

CONNECTICUT



CLIPPINGS

December 1986

Volume 20, Number 3

January 6

Winter Seminar

This winter's CAGCS seminar promises to be its best ever. Make plans to attend. Following is the program:

Dr. Pat Vittum
University of Massachusetts
"The mode and Action of
Insecticides"

Dr. William Dest
University of Connecticut
"Developing a Fairway Bentgrass
Management Strategy"

James King
Brown House Communications
"Getting and Staying Organized"

General Managers Forum
Bob Alonzi, David McGhee,
Peter Salinetti

PPUC - CT EPA
Don Kiley Gregory Piontek

Dr. David Nielson
Ohio State University
"Developing a Tree Health Care
Program"

Dr. James Adams
Nor-Am Chemical
"Progress: Another Tool in Poa
Annua Control"

1986 Superintendent of the Year

Tumblebrook's David Stimson is honored

On Veteran's day, November 11, 1986, the date of the CAGCS annual membership meeting, **David Stimson**, CGCS, a 20-year veteran of the golf course maintenance wars, was honored by his peers and voted as the 1986 CAGCS Superintendent of the year. Previous winners of this award are; Fred Bachand (1983), Robert Viera (1984) and Charles Baskin, Jr. (1985).

The criteria for this prestigious annual award is based on the individual's length of membership in CAGCS (minimum five years), knowledge and understanding of turfgrass and related sciences, understanding of the game of golf, contributions to local and allied associations and excellence in course conditioning.

Commitment is the most outstanding quality running through David's career. He has been committed to the Tumblebrook Country Club for the past 23 years. After graduating from Stockbridge school of Agriculture in the spring of 1963 he became the assistant superintendent at Tumblebrook under Andy Lentine. In January of 1968, David took over as superintendent, the position he holds today. When he took over the reins as superintendent, Tumblebrook expanded from 18 to 27 holes and installed an automatic irrigation system.

David's commitment to CAGCS has been unparalleled. He joined the board of directors after serving on various committees in 1970. He was quickly appointed to the position of secretary/treasurer, a position he held until he became CAGCS president in 1983. David still holds the position of immediate past president. His combined total of 16 years of service to his fellow professionals as a board member is unprecedented.

As a member of GCSAA, David has not missed a GCSAA national conference since he joined in 1969. He also earned the title of Certified Golf Course Superintendent in 1974, one of the first superintendents to complete the program.

David has also been committed to his country serving in the Air Force reserves from 1957 to 1963.

David lives in East Hartford with his wife of 22 years, Carol. They have a son and daughter, both of whom attend the University of Connecticut. Scott, 20 years old, is a junior and Nancy, 18 years old, is a freshman.

Congratulations to David Stimson, the 1986 CAGCS Superintendent of the Year, an award truly deserved.

Yale Inn, Meriden, CT

Greg Wojick, Editor

1986 Year End Report

Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

<i>President</i>	Greg Wojick, CGCS
<i>Vice-Pres.</i>	Robert Chalifour, CGCS
<i>Secretary</i>	Thomas Watroba
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael Wallace, CGCS
<i>Past Pres.</i>	David Stimson, CGCS
<i>Director</i>	Mike Chrzanowski
<i>Director</i>	John Napieracz, CGCS
<i>Director</i>	Jim Medeiros, CGCS
<i>Director</i>	Steve Rackcliffe
<i>Director</i>	Mike Reeb, CGCS
<i>Director</i>	Steve DiVito, CGCS
<i>Director</i>	Thomas Watroba

*CAGCS Executive Director
Peter Pierson*

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 Connecticut Clippings is an official publication of The Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Inc.

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1347 Newfield Ave.
Stamford, CT 06905*

*Advertising: Mike Reeb, CGCS
95 Country Club Rd
New Canaan, CT
06840*

President's Message

1986 was the 57th year of CAGCS and certainly was a year of progress. The most pressing concern facing this year's board, that of evaluating and revising the bylaws, was accomplished after many long hours of meetings and rewrites. The result being a more concise and up-to-date set of bylaws that are more in line with our parent organization's bylaws.

