

# CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS



**Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents**

*Devoted to sharing knowledge and experience for better turf*

**SEPTEMBER, 1989**

**Volume 23, No. 3**

**CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION  
OF GOLF COURSE  
SUPERINTENDENTS**

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

**Newsletter Staff**  
John F. Streeter, CGCS, Editor  
Greg Bradley, Advertising  
Mike Dukette, Technical Copy

**Cover Credit**

CAGCS wishes to thank Richard Chalifour for his outstanding efforts in originating the new cover design for our Newsletter. Richard is the son of our President, Robert Chalifour.

**Around the Association**

———— **Long Range Planning Committee** ————

Tom Watroba, Chairman, announced responses to the recent survey were a bit on the lean side. However, those which were submitted were very positive and contained some worthwhile suggestions. One of the most popular items was the wish for continued and upgrading of advertisements for golf course superintendents. Also, there were many requests to continue the budget survey on a two to three year interval. Due to the timing of the last survey, (maybe many of you did not have time to devote to it) we have decided to again publish the survey, and we will be looking for your comments.

———— **S & R Committee** ————

Scott Ramsay, Chairman, announced that everything is a go for the Annual CAGCS Scholarship & Research Tournament to be held on October 4th at Glastonbury Hills. A mailing should be in your hands by now. Please respond promptly, as you know this tournament fills up quickly.

———— **Environment & Public Relations Committee** ————

Fred Bachand, Chairman, announced that there will be new posting laws for the application of pesticides in Connecticut as of October 1st. Tentatively, some of these laws will be such that we must post the trade name of the chemical being applied and where the application will be made. This must be posted in the Club House, the first tee, and in the Pro Shop. Once the Legislature has tidied up all of this, more information will be coming to you.

———— **Joint Seminar with CSGA** ————

President Bob Chalifour has confirmed a Joint Seminar to be held with the Connecticut State Golf Association on October 30th at the New Haven Golf Club. The topic of the day will be "Environmental Planning for Golf Course Operations" by GCSAA sponsored Hall-Kimbrell. More details will follow.

———— **Nominating Chairman** ————

Greg Wojick has been named the Nominating Chairman for CAGCS. A slate of officers and directors is being compiled at this time. Anyone wishing to serve your association, contact Greg Wojick, Greenwich Golf Club (869-1000).

**Dukette Caputres  
"Low Amateur Honors"  
in Western Mass Open**

Mike Dukette, rep. from the Old Fox Company, must not be selling too many chemicals these days, as his recent showing in the Western Mass Amateur proves that he has been working on his golf game. Mike was the "Low Amateur" in the Western Mass Open recently held at the Hampden Golf Club, Hampden, MA.

*Congratulations, Mike!!!*



**CAGCS and Turf Products Corp. donate sod cutter ...**

A joint venture between CAGCS and Turf Products Corporation made it possible for the New Haven Experimental Station to receive a much needed sod cutter. CAGCS and Turf Products Corporation shared the cost of the sod cutter which was presented to Dr. James Hanula. Pictured above from left to right: Scott Ramsay, Dr. James Hanula, John Ferry of Turf Products Corp., and Bob Chalifour.

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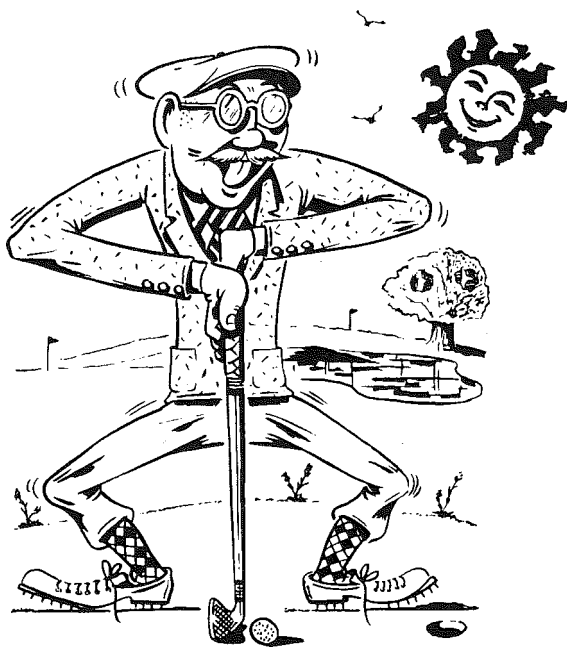
# The Score Board

## Ward Weischet Earns CAGCS Golf Championship ...

Ward Weischet of the Pilgrim's Harbor Country Club went on to earn low honors in the annual CAGCS Golf Championship. Weischet's 76 was posted at the Pautipaug Country Club in May; and a fine 77 at New Canaan proved to be the winning numbers for this year's gross trophy.

