

THE GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the
Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Vol. 13 No. 6

November-December 1990

Start spreading the word...

Everyone knows that running a golf course requires a lot more than spreading fertilizer, herbicide and seed. It's just as important to communicate the issues that affect our profession and its ability to deliver a top flight playing surface. Sometimes these issues are agronomic, but just as often, they deal with personnel, community relations, water and any of the myriad components that a superintendent must use to make it all happen.

Recognizing that communication is important means first setting up a plan. What message you need to get across and to whom are the two key elements. The "How" depends an awful lot on the "What" and the "Whom" and on your own talents, time and drive.

Examples are often the best teacher and so this article will discuss a couple of these from different viewpoints. The first is an example of a golf course superintendent who has written an article for the golfing public.

The objective of the article, written by Armand LeSage of White Beeches CC, was to inform the golfing public of the role and approachability of the superintendent.

"From the Rough" appeared in "New Jersey Golf News," September 1990. It will be a regular feature of this newsletter. It starts out with a friendly greeting and a statement of its purpose, "This column is going to help golfers to better understand the person who is called the golf course superintendent." It explains that a superintendent does more than take care of the greens and so a "greenskeeper" is not an appropriate title. "The golf course superintendent is a very well educated turf grass expert . . . irrigation specialist, licensed chemical

supervisor, a horticulturist, a tree expert and maybe writes a column for various newsletters." He goes on to explain the role of professional associations and journals which provide an ongoing education to the superintendent.

The article then describes the superintendent in more human terms. It ex-

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GCSANJ
Annual Meeting
Nov. 13, 1990
Hollywood Golf
Club

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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

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EDITORIALS



Turf roots run deep

It's always an amazement to me just how deep turf roots can go. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey dates all the way back to 1926. Let me get my calculator out. Yes, that's 64 years. None of the current GCSANJ members recall the first meeting, but recently I heard from an individual whose New Jersey roots go way, way deep. A letter to "The

Greenside" from Chuck Wilson discussed an "error" in "Fenwick's Fancy Facts". Actually, we prefer the word "foiled" rather than an error because it makes Fenwick's Fancy Facts Foiled and that's 4F for short. Chuck is a "transplanted" (his word, not mine) New Jersey superintendent who worked for Storr Tractor in 1951-52 at that time located in Westfield. He was still in high school at the time. Fancy, but foiled, Fenwick's Fact was Storr Tractor started in 1956. Chuck is an avid reader of "The Greenside" because it helps him keep his roots growing and he enjoys reading about familiar places, events and, most of all, people. Chuck, incidentally, is serving as chairman of the Southern California Turfgrass Council and Turfgrass Expo and growing roots on the West Coast as well.

The point here is not history. The point is simply that turf roots: the contacts, memories, shared good times go deep. Each time we have a chance to get together and renew friendship we grow our roots deeper. We have another opportunity to do some personal agronomy this fall, and that's the GCSANJ Annual Meeting. It will be held at the Hollywood Golf Club. That's in Deal, New Jersey not Los Angeles! So, I know it's a short ride for most of us in the state and I expect to see a big turnout.

The proposed slate of new GCSANJ officers will be presented and they need your support. The proposed slate is headed up by **Dave Pease** from Hominy Hill Golf Club for **President**; **Chris Carson** from Echo Lake Country Club, Westfield for **Vice President** and **Marty Mantell** from American Golf Corporation for **Treasurer**.

ILONA GRAY
EDITOR

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"Thank You"

My tenure as President of GCSANJ is about to come to an end. The past two years have been quite rewarding. Leading our association and working with the Executive Committee has been the highlight of my career as a golf course superintendent.

We have continued to offer our members numerous professional opportunities. In so doing, we further our development as professionals and receive due recognition within the golfing community.

For too long, we have taken a back seat to others in the golfing industry.

But this is changing. At times participation and attendance have been less than expected. More members will need to be involved if we want to continue this trend. All of us must keep up with the industry to achieve the recognition we so deserve.

At this time I would like to thank my dedicated Executive Committee, our members, the golf courses who hosted our meetings, all the committee members and those at Association Management, especially Judy, who have made my two years as President a most pleasurable experience.

I wish the future Executive Committee "Good Luck!" in the coming year.

**STEVE FINAMORE, CGCS
PRESIDENT, GCSANJ**

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CALENDAR

November 13

GCSA of NJ Annual Meeting,
Hollywood Golf Club, Deal, NJ.
Host: Robert Tosh. Contact:
Judy Policastro (201) 379-1100

November 13-16

NY State Turfgrass Association - Turf & Grounds Exposition, Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY.
Contact: NYSTA (800) 873-TURF
Alliance for Environmental Concerns Annual Meeting and Environmental Seminar, Quality Inn, North Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Ilona Gray (201) 595-7172

November 20

November 29

Pesticide Safety for Landscape Contractors, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: The Office of Continuing Professional Education, Cook College (201) 932-9271

December 3-6

NJ Turfgrass Expo, Taj Mahal, Atlantic City. Contact: Dr. Henry Indyk (201) 932-9453

December 4-5

Turfgrass Insects: Basic & Advanced Principles, Rochester, New York. Contact: GCSAA (800) 472-7878

December 6

Calculations & Practical Math for Use in Golf Course Management, Seekonk, Mass. Contact: GCSAA (800) 472-7878

January 2-19

Utility Turf Management/Home Lawn Care Management, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: The Office of Continuing Professional Education, Cook College (201) 932-9271

January 3, 10, 17

Selected Topics in Landscape Management, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: The Office of Continuing Professional Education, Cook College (201) 932-9271

January 3 -

Rutgers Turfgrass Management Certificate Program, New

March 8

Brunswick, NJ. Contact: The Office of Continuing Professional Education, Cook College (201) 932-9271



GCSANJ NEWS

MONTAMMY EXTENDS AN INVITATION

A few days prior to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey Invitational, Mike Leary (with tongue firmly implanted in cheek) asked if he could get out of his commitment to have Montammy host this tournament. He was kidding, but this statement did reflect his concern. The course had been hit with over 12 inches of rain during August and some of his tired turf could not handle the stress. This left the course in a condition that Mike felt was not representative of normal conditions at Montammy. He would "green" and bear it, but he hoped the players would understand.