Experimentation with a CAGCS executive director position has been taking shape. I feel even stronger now about the need for this position than I have in the past. I don't know if many of you are aware, but our membership role has doubled in the last five years. We have also added more events and awards, more money is being taken in and more money is being spent. All in all there is more work to do to run this organization. So far the position of executive director has been well received by the board of directors, the membership and the golfing community and the board feels that we should continue to evaluate and hone in this position. My thanks to **Peter Pierson** for helping our CAGCS.

Our last membership survey was in 1983. This year we again surveyed our members to help us more accurately do our jobs as managers.

The "routine" business of our association ran quite well this year. Regular membership meetings were well attended and well run. I feel that this year we provided an interesting variety of locations, golfing events and speakers for you the member. CAGCS held meetings at four clubs this year that we never before have visited.

Our special events; the winter seminar, the Invitational and the S & R tournament were very successful this year. Special thanks to **Jim Medeiros** from the **Country Club of Avon** and **Roger Barrett** from **Glastonbury Hills** for putting out the effort to host these events.

Also a special thanks to **Les Kennedy** and **Oaklane Country Club** who together with CAGCS hosted this year's Metropolitan area team championship.

This year's picnic marked the second successful year for this event. Thanks to **Mike Chrzanowski** and **Madison Country Club** for again being our host.

Jack Lynch offered to host this year's Christmas party and the **Woodbridge Country Club** donated the cost of the band and the result was a spirited group of members who enjoyed the evening. The disc jockey who complemented the band had just about everybody on the dance floor "shaking their booties."

Nationally, CAGCS kept up to speed this year with four of our members being active with GCSAA: **Steve Cadenelli**, who is running again this year for another directorship, **Mike Wallace** and **Mike Reeb** who have served on GCSAA committees and **Frank Lamphier** who helps to run the GCSAA golf championships. Also this year **Les Kennedy** and **Bruce Cadenelli** will be on the speakers program at the national conference.

Personally, my first year as CAGCS president has been challenging. It has also been time consuming and, at times, frustrating, but all in all it has been very rewarding.

It has been my pleasure to do everything that I could to promote and further CAGCS and our profession this past year.

*Greg Wojick, CGCS
President CAGCS*



1986 CAGCS election results

After a very lively and close election at the annual meeting the following individuals will act as your board of directors for 1987:

Officers: Greg Wojick
Robert Chalifour
Thomas Watroba
Michael Wallace

Directors: David Stimson
Steve DiVito
Michael Reeb
John Napieracz
Michael Chrzanowski
Steve Rackliffe
James Medeiros

Assoc. Dir.: Henry Lesinski

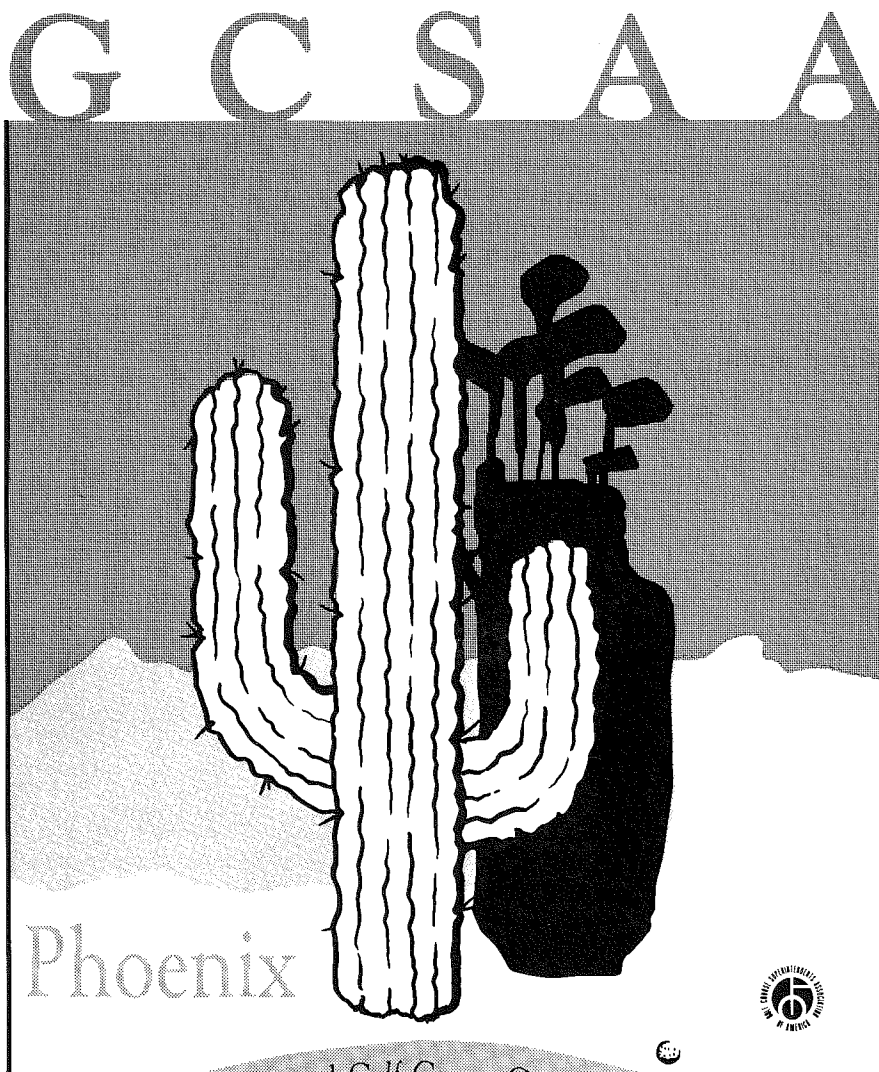
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Editor's Note

