

CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS

Volume 28, No. 1

March, 1994

President's Message

Peter R. Pierson
CAGCS President

As I look out the window on this 11th day of February and watch the most recent snow storm take aim at CT, my thoughts say, "Enough is enough. It is time to head towards Spring!" Just think, we are only half way through the 1994 winter. Please hope that the melting of this large amount of snow is gradual or a repeat to the Midwest flooding of 1993 may be at hand. The snow this year has played havoc with CAGCS from our Christmas party to the January Seminar.

In looking back over the past few months since I was elected President, a lot has happened. Immediate Past President, John Streeter, CGCS, hosted a very nice Christmas party at Woodbridge Country Club. A winter storm that evening kept a few souls away as driving became treacherous.

CAGCS and GCSAA co-hosted a very successful educational seminar which consisted of 2 one-day programs on January 10 and 11 at the Raddison Hotel in Cromwell. Dr. Houston Couch from Virginia Polytechnic Inst.

(continued on page 2)

John F. Streeter, CGCS, honored as 1993 "Superintendent of the Year"

By Jeffrey F. Rogers
Commercial Representative to the Board

The Superintendent of the Year award, bestowed on the recipient by his peers, has become the most coveted award of our association. This year, I received a 70% return which is a good response. The results were tabulated by Peter Hull, Peter Pierson, and myself. Thirty-two superintendents received votes in this year's balloting. The old saying is true, "Your vote does count". This year's recipient won by one first-place vote. Needless to say, it was exciting.

The recipient of this year's award attended the University of Massachusetts and majored in Agronomy-Golf Course Management. In 1980 he received a Plant and

Soil Certificate from Univ. of R.I. He started his superintendent career in 1975 at the Woodland Country Club in North Kingston, RI, and later accepted the Superintendents position at The Valley Country Club where he stayed until 1980, and became active on the board in the Rhode Island Association. Then, in 1981, he accepted the superintendent's position at Alpine Country Club in Cranston, RI. In 1983 and 1984, he served as president of the Rhode Island Golf Course Superintendents Association. In 1985, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the RIGCSA. In 1986, he accepted the superintendent's position at Cliffside Country Club, presently known as Tower Ridge Coun-

(continued on page 2)



Jeff Rogers, left, presenting Supt. of the Year Award to John Streeter, right.

President's message (continued from page one)

(yes, he did bring the twine binder and yes, he did snap one or two garters) and Dr. Bruce Clark from Rutgers University spoke to a sold-out audience on *Maximizing Turfgrass Disease Control*. A great presentation... if you missed it, sign up for this one at some time in the future. On January 11th, Ron Dodson, President and CEO of the New York Audubon Society, spoke on the subject of *Wildlife Management and Habitat Conservation*. Effective and environmentally responsible methods for managing wildlife and natural habitats on golf courses were discussed.

We are presently working with GCSAA for our January, 1995, seminar. Our first choice of topics for this seminar is *Restoration, Renovation and Reconstruction*. If our first request is honored, this seminar will sell out very quickly. A word to the wise is sufficient.

CAGCS's January educational seminar was held on January 18th, and it fell victim to yet another storm. Education Director Mike Wallace, CGCS, and his committee did a great job of getting everything set at the Ramada Inn in Meriden. Of the 100 persons who preregistered for the seminar, only 65 were able to make it through

some very severe driving conditions. While the Board of Directors regrets the weather of January 18th, CAGCS was obligated to pay for the count given one week prior to the event. For those who were able to attend the seminar, the subjects offered valuable information. Congratulations to John F. Streeter, CGCS, who was awarded the Superintendent of the Year Award!

As we worked our way towards the end of January, the Board of Directors held their first meeting since an organizational meeting in December of 1993. Committee chairpeople have been assigned and the new year awaits.

GCSAA Convention was upon us by the end of the month and everyone looked forward to a nice trip to Dallas. It was great to see so many CAGCS members participating in the GCSAA convention. It is a great opportunity for education, a review of new and tried equipment and golf course supplies, along with a chance to participate in the future of GCSAA through the election process.

The meeting schedule for 1994 is close to completion and appears on the back page of this newsletter. Now is a good time to think about hosting a meeting in 1995. If you are interested in hosting a CAGCS meeting, please

contact Mike Wallace, CGCS, or any member of the Board of Directors.

Participation by members of an organization in its activities becomes the strength on which the organization runs. CAGCS has been very fortunate to have had strong leadership for many years and member participation at CAGCS events and involvement from our membership has grown over the years.