In the Net Division, Les Kennedy from the Oak Lane Country Club, with his smooth swing and 7 handicap took hom the net trophy.

Mike Dukette of Old Fox once again was the low gross winner in the Affiliate Division by way of posting 75/77, respectively.



### Complete Championship Results

0 - 12	Gross	Ward Weichet <i>Pilgrim's Harbor</i>	76 - 77
	Net	Les Kennedy <i>Oak Lane CC</i>	69 - 76
13 - 24	Gross	Peter Lewis <i>CC of Farmington</i>	89 - 94
	Net	Dave Stimson <i>Tumblebrook</i>	65 - 75
25 - 36	Gross	Mike Wallace <i>Hop Meadow CC</i>	96 - 108
	Net	Fred Bachand <i>Wethersfield CC</i>	88 - 87
Seniors	Gross	Frank Lamphier <i>Aspetuck Valley</i>	82 - 85
	Net	Gary Bryant <i>Manchester CC</i>	73 - 73
Affiliate	Gross	Mike Dukette <i>Old Fox</i>	75 - 77
	Net	Carl Wallace <i>Magovern Company</i>	86 - 68

## Met Area Team Championships

Peter Lewis, Golf Chairman, has announced the representing team from Connecticut who will participate in the Met Area Team Championships to be held October 5th on Long Island, New York. They will be competing against superintendents from New York, New Jersey, and Long Island Associations.

This year, not only will we be sending a gross team, but a net team format has also been instituted for the first time.

The following people will be representing Connecticut for the gross team: *Mike Dukette, Ward Weischet, Peter Pierson, and Les Kennedy.*

The net team will be comprised of *Dave Stimson, Eric Johnson, Peter Lewis and Frank Lamphier.*

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# NEWS FROM GCSAA HEADQUARTERS

The following report by Dennis D. Lyon, CGCS, President of GCSAA was submitted to give us a good sense of the current status of various programs and where GCSAA is headed in the future, in the hopes of bringing us up to date on activities within GCSAA since he became President in Anaheim.

## Finance

GCSAA is enjoying its best financial year ever. We expect to end the current fiscal year (June 30, 1989) with an operating gain of approximately \$900,000. This is due in large part to an even better Anaheim Conference and Show than expected. Also, the advertising revenue from *Golf Course Management* is up more than \$200,000 over what we budgeted. The members' equity stands at \$2,818,515, compared to \$1,772,425 at this time last year. It is very important that GCSAA continue to generate excess cash for our future programs, member services and to finance our new headquarters building.

## Headquarters Building Project

The GCSAA will break ground in early 1990 to begin construction of a \$4 million headquarters complex one mile from the group's current Lawrence, Kansas, site. President, Dennis D. Lyon, CGCS, said that the Association's officers approved schematic plans for the project during a meeting at the U. S. Open in Rochester, NY.

"GCSAA's growth has mirrored that of the rest of the golf industry," Lyon said. "We now have more than 8,600 members and the Association offers more services to them than ever before. This new building will allow us to keep meeting the needs of our growing membership and the golf community at large."

The new site is just west of the current GCSAA building, which has been located on the Alvamar Golf & Country Club since the Association moved to Lawrence in 1974. Despite the relocation, the new headquarters will still overlook an Alvamar course: a new 18-hole championship layout being designed by architect Ken Kavanaugh and developed by Alvamar owner Robert Billings. Construction of the course is set to start early next year and both building and course should be complete and open in 1991.

"We plan to have the building finished and the staff moved by summer of 1991," said John M. Shilling, GCSAA's Executive Director. Shilling added that the building could be ready for occupancy by spring of 1991 "if the Kansas weather cooperates."

