

CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS

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November/December, 1995

President's Message

Peter R. Pierson
CAGCS President

As I pause to write my final president's message, I feel very honored to have served as CAGCS President for the past two years. The strengths of any organization are the officers, directors and staff, along with participating members. We have all of those.

CAGCS has a very loyal and dedicated Executive Secretary in Pauline Streeter, and I would like to thank her for all of her help. To the officers and directors, thank you for all the many hours you volunteered and the concern you have shown to make our professional organization better.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the Tri State Research Foundation as a very worthwhile commitment for all CAGCS members. Dr. Noel Jackson at URI is currently involved with a research project which has the potential to help courses in the northeast.

Immediate Past President, John Streeter, CGCS, got CAGCS involved in the Tri State Research Foundation during his presidency in 1993. A goal for 1996 should be to get more CAGCS clubs to contribute to the Foundation. Some strides were made

(continued on page 2)

GCSAA Revisits Chapter Affiliation Agreement

John F. Streeter, CGCS
Immediate Past President & Chapter Delegate to GCSAA

The proposed chapter affiliation agreement is anything but new. In fact, this agreement actually began in 1935. Its intention then, as it is now, was in short, to work with chapters to serve the members' needs, and provide our national association avenues on which they could travel to provide service and promote professionalism within our membership. Affiliation with our national organization is imperative if we are going to keep moving ahead.

On September 9 and 10 of this year, I had the privilege, along with our Vice President, Phil Neaton, to attend the 3rd annual chapter relations meeting held at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, KS. The purpose of this gathering was to revisit and strengthen the chapter affiliation agreement. To achieve a strong working relationship between chapter and national associations, certain agreements must be made between both parties to ensure stability and consistency.

Among the most controversial agreements is the goal to achieve 100% dual membership. In other words, any Class A or B member belonging to an

affiliated chapter must be required to belong to GCSAA and vice versa. This requirement was implemented back in 1935; but, throughout the years, it has gradually diluted to a 0% dual membership requirement.

As you may remember at the annual meeting of GCSAA in 1993, our membership was faced with a decision whether to approve or reject many proposed bylaws changes which, if approved, would have changed the course of GCSAA dramatically.

After much debate, the changes were soundly defeated, all candidates who were in favor of such were not re-elected and a new era at GCSAA began.

President Randy Nichols began paving a new road for our association. We began with staff reorganization and then subsequently redirecting GCSAA to become a member-service oriented organization.

The mandates which were communicated by the membership at that time were to get the house in order, improve relations with allied associations and get the rank and file members involved with the association. These mandates

(continued on page 3)

President's Message *(continued from page 1)*

during 1995, but there is always room for more contributors.

I would like to congratulate the Board of Directors for taking a strong position on Softspikes/spikeless shoes and recommend that all our monthly meetings be spikeless. Thanks should go to John Donnell of Softspikes for making all those Softspikes available to CAGCS free of charge.

The 1996 Golf Summit is still in the planning stages. However, the spikeless topic would be a great incentive to attend and bring your club officials.

CAGCS lost Bill Somers and Bob Kennedy, two life members during 1995. Our special thoughts go out to their families. They will be remembered as very loyal CAGCS members.

Please take a moment to pray for the continued recovery of CAGCS members, Kevin Balocca, Elmridge CC, who was recently involved in a serious accident, and for Bob Phipps, Shorehaven CC, who was befallen with a stroke.

Due to the hard work of our Education Chairperson, Brian Skelly, the

meeting schedule for 1996 is in place at this early date. Please consider offering your club to host a CAGCS meeting in 1997.

Our monthly meetings average about 90 people per meeting. With that large number, we can have a significant impact at a club in the cart fees paid, prize credits in the Pro Shop, and the restaurant income for the club.

*If you are asked, please try to host a meeting.
If you are not asked, please step forward and volunteer.*

I would especially like to thank two CAGCS members who have been especially supportive of CAGCS during my two years as President.

Jeff Rogers, Commercial Representative to the Board, has been especially helpful in 1995 when he was asked to chair the Scholarship & Research Committee. John Streeter, CGCS, Immediate Past President, has been a pillar of strength for CAGCS for a number of years. In 1995, John was a

representative to the Tri State Research Foundation, Chapter Delegate to GCSAA, Employment Referral Chairman, Nominating Committee Chairman, and the Editor of the *Connecticut Clippings*. Jeff and John, please accept my sincere thank you on behalf of the membership of CAGCS for a job well done.