This is the third and final issue of *Connecticut Clippings* for 1986. It is also the final issue for me as editor. The new editor of *Connecticut Clippings* will be **John Streeter (Cliffside Country Club)**. John comes to this job with experience as the former editor of the Rhode Island GCSA newsletter.

I certainly wish John all the best in his new endeavor and hope that he will receive support from the membership in disseminating the type of information that you are looking for.

Our newsletter is one of the most important tools we have of keeping our members informed.



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1617 St. Andrews Dr., Lawrence, KS 66046

Petruzzelli responds to "Killer Courses" article in golf magazine

Letters to the Editor
Golf Magazine
380 Madison Avenue
New York, New York, 10017

November 24, 1986

Sir(s):

In rebuttal of your, "Killer Courses" special report (December 1986), I believe you have taken a few rare cases and blown them out of proportion. Being a Golf Course Superintendent, myself, with years of field experience and college degrees, I know all about chemicals for turfgrass protection. It is difficult enough to raise public awareness on what our profession really does when a misleading article, such as this, tarnishes our image. In terms of Mr. Condor (the author), we should be considered "golfer killers" rather than superintendents.

Of course, it is tragic that Lieutenant Prior died to an alleged allergic reaction to Daconil 2787. But, who is really at fault? Chemicals are the cornerstone of agricultural food production, without them the entire world would starve to death. It was stated that "golfers are greatly exposed to pesticides, since they spend up to four or more hours on the golf course." What about the golf course maintenance employees as well as the people applying the chemicals. These people spend eight to twelve hours working on the golf course, which translates to twice as much chemical exposure per day than the average golfer. To my knowledge, no chemical applicator, who is qualified and trained in chemical usage has died from applying these materials.

It is true that some golf courses do make chemical treatments when the course is closed. Sometimes outbreaks of insects and or diseases, which could cause serious/costly damage requires immediate chemical treatment (no matter what day of the week it may be). Chemicals are a very important management tool which are necessary in working with and against nature. But it can't be stressed enough, environmentalists as we are, that chemicals be used as a last resort. Using varied cultural practices and other non-chemical means first, can sometimes yield optimum results (called integrated pest management).

No one, as a whole, tries to disrupt the environment much less than - Golf Course Superintendents. "We" try to work together to raise awareness of our work and improve upon our chemical practices. "We" have to breathe the same air as everyone else and live in the same communities. Do you think that "We" want to jeopardize our own families health as well as others? Your story and facts are too vague since there are many variables to consider what really caused the fatalities.