Planned for 35,000 square feet, the new building will nearly triple the space available for GCSAA's 42-member professional staff and still leave room for projected growth. In addition to the four-story headquarters building, the new complex will feature an attached 70-seat classroom and meeting facility. The entire design, which is being completed by the Lawrence architectural firm of Peters, Kubota & Glenn, P.A., will "make superintendents who visit feel proud to be members of GCSAA," according to Lyon.

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the national professional association for the men and women who "keep golf green." By providing a wide range of opportunities for education and professional development for superintendents, the Association has played an ongoing role in improving golf conditions both in America and abroad.

## Communications

This new department covers several areas. We felt it was time to consolidate and focus our information activities into a cohesive management structure that takes advantage of all opportunities to promote the profession and the Association.

Our public relations program, which has been stepped-up over the last few years, will continue with the overall goal of creating an informed awareness of the superintendent's growing management role in golf. We are creating this awareness via advertising, news releases, promotions and media contact.

Our emphasis is directed towards golf's decision-makers, the golfing public and the media. While it is sometimes difficult to measure attitudes and opinions, we feel great progress is being made due to an increasing respect for and acknowledgment of the superintendent's role.

This new department also handles our government relations program. This is perhaps our fastest growing area due to the increasing societal pressures concerning chemicals and the environment. GCSAA is more involved than it ever has been in a variety of issues of importance to all of us in this area.

## Scholarship & Research

GCSAA will begin a new research project at the University of Georgia with Dr. Robert Karnok this year to explore the casual organisms involved in "localized dry spots". We are also going to fund Dr. Richard Cooper at the University of Massachusetts for a third year of studying the fate of pesticides after application to the turfgrass plan.

More GCSAA News  
on page 5.

### Golf Tournament

The tournament continues to be a very popular event with our members. We are going to implement some changes to try and accommodate even more of our members who want to play.

A special subcommittee of the Tournament Committee met in Lawrence this spring and recommended quite a few improvements. One of these changes, which the Board approved, is the addition of a fifth course, allowing us to now accommodate more than 600 players. This is growing to one of the largest tournaments anywhere! The courses we are using in Orlando are:

1. Disney Lake Buena Vista
2. Disney Magnolia Golf Course
3. Disney Palm Golf Course
4. Grand Cypress New Course
5. Hunter's Creek Golf Course

We will be using the Grosvenor Resort for housing.

### Education/Certification

GCSAA's education program continues to center around a strong seminar program, the conference sessions and our certification program. Two recent milestones were reached in our certification program recently -- we now have 1,000 certified superintendents and we have two women who have become certified.

New activities in this area this year will be planning for course offerings in the Division III level of our program; continuing the effort to have the program accredited by the national CEU Board; and continuing to implement the timeline of changes in the educational requirements to become certified.

### Membership

GCSAA has passed the 8,000 member mark and we will soon be past the 9,000 count. Interest in GCSAA and joining the Association seems to be at an all-time high. We believe that this interest is derived from many things, including GCSAA's expanded involvement in government relations, more awareness of the Association and the growth in the game of golf.

The Board has asked the Standards/ByLaws Committees to meet this year and review GCSAA's complete structure, including our chapter alignment, voting procedures and Board composition. It is important for us to review these matters from time to time, in order to ensure that we have the best organization possible to serve our members. You will be kept informed as this review takes place.

### Note from Membership Department

The GCSAA has recently entered into an agreement with the Disney Magic Kingdom Club to provide membership to individuals in GCSAA.

The Disney Magic Kingdom Club is an exclusive program designed to offer a variety of money-saving benefits that are not offered to the general public. These include various discounts on such items as Disneyland/Disney World passports, vacation packages, and Disney merchandise purchases.

There is no fee for GCSAA members to join the Disney Magic Kingdom Club; however, club membership cards will be issued upon request only. Club memberships are valid for two years and may be used by anyone in the club member's family. Call the GCSAA Membership Department today at (800)472-7878 or (913)841-2240, to become a Disney Magic Kingdom Club member.

The Membership Department advises that if we need any further assistance or need to be provided any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact them.

### GCSAA's Future

This is a great time for GCSAA and its membership. But an association is only as good as its individual members make it. Therefore, we need your leadership and skills to help us continue serving the profession and the industry in the strongest possible manner.