In closing, I would like to thank all CAGCS members for the support given to me during the past two years.

Please show your support to the new officers and directors and they will continue to do a great job and show strong leadership for CAGCS and the profession.

There are some changes coming from GCSAA, but I can assure you that these changes are to strengthen the profession of the golf course superintendent.

Thank you again! It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve CAGCS.

Peter R. Pierson

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~and~

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Suffield Country Club

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David Basconi

"The intention of the affiliation agreement is to stimulate the relationship between GCSAA and its chapters."

John F. Streeter, CGCS, Chapter delegate to GCSAA

have been met with great success and have been a catalyst in moving our association forward.

In 1994, GCSAA identified chapter relations as one of the three new mandates in which they will focus for the next three to five years. Resources and efforts will also concentrate to enhance the image of the golf course superintendents' profession, communicate the positiveness of golf on the environment, and work with chapters to serve members. The proposed chapter affiliation agreement is a vehicle that has to be updated and enforced if we are going to co-exist in harmony with GCSAA.

The following is a glance at the agreement and the privileges of being an affiliated chapter of GCSAA. Take note that these standards were altered from the original proposal due to the feedback from the delegates in attendance at the chapter relations meeting.

- Dual membership. Any Class A or B member joining a chapter or GCSAA after July, 1997 will be required to join both organizations.
- Bylaws and membership classifications for chapters and GCSAA shall be the same.
- All officers of local chapters must be GCSAA Class A or B members.
- Incorporation. Chapters must incorporate in the state where their principal business is located.
- Annual reporting. All chapters

will be required to submit an annual report outlining chapter activities for the year, such as current bylaws, current officers, current membership roster, a certificate of good standing from the state where the chapter is incorporated, a certificate of insurance, a summary of the annual financial statements, and the chapter's annual tax returns.

The financial report would, of course, be kept strictly confidential. GCSAA's annual report and financial information is and always has been available to chapters.

- Chapter representation. Chapters must send a representative to the annual chapter relations meeting and a representative to vote at GCSAA's annual meeting. This requirement is important so that chapters can be kept abreast and given the opportunity to discuss GCSAA affairs.

- Insurance. All chapters must obtain a minimum of \$1,000,000 for both general liability and directors' and officers' insurance.

- Tax exempt status. Chapters will be required to seek and retain tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service.

- Reaffiliation process begins January 1, 1996. Any chapter not meeting the above standards by January 1, 1998 will be revoked from affiliation with GCSAA.

Being affiliated with GCSAA has its benefits. Amongst some of the benefits GCSAA is providing are voting representation, promotional materials and logos, regional seminars, cooperative research programs, annual con-

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**"GCSAA is investing one million dollars
in promoting golf and the image
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ference and show, together with being the recipient of the public relations program which, at the present time, is investing \$1,000,000 in promoting golf and the image of the golf course superintendent.

GCSAA also provides consulting to local chapters in the areas of chapter management, educational sessions, along with a certification attesting program.

The chapter relations committee will submit the revised proposal to the GCSAA Board for the fall Board meeting. The Board can implement the affiliation agreement without a vote of the membership.

Personally, I am impressed with GCSAA officials' desires to listen to the ideas and input from chapter representatives.

As you can see from the changes that were made to this particular item, they not only listen, but actually implement some of the suggestions that come across the table. Incoming GCSAA President Bruce Williams states, "We needed to strengthen a relationship that had started to fall apart." "To enforce an agreement of such magnitude without input from the chapters would not have been fair."

Fellow CAGCS member, Tim O'Neil, and MetGCSA Chapter Delegate, agrees that "[This agreement] will smooth the way for better communications with GCSAA and other chapters and allow us to share—and benefit from—each others' knowledge and experience."

