

# THE GREENERSIDE

November - December 1994 • Volume 17 Number 6

## GCSAA delegates meeting: State of the association

by Wayne Remo, CGCS

 In September 25-26, 1994, a meeting was held at the GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. A total of 68 delegates from throughout the United States were in attendance along with the present Board of Directors of the GCSAA. New Jersey was represented by its delegate, Wayne P. Remo, CGCS.

President Joseph Baidy opened the meeting with the state of the association address. The GCSAA presently has over 14,000 members. The association has restructured its existing committees with additions and deletions to a total of fifteen. Three new departments have been created to include Chapter Relations, Career Development, and Technical Information Services. The financial picture is in good shape thanks to a sound reinvestment philosophy, and it will not be necessary to tap into our present equity.

Issues from last year's meeting were addressed such as recommendations from The Arthur Anderson Study to include computer system upgrades, the elimination of the Singapore office, overseas involvement having little or no financial risk, and staff restructuring have all taken place. This study will be done again in 1996 to reevaluate these changes. There is progress to lease 27,000 square feet of the headquarters building to a company employing over 2,700 people. One hundred of them will be at the headquarters of the GCSAA. This plans to be a one-year lease with two 6-month options. The old building is still for sale or lease at the present time. The GCSAA is looking into sponsorships for the annual convention to aid in cost reductions to membership services. Election scanning equipment will be used side by side with our present method of voting this year to work out the bugs in the new system. This will greatly reduce the time to count the votes beginning at the annual convention in Orlando, Florida, in 1996. There is progress to possibly change the day of the annual meeting as records show over 50% of the convention's attendees have gone home already when the meeting is held on

the last day of the conference. A deal is being worked on with ESPN and the GCSAA to air our presentation of "Par for The Course," so watch for it.

Much has been accomplished this past year, and the vision of the GCSAA to increase membership services is definitely moving forward. The Board of Directors are to be commended for the employ of Steve F. Mona, chief executive officer; Joseph A. O'Brien, chief operating officer; and Julian Arredondo, chief financial officer. These men are truly dedicated to their goal of improving membership services and 100% membership to the GCSAA. 

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## THE GREENERSIDE

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# EDITORIAL



## Snowflake

by *Ilona Gray*

Great things come from a lot of small efforts. Whether it's putting a man on the moon or putting water over Niagara

Falls, this axiom still holds its meaning. It's a cliché worth repeating that every snowflake is unique. But put enough of them together and who cares if they are different. Collectively they make a snowfall, and it could be a big mess or a beautiful sight. It's all in the management of the situation. The lesson here is that individual beauty and grace is not a guarantee that the collective effort will be worthwhile.

A golf course is a lot like the snowflakes and the water fall. Hundreds of individual plants are required to make one significant course, but to manage it, these individual plants have to be treated as one. Even if each plant by itself is perfect, the course may not be. To be perfect, the plant may have requirements that put its neighboring plants at risk. Perfect turf cannot ever be achieved, but perfect turf management can be a goal.

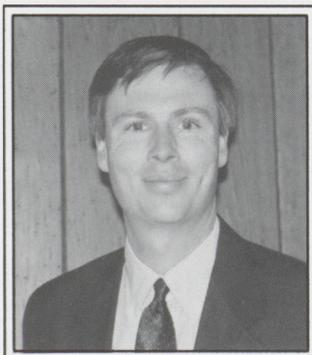
In the science of turf management a lot of attention is paid to the inputs, and I don't mean to trivialize them. One input that is often neglected in these books is the right people for the right job input. Like the snowflakes, we are all different and individual. And like the snowflakes, put enough people together without proper organization and we can make a real serious mess of things. Management becomes the science of managing people as well as physical resources.

It's winter and the turf is dormant. The machines are being repaired, budgets are being developed, and supplies are being ordered. There is one more thing to get done this winter, and that is tune up and tune in to the people in your lives. This is a broad mix from family, friends, co-workers, supervisors, and vendors. During the season you will have to actively manage the course with and around these individuals. If you don't, you'll make a mess.

One way to tune up and tune in to your fellow golf course superintendent is to attend the big event in San Francisco. I'll be looking for you there. ♪



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## Serving Membership

The Club Relations Committee is one of the more important committees that serve our membership. Its role is

twofold: to meet with club officials who are searching for a new superintendent and to assist superintendents who are experiencing problems with their turf or membership.

Prior to meeting with a club to assist them in their search, we first make sure that the position is open, and, if possible, we try to assist the superintendent in retaining his or her position if it is a termination. When we meet with the club, we make it clear that we will not recommend or comment on any individual and emphasize our role as an information and guidance service. These meetings last several hours, and we usually receive enthusiastic thanks for our help. Areas that we focus on are budgets/capital/salaries, focusing the club's goals to help select the right person, reviewing the interview process and helping to form certain interview points to help determine the best candidate, and, perhaps most importantly, bringing to light the concerns of the club's search team and attempting to put a rational and realistic light on them. It's a committee that works hard to ensure that clubs select their candidates from an informed viewpoint and to make the job better for the next superintendent.

The other role of this committee is to assist our membership when things aren't going well at their clubs. We are willing and able to visit with any member who calls to give a second view of a situation, to provide management or turf advice, or to focus on any area that the member needs help with. Strictly confidentially, the committee also serves to try and mediate problems between superintendents and clubs—or just to give an outside view on problem areas. If you would like this committee to provide you with an impartial view of a trouble area or to meet jointly with you and your club officials to discuss management or turf concerns, just call me or any GCSANJ Board member. We are ready to help.

---

Marty Mantell, our vice president, has accepted a promotion and is moving to Virginia. American Golf

obviously knows its talent, and GCSANJ will sorely miss his hard work and thoughtful input. Marty did a great deal for our Association and our membership, and he will be missed by all who have the pleasure of calling him friend.

Chris Carson  
President, GCSANJ

## Calendar

- November 22** • Alliance for Environmental Concerns, Pesticide Regulations/ Environmental Seminar. Ramada Hotel, Clark, NJ. Contact Ilona Gray, (201) 595-7172.
- Nov. 29 - Dec. 1** • Expo '94, Taj Mahal Casino and Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ. Contact New Jersey Turfgrass Association, (908) 821-7134.
- Jan. 2 - March 10** • Golf Course Turfgrass Management School, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- Jan. 17-19 & Jan. 24-26** • Integrated Pest Management Short Course, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact Office of Continuing Professional Education, (908) 932-9271.
- February 8 - 9** • NJ Nursery-Landscape Trade Show, Somerset, NJ. Contact NJNLA, Howard Davis, (609) 291-7070.
- February 20 - 27** • GCSAA 66th International Golf Course Conference and Show, Moscone Center, San Francisco, CA. Contact GCSAA, (913) 841-2240.



# GCSANJ NEWS

## THE INVITATIONAL TRADITION CONTINUES

by Shaun Barry

In 1978 our Association had its inaugural Invitational Tournament. Unfortunately, I am not sure whose idea it was and who put it together. They, however, do deserve a lot of credit for starting a truly great tournament. The interest is such that historically we always turn teams away, and this year was no different. Thirty-two teams showed up even though the weather was threatening. They were not disappointed. **Chris Carson** and his entire staff did a wonderful job keeping the playing conditions at the level attained for the USGA Junior Amateur. It really could not have been any better.