The day of the tournament I arrived early and everything looked great. As we all know, everything looks great at 55 miles per hour. The field was full and I was unable to get out and actually play the course. I knew, however, that the conditions would be a discussion priority among the players. I was right on my hunch, but instead of complaints, only raves were heard. Nobody even saw that dead blade of grass and Dave Pease got up and remarked that these were the most consistent greens that he had ever played. Unfortunately for Dave, he could not talk about the fairways because he never found one! As it turned out, if he had, he would also have found everything in proper order. Things like this are constant reminders that everybody has a different level for their standards. With Mike Leary, Paul Jordon and the entire staff at Montammy, that level is as high as it gets. Thanks go out to them for all their efforts and to all the members who gave up the use of their course for our enjoyment.

The field filled early and six teams had their entries returned. But there was room for Finbar Kielly, a member of Metedeconk, who came over from County Cork, Ireland to play in the tournament. Both teams from Montammy shot the same score, 59, and Davis DeRosa from Lake Mohawk was the low pro with a 70. Other highlights include Gerald Fountain from Trenton Country Club who had to play in the pro's spot. Trenton CC came in, incidentally, in the third place.

The tournament has established some history and a new record. Susan Martin, President of the Newton CC and Adele Montecalvo from American Golf became the first women to play in the invitational. Both played well with Susan shooting an 89 and Adele an 83. The Greenbriar Woodlands team established a new record for lowest score with a blistering 53. Last year, this same team had the highest score at the Invitational. What a game! The rest of the results are as follows:

Superintendent - Pro Teams -

1st Place - Colonia CC

Chris Gaynor (Supt.) and Gary Ostrega (Pro) - 63

2nd Place - Knickerbocker CC

Sam Juliano (Supt.) and John Pierce (Pro) - 64

Team Championship

1st Place - Greenbriar Woodlands - 53

Harry Harsin, Art Robidoux, Pat Palastro and Bill Ewdlicher

2nd Place - Emerson CC - 55

Dennis Krychowecky, Dennis Consalvo, Ira Gilbert and William Clayton

3rd Place - Trenton CC - 58

Gerald Fountain (Supt.), C. Savino, E. Napoleon and Jeremiah Kane

Closest to the Pin

#4 - Armand LeSage, 1'6" (White Beeches)

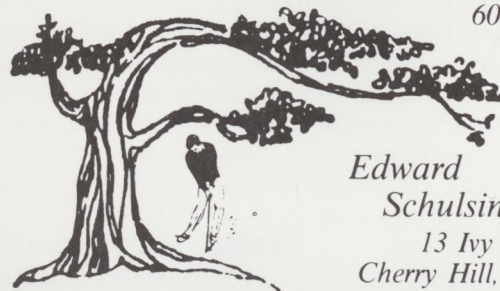
#8 - Pete Pavlaik, 6'8" (Newton)

#14 - Ed Walsh, 2'5" (Ridgewood)

#17 - Harry Harsin, 5'9" (Greenbriar Woodlands)

**SHAUN M. BARRY
REPORTER**

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(Continued from page 4)

A QUIET ECHO

As you read this article, you would normally be seeing who won at the August meeting and how Chris Carson had done in preparing for this monthly gathering. But, instead, I remind you of what happened. This meeting was cancelled. Not because the course wasn't ready (it looked great), but rather because of a lack of attendance. Perhaps you were just as surprised as I was when I first heard that the club had a minimum and we had not reached it. But, on reflection, we should not have been. In fact, it is quite logical that they should have such as standard. It is just another sign of the times and we will have to adjust accordingly to these changes.

You can help GCSANJ to adjust by filling out and returning the survey concerning meetings. Tell us what you want and how we can improve and every effort to fulfill your wishes will be done. **REMEMBER, the only way we can respond to your needs is if we hear them.**

SHAUN M. BARRY
REPORTER

USGA provides funding for environmental research

MEDINAH, IL—The United States Golf Association will spend \$5.4 million on research over the next three years, more than double its previous rate, and has directed \$3 million of the total toward evaluating the impact of golf courses on the environment.

In announcing the Association's decision to study how fertilizers and pesticides affect the environment, C. Grant Spaeth, the USGA's president, said, "Right now the game is threatened by the lack of knowledge about the environmental impact of pesticides and fertilizers used to maintain golf courses. I can think of nothing more urgent to golf than to answer this environmental question, and to propose responsible solutions."

The work will be done by land grant universities throughout the United States, assuring that studies are relevant to a variety of conditions, such as soils and climate. Additionally, the USGA committee that oversaw turfgrass research has been renamed the Turfgrass and Environmental Research Committee, and has been expanded to include recognized authorities from environmental agencies and organizations.

MEMBERSHIP AND ROSTER CHANGES

Please join "The Greenside" in congratulating and welcoming the following new members and members whose association status has changed:

Golf Course Superintendent Category B
Pat Gradoville for Rivervale CC

Golf Course Assistant Superintendents Category B-1
James Mikkelsen, Rivervale CC
David Diskant, Montclair GC
William Engler, Montclair GC
Kenneth Givens, Suburban Golf Club

Commercial and Other Categories C and D
John Reiling, Saxton Falls Sand and Gravel
Edward Fufaro, Skyline Grinding
Robert Leslie, W.A. Cleary Co.