**The
Board of Directors
of CAGCS**



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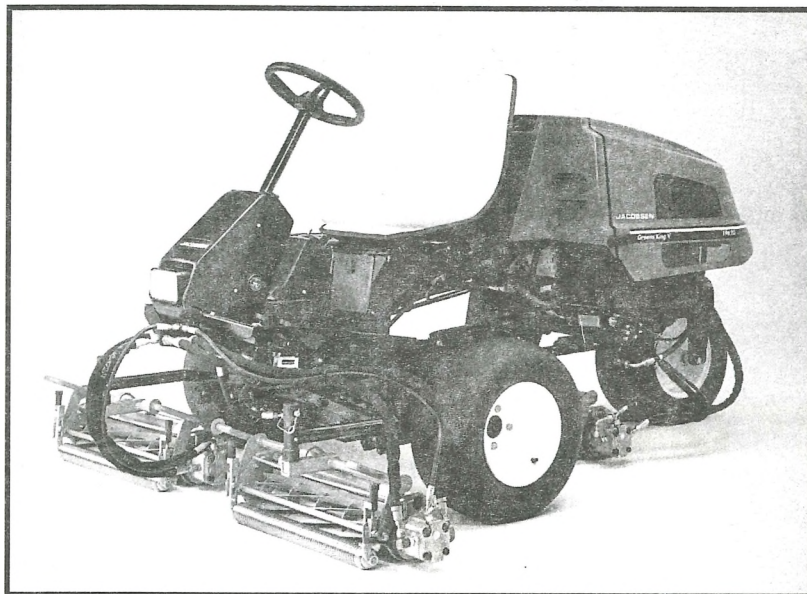
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Around the Association



CAGCS annual Christmas party

The annual CAGCS Christmas party will be held again at the Race Brook Country Club on Friday, December 8th. Deadline for reservations is December 1st.

As in past years, we have made arrangements for a block of rooms at the Quality Inn Conference Center (203/387-6651). They again have a special called "Don't drink and drive package" which includes a shuttle service which will transport you to Race Brook CC and back to the Inn for no charge.

Mention that you are a member of CAGCS when making your reservations.

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1996 Dues Statements

The 1996 dues statements will be sent out the first week of December.

FYI - If you happen to have not attended the annual meeting, the dues for 1996 will be increased to \$140, \$10 of which will be used to register everyone in the USGA GHIN system.

The 1996 green book informational sheet will be included with your dues statement.

Please be sure to carefully double check all of the information and make

any additions and/or corrections and promptly return it to the CAGCS office.

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'96 Conference & Show Hospitality Suite

CAGCS will once again be co-hosting a hospitality suite with the New Jersey, Met and Rhode Island chapters at the national convention in Orlando, FL, on Friday, February 9, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., at the Omni Rosen Hotel.

Watch for the January issue for final details!

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CAGCS January Seminar

The annual CAGCS Winter Seminar will be held on January 9th at the Ramada Inn in Meriden, CT.

Details for this seminar are in the final stages, so watch for your mail and register early!

Classified

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For Sale or Trade—Jacobson F-10 reel mower, hydraulic reels; mows a 14' swath. Call Bill Leonard at (860/289-7234, 628-8387, or 628-6996).

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Mass Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show

The 65th Mass Turfgrass Conference and 20th Trade Show is scheduled for January 15, 16 & 17, 1996 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel in Boston, MA.

You must register to be admitted to the educational program or the trade show. Pre-registration is \$50. Registration at the door is \$60.

For further conference information, contact Denise Ruzsala, Ex. Sec., (413/562-0120).

For registration information, contact Jennifer Howland, U-Mass Conference Services (413/545-0172).

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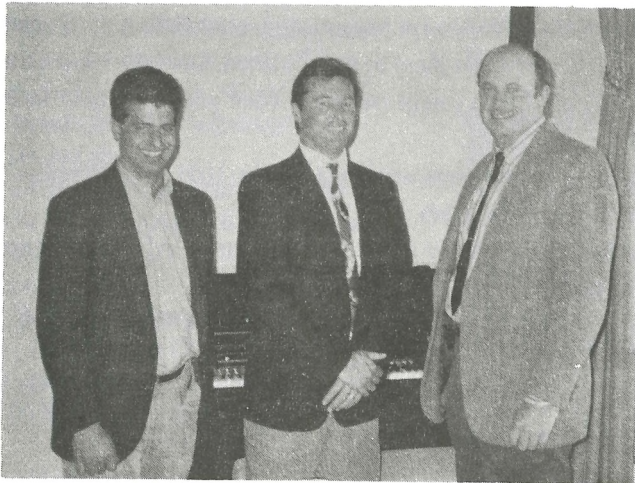
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1996 - Executive Board (Standing L-R) Philip Neaton, President, Peter Pierson, Immediate Past President, Anthony Grosso, Secretary; (sitting) John Napier, CGCS, Vice President, and Heather Garvin, Treasurer