The Board of Directors, committees and headquarters staff respect your commitment to GCSAA, either as a past president, a current chapter president, or a chapter liaison. You can serve a special role by supporting and promoting GCSAA to your peers and those who look to you for direction because of what you have achieved.

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**TOURNEY BENEFITS  
ROBERT TRENT JONES  
ENDOWMENT FUND**

The inaugural Robert Trent Jones Invitational, a golf event benefiting the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's endowment fund named for the legendary architect, raised a record \$27,000 to support university scholarships.

The midsummer tournament was held at the Metedeconk National Golf Club, Jackson, NJ - Jones' most recent New Jersey design. Teams made up of club superintendents, officials and members, representing 15 selected golf clubs from the Northeast, contributed \$1,500 each to support the Jones Endowment Fund. Metedeconk members made additional contributions to bring the total to \$27,000 -- the largest contribution to GCSAA's scholarship efforts ever by a single club.

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, GCSAA's Secretary/Treasurer and Metedeconk's coordinator for the event, described the Jones Invitational as "a very meaningful way in which to recognize the unique relationship between the golf course architect and the golf course superintendent, as well as an excellent opportunity to support the development of future golf course managers and the game of golf while enjoying a great day of golf and camaraderie."

Richard Sambol, who along with his son, Herbert, conceived and developed Metedeconk National, expressed optimism that the event would have a prosperous future. He also thanked manufacturers and distributors who donated hole sponsorships, saying the event "couldn't have happened" without their support.

Tournament players lavished praise on both architect and superintendent for the superb design and conditioning of the course. Cadenelli, in turn, cited the tremendous efforts of his crew in preparing Metedeconk during the previous soggy weeks.

The GCSAA Robert Trent Jones Endowment Fund was established in 1987 with a substantial donation from the New Jersey architect. Once fully capitalized, the fund will help pay college tuition for turf-grass management students considering careers as superintendents.

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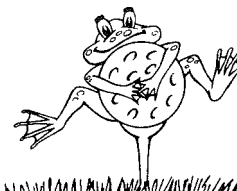
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## Golf Course Impact on Water Quality

**FINDING:** Golf courses do not pose a significant pollution threat to the nation's water supplies. This conclusion is based on a review of the scientific evidence that is currently available. Neither groundwater nor surface water is threatened by golf course runoff. Further, studies show that stormwater runoff is near zero from golf courses.

**GROUNDWATER:** About half of all people in the United States depend on groundwater for their drinking water, and the figure is 90 percent in rural areas. Results from ongoing scientific studies show that the use of pesticides on golf courses does not threaten public drinking water. Because of the low mobility and quick biodegradation of most golf course pesticides, they simply do not reach groundwater in significant quantities.

One Environmental Protection Agency-funded study being undertaken on Cape Code in Massachusetts provides for a "worst-case" estimate of groundwater contamination. To date, test results have been encouraging, demonstrating that golf courses and clean groundwater do co-exist.

Some experts argue that golf turf offers uniquely favorable control mechanisms to prevent groundwater contamination. Dr. Stuart Z. Cohen, a former Ground Water Team Leader for the EPA in Washington, notes that "the use of pesticides on golf courses poses less of a threat to the nation's groundwater than does the agricultural use of pesticides.

Additionally, turfgrass provides a "thatch layer" not found in row crop situations. Thatch binds up pesticide residues and increases degradation of some chemicals. Dr. Harry D. Niemczyk of Ohio State University has found that as much as 99% of recovered pesticides are found in turfgrass thatch.

In some areas, golf courses are also helping to mitigate the groundwater pollution effects of hazardous waste sites. Many of the nation's golf courses fertilize soil using sludge compost mixes prepared by urban waste recycling programs. These sludges might otherwise be disposed of in municipal landfills. Thus, potential groundwater leaching from dump sites is averted by careful community planning and recycling.

**STORMWATER RUNOFF:** Stormwater runoff from golf courses is not a significant environmental hazard. Research conducted by Dr. Thomas Watschke, a turfgrass specialist at the Pennsylvania State University, indicates that thick, healthy turf reduces runoff "to next to nothing". An average golf course of 150 acres effortlessly absorbs 12 million gallons of water during a three-inch rainfall. Dr. Watschke finds that thick, carefully managed turfgrass has 15 times less runoff than does a lower quality lawn. As a result, almost all of the pesticides applied to the grass remain in place after peak rainfall.