After a great lunch, the teams headed out to enjoy the course and to test their swings. When play was completed it became apparent that many teams had a great time and still played well. Richmond County and **Jim Gilligan** fired a net 57 to win the 4-man team event. Rolling Green and Upper Montclair tied with a score of 59. **Ian's** team took second place over **Bob's** on a match of cards. Taking first place in the Superintendent-Pro Tournament was Alpine with a 65. **Steve Finamore** and **Gary Damback** also won on a match of cards over **Matt Dobbie** and **Mike Kavka** of Bamm Hollow. Ridgewood and Upper Montclair matched the 65 score and tied for third. **G. Kavanaugh** (2' 6"), **John Ruzsbatsky** (1' 11"), and **Quentin Huber** (3' 3") took amateur honors in the closest to the pin contest while host professional and president of the PGA, **Mike Preston** (1' 4"), and **Ben Karalis** (6' 1") captured the professional division. Our long drive contest was limited to amateurs and that was won by **Jan Kasyjanski** of Hollywood.

After a wonderful meal, **John Hyland** and I sat down to discuss the day and what we could do to improve upon this event. We drew a blank. It was a perfect day.

Thanks go out to everyone at Echo Lake C.C. and to **Steve Chirip**, **J. Hyland**, **Harry Harsin**, **Tony Raczynski**, and **Phil Scott** for their time and assistance. It was their contributions that made it work. **Vic Gerard, Jr.** also helped by donating \$750 worth of carts. What a great industry! ♪

## INVITATIONAL'S WINNING TEAM SAYS THANKS

by Jim Gilligan, CGCS

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey held its 15th Golf Invitational on September 27, 1994. Richmond County Country Club (Staten Island, New York), represented by **Jay Chazanoff**, president; **Steve Zuntag**, golf chairman; **Bernie Kosinski**, golf professional; and **Jim Gilligan**, golf course superintendent, emerged victorious with a best ball net score of 57. This is R.C.C.C.'s second victory in the last three years, though with different players.

**Steve Zuntag** led the team effort with a 70 on his own ball, followed by **Jay Chazanoff** who played a precision-like game that creased the center of Echo Lake's carpeted fairways. **Bernie Kosinski** eagled the par-five 12th hole and, with booming drives, championed this team to victory. **Jim Gilligan**, a gracious host, kept his game on the perimeter, banging through the rough and stroking across the finely tuned greens.

Seriously, this win is a tribute to the interest in golf on Staten Island and the quality of our courses and players. Staten Island supports four golf courses, and over 150,000 rounds are played each year.

Our team enjoys the opportunity to participate in this event and would like to thank the GCSANJ for the excellent job done in hosting this event. ♪

*Here is another example of why our Association runs so well. Even though Judy was injured, she came to work. What a trooper!*





# GCSANJ NEWS

## DISTRICT III CHAMPIONSHIP

by Shaun Barry

Bunker Hill G.C. was the site of District III's August meeting. **Joe Gunson** never even hesitated when asked to be our host. Like most superintendents, Joe would have preferred May or October but he knew we needed his help. It turned out to be a wonderful choice. The rain affected our play (what a great excuse), but everyone still had a great time. Well, almost everyone. Somebody ate **Dennis Shea's** steak dinner. If anyone knows who did this please call **Glenn Miller** or **Bruce Peeples**?

On the golf end, **Kevin Giles** shot 76 and **Brad Simpkins** had a net 60 (not a misprint). **Ed Mellor** and **Dave Lerner** were closest to the pin, while **Shaun Barry** (249), **Matt Dobbie** (248), and **Pat O'Neill** (171) won their respective flights in the long drive contest. Qualifying for the District Team were **K. Giles**, **Angelo Petraglia** (77), **Mark Mason** (78), **S. Barry** (80), **Jim Woods** (82), and **Harry Harsin** (83).

**David Wasnick** invited us back, and many of us will make sure we return. Once again, our thanks go out to **Joe** and **Bunker Hill**. ♪

## DISTRICT I HELD ITS AUGUST MEETING AT ARCOLA C.C.

by Steve Chirip

I could say that the District I meeting went off without any problems, and after a week's delay due to rain it did.

Monday, August 29 started out with rain again, but by tee off the sun was out, and we had a great day on a great golf course. **Arcola C.C.**, under the watchful eye of **Mike Mongon** and his crew, was in fantastic condition. Fairways were tight and greens were true.

We were treated to the culinary expertise of **Ken** (Chef **Tell**) **Krausz** for lunch, after which 24 golfers teed it up. Some great golf was played; I witnessed most of it. The District I team will be **Armand LeSage**, **Pete Siegle**, **Ian Kuensch**, **John Farrell**, **Bill Luthin**, and **Mike Cook**. Close to the pin at 2' 11", **John Farrell**; long drive, **Glenn Gallion**; low net winner was **John O'Keefe**; and low gross, **John Farrell**. One question—how did **John** play so well with me on his back for a partner?

When golf was over (thankfully), we retired to the **Mongon** residence for a great cookout. **Ken**, you may have missed your true calling. Again, thanks to **Mike Mongon**, **Ken Krausz**, and **Arcola C.C.** for a wonderful day. ♪

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

"The Greenside" welcomes the following new GCSANJ members and invites them to call up and contribute news and stories:

### New Members

**Robert R. Anthony** B-1  
**RMA Horticultural Services, Inc.**  
**Cedar Knolls**

**David Bohm** C  
**Bohm's Sod Farm, Eldora**

**James C. Richardson** B-1  
**Fairmount Country Club**

**Brian Suralik** B-1  
**Ocean County G.C. at Atlantis**  
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# Diatsu!...blow, sniffle, wheeze

by Dave Pease

**O**h yes, it was that time of year again, and *No*, it was not the pollen of goldenrod causing symptomatic reactions on that beautiful fall day. It was "*Field Day Psychosis!*"

Wow! what beautiful weather we had for this year's Field Day. An atmosphere of carnival proportions, similar to a fireman's bazaar. After staging the new "*GCSANJ Tent,*" I was aroused with the distinct aroma of fresh roasted peanuts coming from a neighboring booth. Flashing memories of a peanut vendor outside Fenway Park, where as a kid my Dad took me to see my favorite team play during the last leg of a "*most tumultuous*" season. Drawing a parallel, the thought crossed my mind of similar frustrations to the season we as superintendents had just completed, turf was not the only thing we lost, the smoke yet to clear from casualties of fallen comrades.

Experiencing Field Day, with all its hoopla, presented us with peanuts, apples, and pretzels galore. I couldn't help notice that on occasion, resourceful lads snuck hidden libations as if one were at a high school dance. The PA system echoed vernacular prose with a dialectal accent of Lawrence Welk, some say **Lenny Forlenza** (master of ceremonies) was a graduate from the accordion night club scene, performing gigs at Holiday Inns and weddings of Polish descendants. My observations include listening to the articulate, well spoken **Gerry Perlman** giving historical lecture that the Ransomes, erstwhile "Cushman company" was the genesis of the turf implement business. Gerry, orchestrating the parade of green equipment in a well choreographed presentation, showed a tasteful approach to iron demonstration techniques. B.Q. looked simply marvelous demo-ing orange, along with his colleague **Billy Luetine**. I thought **Gene Tarulli** performed a unique demonstration of how the parking brake held on the multi-purpose Toro wagon, making it look as though he had forgotten on purpose to release the brake in his haste to get over to the greens demonstration.

