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Nov./Dec. 1981

Published monthly by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association

Vol. XI, No. 10

### **COMING EVENTS**

December 1	Jacobsen Service School	
	Magovern's, Windsor Locks, CT	
December 2	Jacobsen Service School	
	Magovern's, Stamford, CT	
December 7-10	New Jersey Turfgrass Association	
	Expo '81, Cherry Hill, N.J.	
December 12	MGCSA Christmas Party	
	Ridgeway C.C.	
December 15	O.M. Scotts Seminar	
	Holiday Inn, Mt. Kisco	
January 13	CAGCS Seminar, Hartford, CT	
January 14	MCGSA Winter Seminar, Fairview C.C.	
January 31-	GCSAA International Turfgrass	
February 5	Conference and Show, New Orleans, LA	
March 1-4	Penn. State Conference, Hershey, PA	
March	U. Mass. Conference, Springfield, MA	
May 19	MGCSA Superintendent/Greens	
	Chairman Meeting, Woodway C.C.	
June 3	MGCSA Invitational Tournament	
	Mt. Kisco C.C.	
July	MGCSA Meeting, Siwanoy C.C.	
August	MGCSA Family Picnic	



MGCSA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 1982: Standing I/r: Pat Lucas, Bill Gaydosh, Al Tretera, Chuck Martineau, Mike Maffei, Bob Alonzi, Dennis Flynn, Peter Rappoccio. Front row I/r: Craig Wistrand, Scott Niven and Sherwood Moore.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 1981**

It has been a very rewarding and enjoyable year for me serving as President of the MGCSA, and I would like to recap the highlights of the year.

1. Procedures were setup and are in use for submitting pesticide related courses and meetings to New York State for pesticide re-certification credits. Thus far, those who attended the GCSAA Conference in Anaheim have earned 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> credits and those attending the GCSAA Insect Seminar in Anaheim have earned 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> credits. Other meetings, such as Expo and U Mass, have also been submitted, but at this point we have not received word from New York on the number of credits they will issue.

2. Thanks to the Reaching Out Committee, chaired by Bob Bruce, and all those who supported them, some of the underprivledged in the County had their Christmas holidays made a little happier. The campaign this year is expanding to include toys, clothing, and other useful articles.

3. The first MGCSA student scholarships were awarded with funds raised by a Trip to Anaheim raffle. Credit goes to Bill Caputi for his efforts in setting up and running the raffle. Hopefully, these student scholarships will be an ongoing program in future years. I feel this program was a major accomplishment for the MGCSA in 1981.

4. As we all know, the Metropolitan area was faced with a severe water shortage going into the summer and Clubs faced the possibility of tight water restrictions. The MGCSA presented statements before two legislative bodies stating the position of Golf Course Superintendents regarding water restrictions. We presented our statement before a joint meeting of the Legislative and Community Affairs Committees of the Westchester County Legislature on February 5 and before the New York State Assembly Republican Task Force on February 19. I am quite sure our appearance had an impact on the way golf courses were allowed to use water.

5. In appreciation to Guido Cribari, the MGCSA made a special presentation to him at the Annual Greens Chairman meeting, thanking him for his recognition over the years.

6. The MGCSA endorsed a Mutual of Omaha Group Disability plan for our members who do not have such coverage. A mailing was sent out giving the highlights of the plan.

7. The MGCSA nominated Sherwood Moore for the 1982 GCSAA Distinguished Award. To date, we have not received word on whom GCSAA has selected for the award.



### **EDITORIAL STAFF**

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	Office 914-273-3755; Home 914-273-9112
Secretary	Peter Rappoccio, Silver Spring Country Club
	Office 203-438-6720; Home 203-866-4276
Treasurer	Sherwood Moore, Winged Foot Golf Club
	Office 914-698-2827; Home 914-234-9469

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Publication deadline for *Tee to Green* is 21 days before the regular meeting.

8. Our membership roster has been completely reprinted and is in the final stages of completion.

9. Our Christmas Party at Westchester C.C. drew 43 couples and a good time was had by all. Thanks go to Bob Tosh, Ted Horton, Bob Alonzi, Bill Caputi, and all who helped in making it a success.