I look forward to serving the members of CAGCS in helping to maintain our strong professional organization.

Hit 'em straight ...



Superintendent of the Year
(continued from page one)

try Club. He joined CAGCS in 1986. In 1987, he became the editor of the *Connecticut Clippings*. In 1990, he became superintendent at Woodbridge Country Club and continued to serve on the CAGCS board as secretary, then vice president, and in 1993 as president.

This year's recipient, John F. Streeter, CGCS, has been devoted to the betterment of the association and the profession. He has proven it with the endless hours of service he has given to the association.

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Newsletter Committee
John F. Streeter, CGCS, Editor

Photos
Dave Basconi

Put yourself in the other person's shoes ...

By Michael Wallace, CGCS

I would like to take just a brief moment of everyone's time to express an opinion. Recently, a vendor held an informational day and asked superintendents to call or send in a registration card. The vendor was bringing in speakers, reserving a room and providing lunch.

Some 75+ replied. Forty showed up! Was the weather bad? No. Was it the wrong time of the year? No. Was the program bad? Well, it was clearly spelled out in the literature that the vendor sent out. So, to that I would have to reply "no". So what was the cause?

Well, maybe one would say that because there was no out-of-pocket expense from the superintendent, he placed little value on the day's presentation. Or, one might argue it was of no concern because it was the cost of doing business by the vendor... the cost of promotion. To these arguments, I say "bunk!!!"

It is a service to our profession that these types of opportunities are pre-

sented. Education is not cheap and if a vendor takes the time to put on a program and you say you will be coming, you should go or at least have the courtesy to call and cancel.

Yes, there are times when the unexpected pops up. But 35 unexpected events all in different areas of the state. I think not. If we expect people to provide these services, arrange for us to get pesticide license credits, provide a lunch, then the least we can do as professionals is to be there if we say we are going to attend.

Now, I know the weather raised havoc with the CAGCS January seminar. That is not what I am referring to. But I think you all can see why we ask for preregistration.

The commitment for a specified number of reservations must be made a week in advance for most events.

Please think about it. If you register for an event, be fair to all involved and participate. If the unexpected occurs, call. Not a great deal to ask in the name of professionalism, is it?

Classified

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If you are looking to purchase or you have any used turf equipment you are thinking about trading in or selling, submit specifics to the CAGCS office (P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525) by the deadline dates listed below.

Your submissions (what you have or what you are looking for) should include make, model, year, number of hours, recent repairs, price range, overall condition, etc. A picture would be extremely helpful... for they often speak a thousand words!

Remember - your potential customer is a fellow superintendent. So, do unto others as you would have done unto you. The Clippings will again publish five issues this year, and the deadline dates for the remaining issues are:

May issue - April 15th

July issue - June 15th

September issue - August 19th

November issue - October 14th

We look forward to your submissions and hope we can put something together.

Jud Smith



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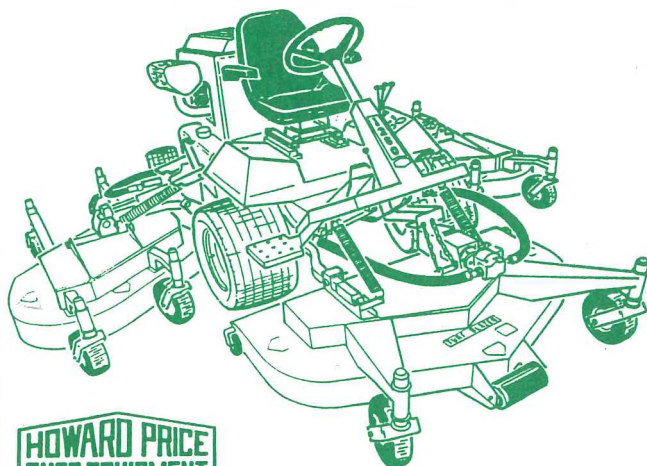
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A little about ice

By Metro Milorganite, Inc.
Joseph J. Stahl, III, Rep.

Extended ice cover and its resulting damage has commanded a great deal of attention in recent years across the northern tier of states. Golf course greens, in particular, receive the most attention due to the high economic importance to the golf course.

Ice damage severity will vary between grass species, but golf greens with a high population of annual blue grass, *Poa annua*, are the most susceptible. The first step to minimizing ice cover and damage is to insure the green has proper drainage, both surface and subsurface. A properly drained green will allow water movement and reduce the chance of ice build-up.