Robert Hartman (D), Little Mill CC

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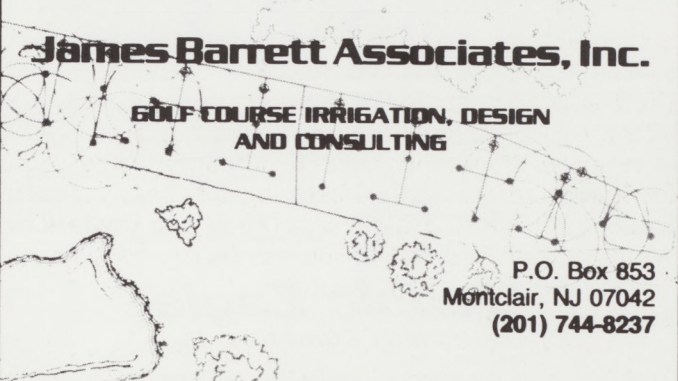
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A super job

by Frank Hannigan

We live in a society of declining standards. It's not easy to put your finger on anything that's better today than it was 20 or 30 years ago. Our air is lousy, our politics disgraceful and our music appalling. Golf courses, though, are in better shape than they used to be.

That's partly because there is more knowledge about how to maintain delicate turfgrass under conditions never intended by nature, but mostly because today's turfgrass managers are better at their jobs.

If somebody gave me a new golf course to manage along with a decent budget, the first thing I'd do would be to hire the best golf course superintendent money can buy.

After that, I'd probably get a little cheap. But so what? The only part of the operation that matters—the course itself—would be in the best of hands.

Golf course superintendents historically have been the game's forgotten servants because they were hidden behind compost piles two miles from the clubhouse and wore old clothes.

If the clubhouse manager and the pro stopped showing up for work, the club members would be inconvenienced. But if the course superintendent and his staff go on strike, the game is over. In two weeks, you

would have what's known as a "passive recreational park" with a lot of tall weeds.

The superintendent's relatively low station in life was mirrored by his income—traditionally lower than his colleagues, the clubhouse manager and the pro.

Superintendents are no longer hurting in the financial department. Their salaries soared during the 1980s. The national average for an 18-hole course is close to \$60,000, but salaries of \$100,000 are not uncommon, and the superstars of the trade earn \$125,000 and more.

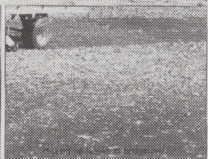
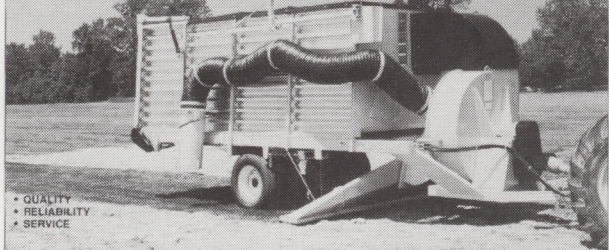
And why not? The job has become increasingly technical and demanding. Annual maintenance budgets of \$500,000 are commonplace, and that figure doesn't include the cost of new equipment. The machines used to maintain a golf course are complicated. A fancy modern fairway unit costs as much as a Mercedes. And when it busts, you don't get a loaner.

The superintendent also is a personnel manager with a year-round staff of 10 or more, supplemented in the summer by college students who have to be watched continually lest they make a break for the beach.

Most superintendents are college-trained. Many have four-year degrees in agronomy from such universities as Penn State and the University of California at

(Please turn to page 7)

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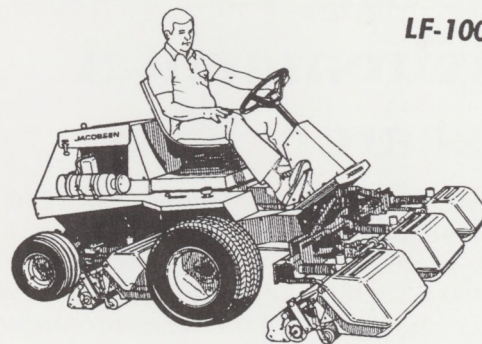
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A super job

(Continued from page 6)

Davis. Others have two-year associate degrees from various state institutions. Still others train by taking two 10-week winter programs, a specialty of Rutgers University in New Jersey. Graduates usually start out as assistant superintendents. The better ones are running their own shows by their mid- to late 20s.

Despite the favorable trends, the maintenance of American golf courses continues to be beset with some basic flaws. Foremost among these is the tendency to overwater. Overwatering is a cop-out on the part of superintendents who know better but react to the pressure of golfers who want everything a rich green. (Joe Dey, former executive director of the USGA, once labeled this hue "cemetery green.")

Overwatering is a short-term fix and a long-range disaster. It weakens the root system of the grass, causes compaction, invites plant diseases and certainly encourages the spread of the annual bluegrass called *Poa annua*—which is okay for golf courses until it's subjected to high heat and humidity. Then it tends to die. When you see a brown golf course in the summer, you're looking at dead *Poa annua*.

Superintendents will also tell you they dump water on courses to achieve that phony green look because televised golf tournaments push them in that direction. The look of the Augusta National GC during the Masters telecast has become the standard, not only in this country, but throughout the world.

There is also increasing pressure to produce putting greens that are superfast, like those at the Masters or at a U.S. Open. Golfers don't understand that those greens have been specially prepared for one week. They can't possibly be maintained at such speeds throughout the year.

Superintendents also have a problem with the high priests of modern golf course architecture. The complaint is that the sexiest looking courses, those built to attract attention when photographed from helicopters, are difficult and expensive to maintain because of their slopes and overall artificiality.

I heard a superintendent from Austin complain at a conference of his peers that he is expected to maintain an "agronomic zoo" because the architect, in a frenzy of false creativity, installed seven varieties of grass, only three of which made any sense in the middle of Texas.