10. The 6th Annual Greens Chairman Tournament was held at Quaker Ridge G.C. with an excellent turnout. This meeting continues to be one of our top events of the year. Thanks go to Tony Savone for all his help in setting up the event. Next year's tournament will be held May 19 at Woodway C.C.

11. Our first Annual Superintendent-Manager Tournament was held at Brae Burn C.C. in June. Thanks go to our host Al Caravella.

12. Fairview C.C. hosted our 1st Annual Summer Social and it was an excellent evening. Our thanks to Bob Alonzi for his efforts in organizing the event.

13. The family picnic drew a crowd of over 150 to Woodway Beach Club in August. Thanks to Dick Allen and all who worked on making this a success.

14. The 1981 Invitational was held at Wykagyl C.C. but drew a smaller field than usual. This was probably due to last minute changes in the location and a special thank you goes to Dennis Flynn for volunteering to host this event on very short notice. In 1982, the Invitational will be held June 3 at Mr. Kisco C.C., followed by Fairview C.C. in 1983 and Burning C.C. in 1984.

15. The MGCSA sponsored the GCSAA Disease Seminar that was held in Nyack on October 28 and 29. The Seminar was attended by 27 people and taught by Dr. Couch.

16. I would like to thank Tony Grasso, John Wistrand, Dan

Cancelleri, Roger Morhardt, and Bob Mullane for their help on various events and committees during the past year.

Finally, I would like to thank all the officers and directors for their efforts in working together to allow the Association to run as efficently as possible and giving our membership an Association they can be proud of. Thanks to Peter Rappoccio for his work as Secretary and Membership Chairman, Sherwood Moore for the great job as Treasurer; Chuck Martineau as Program Chairman; Bob Alonzi as Chairman of the Bylaws, Welfare, and S&R Committees; Bill Gaydosh for his updating the membership roster and setting up the 1981 Christmas Party; Mark Millett for his work on Program; and Craig Wistrand for his efforts on the 50-50. A special thanks goes to Pat Lucas and Ted Horton for the excellent job they do as editors of *Tee to Green*.

I would like to commend the membership for their support of the Association with their excellent attendance at monthly events. Without the support of the membership, there would be no MGCSA.

-Michael Maffei, President

### THE FIRST MGCSA EDUCATIONAL TURF GRASS SEMINAR Fairview C.C., January 14, 1982

Dr. Patricia Vittum, Mass. State entomologist Turf Insects

Dr. Richard Schmidt, Virginia Polytechnic Institute Topdressing

John Jagschitz, University of Rhode Island Crabgrass Control

Dr. Richard Smiley, N.Y. State plant pathologist Turf Disease

#### MGCSA NEWS

The days are growing short, the nights are becoming longer, and the Holiday season is almost upon us. Why not take a moment at this time of year when we have more time available to think about the unfortunate members in our community. The MGCSA in setting up the REACHING OUT COMMITTEE has given you an easy way to help others at this important time of year. Toys, usable clothing, along with any other household items which may be of use to others is most needed. And of course, monetary gifts are most welcome.

Thanks to Joseph Macellaro, President of Fore Wheels Inc. we now have a central depot where you can drop off items for distribution by Committee Members. Our depot is at the closed Exxon gas station, 850 North Broadway, N. White Plains, N.Y., next to the Old Austin Barrett Building. The key can be obtained from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Joe Macellaro, office number; 914-948-4812 or home number: 914-946-2833. Thanks for your help Joe!

If anyone has any questions, please contact Bob Bruce.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs Mike Nagel on the birth of their daughter and to Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kotowitz and Mr. and Mrs. Richie Marcks on the birth of their sons.

Mother Nature cooperated with fine weather on October 13

at Dennis Flynn's Wykagyl Country Club. Your Editor hit a lot of shots and left some golf balls behind. Dennis had the course in SUPER condition. A fine day for all. Now the results:

First Place Siwanoy Country Club — 58 Second Place Fairview Country Club — 58 Third Place Wykagyl Country Club — 60 Fourth Place Bedford Golf & Tennis Club — 60

At the MGCSA annual meeting held at the Fairview Country Club on November 4, the following slate of officers and directors as proposed by the Nominating Committee were elected.