How ice damage occurs

Damage from extended ice cover can occur both directly and indirectly. The ice cover acts as a barrier, effectively blocking gas exchanges necessary for respiration. Oxygen depletion in the crown area, combined with the build-up of carbon dioxide and other toxic gasses under the ice cover can effectively kill the meristematic tissue in the crown. The meristematic tissue is that part of the plant where root and shoot initiation begins in the crown. Indirectly, water build-up under an ice cover may leave the crown area in water for an extended period of time. The crown area then hydrates, or swells with water. A rapid drop in temperature below freezing will cause ice crystals to form in the hydrated crowns, causing physical damage to the tissue.

Following are a few thoughts relating to ice:

Carol Oakley, Supt. of Monroe Country Club and editor of the Hudson Valley GCSA newsletter, *Foreground*, attended a discussion while at the National GCSAA convention in Dallas. Here are some of the thoughts she passed along to us:

1. Ice cover can kill *poa annua* in 45 days.
2. It can kill bentgrasses in 60 days.
3. One experienced superintendent told the group that he removes loose snow from a green and drills a hole through the ice. He smells to see if he detects a rotting, gaseous odor. If he doesn't like what he smells, he does the following:
 - A. If the ice is thick he uses an aerator with blunt tines and breaks the ice in two or three increments.
 - B. He told the group that the temperature must be 24 degrees or below in order for the ice to shatter.
 - C. He breaks up and removes the ice in sections until he reaches his cover.



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Jonathan Jennings - Class A
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Deadline for requesting scholarship applications April 1, 1994

The CAGCS Scholarship is for the immediate family of CAGCS members who are still dependents. Employees of members may apply if they are majoring in a turf program; are presently employed at that facility; and have been employed at that facility for at least one season.

The Memorial Scholarship pertains to winter school students who are members of CAGCS or are employed

at a club where a member of CAGCS is employed in the capacity of golf course superintendent; are presently employed at that facility; and have been employed at that facility for at least one season.

Applications must be requested in writing and addressed to the:

CAGCS S & R Committee
P. O. Box 3678
Woodbridge, CT 06525

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Reroutings

Ray Beaudry, formerly of the Patterson Club, is now with Westchester Ford Tractor.

Dennis Houle, formerly of Yale University Golf Course, is now superintendent at Redding Country Club.

Carl Wallace, formerly of Magovern's, has been appointed Vice President of Double Eagle's Turf Sales.

Third annual golf summit

On March 26th, CAGCS will participate along with the CT State Golf Association, the CT Section PGA, and the CT Managers in hosting the third annual Golf Summit. The summit will be held at the Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Rocky Hill, CT.

CAGCS has arranged with the USGA to have David Oatis, Director for the Northeast Region of the Greens Section whose presentation will be *The Ten Pitfalls of Golf Course Maintenance*.

The CT State Golf Association is promoting the Summit and you should have already received a flyer. Plan to attend along with representatives from your club.

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Honorary Members

The 1993-94 Board of Directors voted to extend honorary membership to Dr. *Richard J. Cooper*, an Associate Professor of Turfgrass Science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; and to *John Nowobilski*, PGA Golf Professional at the Tallwood Country Club, who has written articles regarding appreciation of the golf course superintendent, some of his articles have been reprinted here in our *Clippings*.

They will be honored and presented with their Honorary Membership plaques at the March 21st meeting at the Ramada Inn in Meriden.

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From the editor

John F. Streeter, CGCS

I would like to personally thank all of you for the support that was bestowed upon me in receiving our annual Superintendent of the Year Award. It is truly a gratifying honor when one is recognized by his peers in such a manner.

I cannot express the surprise and pleasantries I experienced when my name was announced for this most special award.

I came into this state from Rhode Island (where I was born and raised and practiced my craft for 10 years) in 1986. During this time, I established close ties with my peers, ones that I will never relinquish. Needless to say, it took a while for Connecticut to feel like home. This award helps ratify my feelings that now I am home.

I have enjoyed my years serving on the Board of Directors and will continue to be a strong supporter of our association. I feel that the fraternity we have among each other is one of the most important aspects of our association. I look forward to continuing the comradery with all of you in the future and hope that we can all work together to help retain the professionalism of the golf course superintendent.

This year I was selected to serve as delegate on behalf of our association at GCSAA's annual meeting in Dallas, TX. Mike Wallace served as alternate and together, with the direction of the Board of Directors, we based our votes.

On the agenda this year were 15 ballots for bylaw changes. Most of these bylaws were rejuvenated from last year's proposals with a little bit of

massaging. The elimination of the most controversial bylaws and the re-writing and separation of the ballots made it a bit easier to choose.

