



CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS

Volume 27, No. 1

April, 1993

President's Message

**John F. Streeter, CGCS
CAGCS President**

Since my last writing to you, there has been a lot of water flowing under the bridge. From precluding events at the GCSAA conference... to the highly spirited annual meeting... over to many job shuffles... late-season snow storms... and up to pushed back opening days. To say the least, for this editor, 1993 as been filled with surprises around every corner.

Let's first travel into the world of GCSAA politics at its best. By now, unless you live in Bangladesh, word of resounding defeat of the proposed GCSAA Bylaws must have reached you. If not, let me brief you. The membership voted to approve only one of the nine proposed changes, that change being in the third Article of Incorporation which deals with changing the phrase "green keeping" to "turfgrass management". Needless to say, the promotional jargon that was distributed throughout the country by GCSAA to voting members prior to conference failed to convince the boys pulling the levers at the annual meeting.

(continued on page 2)

Peter Pierson Honored as 1992 "Superintendent of the Year"

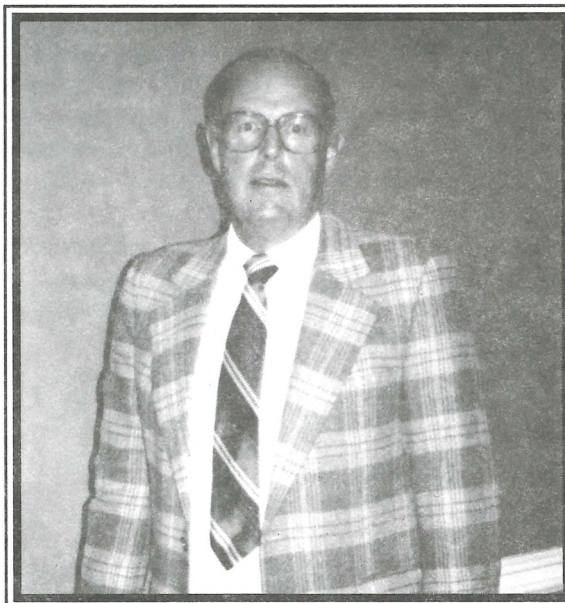
**By Robert A. Chalifour, CGCS,
and Peter Hull**

The "Superintendent of the Year Award", bestowed on the recipient by his peers, has become the most treasured award of our Association. This year, 70 ballots were cast, which represents an 85% return, an excellent response. Forty-one superintendents received votes, but this year's recipient, Peter Pierson, accumulated twice as many votes as the next closest candidate!

Peter exemplifies the best possible image of a professional in the field of turf management, with an aura of self-confidence, intelligence, leadership and

sincerity that gives him his special quality of friendship with his peers and fellow employees.

Peter is the superintendent at Pequabuck Golf Club in Bristol, CT. He received his B.S. in Horticulture from Clemson University in 1966. After college, he served in the U. S. Army, including a one year tour of duty in Vietnam. After the service, he worked in Green House



Production from 1969 to 1977.

He joined CAGCS and GCSAA in 1979 and took over as the superintendent at Edgewood Golf Club in Crom-

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President's Message

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What happened? Why so soundly and decisively defeated? To begin with, I think that after all the smoke cleared, it came down to a feeling among the forces that passage of these bylaws would yield too much authority to the Board of GCSAA along with the staff at GCSAA. It is important to maintain some checks and balances in such a system, and to insure our dollars are directed to areas in which all members are best served.

In all my years of being involved with GCSAA affairs and attending conferences, I have never witnessed such an overwhelming opposition to any proposal that GCSAA has brought to the table.

The delegate contingent earned their money at this convention. This group was pacing to the front organizing delegate meetings during the golf tournament, engaging in conversation with GCSAA board members, and exchanging their views on the issues. CAGCS held a caucus on Friday before the annual meeting for the purpose of hearing what our delegates had to say about the issues along with their recommendations for candidates. The caucus was well attended and various points of view were heard from all in attendance. This session proved to be worthwhile and one that we should continue in the

future. Along with informing each other about issues, it gave all an opportunity to direct our delegates to vote the wishes of the majority. I would like to thank our two delegates from Connecticut, Frank Lamphier and Mike Wallace, for their time and efforts.