Dr. Richard J. Cooper of the University of Massachusetts argues that turfgrass cover "reduces soil erosion and prevents soil and chemical runoff into water sources."

By comparison, parking lots, streets and even residential areas load nearby waters with hazardous pollutants carried in runoff from road surfaces, gutters and catch basins.

**SURFACE WATER:** Golf courses help decrease sedimentation pollution of rivers, streams and lakes by preventing topsoil erosion. The major polluter of U. S. surface water is sedimentation from soil erosion. However, turfgrass reduces erosion, as compared to alternative land uses.

For instance, studies show that grassland experiences 84 to 668 times less erosion than areas planted with wheat or corn. Construction has an even more devastating impact on topsoil, so golf courses can greatly reduce erosion effects as compared to other land users, like shopping malls or housing developments.

Sedimentation pollution from soil erosion costs society billions of dollars in increased transportation, shipping, and cleaning costs. Thus, by preventing soil erosion, golf courses serve a very beneficial societal purpose.

**CONCLUSION:** Golf courses do not threaten the nation's water supplies. Scientific studies show that pesticides used on golf courses do not seep into neighboring groundwater sources. Other studies demonstrate that stormwater runoff is greatly reduced by turfgrass. Finally, still more studies show that grassy areas reduce soil erosion, which is a major cause of sedimentation pollution in the nation's rivers, lakes and streams.

On the whole, a golf course makes an environmentally sound contribution to any community.

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# CAGCS Membership Services Survey

Dear CAGCS Member,

The CAGCS Long Range Planning Committee is attempting to outline specific programs and future goals to strengthen our organization and help provide CAGCS with future direction. We are seeking as much membership input as possible to help us develop these programs and establish priorities. The Committee feels that the best method for members to communicate their thoughts and opinions regarding the present and future plans of the organization is through the use of membership surveys.

Our initial survey concerns membership services. Although we are attempting to deal with specific subject matter, feel free to comment on related issues or matters of importance to you. Please take the time to respond to these strictly anonymous surveys. Remember, this is your opportunity to voice your opinion and help mold the future of CAGCS.

Sincerely yours,  
Thomas Watroba, Chairman  
Long Range Planning Committee

1. What is your membership classification? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who pays your CAGCS membership? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are you happy with the present membership services offered by CAGCS? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, how would you improve them?

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4. What possible service could CAGCS provide you that would benefit you, personally, the most? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Would you be interested in CAGCS developing a training program, or seminar-type instruction for your employees? If yes, do you have any ideas or suggestions?

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6. In the past, surveys have been done on course operation expenses. Do you feel these are worthwhile, and how often would you like to seem them done? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Would you be interested in a medical and/or dental plan developed by an outside agency for the Association? If yes, would your company be interested in a plan covering your employees and possibly other company employees?

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8. If CAGCS were to develop a pension plan for its members, would you be interested? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what methods of funding this plan could we use besides a substantial dues increase? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Would you be interested in starting a benevolent fund for CAGCS members and their families? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you have any other thoughts or suggestions regarding insurance, health, pension, or benevolent plans for CAGCS? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you feel that the GCSAA commercials have helped promote the superintendent's professional image? \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Are you in favor of spending about \$1,500 a year on television advertising? \_\_\_\_\_ Given the high cost of television advertising, what amount do you feel would be appropriate? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Would you like to see CAGCS have a booth at the G.H.O.? \_\_\_\_\_ Would you help man such a booth? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Would you favor a dues increase in order to boost CAGCS public relations? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Is there any one item or cause that you feel the Association could support in order to further promote ourselves? \_\_\_\_\_