The hot new topic among superintendents is the environment. People who take care of golf courses are, by their very nature, pro-environment. They wouldn't have gravitated toward their line of work if they were indifferent to the look and feel of the outdoors.

But they find themselves on the defensive and accused of being chemically careless. In a profession of 10,000, there are bound to be a few bad apples. But, by and large, superintendents—who have to be state-licensed to apply pesticides—are sensitive and careful. If they aren't, they can go to jail.

The superintendent tends to be invisible until something goes wrong. Then he becomes a celebrity. That's true in both recreational golf and on the Tour.

Take the case of Fred Klauk, the man in charge of the TPC Stadium Course at Ponte Vedra, Fla., where there was a monumental flap earlier this year because the greens were not up to snuff during The Players Championship.

All of a sudden, he became a media figure, including a live television interview. Coincidentally, I once

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(Continued from page 1)

plains that, although dedicated to their jobs, superintendents must be viewed like everyone else; they have families, outside interests, etc. and need some time away from the job to maintain their sanity.

This article had a clear objective, the "What" and it had a clear audience, the "Who", i.e. the golfing public. The author chose an appropriate, "How", the newsletter column. Again depending upon the "What" and "Who", the "How" could be through talks at local civic organizations, bulletin board announcements, letters to editors, presentations to club committees, calls in to talk radio shows and just being available to the media. Some clubs may have policies concerning employees speaking to the media and this should be checked out prior to launching a communication program.

A second example of spreading the word is through others. Ed Walsh of Ridgewood CC gave a terrific interview to the sports editor of "The Record", Bergen County's leading newspaper, which resulted in tremendous positive exposure for our profession. He had the opportunity because the club was hosting a major tournament at the time. The message here is: don't miss a good opportunity to spread the word and be prepared to take advantage of the media attention that

occurs during a tournament.

"Golf" magazine (August 1990) ran an article entitled, "A Super Job", which explained and praised the professionalism that is required of a golf course superintendent. The impact of articles of this nature can be magnified by posting them, circulating them and, in general, repeating their theme in the appropriate fashion. This helps spread the word.

Superintendents often have to deal with the golfing public on "hot" issues such as pesticides and use of public water. When "good" news appears on these subjects, superintendents may choose to spread the word in various ways to employees, club members and key community decision makers. A recent "Reader's Digest" article (October 1990), for example, does an excellent job of explaining how the public was stampered and misled into fearing Alar treated apples. The message of the article was essentially, let science be our guide for good decision making and not a hot news flash. By spreading this article, we can help rebuild public confidence in science.

Articles appearing in "The Greenside" may be a good source for you to start your own communication plan. We encourage you to photocopy any of the articles, share the magazine with your employees, with the golfing public and those whom you think need to know. Your own participation in "The Greenside" has made it a nationally recognized, award-winning state association magazine. If you have some words that you need spread within the profession, "The Greenside" is here to cooperate.

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A super job

(Continued from page 7)

conducted a USGA national championship at another Florida course with Klauk as the superintendent. He was sensational.

So his greens were a little thin and bumpy during the 1990 Players Championship. The world didn't come to an end. The fact is, when the temperature hit zero in the Jacksonville area last winter it was ordained that the TPC greens were not going to be dense and smooth for a golf tournament in March.

Klauk kept his temper. He managed to restrain the impulse of saying, "Who the hell are these guys, who have never done a thing in their lives except hit golf balls, to criticize my work and my golf course?"

At a U.S. Open, I was once asked to name the single most important person on the premises. Without hesitation, I said it was the golf course superintendent. "If he fails, we all fail," I commented.

Think of that this month when you watch the PGA Championship telecast from Shoal Creek. That's in Birmingham, Alabama. Bentgrass greens in Alabama in August are like hand grenades in an incinerator; they can blow up at any time. The superintendent at Shoal Creek, Jim Simmons, is experienced and cool. He also will be very glad when the week of the PGA Championship is over.

Superintendents get fired. As a rule of thumb, if the superintendent has two bad years in a row, even if the climate has produced nothing but fire and brimstone in that time, he's gone—and he goes without a golden parachute.

At private clubs, superintendents are subject to the whims of volunteer green committee chairmen, many of whom haven't the remotest idea what they want or why. A very successful and expensive lawyer said to me not long ago that his would be the best of all professions if only there weren't clients. Many golf course superintendents feel the same way. It would be a great job—if only there weren't golfers.

At resort courses, superintendents often take the

hit for disappointing bottom lines. There is an inherent conflict between quality golf and the profit motive. That conflict is almost never resolved. That's why a place like Pebble Beach changes superintendents so often.

Still and all, the lot of the superintendent is to be envied—if he survives. The single most exhilarating experience in the game is to be on a golf course at dawn—alone.

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Jim Gilligan's Column

**"To think is to differ."
Clarence Darrow,
July 13, 1925**

The northeast golf season is ending and golf course superintendents are preparing themselves for off-season programs, field days, turf conferences, seminars, as well as well-earned vacations and home. The off-season looks good to me. As a rookie superintendent, I need to review my lessons and apply what I learned to next year's program. This year has taught me to be patient with the golf course. I have established a deeper connection with the golf course which will enable me to make the right cultural decisions now and in the future. The golf course is dependent on my skill for its growth and survival. For most of the season, I listened and observed, but now I feel confident and I'm injecting my skill and enthusiasm into the course. This combination has rewarded me with a firm sense of accomplishment.

Before I settle into the winter, there is one important item that must be completed. I need to earn one CEU before Jan. 2, 1991 to be recertified. Fifteen CEUs are necessary for recertification and when my tally was taken, I only registered 14. The question is, "How do I earn one CEU?". Some of the choices are: A CPR course is worth .7 CEUs; a GCSAA seminar in Montana is 1.4 CEUs, if I stay for the two days; attendance at a regional turf conference is 1.0 CEU if I find the sign-up list or it is not lost in the glamorous Taj Mahal. Expo is too risky, so I'm opting for the CPR course; coupled with a First-Aid course (that will need GCSAA approval) and I should be over the top. If all these plans fail, I could take the examination. I heard it is more difficult this time, so it would be a challenge. For my next recertification, I'll take the exam in Las Vegas and earn the whole 15 credits in one place, instead of conducting a nationwide search for a seminar that interests me.