A True Environmentalist,

Dennis P. Petruzzelli
Golf Course Superintendent
Redding Country Club



Committee determines slate of candidates

The GCSAA Nominating Committee met in Lawrence, Kan. on September 22-23 to determine the Slate of Candidates for the 1987 election of Officers and directors. The following individuals have been placed in nomination by the Committee:

For President:
Donald Hearn, CGCS

For Vice President:
Dennis Lyon, CGCS
John A. Segui, CGCS

For Director:
Leonard H. Berg, CGCS
Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS
Randy Nichols, CGCS
Marque L. Randall, CGCS
James M. Taylor, Sr., CGCS

The nominating committee is chaired by Past President James W. Timmerman, CGCS. Committee members in attendance were: Michael Larsen, CGCS, Stanley Metsker, CGCS, Randy Nichols, CGCS, and Dennis Orsborn.

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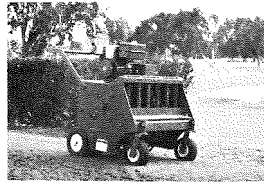


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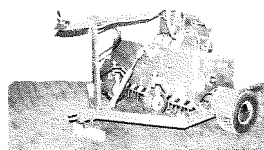
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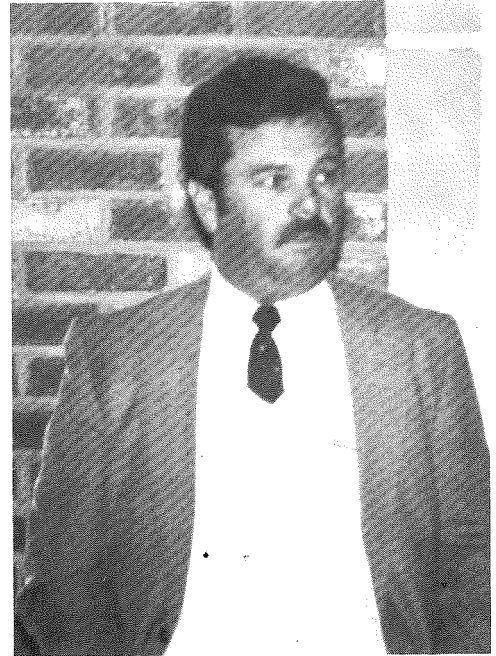
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What's up doc? Where's the leaf?

PAGE 6

**Noel Jackson, Professor of Plant Pathology
University of Rhode Island - Kingston, RI**

Leaf tissues are the major site of the photosynthetic process to sustain growth and development of the grass plant. Mowing, to maintain a dense, uniform turf for the production of a playing surface, obviously entails the removal of some leaf tissue and a consequent reduction in the capacity of individual plants to synthesize and store carbohydrates. This situation is compounded as defoliation intensifies and is reflected in curtailed root development and slower regrowth of leaves. Grass species vary substantially in their tolerances of how much and how often their leaf tissue can be removed without stressing the plants and leading eventually to serious deterioration of the sward. Fine turf for golf greens (and bowling greens), composed of bentgrasses and/or bluegrass represents the ultimate in mowing intensity and 3/16" has been considered a workable compromise for adequate grass growth and good playing conditions. But the increasing clamour for faster greens has encouraged the adoption of closer mowing, resulting in new problems and the need for more intensive maintenance practices. So, maybe there are a few, well constructed courses, often lightly played, with immense budgets that provide for the optimum use of every management resource known to man, and where the close-mown greens putt like glass. Unfortunately your club members see them specially primed up for one television tournament or play them as occasional guests - and come back to their home course to complain. Often it is only bragging rights as to who can maintain the closest mown, fastest greens in the neighborhood. They should be counselled! When you start measuring height of cut at 1/64" or 1/32" below 1/8" then the question is - where's the leaf?

Pressure from members for faster greens certainly warrants consideration by the superintendent but there are a few alternatives to dropping the height of cut. Less water (careful!), double mowing, frequent light topdressing and frequent light verticutting may achieve the desired results. For special club events, lowering the cut to 5/32" may be justified, but **only for a day or two**, then compensate by resuming a higher cutting height. But do not expect to do this if your turf is weak and shallow-rooted to start with; a dense, well-rooted turf is required to tolerate the added stress, and the necessary resources (labor, water, equipment, pesticides, etc.) must be on hand to meet all contingencies. At 1/8" height of cut, the margin for error in management decisions is virtually nil, so it is imperative to anticipate the problems and adopt the correct preventive measures. It's too late if you have to consider remedial treatments!