Field Day, with its newly founded marriage with the Rutgers Turfgrass Research Program, presents a unique balance to this most professional day. Brief encounters with **Dr. Reed Funk**, **Dr. Paul**, the ever present **Dr. Engle**, **Dr. Clarke**, **Dr. Murphy**, and professor emeritus

*Continues on page 8*



*Glenn Miller concentrates on what Phill Scott has to say at the GCSANJ Booth.*

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# Good-byes are never easy

by Marty Mantell, CGCS

As many of you know by now, I have accepted the position as superintendent at Reston National Golf Course in Reston, Virginia. I am sad to have to say good-bye to many friends and colleagues in the GCSANJ. The friendships that I have made I will cherish and I will renew each year at conference time.

I've had the good fortune to have been a member of this organization since 1976, and for the last six years as a director and officer. I am extremely proud of how this association has been able to grow and what it has accomplished. There have been some rough times, but because of the dedication and unselfish devotion of several of our peers, we have had a great many more successes than we have had setbacks.

Personally, I have served on Boards headed by Steve Finamore, Dave Pease, and Chris Carson, having narrowly escaped Ed Walsh's presidency (only kidding; Ed actually is the one who convinced me to come on as a Director). Steve's insight brought us into the current era by bringing us to AMC when Henry Indyk retired. Dave Pease presided over a period of rapid growth in membership, finances, and services. During Dave's presidency, we began to build upon the basics and develop financial and operating policies to take our organization into the next century. Chris Carson has made vision a staple of our Board meetings. Chris's vision of a simple charity fundraiser has made possible what I hope and pray will be a perpetual foundation that can build upon our good fortune and help others, both in and outside our industry.

There are a few more people that I must recognize. Shaun Barry, who has been counsel, supporter, and cheerleader; Paul Powondra, friend, confidant, and voice of reason; Ken Krausz, a long-time friend on the Board; and Glenn Miller, Ron Mencl, and Steve Chirip, friends who never say no when you ask for help on a project. I'm excited to see Tom Grimac back in the fold and Steve Malikowski bringing energy back into District 4. To all of the Board members I've had the pleasure to serve with, both past and present, thank you. You've made an enjoyable job that much more enjoyable.

One thing that always impressed me about this Association was the fact that the members always try to make sure that everyone is welcome, no matter if you come from private or public, if you are an assistant, superintendent, or commercial rep; everyone is important to the group. That is truly what makes this Association so great.

So thanks to you Dr. Henry and Sherwood, Jack and Skip, Red and Dave, Chris and Steve, Ilona and Judy,

and the rest of the GCSANJ. You've made me feel welcome and valuable, you've helped me to grow and learn. I'm sad that I cannot stay on and continue, but grateful to have had the chance to help the GCSANJ point to the future. This Association is and will continue to be a leader in our industry for a long, long time to come. 🌿

*One thing that always impressed me about this Association was the fact that the members always try to make sure that everyone is welcome...*

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# Diatsu!...blow, sniffle

Continued from page 6

Dr. "Hank" Indyk rounded out my annual baptism with incredibly knowledgeable persons. Young upstarts were contacted with the likes of "Buck Man" Richard Buckley, Monmouth County's personal forensic plant pathologist; I should forego the forensic because every sample we sent him this year was completely dead, all that was necessary was to perform last rites (no *debate* necessary on our results, and Rich, you can remove the collar).

I guess if there was anything missing at this year's Field Day, it was *Golf Course Superintendents*. I have been on this soap box for years. Last year, we had an amazing 50% of the New Jersey golf course superintendents in attendance. I might add, that was a record setting goal in participation. I had hoped we could have bettered that impressive mark of a year ago, but that was not the case. It is difficult for me to believe that all, and I carriage the remark ALL, of our superintendent members were held hostage at their clubs for this most important Association day. The importance of this day is not necessarily for the benefit of specific individuals, but for the success of our Association. The GCSANJ Field Day represents the congregation of its members for a common goal: education



Ken Kubik (left) of "Grass Roots" and, of course, the ever present Ed (who gets around) Walsh strike a pose.

to what is occurring through GCSANJ research funded programs, new and innovative equipment comparisons, and the enlightenment of agronomic materials through tech representatives. The Association benefits greatly by producing the GCSANJ Field Day. Field Day produces

Continues on page 9

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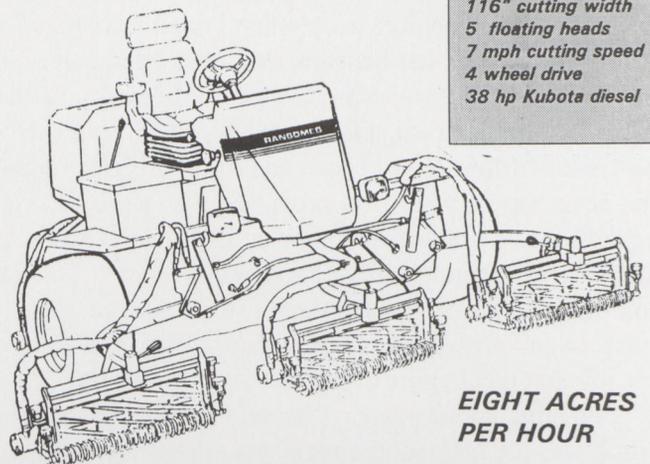
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# Diatsu!...



*Continued from page 8*

funds to fuel our research and scholarship programs. Without this most important day, we could not survive as a viable and prosperous organization. Participation through your attendance is paramount for the success of our Association. For those who have had the opportunity to attend the U-MASS Turfgrass Conference, one can recall Dr. Troll echoing these words after every seminar break: "Patronize our commercial booths, for they fuel resources necessary for this conference to exist."

I implore each and every golf course superintendent of this Association to mark down on his or her calendar the first Tuesday of October 1995 for this most spectacular event. Your participation guarantees the success of your Association. 



*Mr. "X Marks the Spot" Walsh of Essex County Country Club with Dean Chaltas of Storr Tractor discussing irrigation pipe.*



*From Sleepy Hollow Farm Ent. came Mark Fifer, son of the owner Mel Fifer.*



*Bruce Pye of Steven Willand demos some of their equipment.*



*Bob Lay, left, with Wayne Frew at their Mechanics Association table looking for people to sign on to their mailing list.*

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# Your worst nightmare

by Richard T. Broome, CGCS

As the summer heat began to cause some problems on the course, someone decided to heat up Little Mill in another way.

Like normal, on June 23 I went home after a long day at work, ate dinner, played with the kids, and before I knew it bedtime came. 2:05 a.m. the phone rang. My assistant, a captain at a local fire department, was on the other end informing me that our maintenance building was on fire. Stumbling down the steps, half dressed, I was on my way. My mind was racing, wondering what was happening and how bad could it be? I became very nervous seeing most of the fire trucks behind me and, upon reaching the parking lot, that the pumper facing my building was just sitting there not pushing a drop of water. Apparently the first truck to arrive forgot to drop a 5-inch line at the fire hydrant 200 yards away. This fire was spreading fast. I found the chief and asked him to please get the water

*2:05 a.m. the phone rang. My assistant, a captain at a local fire department, was on the other end informing me that our maintenance building was on fire.*

flowing (I guess they were doing the best they could) and to let me try to remove some of the machines sitting by the garage door. By the time he put my key in the lock it was too late. The fire had jumped from the cart storage building 3 feet away, to the maintenance facility. Within ten minutes the entire roof was in flames. The building was over 25 years old with nice dry rafters and, unfortunately, no fire protection. Thank god no one was hurt. We lost everything from a cup cutter to a new fairway unit, including 80 golf carts.