Speaking of recertification, I received my "Recertification Update Form" from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Pesticide Control Element and discovered I need 15 units in category 3A (ornamentals) to be recertified by Oct. 1, 1992* These 15 units may be tougher to get than that one CEU; 3A units are tough to find. I'll start attending landscape nurseryman's meetings to earn these units.

Two articles appeared recently that caught my attention. One was in the USGA Green Section Record; an opinion written by Stan Zondek questioning the high expectations demanded today of golf course superintendents. The author points out that superintendents are held accountable for perfection while most competing professionals only achieve a success rate of 40%. We are all conscious of losing grass; it is the lofty

expectations and increased demands that have made a difficult job tougher. The article is supportive of our predicament and, hopefully, it creates an awareness among the golf community of the foolishness of continuing to ask for unreachable expectations.

The second piece is the cover story in "Landscape and Irrigation" that confronts the sensitive issue of substance abuse in the green industry. It is an article that heightens the awareness of an issue that is before us and is often ignored.

The strong theme that I read in these two articles is the humaneness of people in our industries. Too often we are result oriented and are blind to the people who put their trust in us. It was refreshing to read articles in two important professional publications that print sensitive and relevant articles.

**See article on Turfgrass Expo in this issue of "The Greener Side" in the "Back Nine".*

Alliance For Environmental Concerns' "Environmental Seminar"

The Alliance for Environmental Concerns will hold an Environmental Seminar beginning at 9:15 am on Tuesday, November 20, 1990 at the Quality Inn Conference Center, which is located on Route #1 South in North Brunswick. This meeting is open to all who are interested in pesticide issues and other related environmental matters. This year's speakers and topics are:

Dr. Daryl B. Lund: Acting Dean for Agriculture and Natural Resources - Cook College

Topic: "Cook College Benefits to Business"
Ramond Ferrarin: Assistant Director of The Pesticide Control Program

Topic: 1990 Pesticide Control Program Update

Nancy Benson: Director of Agricultural Legislative Affairs, American Cyanamid

Topic: National Pesticide Initiatives
Paul Skorupa: Pesticide Compliance and Training Service

Topic: Hazard Comm. Standard and SARA Title III

Henry Rupp: Somerset County Mosquito Commissioner

Topic: "A Moral Predicament"
Ilona Gray: Executive Director, The Alliance for Environmental Concerns

Topic: Update of Alliance Activities

Anyone wishing to attend should contact the Alliance office at (201) 595-7172. CORE credit will be offered to participants.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

It is that time of year when northern turf managers evaluate the past season and plan for the next. This planning season seems to shorten each year given the myriad of "things to do" during this time. Consequently, it is essential to plan attendance at various educational conferences which are scheduled during the "off season".

Education and professional development are in many ways one and the same. The development of any profession and subsequent rewards of being recognized as a professional can only be achieved through actions by individuals at increasing their knowledge and skill level. This educational process can never end as the "state of the art" in any profession continually redefines itself and further develops.

Fortunately, the turfgrass profession offers numerous educational opportunities yearly. Be sure to take advantage of as many of these opportunities as possible. You owe it to yourself and your profession to do so!!

GCSAA, as your national professional associa-

tion, continues to develop and offer some of the finest professional development courses both regionally and nationally offered anywhere. Be sure to consider these offerings when scheduling your "off season."

STEVEN CADENELLI
VICE PRESIDENT, GCSAA

STUDY CITES GOLF'S ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

A new research report confirms that golf course superintendents consider environmental safety to be an extremely important priority in maintaining their courses.

A nationwide study by the Center for Golf Course Management concludes that superintendents are "very concerned about choosing maintenance practices that will not negatively affect the environment". When asked to rate their level of concern about the environment when making maintenance decisions, responses from superintendents averaged 6.27 on a 7-point scale, where "7" represented the highest level of concern.

When asked to rank special areas of concern, superintendents gave groundwater protection the highest priority. Notifying the public of chemical applications, water-use restrictions and regulations on underground storage tanks and hazard communication were also cited as priority concerns.

"This is strong evidence that our members are fully committed to doing their jobs in an ecologically responsible manner," said John M. Schilling, the executive director of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He added that "the study shows clearly that golf course superintendents are very well-informed about our nation's environmental priorities".

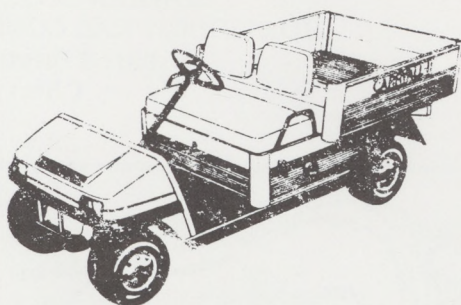
The study, "Buying Habits of Golf Course Superintendents", was conducted by CGCM as part of a major new research effort to determine trends in golf course maintenance and to track the purchasing and budgeting practices of superintendents. CGCM, a recently created subsidiary of GCSAA, performs market research to document facts and trends in the maintenance and management of golf courses. Several prepared reports are now available through the Center and companies can custom design reports on individual research topics.

According to Schilling, several of the industry's leading corporations have already purchased copies of the "Buying Habits" report, which is available through CGCM for \$945. The "Maintenance Trends Report", which documents the opinions of certified golf course superintendents on five key maintenance practices and industry trends, can be obtained for \$100.

Companies or golf facilities interested in the studies can contact CGCM at (800) 472-7878.