Immediate Past President, Peter Pierson, with our Executive Secretary, Pauline Streeter (That's Greg Stent trying to get out of the way)



Philip Neaton, incoming President, welcoming newest members to the Board, Art deAtienza and Greg Bradley



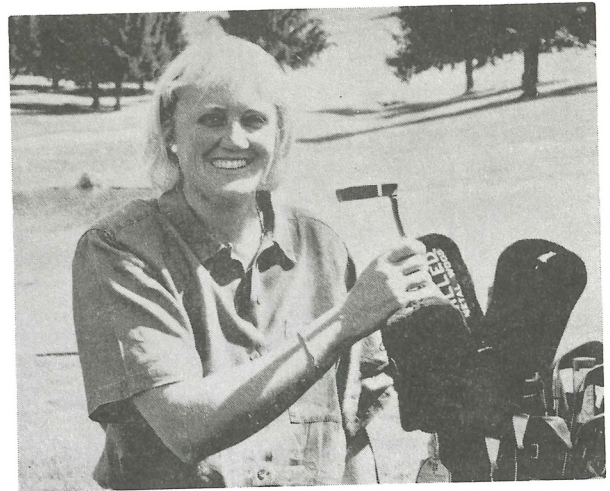
Two CAGCS Past Presidents, Left - Robert Chalifour, CGCS (1988 & 1989) and Right - Steve Rackliffe, CGCS (1992)



(L-R) John Gallagher, III, Race Brook CC, Dennis Houle, Redding CC, Jud Smith, Orange Hills CC, Wayne Urban, Mill River CC



Board Members (L-R) Scott Gennings, CGCS, John Napier, CGCS and Greg Stent



Our newsletter committee is blessed with the willingness of David Basconi, D & S, who has become our official photographer. There are many occasions when he is called the night before an event, and he never says "NO"! We always have many pictures taken at all events, but space does not allow them to be published. Our office has quite a library of pictures, and you never know when you will appear in an issue of the *Clippings*.

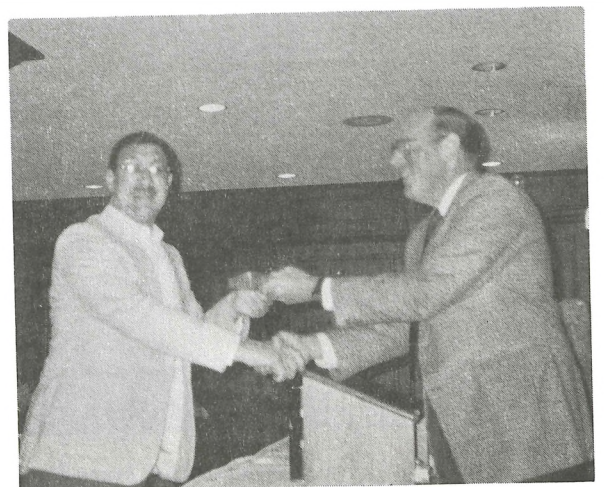
The pictures on this page were taken at the 1995 Invitational at Tower Ridge Country Club.

Pictured above left is our friend and long-time CAGCS supporter, Frank Lamphier, Aspetuck Valley CC.

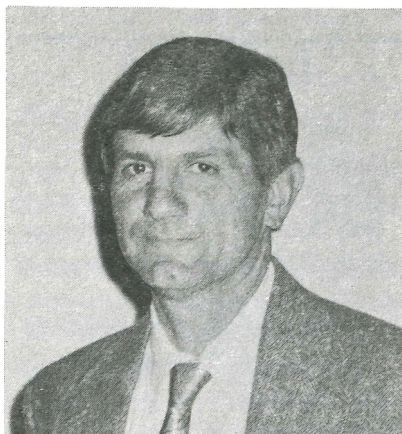
Pictured above right is Cindy Johnson, Tumble Brook CC, who is always a contender in our golf tournaments.

Pictured left is Paul Sabino, The Farms CC, and below left, Bruce Morse, Norwich GC, two very active CAGCS members.

And, pictured below right, is David Basconi, accepting our gift from outgoing President, Peter Pierson, at the annual meeting.



Annual meeting highlights



The annual CAGCS meeting was held on November 7th at the Birchwood Country Club, Westport, CT, Edward Consolati, superintendent (pictured above).