I don't think we have seen the last of these bylaw issues. I feel that some of these proposed changes had some merit and should be presented in a different context. It is important that we stay focused on happenings at GCSAA and express our opinions and views, so in the future the dog will wag the tail and not the tail wagging the dog.

This and That...

I think it is wonderful that all of the recent job openings in our state have gone to Connecticut people. In the Grass Catcher section of this publication, I have listed those reroutings; but, I must make a few constructive comments concerning all these moves. I am very well aware of the flooded job market among our business community. I also realize that for an assistant to move into his or her own operation is a positive career move.

Along with accepting a new job

comes added responsibility to yourself, to your job, and also to your colleagues. What I mean by the latter is in the area of salaries. There are a lot of superintendents who have worked diligently to raise salaries in this state to a respectable level. It is your duty to do your best to uphold those levels when accepting a new position.

When applying for a new position, you should contact area superintendents to get a feel for the compensation packages that are prevalent in your area and take this information into consideration, along with other information pertaining to the club, to help you decide what that job should be paying. If we all follow these rules, then a club can hire a superintendent based on ability and past performances rather than give it to the lowest bidder.

I know that this is a controversial subject among some people, but I feel that if we do not watch out for each other, who will? I feel that exchanging information is a valuable vehicle in helping ourselves through helping each other.

Well folks, I must leave you now as it is Azalea time in Augusta, and I am on my way to three fulfilled days at The Masters. Look for a full report in the next issue of the *Clippings*. Sorry, no cameras at Augusta!

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Photographs
Art deAtienza

Pierson - 1992 Superintendent of the Year

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well, CT in 1984. Edgewood GC became the Tournament Players Club, site of the Greater Hartford Open. He stayed on as superintendent through 1985 and in 1986 he took on his current position at Pequabuck.

Since joining CAGCS and GCSAA in 1978, Peter has been an active member. He has served many terms on the Board of Directors, including positions as an Executive Director, S & R Chairman, Golf Chairman, Representative from CAGCS to the PPUC, and currently as Vice President. He has been a tireless, behind-the-scenes worker helping to make our Association and our various events the

best they can be.

Peter is an avid golfer and has received many golf awards from CAGCS. His family, which includes his wife, Sherry, son, Todd, and daughter, Kim, share his love of the game of golf. Aside from being willing to help out his fellow superintendents, Peter attends many CAGCS and GCSAA educational seminars to continue to improve himself.

Peter truly lives up to the CAGCS motto, "Devoted to sharing knowledge and experience for better turf", and has worked hard to earn the distinction of being *Superintendent of the Year*.

Turf Clippings ...

What's New in Bentgrasses?

by Dr. Bridget Ruemmele, University of Rhode Island

Choosing a creeping bentgrass for your golf course has become more complex with the introduction of the new seed varieties within the past five years. Previously, if you decided to seed, the major choices were *Penn-cross*, the standard, and *Seaside*, if you needed enhanced salt tolerance.

Now your options include improved heat and wear tolerance, as well as darker green, more uniform grasses. In addition, use of creeping bentgrass has spread from greens and tees into the fairways. This article introduces some of these new varieties, listed in alpha-

betical order.

Cobra was developed to have excellent drought, heat, and traffic tolerance. It also has some brown patch and pythium resistance. In the current National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) planting trials, *Cobra* was ranked near the highest ranked cultivars for overall quality. It has good, green color as well.

National does not stand up well over the long haul, but its rapid germination may be useful when you need fast results. Overseeding later with a

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What's New in Bentgrasses?

(continued from page 2)

slower-establishing, but more persistent type, will provide your permanent cover.

Penncross, the standard, is still a popular selection. It has wide adaptation to different environments. **Penncross** may segregate, with different plants becoming dominant in patches. Avoiding this characteristic is one goal turfgrass breeders have emphasized for new varieties.