16. List any idea or program you would like to see CAGCS implement some time in the future. \_\_\_\_\_

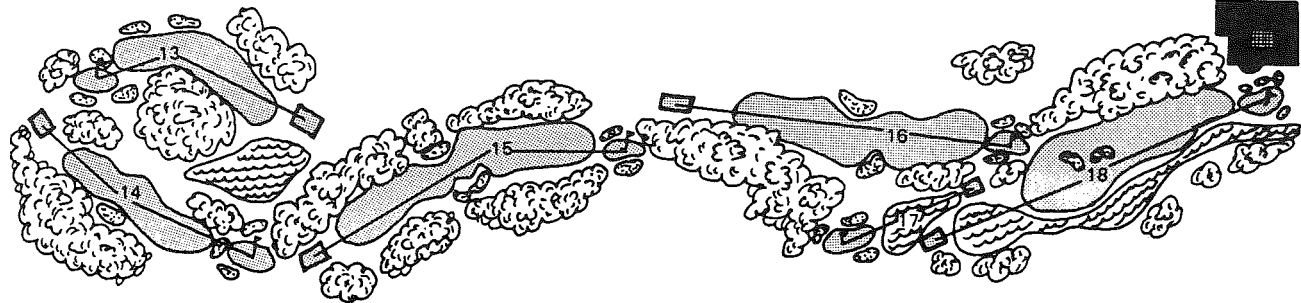
17. Where would you like to see CAGCS in five years? \_\_\_\_\_

18. Do you feel these surveys are a good method of soliciting ideas and establishing communication between the membership and the Long Range Planning Committee of CAGCS? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what alternative methods can you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

19. Additional Comments:

Cut survey from Newsletter and return to Thomas Watroba, Vice President, CAGCS,  
in the envelope provided no later than November 1, 1989.

# The Clippings



## Calendar

### CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST
October 2 & 3	GCSAA Seminar Business Assertiveness	Cape Cod, MA	Cape Cod Turf Managers Assoc.
October 4	CAGCS Monthly Meeting S & R Tournament (Scramble)	Glastonbury Hills Country Club Glastonbury, CT	Doug Webber
October 17	CAGCS Monthly Meeting Superintendent/Assistant	Blackledge Country Club Hebron, CT	Thomas Gresh
November 7	CAGCS Monthly Meeting Annual Meeting	Suffield Country Club Suffield, CT	Thomas Watroba
November 9 & 10	GCSAA Seminar Disease Control	Bolton, Mass.	N. E. Superintendents
November 13 & 14	GCSAA Seminar Negotiating & Rules of Golf	Newport, R.I.	R. I. Superintendents
January 9, 1990	CAGCS Annual Seminar	Holiday Inn Plainville, CT	CAGCS

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Paul J. Roche  
(203) 878-0658

**Pro-Lawn Products, Inc.**

30 Nashville Road  
Bethel, CT 06801  
Steve Kotowicz  
(203) 792-3032

**Purple Kings Farm**

Williamstown, MA 01267  
Ralph C. Mason  
(413) 458-3184  
(413) 458-4646

**The Reichert Company**

Automotive Lubricant Distributor  
Riverside, CT 06878  
Frank Reichert  
(203) 637-2958

**Ro-Brand Products, Inc.**

Automotive & Industrial Fasteners  
319 Cooke Street  
Plainville, CT 06062  
(203) 747-1621

**Somers Turf Supplies**

P. O. Box 2294  
Devon, CT 06460  
Bill Somers  
(203) 878-2108

**Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.**

Bluegrass/Fescue Turf - Penncross  
West Suffield, CT  
Skip Deubel  
(203) 668-1226 (collect)

**Turf Products Corporation**

1496 John Fitch Boulevard  
South Windsor, CT 06074  
Mark Loper - John Ferry  
(203) 528-9508

**Turf Specialty, Inc.**

60 Merrimack Street  
Hooksett, NH 03106  
Dave Schermerhorn, Ed Wiacek  
(800) 228-6656

**U A P Products**

Box 116  
East Glastonbury, CT 06025  
Henry Lesinski  
(203) 659-1217

**Valley Farms Nursery & Supply**

Sod - Turf Supplies  
Simsbury, CT 06070  
Joseph D. Bidwell  
(203) 651-8555

**Westchester Turf Supply, Inc.**

P. O. Box 198  
Lincolndale, NY 10540  
Bob Lippman (Home: 914-248-5790)  
(914) 248-7476

**Winding Brook Turf Farm, Inc.**

240 Griswold Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109  
Donald Grant  
(203) 529-6869