul Boezille, CGCS 728
Riley L. Stottern, CGCS 251

Directors

John E. Lake, CGCS* 2733
Riley L. Stottern, CGCS* 2292
James M. Taylor, CGCS* 2230
Paul Boezille, CGCS 1154
Robert H. Ford, CGCS 626
Sanford G. Queen, CGCS 364

* elected

May 25, 1983

Mr. Harry W. Easterly, Jr.
Senior Executive Director
United States Golf Association
Golf House
Far Hills, New Jersey 07931

Dear Mr. Easterly:

The Board of Governors of Baltusrol Golf Club read with serious interest the article appearing in GOLF JOURNAL, "The Search for a Better Turfgrass." We feel strongly that the USGA's turfgrass research work as described in this article and your Turfgrass Research Case Statement will benefit our club, the game of golf, and, more generally, the quality of life in America.

We recognize that this research takes time and considerable funding. Baltusrol feels that as one of the beneficiaries of the USGA's research, we would like to lend our support. To this end, we are pleased to inform you that all Baltusrol golfing members have contributed \$2.00 each for a total contribution of \$1,000 to the USGA Foundation. These funds are to be used toward turfgrass research.

The enclosed donation is based on a formula of \$2.00 per golfing member. Supplemental contributions from individual club members are also being encouraged at Baltusrol, but the \$2.00 per golfing member will be received annually — as we realize the importance of a continuing program.

Baltusrol would like to be viewed as an active partner in the USGA mission to help preserve, protect, and promote the best interest of golf. We also look forward to receiving periodic reports about USGA turfgrass research activities and to continued participation in this worthwhile venture.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Hanna
President

Robert A. Potter
Vice President and
Greens Committee Chairman

Joseph R. Flaherty
Golf Course
Superintendent

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4) Bring a calendar with you, one that has plenty of room to write down events and other information.

5) Meet with your greens chairman prior to the full meeting to line up what you both want next year for your golf course. Make sure you both go into the meeting wanting the same schedule. Iron out any disagreements and ragged edges before you meet with the whole team.

Go to the meeting knowing what you want for the good of the golf course. Understand, though, that there will be times when you have to compromise. As long as your membership comes up with a workable total schedule for the next golfing season, you have accomplished one major goal: coordination. Maybe at the next year's meeting you will have to compromise less. Pay attention and make note of everything that occurs, especially rain dates for events, women's shotguns, and Sunday afternoon tournaments.

The time after the meeting is probably the most important part of coordination. Purchase a large twelve-month calendar—one on which all twelve months are visible at one time—and fill in all tournaments and scheduled work activities. In front of you will unfold a complete golf season, one that you can plan work around and not find yourself fighting against the tide.

Coordination does not end there. Check in a couple of times a week—or daily if possible—with your club manager and golf professional to see if any changes have occurred or if any new events or outings have been scheduled. None of us want to explain why the irrigation came on during a luau in the club garden on a hot July evening. It is important that things like this don't occur; to avoid them, we must work with our pros and our managers.

Coordination only works when all departments do the work that is planned and do it on schedule. Once the work is planned for and the time allotted to you for maintenance, then get it done! If you ask for a coordinated schedule, make sure you don't abuse time—yours or the club's. After all, when you disturb the course, you can affect the club's finances for a short period of time.

We as superintendents should try to convince our clubs to have coordination meetings. It is part of being a professional.

Armand H. LeSage



On Sunday, December 18, 1983, a ceremony was held to present a memorial plaque in memory of Dick Parsons. The ceremony was held on the ninth green, Farmington Woods Country Club. Shown in the above photo are (left to right) Patty Moore, chairperson for the tournament held at Farmington Woods in Dick's honor, Mrs. Alma Parsons, Dick's wife, and CAGCS President David Stimson.

Grass Catcher

Connecticut Clippings was selected as the newsletter with 'the best use of spot color' in the 1983 GCSAA chapter newsletter contest.

On February 18, 1983 Claire G. St. Pierre, wife of Leon St. Pierre, passed away after a short illness. Leon is the Golf Course Superintendent at Longmeadow Country Club in Massachusetts.

The musical chair activity continues... **Harvey Lenon** leaves the Pine Orchard Country Club and becomes the GCS at the Wallingford Country Club... **Richard Marcks** moves to the Fairview Country Club in Greenwich from Black Hall... **Mike Miner** gets his first GCS position at Maopak Country Club in N.Y., leaving his assistants' job at the Country Club of Fairfield... **Gary Bryant** left Minnechaug Golf Club to take on the Longshore Club in Westport... **Al Semprebbon** takes Minnechaug coming from Blackledge Golf Club in Hebron... **Herb Watson** has left his assistant's post at Wethersfield Country Club and accepted the head job at Indian Hill Country Club...