I was on the phone calling fellow superintendents by 4 a.m. A meeting was held at 4:30 a.m. with the owner of Little Mill, and we set out with a game plan. My goal was

*Continued on page 11*

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**NOV. 29, 30 & DEC. 1, 1994**

# Your worst nightmare



Continued from page 10

to have the least disruption to my maintenance practices as possible (within reason, of course). Thanks to a fantastic group of my peers and some suppliers, we were on our way picking up anything they could spare. By 2 p.m. that afternoon, fairways and greens were cut. It was everyone at the club pulling together and the outstanding job of my crew that kept me going.

Four days after the fire, one of our tractors sitting 15 feet away from the maintenance building went up in flames out on the course. Due to the extreme heat from the fire, we were unaware that the wiring had melted under the dash. What a bad week!

Here are a few things I've learned from all of this and, hopefully, if faced with this, it may save others much aggravation.

- Separate your fertilizer and chemicals from the maintenance building. I was lucky to have a chemical storage building, but I had a minimum amount of fertilizer in the maintenance building, and we incurred a \$26,000

clean up from an outside contractor.

- Keep copies of material safety data sheets at home or away from the maintenance building. We were scrambling when the DEP requested ours.
- Make sure your local fire department has a map showing the location of your buildings and their contents.
- Install small fire extinguishers on equipment (work carts, Cushmans, tractors, etc.).
- Have a fire hydrant close to your facility. If you don't have city water, it may be possible to tap into the irrigation system with a connection the fire department can utilize.
- Hang on to some of the old equipment, you might need it.
- Insurance, insurance, insurance—most important, check your coverage. You could be under insured, which will come back to haunt you. It would be to your advantage to deal with a company that specializes in golf course coverage. If your mechanic brings his personal tools, add them to your policy or have him take out his own insurance. Provisions can also be added to cover personal items employees keep at the club. Contact your agent at least every six months with any changes such as sale of old equipment, new purchases, etc.
- Keep an updated inventory list handy, and if you use a computer, do a backup everyday and take it home.
- Add a security system with heat sensors for fire protection. It is rather inexpensive considering what you could lose. It will be less than \$2,000 for our new building.

In closing, having gone through what I have these last few months, take a moment to appreciate what you have, even though it may not be state of the art, at least it's there.

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# My unofficial end of summer

by Ken Krausz, CGCS, and Firefighter

**W**hat a summer it was; come to think of it, winter and spring were no bargain this year either. As the year goes on and I am in the middle of August, I, as well as my entire crew and probably anyone involved in this industry, am getting to my limit when it comes to patience and just the lack of a couple of good night's sleep. This is the time of year that my entire family starts counting the days until the third weekend in September. That weekend is my unofficial end of summer, otherwise known as the New Jersey Fireman's Convention.

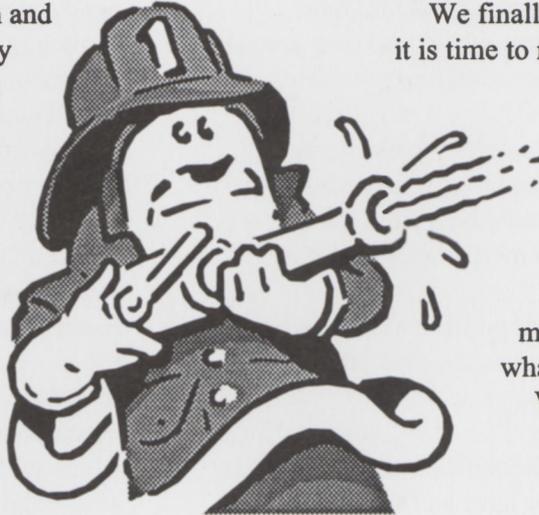
If you have never been to one do not try and get a room in the Wildwood area this weekend as there are none to be found. I go to the convention with the Old Tappan Fire Department, the fire department that I belonged to for 16 years before taking the job as superintendent at Paramus golf course. After coming to Paramus I joined the Paramus Fire Department, but have remained active with Old Tappan as these are my friends from my home town. Old Tappan rents half a hotel in Wildwood Crest. The members all bring their families down and enjoy a great weekend. Everyone looks forward to this each year. My only problem with the weekend is that since I am not an active member in Old Tappan (it is kind of tough to answer fire calls from Paramus), I have to wait to see if there is a room available for me.

The weekend starts for me on Thursday when my daughter gets out of school, but this year Yom Kippur was that Thursday so I did not have to wait until 3 p.m. to leave

as Anna had the day off. As luck would have it my dog broke her leg and had to go to the vet for x-rays that morning and have a cast put on, so I still did not make it out of town early.

We finally make it down to Wildwood and it is time to relax. There is no golf course to worry about as my crew has everything under control and the weather is perfect. As we enter town the kids get excited when they see all the fire trucks that are down there from different manufacturers (could you imagine what it costs to rent a booth there?) When we pass our favorite ice cream place I get relaxed. By the time I make it to the hotel there is already a large group of friends on the hotel balcony

*Continued on page 13*



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# End of summer

Continued from page 12

waiting to help unload my van as I head in to pay the hotel clerk.

First the luggage is unpacked then, we are on our way to the beach or to the balcony to share a drink with some old friends. Here we wait for the next member to arrive and help him unload. The weekend goes on like this: sit back enjoy the time off, see a parade, swim in the ocean, take the kids to the boardwalk and enjoy a great barbecue out on that balcony. We have a huge party Friday night where we go visit other firemen or entertain them when they come to visit us. Although I have many friends through the golf industry, we all need a little time away from it.

You are probably asking, what kind of a convention is it that there are no classes or shows? There are two general sessions; one on Friday, plus one early on Saturday but since I am not a delegate and can not vote I leave that to our representatives who are paid to do those things. There is also a huge outdoor area to see different fire trucks. Another area known as "The Tents" is where you can buy anything; from fire boots, to a light bar for your car, to little firemen

Christmas tree ornaments.

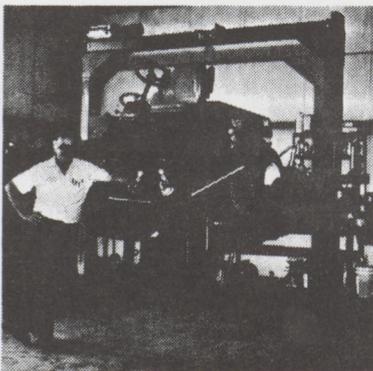
One year I left town without putting a Pythium spray down. It was hot and humid in Wildwood, and I was on the phone with the weather service at 3 a.m., ready to drive north. The recording convinced me that all was OK up there and a call to my foreman at 5:30 a.m. convinced me that I did not have to drive up.

Not all superintendents are too happy with thousands of firemen heading south for the weekend. Ask Steve **Malikowski** about that. I know of a couple of fire companies that tee it up at his place first thing Friday morning, and I know that most of them only play once a year. Sorry about that, Steve.