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IPM and New Jersey... Perfect Together, but it needs our support

Over the past year and a half, I have become familiar with the use of Integrated Pest Management in landscape situations. Professional vegetation managers should have at least a basic understanding of IPM. It has been my privilege to take advantage of the many learning opportunities which are offered on this timely subject here in New Jersey.

IPM could just as well stand for "Intelligent Pest Management". Although some of the methods might appear unconventional, IPM is part of our professional future. IPM actually was taught to many of us in college courses and short post professional training situations; it isn't often given such a fancy name, and so we don't recognize just how much we have all grown to use these techniques in our work.

The key parts of a successful IPM program are education, application, results and data. When you combine these parts in an intelligent fashion, you generally get better results with less pesticide usage. This does everyone a favor and makes the manager look that much better.

The benefits of IPM can also help the economy of

the state by providing a cleaner environment. We know how expensive it is to clean the environment. IPM is a sort of a pressure relief valve for pest managers. It uses the compromise system between biological and chemical control of pests. The bottom line is that results can be more effective than conventional methods.

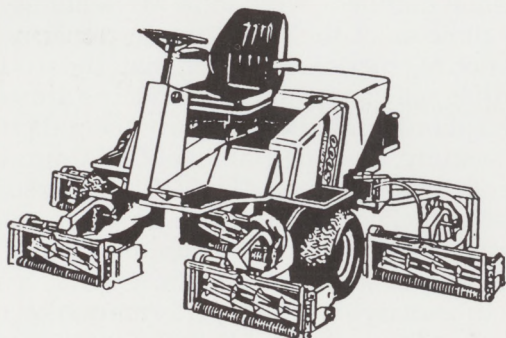
If IPM is going to work and be effective, we must be in touch with the many important changes that are on the technological horizon. This cannot be learned in a one-time college short course. It must be an ongoing, continuous educational program; one that will change the attitude of the non-IPM users and one that will adjust the platitudes of the theoretician to the more practical problems IPM often presents.

The New Jersey Cooperative Extension Service provides much of this educational drive. I applaud it for past performance on establishing IPM programs and motivating individuals to accept them. I feel that the present IPM programs should be expanded. The concept is growing in popularity, but there is a strong need for education on this practice.

Unfortunately, just as IPM is gaining wide support and usage, it appears that the IPM program in New Jersey might be coming to a halt. The demise of the IPM ornamental program at Cook College and the loss of the Ornamental IPM experts in the New Jersey service will have a serious, negative effect on our profession. Turf, ornamental plantings and landscaping represent the biggest agricultural industry in our state and should not be a "second fiddle" in the extension service's orchestra. I sincerely hope that the decision makers in our state will support this much needed and worthwhile approach towards pest management.

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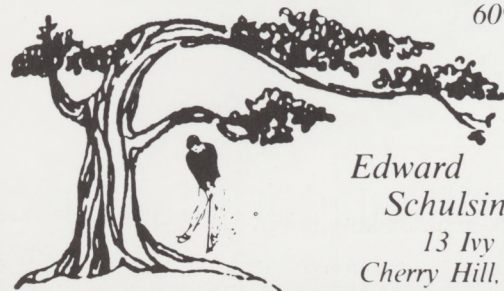


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Listen to our Mothers

Mother is perfect. Yes, I say this and it's not not even Mother's Day! O.K.—I am talking of Mother Nature.

Let us observe perfection and then we can use this to our advantage. The leaves shed from the trees in the autumn (yes, even evergreens shed leaves). When the leaves fall from the trees, they provide what is horticulturally known as a natural mulch layer under the plant, that is part of the delicate chain that a plant needs to survive.

The mulch layer will aid the plant roots from becoming frozen in the winter and this will maintain a uniform amount of moisture during the stressful times in the following growing season. Another benefit of the

"The Magnificent Challenge" wins

FAR HILLS—"The Magnificent Challenge" by Robert Trent Jones, with Larry Dennis, has been selected as the winner of the 1990 Golf House International Book Award.

The book was chosen from among those books on golf published in 1989.

The Golf House International Book Award is presented by the United States Golf Association in recognition of outstanding literary contributions to the game.

Karen Bednarski, librarian and museum curator at Golf House, who coordinated this selection process, said, "This book is a very thorough examination of golf course architecture in the years following the second World War, with excellent illustrations. Besides being interesting reading, it is educational and considered worthy of the Book Award."

mulch layer will be the added amount of organic matter to the soil from decomposition.

Now that we know this, we can make valid decisions on when the best times are to apply mulch around plants in the golf course and club house areas. About 90% of your mulching has to be taken care of by Mother Nature because the golf course is just too large for the superintendent and staff to handle. So, now you are left with about 10% of your mulching needs. These areas may include around the club house area and, of course, some select trees around the golf course.

When you use mulch around plants, it is good to remember a few things:

1. The best time to mulch is in the late fall.
2. Always use a good organic mulch.
3. Wait until the second frost to begin mulching. This will give rodents a chance to make their winter homes away from your plants.
4. Mulching can be done in spring also, but this will be more for aesthetic reasons, moisture uniformity and soil conservation.

So, try to protect your plants for the winter by using Mother as your guide.

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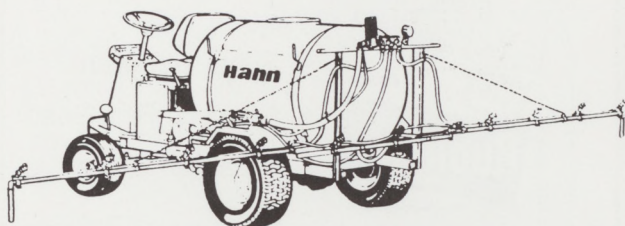
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Inquiring minds want to know about NJ golf superlatives

Every course has something special. Something that is superlative. Superlatives are words that describe the biggest, the best, the furthest, the nearest and so forth. We have always felt that New Jersey offers a lot of superlatives when it comes to golf courses, and asked last year for answers to New Jersey Golf Course questions. The answers have trickled in and we can share these with you. However, if you can top these answers or have some additional ones, we want to hear from you. Call "The Greenerside" at (201) 595-7172.