Penneagle was selected for its dense, aggressive growth habit, which provides faster injury recovery. Its more upright growth habit makes it more suitable for tees and fairways. **Penneagle** is also packed as a blend with **Penncross** for planting.

Pennlinks, recommended for greens, has heat and cold tolerance. Its fine texture and more upright growth habit should provide a truer putting surface. **Pennlinks** was also selected for improved brown patch and pythium resistance. In some trials, it has not maintained as good a density of some of the more dense types. It is sold alone or may be blended with **Penncross** in a two-way blend and sometimes with **Penncross** and **Penneagle** in a three-way blend.

Providence is good for a wide range of environments. I know of its use as far away as Hawaii and I have seen it in trials in California and Texas. **Providence** developed by URI

Emeritus Professor C. R. Skogley, was bred for cold, heat, and drought tolerance and brown patch resistance.

It has an upright growth habit which permits it to be mown higher than some other bentgrasses, while maintaining an equivocal stimpmeter reading to the grasses cut lower. **Providence** was the highest ranked bentgrass for winter color and overall quality in the second year of the current NTEP trial. Third year results will be forthcoming this spring.

PRO/CUP is an aggressive, dark green selection. It was developed to have some brown patch and pythium resistance. It ranks in the highest group for overall quality.

Putter rated highly for seeding vigor and quality in NTEP trials. It is aggressive, with good adaptation. **Putter** was also developed for improved take-all patch resistance.

Regent was released with heat and drought resistance. It has ranked high in overall quality and dark green color in NTEP tests. When I saw it last August at Rutgers University in New Jersey, I would have rated it highest in quality on that date.

Southshore is an aggressive, dense bentgrass. Of all the new bentgrasses, it produces leaf tissue at one of the fastest rates. On plots unmown for three days, **Southshore** has the most growth. This could be advanta-

geous especially on public courses where the heavy traffic needs a grass with fast recovery potential.

SR1020 has excellent heat, drought and wear tolerance. It also has pythium and powdery mildew resistance. **SR1020** is another variety that ranks fairly high in density and overall quality in NTEP trials.

These brief descriptions can only give you a glimpse of options in bentgrass selections. A variety that does poorly in one environment may excel in another place, while another variety may have a wide range of environmental adaptation. The NTEP results can be useful in assessing this, because the site and management conditions are reported along with the variety evaluations.

If you are interested in more information on any of these varieties or even one I did not mention, contact me at (401) 792-2481. We have many of these varieties in plots at the URI Turfgrass Research Farm, and I would be happy to show them to you and/or provide more information about them. I also have the NTEP reports available, or you may send for your own copy at no cost to:

Mr. Kevin Morris, National Director
National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
Beltsville Agricultural
Research Center-West
Building 001, Room 333
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

This article was reprinted from *Surf 'n' Turf*, the Newsletter of the Rhode Island GCSA.

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Grass Catcher

By John F. Streeter, CGCS



At this time, a new date is yet to be determined. However, we are setting our sights on rescheduling this event for the Fall.

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Gennings receives GCSAA Certification

Scott D. Gennings, CGCS, of Wallingford Country Club, has been designated a certified golf course superintendent by the GCSAA.

To become certified, the candidate must have five years experience as a golf course superintendent and must pass a rigorous 6-hour examination. Also, an on-site inspection must be conducted by two currently certified superintendents.

Education is the backbone of our profession as is with becoming certified. There are merely 1,300 active GCSAA members currently holding CGCS status.

Congratulations Scott!!!

.....

Welcome New Members

Karen Boutin - Class C
Boutin & Sons Construction

Robert E. Brown - Class C
Sawtelle Bros., Inc.

Robert R. LeBel - Class B
Ellington Ridge Country Club

James E. Morris, Jr. - Class C
White Contractors

Todd Olovson - Class B
Pine Orchard Yacht & CC

James E. Rock - Class C
Sawtelle Bros., Inc.