Officers and directors accounted for their duties throughout the past year with the reading of their annual reports.

Frank Lamphier, Aspetuck Valley CC, and Robert Chalifour, CGCS, Shennecossett GC, superintendents who have achieved their 25-year mark

at their respective clubs, received recognition and were presented with an engraved plaque from CAGCS.

Also, Anthony Grosso and John Motycka, golf co-chairpersons, awarded the gifts to the low gross and low net golf champions in their respective divisions.

Immediate Past President, John Streeter, presented an indepth look into GCSAA's chapter affiliation agreement and also talked about the importance of the Tri State Research Foundation. He urged more Connecticut members to contribute and support the Foundation.

Heather Garvin, Treasurer, reviewed the budget for the 1996 fiscal year. The budget was voted on and approved by all voting members in attendance. It was deemed that there will be a dues increase of \$15 which will bring our 1996 dues to \$140 per year.

Following the annual meeting, the election of officers and directors took place.

A 9-hole scramble was held after the meeting with over 45 participants being treated to a quaint and challenging golf course provided by our host, Ed Consolati.

Golf Results

1st Low Net	2nd Low Net
Frank Lamphier	Brian Skelly
Peter Pierson	Wayne Urban
Art deAtienza	Dennis Houle
Dave Basconi	Phil Neaton

3rd Low Net	4th Low Net
Ron Holcomb	Greg Stent
Gary DePaola	Craig Terrell
Henry Suchinski	Bruce Morse
Dick Cook	Carl Samuelson

Closest to Pin #4 - Greg Stent - 3'6"
 Closest to Pin #7 - Bruce Morse - 8'
 Longest Drive #3 - Heather Garvin
 Longest Drive #9 - John Gallagher

Election Results

President - Philip Neaton
 Vice President - John Napier, CGCS
 Secretary - Anthony Grosso
 Treasurer - Heather L. Garvin

Three directors were elected to serve two-year terms. They were Gregory Bradley, Jud Smith, and Scott Gennings, CGCS.

Continuing to serve on the Board as directors will be John Motycka and Brian Skelly.

Peter Pierson will serve on the board as Immediate Past President.

Art deAtienza, PIE Supply, was voted as commercial representative to the board.

Thank you to Birchwood CC for their hospitality. It truly was a perfect place for our annual meeting.



1996 Board of Directors (Standing L-R) Brian Skelly, Gregory Stent, Scott Gennings, CGCS, Art deAtienza, Gregory Bradley; (Sitting) Jud Smith and John Motycka.

CAGCS Scholarship & Research Tournament

... a major success!

Jeffrey F. Rogers, 1995 S & R Chairperson

The Watertown Golf Club played host to the annual Scholarship & Research tournament on October 10th which was supported by 123 participants.

All those who played are still talking about the course conditions provided by Bob Viera, superintendent, and the generosity and hospitality of the staff at Watertown GC.

This tournament is the main fund raiser of the CAGCS S & R Committee, and we thank all who contributed to this year's achievement of raising over \$8,000.

A special thanks is extended to our commercial membership who purchased tee signs which is the major contribution of the day, individual members who sent in personal contri-

butions, along with the generous cash gift of \$570 from Pro-Lawn Products, Mike Dukette, Rep.

It was a pleasure serving as Chairperson of this committee, and I would like to thank Al Adaskaveg, Bob Chalifour, Peter Cure, Ron Holcomb, and Mike McDermott for their hard work and effort put into the preparation of the tournament.

Thanks to those who donated raffle prizes which consisted of a beautiful jacket donated by John Motycka, Skungamaug River GC, a pitching wedge donated by Richard Crowe, Golf Pro at Rockledge CC, and a round of golf for four with carts at:

*Banner Lodge & Resort
Crestview CC*

*CC of Pittsfield
The Farms CC
Metacomet CC
Oakridge CC
Pautipaug CC
Shuttle Meadow CC
Tallwood CC
Wee Burn CC
Woodbridge CC*

Congratulations to all who won!

I would also like to thank all who supported S & R throughout the year by purchasing raffle tickets at our monthly meetings.