I enjoy the heck out of this weekend. Usually about midnight friends from Paramus Fire Department arrive. As they are a younger group, usually single, they are ready to party and go out to the bar called "The Firehouse". Of course it is packed, or some other dance place. In the six years I have been a Paramus fireman I have gone out with them twice and since my mother-in-law comes, she watches

Continued on page 15

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## An Invitational aside

by Doug Vogel

It would be easy to write about the impressive Donald Ross layout. I'm sure someone else will mention the top notch condition we all enjoyed. I guarantee someone will relay to the membership about the health of the rough. I choose to write about the trees.

Technically, the Echo Lake Country Club is not an arboretum, but let's not get technical. *Gleditsia*, *Fraxinus*, *Quercus*. I stopped counting the species after my first hole. *Picea*, *Abies*, *Malus*. The membership of Echo Lake should be proud of themselves for having the foresight of continually enriching their course with such wonderful variety. They have even gone as far as labeling some of the fine specimens for the pleasure of the stray shot artist. As for myself, I was under a few, hit a few, even got hit back by one. Nevertheless, I enjoyed the beauty of them all. *Betula*, *Tsuga*, *Tilia*.

Someone should inform Paul Harvey about the job Chris Carson and his staff are doing. Would Harvey rather be walking down Route 22 from strip mall to strip mall to strip mall, or would he rather be enjoying the beauty of the trees at the Echo Lake Country Club? 🌲

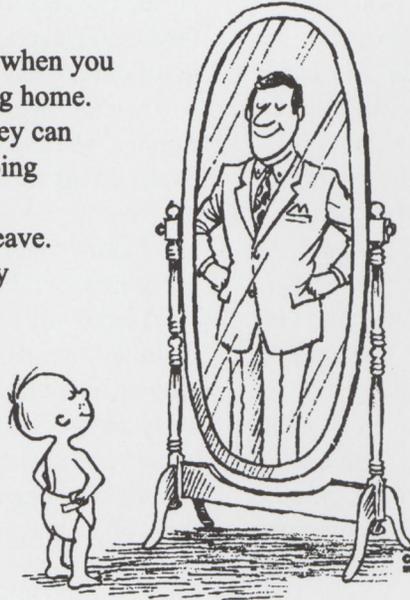
# X marks the spot

by Ed Walsh

**T**here is a certain point in one's life when you start thinking about the kids leaving home. Most of us probably don't think they can wait till that time comes. Mary and I are going through that right now.

Our son, Christopher, was the first to leave. He graduated from college and immediately applied for entry in the Marine Corps OCS program. He was one of the fortunate few to be accepted and get through basic training intact. He is now stationed in Hawaii and has spent time in Okinawa, Australia, and other parts of the world.

Jennifer, our oldest daughter, is living in Mesa, Arizona, just outside Phoenix. She finished college, stayed



home for a little while and worked locally, then decided to get out on her own. She works for a car dealership selling automobiles. Does pretty well from what she tells us.

Our youngest daughter, Bethann, is almost ready to leave as she is going to school at Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. She wants to design clothing and from the stuff she makes at home I am certain she will be successful.

Now that we almost have the entire house to ourselves and our dog, Nicki, I am finding it isn't what I expected. There is no one around to take out the garbage or mow the lawn or walk the dog. Who's going to clean the gutters? Who's going to wash the vinyl siding? Who's going to clean

the cellar? I thought this was going to be a lot of fun but it isn't. I can honestly say I miss not having the kids around.

All these years I waited to have things my way in my own home, and when I finally get it, I find out I really don't want it. It's no fun not having to tell everyone to pick up their clothes or put their dishes in the dishwasher. I actually went to my tool box the other day and everything was where it was supposed to be. That's never happened before.

I tell you I just can't handle all the peace and quiet. Thank God the GCSAA Convention is right around the corner, and I'll be rooming with Malikowski again. I've never had this much control in my entire life. Two weeks with Steve and I'll be back in my comfort zone. Two weeks with Malikowski always puts me into another zone. Two weeks with Malikowski and it's Twilight Zone.

P.S. My wife, Mary, went to the shopping center where I bought the shoes/boots I reported on in the last issue to pick up the shoe laces I ordered. Guess what? They didn't even charge me for them. Guess I have to take back all the bad things I may have said or at least was thinking. NOT.

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# Do something

**D**on't just stand there, do something. Every so often we hear those words and know that with a little effort we can help avoid a huge problem. The area of poison plants fits this description. Each year a large number of children and a few adults are accidentally poisoned by ingesting plants. Fortunately most of these are not serious, but a few cases require medical treatment, and in one reported case, a woman died from eating water hemlock thinking it was water cress.

Take some simple steps to prevent accidental poisoning. Remove harmful plants or place them out of the reach of children. Teach children never to put wild plants, plant parts, berries, or mushrooms in their mouths. You can be

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## My unofficial end of summer

*Continued from page 13*

the kids while my wife and I go out.

This goes on until Sunday morning when most of us have to pack up and leave; the lucky ones get to stay until Monday and don't have to try and figure out how to beat the traffic on the Parkway as it does get pretty backed up. We stayed twice and, let me tell you, it is quite a sight to see your friends empty out a hotel and then busloads of senior citizens show up and take over our balcony. One bad thing about staying on Sunday is you can not pick up the Giants game, it is Eagles and possibly Redskin country. I have been known to pull my van close to the pool and watch the kids swim while listening to the game on the radio. One Sunday the taco shells got a little overdone and started a fire in the kitchen, but it was a fireman's convention and although the hotel owner refused to call the fire department, we saved the hotel.

We all need a weekend like this, and I hope that Old Tappan has a room available next year. If any of you firemen know of an available room or hotel let me know.

After my unofficial end of summer, comes the fall and time to aerate and blow leaves and all of the other things that bring me back to reality.

*Ilona asked me to write this as she tells me that she observed a caravan of firefighters from her town heading home that Sunday and realized that there must be a story as everyone but the drivers were sleeping or looking as if they had just spent a weekend putting out a four alarm fire. ♫*

prepared to react to an accidental poisoning by keeping the poison control center emergency number near your phone. Syrup of Ipecac can be used to induce vomiting as a first aid, but use it only if the poison control center tells you to.

First aid for poisoning includes removing any plant pieces remaining in the mouth. Give the poisoning victim a small amount of water to drink and call the poison control center. Be prepared to give them the child's age, the name of the plant eaten, and the part that was eaten (berry, leaf, etc.). Follow the advice of the poison control center. If a mushroom has been consumed, remove any remaining pieces from the victim's mouth and call the poison control center immediately. Save the mushroom parts for subsequent identification. Wrap it in wax paper (not plastic wrap), label it, and keep it in the refrigerator.

### ARE YOUR PLANTS POISONOUS?

Call your regional poison center for a complete list of poisonous (and nonpoisonous) plants in your area. For

*Continued on page 17*

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# Traveling with Nigel

by Nigel Wiszkowski, CGCS

I recently had an opportunity to go to Association Headquarters in Springfield for a meeting with the GCSANJ Board of Directors. I've been placed on retainer to assist our Chapter delegate in his decision making at this year's GCSAA conference in San Francisco.

Being based in South Jersey and not particularly fond of traveling to the big city, I dreaded the trip to a place I have never been, and didn't know how to get to. I spoke with Marie at Headquarters for directions and immediately became confused with the seemingly simple instructions.