Frederick C. Ulbrich, Jr.
Toelles Road Sand & Gravel Co.

CAGCS Contributes

CAGCS has recently contributed to the Dr. Joseph Troll Research Foundation Fund. The presentation was made during the banquet session held at the U- Mass Conference.

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Re-Routings

Congratulations to the following CAGCS members who have recently taken on superintendent positions:

Anthony Grosso, formerly the assistant at The Farms, is now the new superintendent at Pautipaug Country Club, Baltic, CT.

Kimberly Heyle, formerly the assistant at the Black Hall Club, is now the new superintendent at The Fenwick Club in, Westchester, New York.

Jonathan Jennings, a pending new member to our association, is the new superintendent at the Patterson Club, Fairfield, CT.

Cindy Johnson, formerly the assistant at Tumble Brook Country Club has now moved into the superintendent's position there.

Dave Roule, formerly at the Avon Golf Club, is now the new superintendent at the Dellwood Country Club, New City, New York.

GCSAA Tourney Results

In sunny San Diego, CA, many CAGCS members ventured out to capture a prize, but only few were successful. Congratulations to the following:

Frank Lamphier of Aspetuck Valley won 3rd Place Gross in the Senior II Category.

In the Third Flight, Bob Alonzi, Winged Food CC, won 5th Place Gross.

In the Second Flight, Greg Wojick, CGCS, of Greenwich CC, won 9th Place Net; and Mike Miner of the Connecticut GC was 7th Place Gross winner.

In the First Flight, Peter Bly of Brooklawn CC won 3rd Place Net, and Scott Niven of the Stanwich Club was 12th Place Gross.

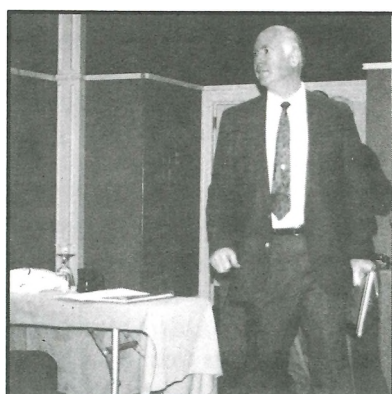
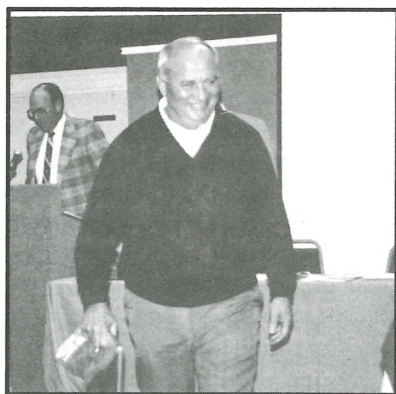
The New Jersey Association were the winners of the Frank Lamphier Chapter Team Trophy.

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Blizzard Cancels Golf Summit

The late season snows of March 13 played culprit not only to pushing back schedules and opening days, but also to our Second Annual Golf Summit.

New Life Members



Bob Silva (above left) and Charlie Baskin (above right) receiving their Life Membership Plaques.

Charles G. Baskin, CGCS, CC of Waterbury; Robert Silva, Shuttle Meadow CC; and Richard W. Smith, Richard W. Smith Associates, were acknowledged as *Life Members* of CAGCS at our first membership meeting of 1993 held at the Ramada Inn in Meriden, CT, on March 23rd. They have been members of our Association for 30 years, and were presented with Life Membership plaques.

CAGCS thanks our Life Members for their years of contributions. We presently have 30 Life Members.

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Open Forums

At our upcoming membership meetings, we thought it may inspire some communication between ourselves, if we put aside a few minutes to discuss amongst ourselves a new product or a new problem that one of us may be experiencing.

In the upcoming meeting notices, we will be announcing a subject or subjects which we wish to discuss that day. If you have any particular subjects you may wish to bring up on the floor, please give our CAGCS office a call or send us a fax at (203) 387-0810, so that we may try to entertain your wishes.