President	Michael Maffei
Vice President	Charles Martineau
Treasurer	Sherwood Moore
Secretary	Peter Rappoccio
Directors for Two Years	Patrick Lucas
	Dennis Flynn
	Allan Tretera

Director for One Year

At the MGCSA Board of Director's meeting on October 6th at the Round Hill Club the following applications were voted upon:

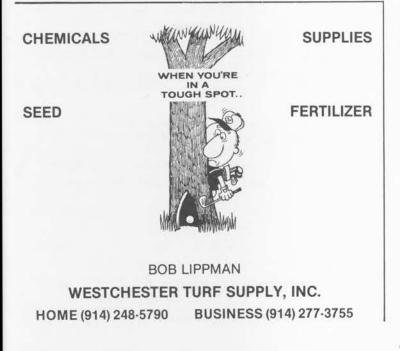
Scott Niven

Harry Ward	Woodway C.C.	Class B	-
Eddie Connaughton	Bedford Golf & Tennis Club	В	
Stephen Chielowiec	Fairview C.C.	D	È.

Stephen Cadenelli will serve as the MGCSA voting delegate to the National Conference with Dennis Flynn serving as alternate.

The GCSAA Disease Seminar presented by Dr. Houston Couch on October 28 and 29 had 27 participants coming from New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania . . . . and Massachusetts. We had 11 members of the MGCSA in attendance, TIME WELL SPENT!

I'd like at this time to thank all who contributed information to *Tee to Green* this year and to all advertisers who help make publication of *Tee to Green* possible. Next issue will carry a listing of all 1981 advertisers.



A candle's but a simple thing It starts with just a bit of string Yet dipped and dipped with patient hand It gathers wax upon the strand Until complete and snowly white, It gives at last a lovely light.

Life seems so like that bit of string Each deed we do a simple thing; Yet day by day if on life's strand We work with patient heart and hand It gathers joy, makes dark days bright, And gives at last a lovely light.

## MCHRY CHRISTMAS

On behalf of the Officers and Directors of MGCSA We would like to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Prosperous New Year.

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Thanks to our advertisers: Alpine Tree Care Hawthorne Brothers Tree Service, Inc. I & E Supply Co., Inc. Lakeshore Equipment and Supply Co. O.M. Scotts The Reichert Company for making this issue of *Tee to Green* possible.

### ANOTHER SCIENTIFIC MARVEL: FINDING WHAT TURNED THE GREENS TO BROWNS

Editor's Note: Our thanks to John Wistrand of Metro Milorganite for forwarding this article to us from The Wall Street Journal, Thursday, September 17, 1981 Pat Lucas

### Another Scientific Marvel: What Turned the Greens to Brown

by Heywood Klein

Dead grass in the front yard may be just an ugly nuisance. on the putting green, it's a disaster.

Over the past year or so, disaster has been attracting more attention in the Midwest, where the putting greens of hundreds of golf courses sprout a special grass called Toronto C-15. A mysterious disease has attacked the greens of about 50 courses, including at least one course on the Professional Golfers of America tour.

### **Bumps and Bacteria**

In response, a histopathologist was flown from Virginia to examine the grass fibers. A mycologist in Ohio checked for fungi, and a nematologist searched for worms. A pathologist, a microbiologist and a chemist also tried to diagnose the disease. Houston B. Couch, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute histopathologist who coordinated the investigation, jokes that to pro golfers an epidemic "would be like all the Lincoln Continentals and Mercedes-Benzes dying at the same time."

All the victimized courses can trace their grass to an experimental plot grown in the 1940s on the ninth green at Westmoreland Country Club, Wilmette, Illinois. The disease makes greens so bumpy and discolored that some golfers call them "browns."

After other diagnostic tools failed, David L. Roberts, a graduate student at Michigan State University, solved the mystery with an electron microscope. He found a strain of bacteria, the first known to attack golf course grasses. "There were so many in there," he says, "they were stopping the water movement. The plant will wilt and eventually die."

### Spikes or Putters?

Researches suspect golfers spread the disease when they walk on an infected green in spiked shoes and then play their next round on another course. Other possibilities: mowers, putters, even birds' feet.

Tetracycline, the antibiotic used to control bacterial infections in people, can cure the grass. But the cure is expensive and probably only temporary; eventually, the bacteria are likely to resist the medication. Reseeding ailing greens with another grass can take years, and the results can leave greens uneven.