Take the Parkway north to exit 142 to 78 west to exit 50A. Pretty simple, huh? I don't think so, Tim! I left early because I had never been to

Springfield, and I didn't want to be late for this important meeting. Being historically bad with directions, I tried to follow them to a tee. Well come to find out, to get to Route 78 West one has to go on 78 East and then turn around and backtrack to exit 50A. Now traveling in the right direction I see that the eastbound lane now divides

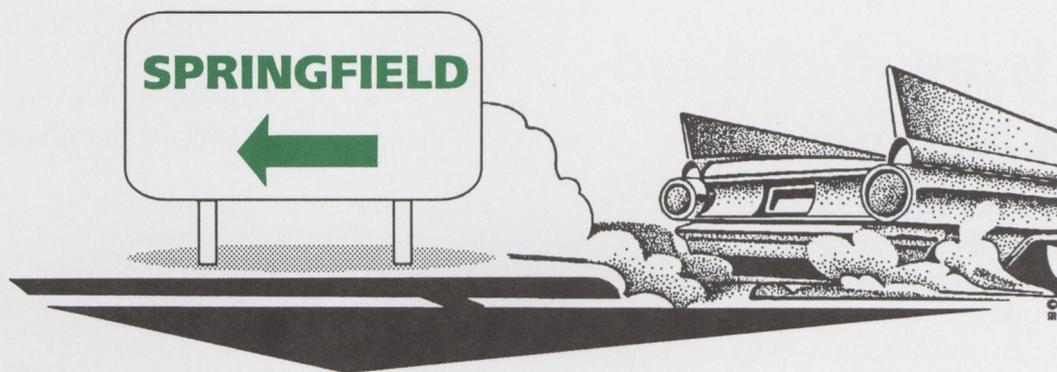
and on the left it says 78 East and the right says local traffic. Well, I've never been here before so I follow directions and stay on 78. Soon I see exit 50A and guess what? I can't get there from here and there goes my exit and my blood pressure. Quickly responding to instinct I say to myself, take the next exit and just turn around. Not!!! The next exit is five miles down the road. I now take that and see I'm on 24 North and the first place to turn around and get lost again is another five miles. Finally I get to an exit and make the loop and after a while I find my way back to 78 East. Now traveling 78 East I figure I'm safe and not that late. Not!!! There is NO exit 50A off of the eastbound 78. And once again I see my exit go by but this time on the other side of the highway. Well I guess I'll just get off at the next exit and turn around again. Naturally the next exit is the Garden State Parkway and soon I find myself going south headed back to the shore. Well to make a short story long I finally get off the Parkway south and turn around to go north again and start everything all over again.

Now THE REST OF THE STORY.

It appears that Steve Malikowski was correct in his

final "Greenerside" article. The GCSAA nominating committee has passed him by in favor of Paul Dermott and David Gourley of Canada and Mike Wallace from Connecticut. Well maybe next year we'll see Steve running for a director's slot. In the meantime I will be trying to convince Wayne Remo that we should nominate our own candidate from the floor at the annual meeting. I believe that if nominated, Pat Paulson will win hands down. I've spoken with Pat and he feels that he is as qualified as anyone. Since he has decided not to run for President of the United States will be able to dedicate his time to the Association business. In fact he has expressly voiced his interest in serving on the Industrial Advisory Committee.

Finally, I spoke with Malikowski and he agreed to let



Ed Walsh know the real story about an incident in Arizona a few years ago. Steve had rented a van as usual at the golf tournament and one particular evening decided to be the designated driver. Well, after a long evening of restaurants and cocktails, Steve was returning to the hotel with a van full of superintendents and their wives, most of whom were sleeping on the way back. Actually they were all feeling pretty safe because Malikowski had not had a cocktail all evening. With the hotel in sight, it was apparent that Steve had done a great job in returning everyone safely. But as he turned into the hotel parking lot he missed the driveway by about five feet and flattened both right side tires on the curb. With tires flapping away he entered under the Porte Cachere, and Valet parking would not take his van. Needless to say at 2 a.m. it was hard to find volunteers to drive him to Alamo for two tires. Being sharp of mind, Steve quickly realized that the tires off any Caravan in the parking lot would suffice and being that most of them were rentals, who would care. Well, I wish I could have seen the look on Ed Walsh's face the next morning when he approached his van. Sorry about that, Ed. 🐸

# Do something



*Continued from page 15*

now, check your home and garden for the following poisonous plants. Please note that this is only a partial list.

## House Plant

Azaleas  
Caladium  
Calla Lily  
Castor Bean  
Daphne  
Dieffenbachia  
English Ivy  
Holly  
Jerusalem Cherry  
Jessamine  
Lantana (wild sage)  
Nightshade  
Oleander  
Philodendron  
Rosary Pea  
Yew

## Toxic Part

all parts  
all parts  
all parts  
seeds  
all parts  
all parts  
berries  
berries  
leaves, green fruit  
all parts  
green berries  
all parts, unripe berry  
leaves, branches, flowers  
all parts  
seeds  
leaves, stems, seeds

## Garden Plant

Foxglove  
Iris  
Larkspur  
Lily-of-the-Valley  
Monkshood  
Rhubarb  
Star-of-Bethlehem

## Toxic Part

leaves, seeds, flowers  
bulbs, leaves  
young plant, seeds  
all parts  
all parts  
leaf blade  
bulbs, leaves

## Miscellaneous

Black Locust  
Buttercups  
Jimson weed  
Poison hemlock  
Pokeweed  
Water hemlock

## Toxic Part

all parts  
all parts  
all parts  
all parts  
all parts  
all parts

*Produced in 1994 by the Department of Pharmacy and the Office of Public Relations in Maimonides Medical Center.*

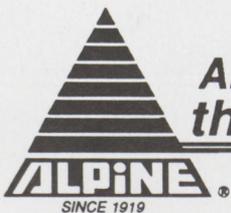
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# GCSAA NEWS



## GCSAA ELECTION PREVIEW MEETING

by Wayne Remo, CGCS

At the annual GCSAA Delegates Meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, a new format was instituted. This year for the first time, a meet the candidates session was held. The meeting was chaired by the nominating chairperson to the GCSAA, John Spodnik. The candidates were introduced one at a time to deliver a 5-10 minute campaign speech. They were not present in the room as the others were speaking.

### For President

Gary T. Grigg, CGCS  
Naples National Golf Club  
Naples, Florida

Present Vice President of GCSAA  
Board member for six years



Say hello to Gary Grigg at the convention. Tell him you saw his picture in *The Greenside*.

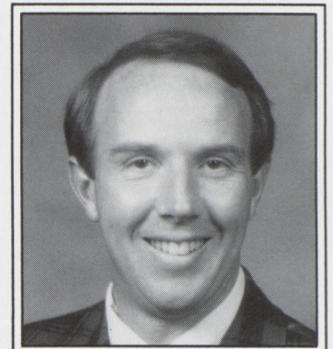
### OBJECTIVES

- New strategic plans to be shared with GCSAA members
- Link plans and strategies to actual programs
- Renewed vision for continued growth in education, research, and publishing
- Improve communications
- Strengthen chapter ties
- Focus on increasing respect for our profession
- Reduce abundance of misinformation in public's mind over environmental issues
- Continue to create a world class professional organization dedicated to serving its members

### For Vice President

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS  
Bob O'Link Golf Club  
Highland Park, Illinois

Present Secretary/Treasurer  
Board member for four years



*Bruce Williams*

### OBJECTIVES

- Develop and improve services and programs to the members
- Committed to the advancement of our profession
- Willing to make the sacrifices necessary