1993 Green Book

The 1993 Membership Directory, more commonly known as the "Green Book" will be furnished to all members during the first few weeks of May.

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**CAGCS
Telephone
& Fax
Service
(203)
387-0810**

CAGCS has installed a telephone and fax which is monitored daily by our staff person. The telephone number and fax number are the same, (203) 387-0810.

If you are unsure who you should be contacting with a particular request or are unable to contact a particular board member

CAGCS office and your call and/or request will be immediately handled.

If you have a change of address or any other information which the CAGCS office should be aware, please call the office.

Feel free to use the fax for making a timely reservation for monthly meetings - or leave your reservation on the answering machine. Remember to speak clearly.

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SNET FAXWORKS

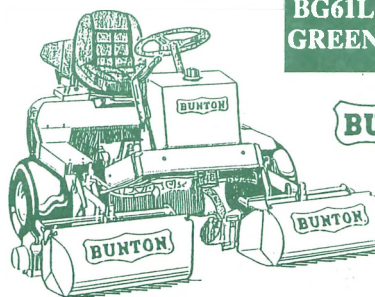
Aside from our office telephone and fax, CAGCS has also entered into an agreement with SNET with what is called "Faxworks". This enables us to communicate with the entire membership within a matter of minutes. You will recall that Steve Rackliffe furnished the membership with a memorandum in February detailing this new means of communication.

(continued on page 10)

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CAGCS Joins Tri-State Foundation

By John F. Streeter, CGCS

By way of invitation, CAGCS has recently joined forces with the Met GCSA, Long Island GCSA, New Jersey GCSA and The Met Golf Association to participate with The Tri State Research Foundation.

The Tri-State Research Foundation was founded in 1990 with Larry Pakala of Woodway CC in Darien, CT, serving as the organization's first president.

The purpose of this organization is to combine our efforts and resources toward funding deserving research projects throughout our locale. With these combined efforts, it is intended to fund research projects with enough dollars to make it possible to fund a particular project or projects from beginning to end. Therefore, this combined effort will enable a particular turfgrass prob-

lem to be identified, studied, and control methods made available in a timely manner.

The Tri-State has funded recent projects such as Dr. Bruce Clarke's Summer Patch research which was done at Rutgers University. Without the help of the foundation, his contributions and all the findings from Dr. Clarke's research would not have been made possible, and we still would not be able to control this dreadful disease.

Other such projects currently being funded are researching the biological controls for insects by Dr. Villani at Cornell, and Dr. Hummel's research on moss on golf greens. Other research funding requests are currently being considered from the University of Rhode Island and the University of Massachusetts.

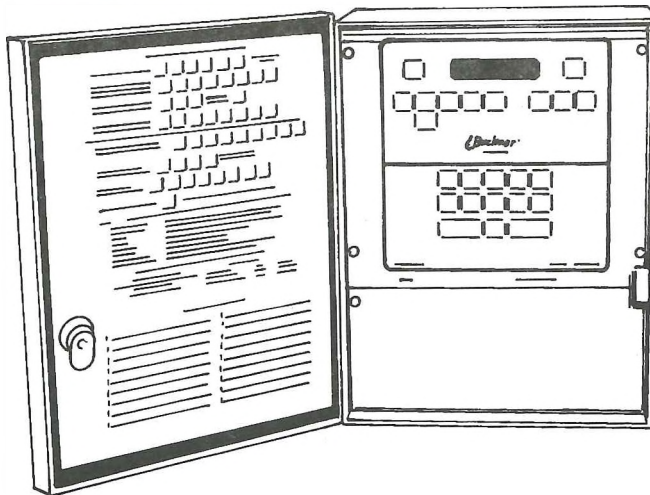
As you can see, because of the joint forces we have established with this foundation, more research projects can be pursued with foreseeable results.

Some of the dollars raised are derived from first a \$2,500 membership fee, of which each association pays annually. This fee also gives each association three positions on the Tri State Board who are directly responsible for distribution of research funds. All funds accumulated by the foundation are used only for research studies. The Executive Committee is responsible for monitoring ongoing research, as well as distributing information gained from research projects.