Bob Osterman may now have a chance to relax a little bit, having completed his term as 1983 President of GCSAA. Congratulations, Bob, on a job well done!

All CAGCS members should have received a newsletter mailing list update form in the mail recently. If you would like your green chairman, club president or other club official to receive Connecticut Clippings this year, please return the form to me ASAP.

Don't forget the supporters of Connecticut Clippings! Take a moment to review the list on the back page of this newsletter and remember to support these companies because they help make this newsletter possible.

Greg Wojick, Editor

Effect of Oftanol and Triumph on Japanese Beetle Grubs

Many of you are familiar with Oftanol*, because it has been available on a limited basis for two or three years. Initial studies had indicated that a single application of Oftanol* at 2 lb ai/A would give season long control. More recently, reports from various regions of the country indicated that Oftanol* might not be the "cure-all" we had all hoped it would be.

To address several questions concerning Oftanol*, we conducted a very large field trial in 1983, to determine the best times to apply Oftanol* (generic name — isofenphos) or Triumph* (generic name — isazophos). Triumph* is a still experimental insecticide which shows great promise in providing excellent short term grub control, while Oftanol* has demonstrated more persistence.

The study was conducted at The International Golf Course, in Bolton, Mass. The course has a fully automatic watering system with no water restrictions (thou shalt not covet!). The trial was placed in a large rough area, primarily Kentucky and annual bluegrasses, which was maintained at 2 to 3 inches. The area was nearly unreachable from any fairway, so it was subject to very little traffic from golfers.

We applied materials on 11 dates throughout the year — 1 April, 21 April, 5 May, 20 May, or 2 June for spring applications and 14 July, 29 July, 10 August, 24 August, 8 September, or 21 September for summer applications. The insecticides included diazinon 5G (6 lb ai/A), Oftanol* 5G (2 lb ai/A), Oftanol* 2F (2 lb ai/A), Triumph* 1G (2 lb ai/A), and Triumph* 1E (2 lb ai/A). Applications were made to 10 feet by 7.5 feet plots by hand shaking granulars from glass jars or by watering cans for liquids. Applications normally were made in early afternoon, and ½ inch of water was applied 12 hours after application.

We returned to the treated plots 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 10 weeks after application to collect samples. We cut one square foot from each plot (at least one foot in from any edge), turned the sod over, and removed all grubs from the sod, soil, and roots. Since we had five replications for each application, we could then take averages of grub counts and conduct statistical analyses.

As you can imagine, the numbers generated from a study of this size can be mind boggling. So let me spare you the numbers and make a few generalizations instead. All of the insecticides applied on 1 or 21 April or on 5 May eventually provided very good (at least 95%) control, but generally the Oftanol* and Triumph* liquids reached this level of control two or three weeks sooner than their granular counterparts.

For the 20 May application, both liquids provided at least 95% control within two weeks, but the granulars did not do nearly as well, providing only 70 to 80% control. The insecticides applied on 2 June performed similarly to those applied 20 May. Both liquid materials reduced the grub populations significantly compared to the untreated check and eventually provided at least 90% control, while the granulars often were not significantly different than the check and did not do as well.

Keep in mind that we had a lot of rain in eastern Massachusetts during the spring of 1983 — 10 inches in April, 6 inches in May, and 4 inches in June at the trial site. I believe that the surprisingly good performance of all materials applied in April or early May can be attributed to the rain, which drove the insecticides through the thatch and into the soil, where it would reach the grubs. The later applications were not subject to as much rain, and thus, may not have penetrated into the soil far enough. Equally important, by late May grubs are not as active, so they do not eat or contact as much insecticide as they would earlier in the spring.

The six summer applications, at two week intervals, demonstrated several things. First of all, Oftanol* 5G never provided 95% control, seldom exceeded 80% control, and generally was not significantly better than the untreated check for at least four weeks after application, regardless of the date of application. Both liquids (Oftanol* and Triumph*) performed very well in many cases, providing at least 95% control two to four weeks after application. In general, the level of performance was (1) Triumph* 1E (2) Oftanol* 2F and Triumph* 1G (tie) (4) Oftanol* 5G and (5) diazinon 5G.

We also made one fall sampling of the plots that had been treated in the spring, to see how persistent the insecticides were in field conditions. We found that both formulations of Oftanol* reduced the subsequent fall grub population significantly relative to the check, but surprisingly, so did the Triumph* applications in all cases but one. Oftanol* reduced those fall populations 50 to 95%, with an average of 75%. (Triumph* did not do nearly as well.) Thus, it appears that in most high quality turf settings, this season long effect should be helpful but a follow up late summer application may be necessary.