After a couple of discussions at board meetings, I went to the voting booth to approve all proposed bylaw changes. All bylaws were approved, with the exception of ballots no. 5 & 6 dealing with the additions of new classifications of membership.

The election of officers and directors proved to be a bit more tricky than we originally had anticipated. As a delegate, I always try to gather as much information as possible about each and every candidate. I try to get to talk with them individually on a one-to-one basis and from there we go on and make our decision. Of course, this decision is also based on conversations throughout the Board of Directors of CAGCS along with our members at large.

I have always been one not to finalize a decision about a candidate until all of the cards have been played. Most times, this can go right up to the final hour and in this election that is exactly what happened.

We supported Joe Baidy for President, Gary Grigg for Vice President and both candidates were elected. For Directors we fully supported Bruce Willams and Paul McGinnis and split our support to Charles Passios and Tommy Witt. Both Willams and McGuinness were elected and Witt was appointed to fill the vacant slot on the board.

Complete election results appear on page 10 of this publication.



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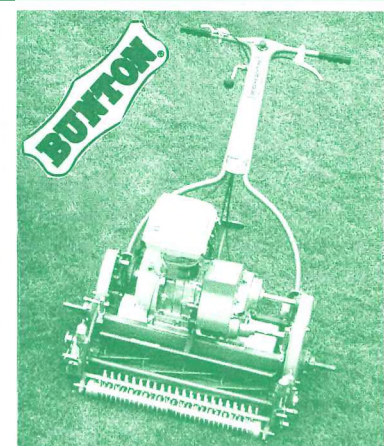
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Changes at PPUC

By Armando Paolino, Executive Director

The Professional Pesticide Users of Connecticut (PPUC) has gone through some changes recently enhancing their ability to better serve its members including CAGCS and its members.

The big news is Don Kiley, hero of the posting and notification battles, has retired as PPUC's Executive Director after nine years. Don has enjoyed his service and looks forward to doing some new things. He points to his partner and newly appointed Executive Director, Armando Paolino, who has served as deputy executive director for the last two and one-half years as a bright and capable future for the council's new direction.

Armando Paolino has 13 years experience across a broad spectrum of state government and public policy positions. Armando is also the principal in The CONNtact Group, a government relations and association management firm representing business interests before state government. Armando is known for his quiet, effective style. Prior to working with Don, he served the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce for seven years as director of governmental and regional policies and chief state capitol lobbyist.

At their eighth annual meeting in October, the Council elected officers and director. Richard "Dick" Tice stepped down after a 2-year term as president of the board. Tice touted efforts to improve the newsletter and broaden the role on issues as well as the establishment of a successful Educational Day program event.

Tice is succeeded as president of the board by Robert "Bob" Horan. Bob has served on the board for four years representing the Connecticut Tree Protective Association and serving as vice-president for the last year. Bob stated he intends to "further raise the profes-

sional standards within the industry" and strengthen the council's role in public policy in a proactive way. This reflects issues raised by the membership at the annual meeting's "town meeting program".

Bob is also guiding efforts by the council to cooperatively work with DEP to address issues of unlicensed applicators and illegal or improper bid specs. These efforts will be conducted on a pilot basis by the Environmental Industry Council.

The name was changed this past year to the Environmental Industry-Council-PPUC. The group, originally designed to watchdog pesticide issues alone, has been called on by members and their associations increasingly to address other environmental issues affecting a broader range of issues.

In 1993, the group defended against local attempts to regulate pesticides and in some cases fertilizer. In addition, the Council coordinated a task force to address ground-water mapping with a potential affect on golf courses. The Council, along with Mike Wallace and Peter Pierson of CAGCS, worked with DEP to help courses identify, if they were impacted.

On other fronts, the Council has

supported efforts to educate local boards on banning blowers. The Council has helped to address local ordinances creating conflicts between industries.

As always, the Environmental Industry Council-PPUC is ready to assist member organizations and their members, as well as individual members, when a public policy issue arises. The strength of the Council is the commitment and involvement of the diverse membership to protect their industries.

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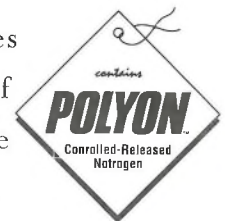
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For additional information on any of the sites, or to enroll in this clinical trial, please call Lisa Bruno, R.N. at 344-6338.