Other funding methods ...

In the coming months, all Class A member clubs will receive from the Tri-State Foundation a request to donate to our research efforts. These requests are being sent to the attention of

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Tri-State Foundation, continued

the superintendent and their green chairman. All participating association member clubs will be asked for a small donation to help generate research capital. In addition, funds will be supplemented by donations from green industry representatives, local corporations and golfers.

We hope you will bring this endeavor to your club's attention and we will be looking forward to their contributions.

In summary, The Tri State Research Foundation has been developed to search for ways to enhance the game of golf in the Tri State area through research. If the foundation is successful, the game, our clubs, the community and the environment (the things we are all concerned with) will benefit.

This endeavor, along with our alliance with our friends at PPUC, demonstrates our associations' commitment in the arena of environmental responsibility and helping fund research which will help us all become environmentally responsible.

• • • • •

CAGCS Scholarship Applications are now available from the CAGCS office. If a member of your family or an employee of a member meets the following criteria, please notify the S & R Committee through the CAGCS office in writing at P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525, and an application will immediately be forwarded to you.

CAGCS Scholarship Application Policies

1. Immediate family of CAGCS members are eligible.
2. Employees of members may apply, if field of endeavor is turf related.
3. Applicants, other than first-year college students, must maintain 2.0/4.0 grade point average for eligibility.
4. Applicants, other than first-year college students, must submit the most recent certified transcript from their college.
5. Applications must be requested in writing from the S & R Committee through the CAGCS office. Any member may request an application.
6. Requests for applications must be made before May 15.
7. The deadline for submitting applications is June 15.
8. Incomplete applications will not be acted upon.
9. Each scholarship will be for a minimum of \$100, with the total number of scholarships and the amounts awarded to be determined yearly by the S & R Committee, based on available funds.
10. Interviews and copies of the applicant's transcript from his or her last attended school may be requested, at the discretion of the S & R Committee.
11. An applicant must reapply each year to determine eligibility. Scholarship availability not to exceed four years.

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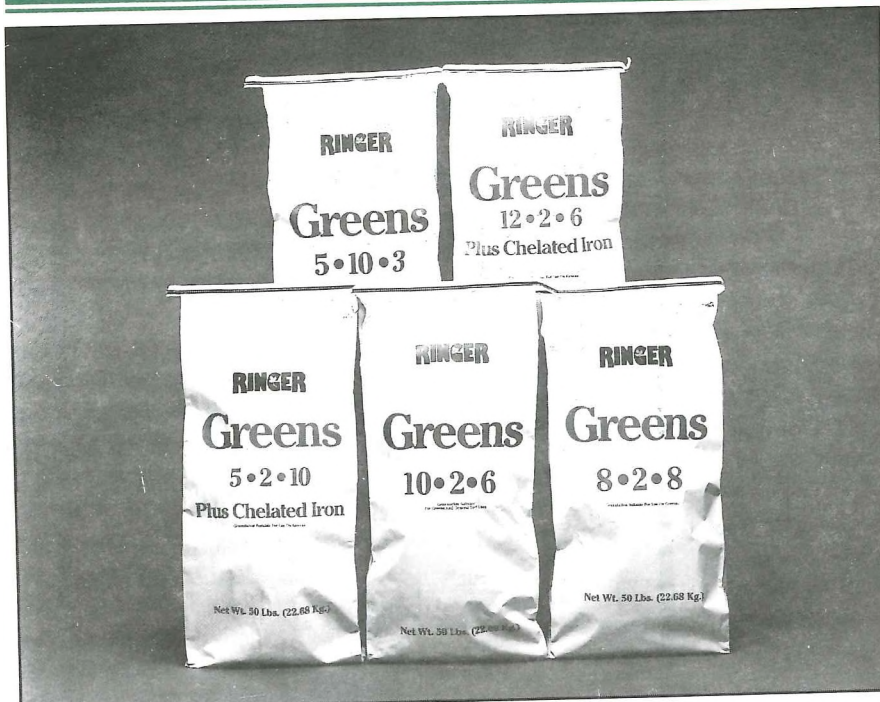


Thank You

My sincerest thanks are extended to each and every member of CAGCS for the many flowers, cards, calls, and prayers received following my surgery.