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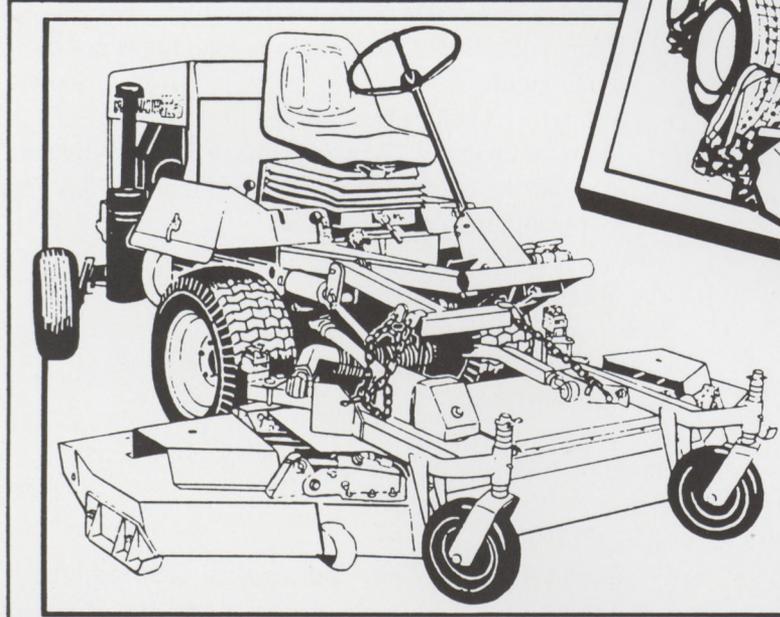
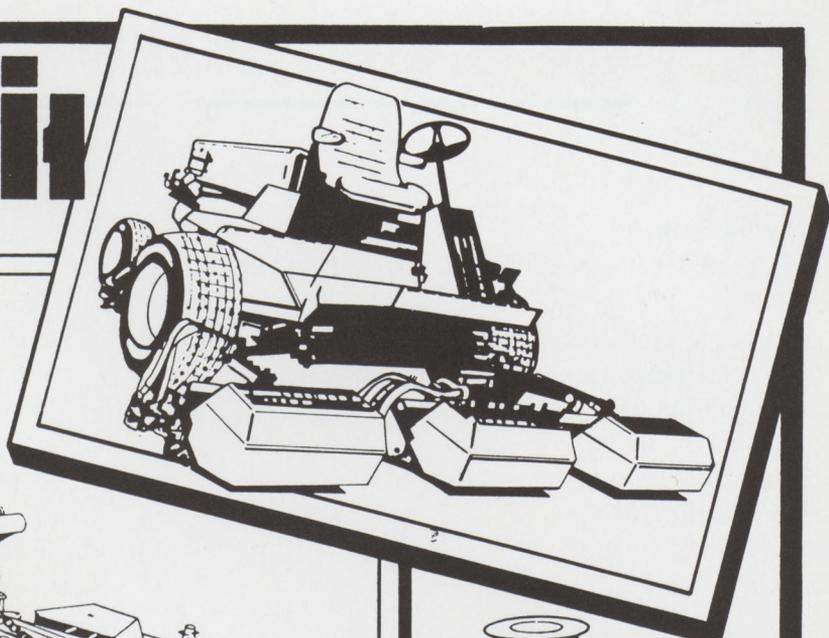
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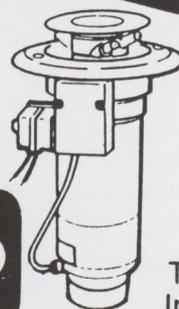
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*Continued on page 20*

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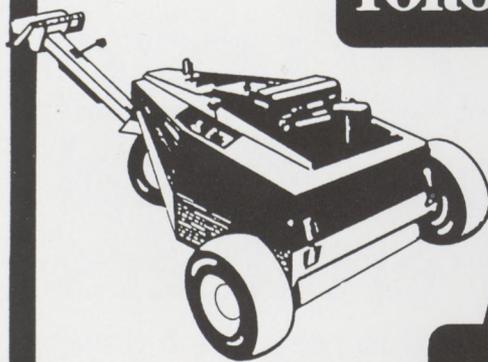


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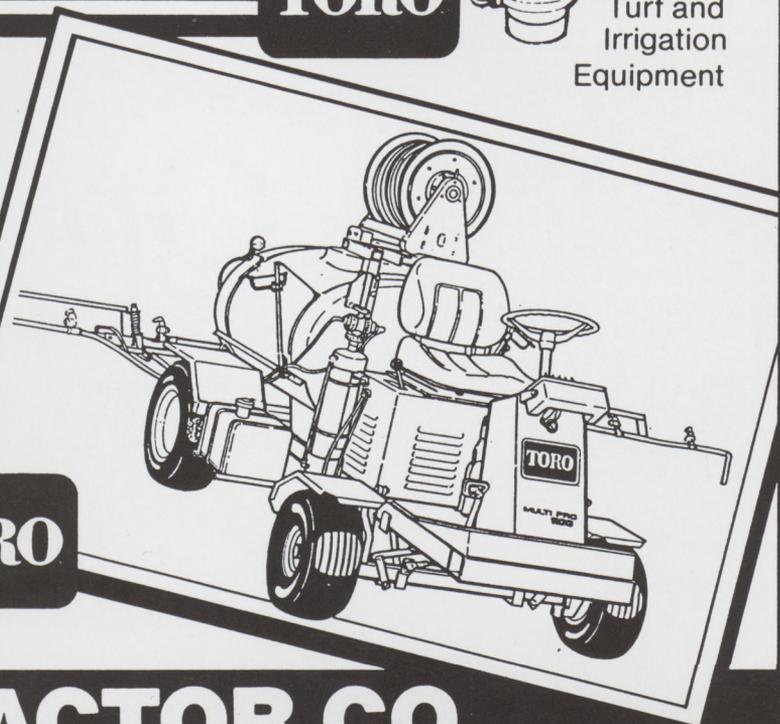
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# GCSAA NEWS

*Continued from page 18*

- Continued development of our Strategic Plan for GCSAA
- Continue to promote the golf course superintendent as the most important member of the management team in the golf industry

#### For Secretary/Treasurer

David W. Fearis, CGCS  
Blue Hills Country Club  
Kansas City, Missouri

Board member for two years

#### OBJECTIVES

- Helped the resurrection of the numerous committees
- Emphasis on improving chapter relations and communications
- Favored the implementation of Arthur Anderson

organizational review

- Listen to the needs of the membership
- Being complacent, status quo or average is not the key to our future
- Strengthen chapter ties
- Improve image of The Golf Course Superintendent
- Increase the number of members to the GCSAA from 9-hole and municipal courses

#### For Secretary/Treasurer

Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS  
Union Hills Country Club  
Sun City, Arizona

Board member for three years

#### OBJECTIVES

- Committed to the time and responsibility required

*Continued on page 22*



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## (It's about time.)