Golf Results

1st Gross - 61	2nd Gross - 61
Dave Wallace	Peter Cure
Peter Pierson	Al Adaskaveg
Bob Douglas	Peter Bacon
Bruce Carlson	Jim Staszowski
1st Net - 50	2nd Net - 50
Bob Silva	Jim Goodrich
Brian Bannister	Joseph Malay
Paul Bednarczyk	Frank Bava
John LaBrie	
3rd Net - 52	4th Net - 53
Mike Streckfus	Barry Anes
Joe Streckfus	Carl Samuelson
John Napier	Bob Viera
Mike Hadvab	Douglas Cooper

Closest to the Pin - #9
Peter Palmer - 4' 5"

Closest to the Pin - #15
Peter Bacon 9' 1"

Longest Drive - Eric Johnson
Closest to Line - Heather Garvin 14"

This year, CAGCS Scholarship & Research awarded 13 scholarships for higher education. Those receiving scholarships were:

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Lauren Beck	Walter Beck
Michael Consolati	Edward Consolati
Christopher Donato	Michael Czarnowski
Cortney Fletcher	Thomas Fletcher
Karen Johnson	Eric Johnson
Shane McDermott	Michael McDermott
Jennifer Rice	John Streeter
Ryan Rogers	Jeffrey Rogers
Eric Skelly	Brian Skelly
Jeffrey May-Stahl	Joseph Stahl
Sian Wallace	Michael Wallace
Travis Watroba	Thomas Watroba
Mark Weedall	John Ruzsbatzky

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CAGCS renominates Michael Wallace, CGCS Director - GCSAA

As you know, Michael Wallace, CGCS, superintendent at the Hop Meadow CC, was appointed to a one-year term on the GCSAA Board of Directors at the 1995 National Convention in San Francisco.

Mike says that 1995 brought with it a higher level of involvement. Since his appointment, he chaired two GCSAA committees (Membership Committee and Conference & Show Committee) while serving as vice chair of three others (Technical Information Services, Scholarship Committee, & Career Development Committee).

Aside from all of the above duties which required much traveling and many hours of commitment, (approx. 30 days away from his club) Hop Meadow became the 40th "Certified" Audubon Sanctuary in the United States.

Mike became involved with CAGCS in 1973 and has not stopped since. In the article below, he shares with us some of his experiences and goals.

CAGCS is proud to renominate Mike for the position of Director of GCSAA. Good luck to you, Mike!



Where has the summer gone?

Michael Wallace, CGCS

I knew things would be different. My appointment to the GCSAA Board of Directors last February was just the beginning.

It started off with the post conference meeting which took place the day after the show's conclusion. That meeting was a blur with everything being new and happening quickly. This rookie had a lot to learn, that was obvious.

The good news—everyone in attendance knew it and made a point of telling the new boy that if there were any concerns or questions, all he had to do was pick up the phone and call.

Gary Grigg, Steve Mona, Joe O'Brien and Julian Arrendondo met with me during my orientation at headquarters in Lawrence, KS. Another day that went by in a flash.

During that meeting, I was exposed to the corporate structure and philosophy of GCSAA. It is that philosophy that I would like to address in the

remainder of this column.

GCSAA is working very hard to mend fences and move forward into the future. It is dedicated to serving you, the member. The association is looking into ways to enhance and, if possible, improve your benefits.

Recently, I had the opportunity of witnessing the improvement of the Life Insurance Program. It is now staged in such a way that the individual who is just starting their career and family is afforded greater protection.

Another change that has occurred this year is the condensing of the Conference and Show. It is the hope that this new format will allow all attendees the opportunity to participate in all of the events. (Studies had shown that 80% of the members were leaving on or before Sunday.)

Chapter Relations is an area that GCSAA is working very hard to improve. The major topic of discussion at the recent Chapter Relations meeting in Kansas which I attended with John Streeter and Phil Neaton was the Affiliation Agreement which GCSAA has

(continued on page 11)



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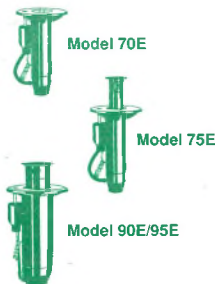
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Inaugural New England Championship Tournament

Anthony Grosso

The inaugural New England Championship Tournament between the seven New England Associations (Cape Cod, Connecticut, Maine, New England, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont) was held on October 12th at Hop Meadow CC. The tournament was founded with the idea of being a first class tournament and it was easily accomplished thanks to host superintendent, Mike Wallace, and Hop Meadow CC.

The course was in great shape and challenging—all the 3 and 4 putts that were reported—the accommodations provided by the clubhouse were superb, and the help and professionalism shown by Ken Doyle and his pro shop staff ... first class all the way!