CAGCS truly is an association which has proven to stand by its members in a time of crisis, and it is hard to express my gratitude and the gratitude of my family for the outpour of genuine expressions of concern.

*Thank You,
Pauline Streeter*



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Grass Catcher, continued

SNET FAXWORKS

All members who have not furnished the CAGCS office with a contact fax number will be furnished with a list of those members who have fax service available to them. When you receive the list, see if there is a member near you who has a fax available and make arrangements to possibly use that fax number also.

Using the Faxworks is less expensive than a mailing which has to be out to all members with urgency. At times, there are job notices which must be sent out to all members with an application deadline date close to that of the date you receive it. When this happens, job notices could be furnished to the entire membership through the SNET FAXWORKS network.

Don't be left out of important information. Notify the CAGCS office with your fax contact number!!!

Golf Tip

STANDING ABOVE BALL

stand close to ball
with ball in center

place hands
ahead of
clubhead



bend knees
aim to left
keep head down

GCSAA Elects 1993-94 Board of Directors

Randy Nichols, CGCS, Dunwoody, GA, was elected President. Nichols succeeds William R. Roberts, CGCS, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, who as Immediate Past President will continue to serve on the Board for a year. Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS, Lyndhurst, OH, was elected Vice President. Re-elected as a Director and appointed

Secretary/Treasurer was Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, Naples, FL.

Elected as Directors were David W. Fearis, CGCS, Kansas City, MO, and George E. Renault, III, CGCS, Bethesda, MD.

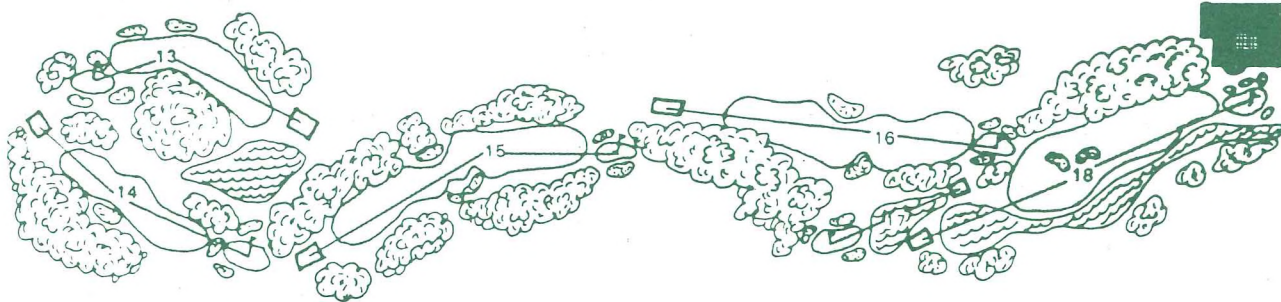
Appointed to the Board was R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, Bozeman, MT, who will serve the remaining year on

Baidy's term as Director.

Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, Sun City, AZ, and Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, Highland Park, IL, have on year remaining on their terms and will continue serving as Directors.

GCSAA officers serve one-year terms, and directors are elected to two-year terms.

The Clippings



Calendar

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST
May 17	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	The Farms Country Club Wallingford, CT	Paul A. Sabino
June 8	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Hop Meadow Country Club Simsbury, CT	Michael Wallace, CGCS
June 22	CAGCS Annual Invitational Tournament	Oak Lane Country Club Woodbridge, CT	Les Kennedy, Jr. CGCS
July 20	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Madison Country Club	Michael Chrzanowski
Sept. 14	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Black Hall Club	Philip Neaton
October TBA	CAGCS Annual S & R Tournament	To Be Announced	
October 18	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Wethersfield Country Club Wethersfield, CT	Alfred Bachand

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