The past spring was cool and dry. Provided water was not limiting, greens came into the summer in good shape. But root development on many courses (and especially on annual bluegrass turf) was sparse. Problems started to mount in July and August and in many instances, the initial, diffuse patch symptoms of yellowing and thinning turf could be linked to a lowered cutting height. Deterioration of this turf progressed rapidly as fungal root and crown pathogens, made short work of the poorly rooted plants, especially under conditions of heat stress. The fungi were often aided by high parasitic nematode populations.

Thus removing too much leaf means shallow rooted, vulnerable turf - just waiting for that final stress, the one you could not or did not participate, to tip the scales towards certain disaster. If your greens putt true but are a tad slow, don't be intimidated. Educate your green committee, throw away the stimpmeter and lie convincingly about the height you are mowing. A little extra leaf tissue, better roots and some food reserves in the plants, means the scales tip less easily, and that might save you from looking for a new job!

GCSAA and Northeast GCSA announce: "Golf Course Construction & Project Management"

**Dr. Michael Hurdzan, ASGCA
Hurdzan & Kidwell
Golf Course Architects**

**Mr. Stephen Harrell
Vice President
Wadsworth Golf Construction Co.**

This new addition to GCSAA's continuing education curriculum will feature presentations and discussion on new construction, renovation, special projects on existing courses, contract law, construction bonds and bidding, requests for proposals, insurance requirements and the sequence of phasing, budgeting and scheduling. The program is specifically designed to acquaint the superintendent with his or her roles and responsibilities in master planning and project administration. A portion of class time will be devoted to drainage systems and participants will lay out a project under the instructors' supervision as well as practice "selling" a project.

Successful completion of this two-day educational program will earn participants two CEUs and a Certificate of Achievement from GCSAA. The registration fee includes a banquet luncheon and take-home reference materials. Space is limited and registrations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. Refunds will be allowed only for WRITTEN cancellations received at GCSAA Headquarters two weeks in advance of the seminar.

**February 24-25, 1987
Albany, New York
Sheraton Airport Inn**



The 1986 CAGCS Superintendent of the Year David Stimson.

8th Annual

GCS christian prayer breakfast

"As for man, his days are as grass, but the mercy of the LORD is from Everlasting to Everlasting." (PS. 103)

Everyone is invited, and we especially encourage families, ladies and children, to share in the fellowship at the 8th Annual GCSA Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, January 31, from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at the Phoenix Civic Plaza. Coffee and rolls will be served starting at 6:30 a.m.

The guest speaker will be the Reverend Mr. Owen C. Carr, teacher, conference speaker, pastor and author, who is past president of Valley Forge Christian College, Pennsylvania. Prior to accepting the presidency of the College, he founded CHANNEL 38, WCFC-TV in Chicago. For more than 40 years, he has served full time Christian service in Kansas, Texas, Illinois, California and in 30 foreign countries.

Pastor Carr is author of the books, The Battle is the Lord's and Faith in Focus.

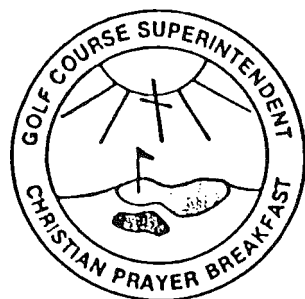
His personal story, on how a Kansas farm boy has succeeded in overcoming impossible situations that few of us can comprehend, will encourage all who attend.

The Prayer Breakfast has been scheduled at the start of the Conference and Show for seven years, and is open to all faiths.

happy new year!

GOLF TIP

By analyzing a round of golf, you can improve your game. So, after putting out on the 18th, find a quiet spot and mentally replay your best shots. Ask yourself: "What did I do right?" Perhaps working your right shoulder under your chin on the downswing helped you swing through the ball. Or, maybe keeping your head relatively still allowed you to make a strong turn. Remember, replay your round to discover swing keys that will help you produce good shots in future rounds.



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