# GCSAA NEWS

Continued from page 20

- Help pave the way to the recognition superintendents deserve
- Communication is of prime importance
- Continue education
- Communicate more with non-GCSAA members on environmental issues
- Involved and supported the new direction, changes, and attitudes at the GCSAA office and headquarters
- Pledge total effort toward fulfillment of our goals

### For Secretary/Treasurer

George E. Renault, III, CGCS  
 Burning Tree Club  
 Bethesda, Maryland

Board member for two years

### OBJECTIVES

- Strong beliefs in service, communication and education
- Elevate the professional role of the superintendent
- Strengthen the certification program
- Move forward in the standardization process
- Advance the public image
- Strengthen our involvement in environmental and governmental issues
- Continued cooperation with our allied associations
- Develop strong and mutually beneficial ties with local chapters

### For Director

Paul A.C. Dermott, CGCS  
 Oakdale Golf and Country Club  
 Downsview, Ontario

Continued on page 23

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# GCSAA NEWS



Continued from page 22

## OBJECTIVES

- Has the time to resolve and dedicate to the association
- Like to see our life's vocation accepted and recognized as a true profession
- Has ability to lead and show organizational and administrative skills
- Has the ability and maturity to analyze situations effecting solutions
- Has the ability to focus on "the big picture"
- Interested in assisting the association in a stable and forward-thinking direction

### For Director

David W. Gourlay, CGCS  
Club Summerlea, Inc.  
Dorion, Quebec

## OBJECTIVES

- Continuation and improvement of our education
- Dissemination of turfgrass research
- Increase communication with the membership
- Promotion and recognition of our profession as it relates to the turfgrass industry
- Ensure current bylaws are followed
- Promises to represent the membership to the greatest of his ability by providing time, dedication, energy, professionalism, and enthusiasm

### For Director

Michael Wallace, CGCS  
Hop Meadow Country Club  
Simsbury, Connecticut

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Served on Membership Services and Public Relations Committees
- Involved with the GCSAA for over 20 years
- GCSAA has furthered his knowledge and education
- Spent much time in seminars, committee meetings, certification process, and voting delegates
- Experience as superintendent at both union and non-union golf courses
- Experience at both municipal and private courses
- Has the time and his club and family support his desire to be a Board member

Continued on page 24



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# GCSAA NEWS

Continued from page 23

## For Director

Tommy D. Witt, CGCS  
Wynstone Golf Club  
North Barrington, Illinois

Board member for one year

## OBJECTIVES

- Part of a dedicated team
- Committed to serving our association
- Improve the golf course superintendent's position within the golf industry
- Provide concerted and dedicated effort to the daily challenges
- Continued education, environmental awareness, image enhancement, legislative assertiveness, chapter relations, and career development

- Vows to be a willing listener and dedicated researcher
- Will do everything possible to help us grow closer as a profession

## SUMMATION

For President

Gary T. Grigg, running unopposed

For Vice President

Bruce R. Williams, running unopposed

For Sec./Treasurer

David Fearis  
Paul McGinnis  
George Renault, III

For Director  
(3 to be elected)

Paul A.C. Dermott  
David W. Gourlay  
Michael Wallace  
Tommy D. Witt

Continued on page 25

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**Stephen Kay**

GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS



# GCSAA NEWS

Continued from page 24

Non-winners of Secretary/Treasurer may be nominated from the floor for director.

## LONG-TIME GCSAA PARTNER MAKES IMPORTANT DONATION

In a generous show of support to the golf course management industry and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), Club Car, Inc. has donated \$5,000 to GCSAA's Scholarship & Research (S&R) Foundation.

GCSAA President Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS, said, "Club Car has always been supportive of GCSAA and its membership. Their gift shows that they are willing to continue taking a leadership role by investing in the future of this industry."

With the gift, Club Car becomes the newest members of the GCSAA Platinum Tee Club, an exclusive group of companies, golf clubs and golf associations that contribute \$5,000 or more annually to help fund GCSAA S&R's operations. Last year, GCSAA Platinum Tee Club members contributed more than \$200,000 in support of GCSAA S&R's student financial aid programs, health research efforts, endowments, and grants to other organizations.

Club Car's Director of Marketing Michael Alexander said, "We believe this contribution is an important way of showing support for our customers and friends in the golf industry. GCSAA Scholarship & Research funds programs that are very beneficial to our industry and Club Car is proud to help out." 🌱

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# Back Nine

## SKYLANDS

The Skylands has just celebrated its 10th anniversary as the "New Jersey State Botanical Gardens" this past September. The Skylands Manor, of course, is much older. The gardens were designed by Feruccio Vitale (1875-1933) and Alfred Geiffert (1890-1957), two well known landscape architects during the 1900s. They collected plants from all over the world and for 30 years worked on making the Skylands the magnificent gardens they are today. Former Governor Thomas Kean designated the central 96 acres surrounding the manor as the state's official botanical garden in March 1984.

## EPA PESTICIDE REPORT

The EPA has published its 1993 pesticide user's report. It recorded that pesticides were used in 69 million

US households. Agricultural uses accounted for two-thirds of the US total expenditures and three-fourths of the quantity used. A single free copy of this 33-page report is available from the US EPA, NCEPI, PO Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH 45242-2419. Ask for publication #733-K-94-001.

## MEGAGREEN

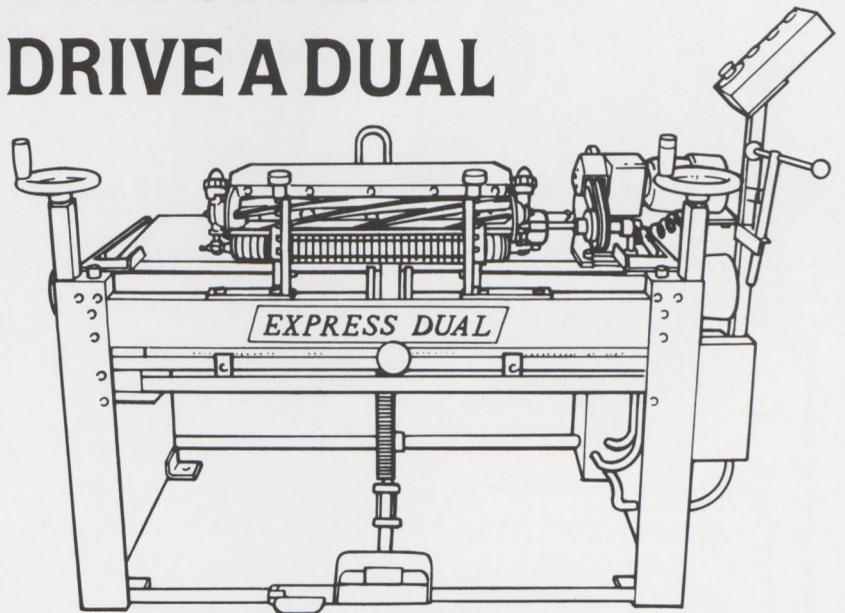
At 15,840 square feet, the green on the fifth at the Banks Course at Forsgate CC in Jamesburg is believed to be the **largest** in the area and maybe in the country. A **double green** for the seventh and 12th holes at Metuchen Golf and Country Club covers more than 10,000 square feet. Are these the top two for GCSANJ territory? Call "The Greenside" at (201) 595-7172 if you know the location of the smallest greens. No salads, please! 

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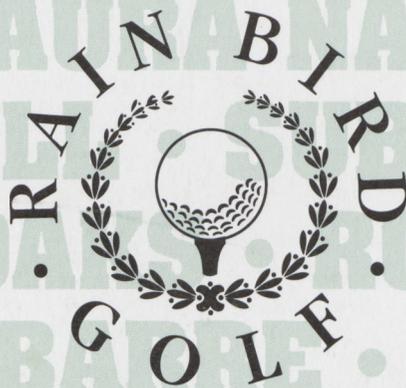
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