Gerald Fountain has provided some guesses, but inquiring minds always want to know more. Let "The Greenerside" know what makes your course superlative. It could be a special tree, a place in golf history or some other unusual feature.

What's the oldest active golf course in New Jersey? Could it be Essex Country Club - 1888?

Which 18-hole course has the longest hole? Could

it be the monster 17th at Baltusrol measuring over 600 yards?

Could Trenton CC's 15th at 106 yards be the shortest hole of the 18-hole courses in our state?

Trenton CC has been irrigated since 1944. Is that the record?

Ken Krausz wrote to tell us that the oldest municipally owned golf course in our state is the Old Tappan Golf Course built on the deWolf Farm in 1969. Can anyone find an earlier course? What's the oldest county course?

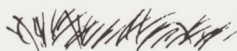
Paul Powondra has ventured that the southernmost course will be the Cape May National Club, which is currently under construction. But what about the Northernmost, Westernmost and Easternmost?

We'd like to hear from the superintendents that have the most acreage and the least; also the longest, the shortest and the busiest. Whatever makes your course special and superlative.

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SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE

STEVE MALIKOWSKI, CGCS

"You're looking for Steve?," the man asked. "I think he's on the dozer doing some shaping." Thus did I find Steve Malikowski at the Cape May National Golf Club—running a dozer, much as he has since arriving from Wildwood back in June of this year. He told me that it was a welcome break to be able to get off the machine and talk to someone, while I certainly was glad to have the opportunity to meet Steve and take a look at the new course that is taking shape under his direction.

Like others in our profession, Steve's original career plans were in another field. He attended the University of Rhode Island for four years, although he did not obtain a degree. He majored in history, "Only because I had my best grades in that subject," he said. While at URI, Steve worked part-time as a chef at Valley Country Club in his hometown of West Warwick, Rhode Island. It was there he got to know the course superintendent, the late Louis Lombardi, who was aware that Steve could use some extra money for school. Steve had applied and had been accepted to attend the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. Subsequently, his days were spent working on the golf course

from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and in the kitchen from 5 p.m. to closing.

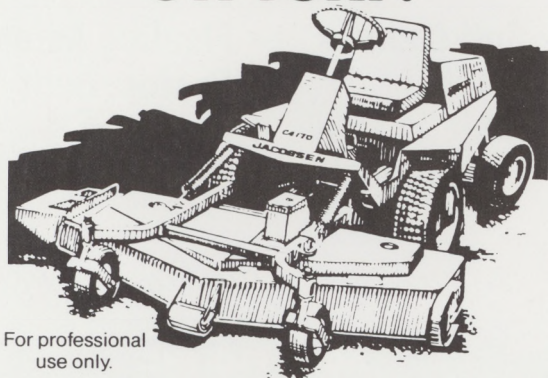
Steve found himself enjoying the golf course work more and more. His uncle, Joe Malikowski, was superintendent at New Jersey's Hollywood Golf Club for some 18 years, and both he and Louis Lombardi were friends of Dr. Joe Troll at the Stockbridge School of the University of Massachusetts. With their help, Steve was accepted into the two-year program at Stockbridge. He worked his internship at Cranston (Rhode Island) G.C., and upon completing the program in 1976, he became assistant superintendent at Amherst (Massachusetts) G.C.

In 1977, Steve became superintendent at the Cranwell School and Golf Course in Lenox, Massachusetts. There he was responsible for the school grounds and athletic fields, as well as the school's golf course. The members of nearby Greenock C.C. in 1978 asked Steve to leave Cranwell and take care of their nine-hole course, and there he remained until 1980. Steve pointed out that Greenock was also Steve Cadenelli's first course as superintendent.

Lords Valley C.C. in Hawley, Pennsylvania was Steve's next course. He arrived in 1980 at the private, 18-hole facility, and while there, he did his first renovation work, converting the bluegrass fairways to bentgrass, as well as some greens construction. In the spring of 1985, Steve moved on to Wildwood C.C. and began his second conversion program, only this time, it was from ryegrass to bentgrass on the fairways. He also built eight tees, the age of the course combined with the wear and tear of 40,000 rounds annually having taken their toll on the original tees. He told me that his wife, Chris, did the clubhouse gardening at Wildwood, and his eight-year-old daughter, Katie, was a fixture on the course as she was growing up.

(Please turn to page 16)

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Fancy Facts from Fenwick

1. Who in the GCSANJ irrigation industry also had time to serve as Springfield Township Mayor?
2. In 1978 this person joined the golf and turf industry after 15 years with motorcycles including professionally racing them.
3. At the 1988 Spring Lake Golf meeting, who attacked his competition with a 90 shank?
4. What special interest does Al Phillips of Fisher & Son, Inc. share with Charlie Dey?

SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE

(Continued from page 16)

During 1989, Steve continued working at Wildwood as superintendent, while consulting on the Cape May project for owner/developer Bob Mullock. By June of this year, work had progressed to the point where Steve's services were required full time. He regretted leaving Wildwood, but he told me he simply couldn't pass up the "Day one opportunity" to build what would be "not another average course." He was given great latitude by the owner, allowing Steve to select the Buckner irrigation system and maintenance equipment. Further, Steve had much input as far as seed selection was concerned.