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GCSAA elects 1994-95

Board of Directors

**Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS,
elected President**

GCSAA's 65th International Golf Course Conference and Show drew golf course management professionals from nearly 50 different countries.

Golf course superintendents, landscape and golf course architects, club managers, course owners and many others gathered at the event for a week of seminars, educational sessions and the trade show. More than 70 educational offerings and the 190,000-square-foot trade show offered golf course management professionals the best training and equipment information available to provide the best playing conditions.

More than 630 manufacturers and suppliers displayed the newest products and services in the golf course management industry during the trade show.

Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS, Acacia CC, Lyndhurst, OH, was elected GCSAA president during the association's annual meeting in Dallas.

Baidy succeeds Randy Nichols, CGCS, Cherokee Town & CC, Dunwoody, GA, who as immediate past president will continue to serve on the

board for a year.

Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, Naples National GC, FL, was elected vice president.

Re-elected as a director and appointed secretary/treasurer was Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, Bob O'Link GC, Highland Park, IL.

Re-elected as directors were Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, Union Hills CC, Sun City, AZ, and R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, Valley View GC, Bozeman, MT.

Appointed to the board was Tommy D. Witt, CGCS, Bent Tree CC, Dallas, TX. Witt will serve the remaining year of Grigg's term as director. Grigg's director position was vacated when he was elected vice president.

Dave W. Fearis, CGCS, Blue Hills CC, Kansas City, MO, and George E., Renault, III, CGCS, Burning Tree Club, Bethesda, MD, have one year remaining on their terms and will continue to serve as directors.

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



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1994

Monthly Meeting Schedule

March 21, 1994
Ramada Inn
Meriden, CT

April 19, 1994
Norwich Golf Course
Norwich, CT

May TBA
Aspetuck Valley Country Club
Weston, CT

June 7, 1994
Wampanoag Country Club
West Hartford, CT
Annual Invitational Tournament

June 14, 1994
Crestbrook Park Golf Club
Watertown, CT

July 12, 1994
Woodbridge Country Club
Woodbridge, CT

September, 1994
To be announced

October 4, 1994
Torrington Country Club
Torrington, CT
Annual S & R Tournament

October 11, 1994
Elmridge Country Club
Pawcatuck, CT

November 7, 1994
Old Lyme Country Club
Old Lyme, CT
Annual Meeting

CAGCS Meeting Policies

1. Members and guests who play golf must pay for meals served on that day. Reservations will be made by specified deadline, preferably by enclosed post card.

2. Reservations are a must. If you make a reservation and fail to attend, you will be responsible for the price of the meals. If you attend a CAGCS monthly meeting and fail to return the enclosed post card for your reservation, you will be charged an additional \$20.

3. Any post cards received after the due date will not be eligible for the cash drawing.

4. Your return post card **must** list the names, with handicaps, of your foursome. If you do not have a foursome, we will pair you.

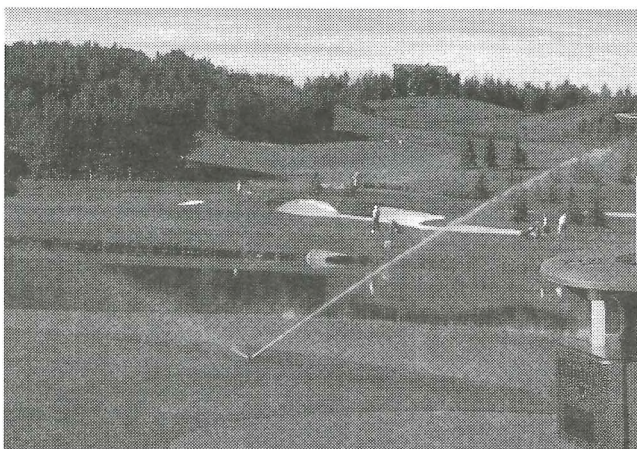
5. Immediately after your round, score cards must be turned in at the score table or Pro Shop with your full name, the total score, and they must be signed and attested. Failure to do so could result in disqualification.

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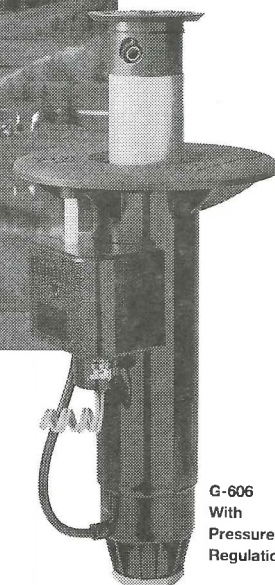
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