The New England Championship tournament will be hosted next year by the Cape Cod Association with the other associations to follow in alphabetical order (1996 - Cape Cod; 1997 - Maine; 1998 - New England; 1999 - New Hampshire; 2000 - Rhode Island; 2001 - Vermont.) We will host this tournament again in the year 2002.

Before I get to the results of the tournament, I would like to thank Mike and Hop Meadow for hosting the tournament and for all their help. I would like to also thank John Motycka, Jeff Rogers, and Pauline Streeter for their help in putting this tournament together.

At this time I want to recognize and thank all the commercial sponsors who made a contribution to the tournament. Without their support, there would not have been a tournament.

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First place went to the Cape Cod Association with the New Hampshire Association coming in second, and the Rhode Island Association finishing third.



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Where has the summer gone?

(continued from page 9)

always had with its chapters. In an effort to get its house in order, GCSAA realized that this process had lapsed over the years.

A committee was formed. It met over the past couple of years and discussed the existing agreement. They came to a consensus and brought their proposals forward to the Chapter Relations meeting. (There were 95 different chapters represented at this meeting.) The discussion was spirited and many different viewpoints were raised. An understanding of the Affiliation Agreement was obtained and a time frame for implementation was brought forward. The board will be taking the matter under consideration in the future and acting upon the material presented.

At the Chapter Relations meeting, we had a guest speaker who spoke about associations, the way they interact, and the way members act. It was interesting. In this talk, the point was made that there are issues that people skirt around. They just don't feel comfortable discussing them.

Trust is the issue GCSAA and its chapters are going to have to address. More than once, the point was made

that the relationship between GCSAA and its local chapters is a two-way street.

In the future, I would like to see the chapters and GCSAA working together. One of my goals will be to build that *trust*, or bridge, from GCSAA to the chapters so information moves freely on the highway. The new Affiliation Agreement will allow that process to begin. Each organization has a great deal to offer the other. Working together with GCSAA and its chapters will move the profession of the golf course superintendent forward. Both parties will benefit.

Once the issue of *trust* is behind us, there is no limit to the progress that can be made. Sharing of data bases, research information and funding are only a few areas that come to mind.

GCSAA is working hard to promote the image of the superintendent and the profession. In order for this to be successful, we all must be on the same page and move forward together. Let us then all get our houses in order and move on into the 21st century united.

I see a great future over the horizon. It comes with cooperation and *trust*.

Congratulations to Thomas R. Pelletier, CGCS

Thomas R. Pelletier, superintendent of Richter Park Golf Course, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the GCSAA. Tom has been superintendent of the Danbury course since 1987 and lives in Southbury, CT.

GCSAA instituted the certification program in 1971 to recognize outstanding and progressive superintendents. More than 1,400 active GCSAA members currently hold "CGCS" status.

To become certified, a candidate must have five years' experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet specific educational requirements of college credit or continuing education units. The candidate must then pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering knowledge of GCSAA and its certification program; the rules of golf; turfgrass management; pest management, safety and compliance; and financial and organizational management.

As part of the certification process, an on-site inspection of Tom's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course superintendents, Peter Burnham, CGCS, of Heritage Village CC, and Barry Anes, CGCS, of Candlewood Valley CC.

Dates to Remember

November 29 & 30
Rhode Island Turfgrass
Show & Conference
Providence, RI

December 8
CAGCS Christmas Party
Race Brook Country Club
Orange, CT

January 9
CAGCS January Seminar
Ramada Inn
Meriden, CT

January 15 - 17
Mass TurfGrass
Conference & Trade Show
Boston, MA

February 5 - 11
GCSAA's 67th International
Conference & Show

March 7 & 8
GCSAA Regional Seminar
Farmington Marriott
Farmington, CT

On behalf of the Balocca family, I would like to thank you all for the support and encouragement during the preparation of the "Kevin Balocca Recovery Fund" outing. I could never have imagined the number of thoughtful notes and the generous donations that have been collected.

I am proud to be associated with a group of professionals who, time after time, rally to support and encourage one of their own.

Donations and letters of support are graciously appreciated and can be sent to: The Kevin Balocca Recovery Fund, 16 Sunrise Avenue, Trumbull, CT, 06611.

Gratefully,
Patrick Sisk, Superintendent
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