A few passing thoughts: The heavy spring rains probably improved the performance of the spring applications. In contrast, the hot, dry summer produced conditions which reduce the effectiveness of some soil insecticides. The relatively light (½ inch) irrigation 12 hours after application (which was done at the request of the sponsoring

(con't. on page 5)

To Those Who Have Ordered Sport Coats

Ten jackets were ordered on January 5, 1984 from the Crostan of Boston Firm. These jackets were delivered to me on February 6, 1984. However, eight of the ten jackets were not of the same quality as those previously received. Therefore they were returned. The company has agreed to replace them but as yet, replacements have not been received. Unfortunately, the Crostan of Boston firm has not been as reliable as would be liked and thus other firms are being considered to supply the CAGCS sport coat. I apologize for the inconvenience caused by these delays.

Steve Cadenelli

New York State Turfgrass Association Elects Officers And Directors

New Officers and Directors of the New York State Turfgrass Association were elected at the organization's recent Annual Meeting held in Rochester, NY.

They are:

President-Janet Worthington Dudones, The Ed Worthington Corp., Saranac Lake
Vice President-Jack Sloane, Oakwood Morningside Cemetery, Syracuse
Secretary-Treasurer - William Stark III, Cortland Country Club, Cortland
Continuing on the Board are Immediate Past President John Musto, Back O' Beyond, Brewster and Directors Dan Antonecchia, Fordham University, Bronx; Donald Burton, Lawn Medic, Bergen; Joseph Laubenstein, O.M. Scott, Schenectady; S.V. Moffett III, S.V. Moffett Co., Inc., West Henrietta; Stephen Smith, I & E. Supply, Montgomery; and Richard McGovern, McGovern Sod Farms, Melville.

Newly elected Directors are Gene Bowler, Green Gene's, Port Washington; Ted Horton, Westchester Country Club, Rye; and Richard Canale, Cortland Youth Bureau, Cortland.

Dr. A. Martin Petrovic will continue on the Board of Directors as liaison to Cornell University and Ann Reilly will continue to serve as Executive Director.

Much Named NGF Executive Director

NORTH PALM BEACH, FLA—Sheridan (Joe) Much has been named executive director of the National Golf Foundation by David Hueber, the NGF's new president.

Much, 60, joined the Foundation staff in 1968 after a 20-year newspaper career. He traveled the West Coast as a field representative and served as Western Director before moving to headquarters in 1982 as director of field services. He was named acting executive director in July, 1983.

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chemical company) probably was not sufficient to drive the granular materials through the moderate thatch and into the soil, while the liquids penetrated more readily. Furthermore, the superintendent also applied about 1/5 inch of water every other night in July, to avoid losing turf to the drought. These frequent light waterings may have induced the granules to release their chemicals early, before they reached the soil.

All of the materials performed most slowly in April and September. This is when the soil is coolest and the grubs are least active, so they are less susceptible to insecticides.

Early studies suggested that Oftanol* had a lag time of about three weeks from application until grub populations would be reduced. This lag period is apparent with the granular applications, regardless of date of application, but the liquid formulation (2F) caused significant grub mortality within two weeks of application throughout most of the growing season.

This year's studies will be looking at possible effects of liming shortly before applying Oftanol*. At this point there is circumstantial evidence suggesting that lime applications made two to four weeks before an Oftanol* application may hinder the Oftanol* under certain conditions. Use care, and allow plenty of time between applications this year to be on the safe side.

At this point, it appears that the best time to treat for grubs is in August, when the grubs are smallest and most susceptible. If grub populations are unusually heavy, a spring application can be made in late April or early May. Whenever you treat, and whatever you use, water the treated area very thoroughly. Basically, you cannot over-water as far as the chemical is concerned (the turf may disagree!). Get the chemical through the thatch and well into the soil, where it can do the job.

* trade name

*Pat Vittum
University of Massachusetts*

Classifieds

For Sale:

1960 Worthington Tractor with drawbar **\$500.00**

1978 Smithco Trap Rake with scoop **\$2,000.00**

Contact:

Jack Lynch
Woodbridge Country Club
397-9663

For Sale:

Three 1971 Jacobsen Greensking Verticut Units. Good condition. **\$300.00**

Contact:

Greg Wojick
Sterling Farms Golf Club
322-9316

For Sale:

1977 Toro Parkmaster Nine Gang. Excellent condition.

1973 Jacobsen G-10 Tractor. Good condition.

Bruckner 711E Controlers

Contact:

Steve Cadenelli
203-966-2145



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