The fairways were seeded, first with one pound per thousand of equal parts Penncross, Penneagle, Pennlinks and Cobra. This was followed, as Bob Prickett had suggested, by six pounds per thousand of Jamestown chewings fescue to act as a nurse grass. The tees and greens were seeded with straight Penncross. The course is intended to have a links-type flavor to it, and so it is planned that the various mounds, lake banks and out-of-play areas will be left in their natural state, to be mowed perhaps twice a year. The unmaintained roughs are being seeded with Crystal hard fescue and Jamestown chewings fescue, while the maintained roughs covered by the irrigation system are to be a mix of turf-type tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass, with the bluegrass expected to become the dominant grass.

Steve related to me that his friend, Steve Cadenelli, had good-naturedly questioned the "national" part of the club's name, noting that it implied a membership from various sections of the country. Steve's answer to that was that Cape May National had a member from

Philadelphia already, thus making the "national" title appropriate. (It made sense to me. I could barely pick up the Philly radio stations down there.)

For the past two years, Steve has served on the GCSAA Education Committee and he serves as the GCSANJ voting delegate at the GCSAA Conference. He achieved certified status in 1984. Although he's been working 12-hour days, he takes his Sundays off to spend some time with his number one priority, his family. Besides his wife and daughter, he's trying to get to know 10-month-old son Steve a bit better.

Best of luck on the grow-in, Steve. I hope to return.

PAUL POWONDRA

The answers to Fancy Fact from Fenwick

1. William Koonz of Koonz Irrigation
2. Sam Baird, Jr. of Lawn and Golf Supply, Inc.
3. Steve Rudick of O.M. Scotts went after Steve Chirip of Lebanon. Fran Berdine of Scotts and Steve Malikowski were in the foursome.
4. Both Al and Charlie have their private pilot license.

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THE BACK NINE

MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS

C. Reed Funk, Ph.D., was presented the annual Distinguished Service Award by Clayton Yeutter, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, during ceremonies in Washington, D.C. June 13. Dr. Funk, of the Rutgers University State Agricultural Experiment Station, received the award "for distinguished scientific achievements in turf breeding and outstanding contributions to the turf industry and the general public."

Dr. David R. Huff has joined Rutgers University as a Post-Doctorate Fellow under Dr. Funk. The Michigan native will focus on the reproductive biology of Kentucky bluegrass and fine fescue identification. Huff earned his Ph.D. from the University of California/Davis.

NEW COURSE OPENS IN SUSSEX COUNTY

"The Greenerside" gives a big welcome to New Jersey's newest golf course, Crystal Springs. It's been more than 15 years since northern New Jersey's golfers have enjoyed a new course. Opening day for the course at The Homes and Club at Crystal Springs in Sussex County near Hamburg is expected sometime this spring. The course was designed by Bob von Hagge, architect of the world famous Doral Blue Monster in Miami and the TPC Woodlands in Houston. The course covers 500 acres. The superintendent covering this course is **Geoffrey Drake**, who is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY EXPO '90 AT THE TAJ MAHAL DEC. 3-6

The Annual Turfgrass Educational Conference and Trade Show, sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension in cooperation with Cook College and the New Jersey Turfgrass Association, offers a fantastic program. The session will include workshops on basic soils, weed, turfgrass and insect identification, herbicides, equipment calibration, landscaping, estimating and small engines. An IMP symposium and lectures by recognized authorities on the establishment and maintenance of turf on golf courses, athletic fields and lawns of various types as well as the use of sod and landscaping will be featured. The trade show will have the latest technology in turfgrass equipment, irrigation and turf landscaping products. Credits of applicator recertification will be offered.

None of this will be available to you if you don't show up! To reserve your place or for further program details, contact **Dr. Henry W. Indyk**, General Chairman, Crop Science Department, Cook College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903 or call **(201) 932-9453**. Don't disappoint your editor. I'll be looking for you at the Expo!



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Brochure discusses origin

The most delicate playing surface in sports today—the golf course putting green—is the topic of a 24-page brochure now available from the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

The "Evolution of the Modern Green" is a reprint of the fascinating four-part series, written by Michael J. Hurdzan, past president of the ASGCA. Dr. Hurdzan discusses all aspects of engineering, design, construction and maintenance in the full-color brochure that covers the following topics:

Section One: the historical development of golf greens in the United States and how turf managers keep them in top playing shape.

Section Two: the research and development of various methods of green construction.

Section Three: how and when to rebuild greens and how to avoid the most common construction errors.

Section Four: the turfgrass art and science of establishing and maintaining a delicate living playing surface.

The "Evolution of the Modern Green" is available for \$5 per copy by sending a check or money order to: The American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601.

Lofts' royalties fund turfgrass research at URI

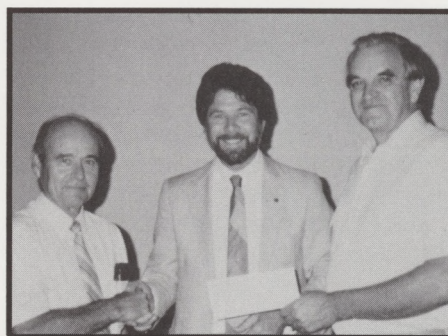
BOUND BROOK—Lofts Seed Inc.'s ongoing commitment to turfgrass research was recently exemplified by a royalty check for over \$17,000 to the University of Rhode Island.

The check represented profits from domestic and international sales of three of Lofts' proprietary turfgrass varieties—Georgetown Kentucky Bluegrass, Jamestown and Jamestown II Chewings Fescues. These varieties were developed jointly by Lofts and U.R.I.

Lofts pays royalty checks to and works with several universities in addition to U.R.I. The royalties support research and development of advanced turfgrass varieties, as well as educational and extension programs.

Turf professionals who buy certified seed also play

a role in the research cycle: their purchases generate more funding for the development of advanced varieties.



Lofts' Dr. Rich Hurley (center) presents a check for over \$17,000 in royalties to University of Rhode Island's Dr. Richard Skogley (left) and Dr. Noel Jackson.

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