The only other known cure: Kill the grass and the soil beneath, and then replant with another variety. That has been done at Butler National Golf Club in Oak Brook, Illinois, (site of the Western Open) and, more recently, at the Village Links in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Replanting at Glen Ellyn cost \$30,000 but the course will be closed until next spring, costing the club another \$200,000 in revenue.

### Something to think about:

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### **MGCSA INVITATIONAL WINNERS**



First place winner was the team from Siwanoy C.C.: George Hendrix, Greens Committee member; James Carthaus, Vice-President; Larry Craig, Pro and Scott E. Niven, Superintendent.



Wykagyl C.C. team was the third place winner. They are: Bill Thompson, Greens Chairman; Dennis Flynn, Superintendent; Lloyd Monroe, Pro and Bill Bleichert, President.



**Bill Bleichert** President of Wykagyl C.C. Mike Maffei to his right.

Guido Cribari Sports Editor, Westchester Gannett Group



Second place winner was the Fairview C.C. team: Craig Shankland, Pro; Irving Dales, Co-chairman Greens Committee; Robert Alonzi, Superintendent; and Lenny Lauten, Co-chairman Greens Committee.



Anthony Grasso Jr., right, presenting awards to Walter Rowan, Pro and Terry Boles, Superintendent, Bedford Golf and Tennis Club, fourth place winner.



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### GOLF RULES IN BRIEF Revised 1981 by Nunzio Ciampi, PGA

Learn to use the Rule Book — become familiar with key words and special terms in the language of the rules: thus, FLAGSTICK, not pin; BUNKER, not trap; STROKE PLAY; not medal play; LATERAL WATER HAZARD; not parallel water hazard.

Study the Definitions, they are basic. Note such differences as "Loose Impediments" for certain natural objects and "obstructions" for artificial objects. The rules do not mention "fairway" or "rough", both are covered by "through the green" which is the whole area of the course except:

a. teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played.b. all hazards on the course.

*Check your clubs* — you are allowed a maximum of fourteen clubs. The penalty for carrying more than fourteen clubs in Match Play — Loss of one hole for each hole at which any violation occurred; maximum penalty per round: loss of two holes. Stroke play — two strokes for each hole, at which violation occurred; maximum penalty per round four strokes.

*Be able to identify your ball* — the rules state that a ball is lost if it is not found or *identified* within five minutes. Put an identification mark on your ball to avoid this situation.

Playing from outside the Teeing Ground — Rule 13 — In Match Play if you play from outside the teeing ground, your opponent may require you to replay the stroke without penalty. In stroke play, you are penalized two strokes and must then play from within the teeing ground. Strokes played from outside the teeing ground do not count in your score. If you fail to rectify this mistake before teeing off the next tee, you are disqualified.

**Provisional Ball** — Rule 30 — If you think your ball is lost or out of bounds, you may play another ball from the same spot to save time. You must do this before you go forward to search for the original ball, and you must inform your opponent that you are playing a provisional ball. You may hit the provisional ball as many times as necessary to reach the point where the original ball is likely to be, but if you play from a point beyond that place, the original ball is deemed lost.

Disputes and doubt as to Rights — Rule 11 — In Match Play, if a dispute or a doubt arise between players on any point, in order that a claim may be considered it must be made before any player in the match plays from the next tee, or leaves the last green. Any later claim based on newly discovered facts cannot be considered unless the player making the claim had been given wrong information by the opponent. In stroke play only, if you are doubtful of your rights or procedure, you may play out the hole with both the original ball and, at the same time, with a second ball. You must complete the hole with both balls and get a ruling from the committee immediately upon completion of the round.

(More next month)

**WELFARE:** Please contact Bob Alonzi, 203-531-8910 (office), or 203-531-1930 (home) regarding any hospitalizations, etc. of members of the MGCSA.



METROPOLITAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATI

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 12, 1980 Ridgeway Country Club, White Plains, New York





7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

COCKTAIL HOUR - OPEN BAR

Hot and Cold Hors d'Oeuvres

Fried Shrimp, Stuffed Mushrooms, Chicken Hawaiian, Pepper Steak, Rice, Clams Casino Assorted Quiche, Beef Kebab, Sea Food Crepes, Raw Vegetables with Dip Steak Tar Tar, Chopped Onions, Capers, Nova Scotia (Carving Station), Assorted Herring Hearts of Celery • Green Ripe Olives • Carrots • Rosebud Radishes • Peppers



### DINNER - 8:30 p.m.

Smoked Brook Trout, Horseradish Sauce Wedge of Michael Angelo **Ridgeway** Dressing Roast Prime Chateaubriand, Natural Stuffed Baked Potato String Beans Almadine Lemon Sherbert with crushed Strawberry Sauce Beverages



### Cost per Person

### <sup>8</sup>40.00 for dinner and Cocktail Hour

Dinner includes wine, you may sign for drinks after the Cocktail Hour.

> Make checks payable to MGCSA -Mail before December 5th to: Mr. Sherwood Moore % Winged Foot Golf Club Fenimore Road Mamaroneck, N.Y.

TABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: Seatings of 8 or 10. Please arrange your own group or note when making reservations with whom you wish to sit.

For additional information please call: Bill Gaydosh, Chairman (201) 666-1204 or Chuck Martineau (914) 273-3755. or Bob Alonzi (203) 531-1930.

### LOSS OF TOPSOIL COULD TRIGGER FOOD SHORTAGES, STUDY SAYS

The loss of topsoil in the United States and other countries is so severe that it could trigger food shortages in the 1980s surpassing the impact of oil shortages during the 1970s, a new study concluded yesterday.

The study, done by Lester Brown, head of the Worldwatch Institute, said a doubling in world food output since 1950 was achieved at the expense of severe land abuse.

"Perhaps the most serious single threat humanity now faces is the widespread loss of topsoil," Brown, an agricultural specialist said in the study, which is being published as a book titled "Building a Sustainable Society."

"Civilization cannot survive this continuing loss of topsoil," Brown said. "If not arrested, this loss of soil could cause the food problem to unfold during the eighties as the energy problem did during the seventies. Just as the world has come to depend heavily on the Middle East for oil, so it now depends on North America for grain. And just as the Middle Eastern oil is being depleted, so too are North American soils."

The productivity of 34 percent of American cropland is declining because of an excessive loss of topsoil each year, Brown said.

A detailed survey of erosion levels done by the Agriculture Department last year discovered "alarmingly high" soil erosion in several states. It estimated soil losses of 14.1 tons an acre in Tennessee, 11.4 tons an acre in Missouri and 10.9 tons in Mississippi. One hundred countries now depend on the United States and Canada for grain shipments. This increased world demand has accelerated erosion problems as U.S. farmers abandoned tradition crop rotation methods to concentrate on planting corn and other row crops.

Losses in productivity can be masked for a time by an increased use of fertilizer, the use of which has gone from 14 million tons in 1950 to 113 million tons in 1980.

-Connecticut Newspapers, September 11, 1981

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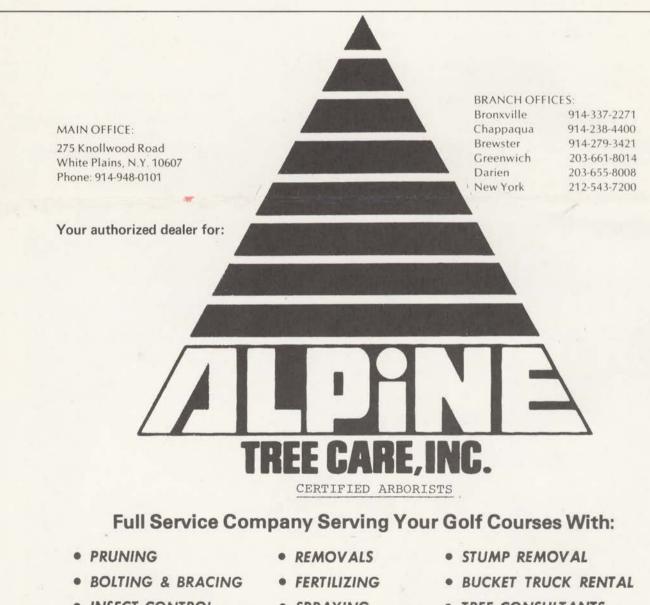


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