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Vol. 12 # 10



**Coming Events**

- Jan. 4-7, 1983 Eastern Regional Nursery Asso. Show and Convention  
Concord Hotel, Kiamesha Lake, NY
- Jan. 19 MGCSA Winter Seminar at Fairview C.C.
- Feb. 19-25, 1983 54th International Turfgrass Conference & Show, Atlanta, GA
- Feb. 28-March 3 Penna. Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show, Hershey, PA

**Election Results of Annual Meeting**

President	Charles Martineau
Vice President	Peter Rappoccio
Treasurer	Sherwood Moore
Secretary	Scott Niven
Director for Two Years	James Fulwider William Gaydosh Craig Wistrand

**President's Report — 1982**

It has been once again very rewarding and enjoyable serving a second term as President of the MGCSA, and at this time I would like to recap the highlights of the year.

1. After being nominated by the MGCSA, Sherwood Moore received GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award with the presentation being made at the Conference and Show in New Orleans. This was a much deserved award. Thanks goes to Bob Alonzi for his hard work in preparing the background material for Sherwood's award.

2. The Reaching Out Committee under Bob Bruce collected toys, games, and clothing to make the holidays a little happier for some of these in need. The campaign is in full swing again this year.

3. Our Christmas Party at Ridgeway C.C. drew approximately 45 couples and thanks goes to our host Danny Verille. Others involved in making the party a success were Bill Gaydosh as Chairman, Bill Caputi, Chuck Martineau, and Bob Alonzi.

4. Our first MGCSA Winter Seminar was held at Fairview C.C. in January and despite a snowstorm attendance was over 60.

5. In March, on behalf of the MGCSA, I testified before the Connecticut House Environment Committee against a bill which if adopted, would in effect ban the use of 2, 4-D in Connecticut. Steve Cadenelli and Bob Osterman also testified against the bill on behalf of the CAGCS and GCSAA respectively. The bill was eventually let die in committee.

6. The 7th Annual Green Chairmen Tournament was held at Woodway C.C. in May with 80 golfers and 100 for dinner. First place was taken by Woodway.

7. Our 1982 Invitational was held in June at Mt. Kisco C.C. with first place going to Bedford Golf & Tennis. The 1983 Invitational will be held June 2 at Fairview C.C. and at Burning Tree C.C. in 1984.

8. The Manager-Superintendent Tournament was held at Siwanoy C.C. with Ridgefield G.C. taking first prize.

9. Bob Alonzi and Fairview C.C. hosted our 2nd Annual Summer Social with over 90 in attendance. Special thanks goes to Drew Campbell, Manager of Fairview, for his efforts in helping make this a success.

10. For the first time since I can remember, we held our Summer Picnic poolside at a Golf Club rather than at a Beach Club or similar facility. Despite the weather we had an excellent



MGCSA Officers & Directors for 1983: Left to Right: Sherwood Moore, Bill Gaydosh, Scott Niven, Peter Rappoccio, Al Tretera, Mike Maffei, Chuck Martineau, Dennis Flynn, Jim Fulwider, Craig Wistrand.



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

turnout and a great location at Steve Cadenelli's Country Club of New Canaan. Thank you to Steve and his Committee.

11. From the proceeds of our Special Scholarship raffle, scholarships totaling \$2,400 were given to Eddie Connaughton, Joseph Kennedy, Jill Gaydosh, Nancy Grasso, and Glen Autorino.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank John Wistrand, Dan Cancelleri, Roger Morhardt, Bob Mullane, and the Carriere family for their help on various events and committees during the year. Thanks also goes to Host Superintendents and their clubs for having us this year. I would also like to personally thank all the officers and directors for their hard work

over the past year: Peter Rappoccio for his devotion to his duties as Secretary and as Chairman of the Membership Committee; Sherwood Moore for the outstanding job as Treasurer; Chuck Martineau as Program Chairman; Dennis Flynn as Golf Chairman; Scott Niven for his work on the roster; Bob Alonzi as Chairman of the Welfare, and S&R Committees; Bill Gaydosh as Xmas Party Chairman; Craig Wistrand for his efforts on the Special Scholarships and 50-50; and Al Tretera for his work on special assignments. Thanks also goes to Pat Lucas and Ted Horton for their outstanding efforts on *Tee to Green*. I would also like to thank the membership for their continued support and for giving me the opportunity to serve them over the past two years as President.

At this time I would like to give a special word of thanks to "retiring" board member Bob Alonzi who served on the Board of Directors for a good many years. Bob did an outstanding job for the MGCSA serving as its Treasurer, Vice-President, and President as well as serving as Chairman of numerous committees. Bob was also always very willing to volunteer his club for Board meetings or Association functions and organized each function at his club to the last detail. I know Bob made my job as President much easier during the past two years and I am sure other Past-Presidents would say the same. *Thank-you Bob!*

Mike Maffei

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Tony Savone 84-88;172\*

\*(Match of cards with Vin Pentenero)

#### First Flight

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Mike Leary 83-90;173-143

#### Second Flight

Peter Rappoccio 89-94;183-143  
Dennis Flynn 88-101;189-149

#### Third Flight

Fred Scheyhing 92-96;188-138  
Robert Bruce 100-97;197-145

### Class B

Earl Millet 89-86;175-155  
Tony Grasso, Jr. 97-88;185-149

### Class C

Dan Cancellari 86-84;170-142  
Dennis DeSanctis 87-99;186-146

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



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## Superintendent Biography Larry Pakkala

by Dennis Petruzzelli

Assistant Superintendent, Brae Burn C.C.

The historic Saint Andrews Golf Club in Hastings-on-the-Hudson, New York, recently welcomed the September meeting of the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association. Presiding as Host Superintendent was Larry Pakkala.

Larry was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. At a very young age, he took an interest in the game of golf through his father, who was an avid golfer. While growing with the game he loved, Larry also learned to appreciate nature, which plays an important role in golf as a whole. By combining these two elements, he set his goals on becoming a Golf Course Superintendent. He attended the two year turfgrass program at the Pennsylvania State University, studying under Dr. Joseph Duich. While in school, Larry worked at Philadelphia Country Club in Gladwin, Pennsylvania. After graduation, he accepted an assistant superintendents position at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania.

In time, Larry moved on to become Superintendent at the Mid Ocean Club in Bermuda. His latest move was to Saint Andrews Golf Club where he has remained for the last two years.

What he finds most fascinating about being a Superintendent is working with nature to achieve desired objectives. Being close to the game of golf and being able to admire and enhance nature makes his job that much more enjoyable.

The "ability to grow grass" and public relations are important qualities needed in becoming a successful superintendent, in Larry's opinion. Possessing the "ability to grow grass" is a major part of the superintendent's job, but, almost as important is effectively expressing public relations. The inability to "reach" crew members often results in unsatisfactory performed work.

When asked if there is any specific area in turfgrass science or related area he'd like to see research work on, Larry replied with: 1) the continuation of hybridizing varieties more suitable for the diverse needs of the industry, 2) more efficient use of water; a valuable and all too often misused resource available to us, and 3) help the superintendent to become more cost conscious. Careful use of funds will result in the superintendent getting the most out of his allotted budget.

Saint Andrews will be undergoing some changes on the golf course as well as clubhouse grounds and clubhouse. The golf course is being restored to its original state (Scotch style) and some re-routing of existant golf holes are planned. The restoration program is spearheaded by Saint Andrews owner and Greens Chairman, Jack Nicklaus. Nicklaus' prime objective is to "retain the quaintness of the golf course," making it a fun course to play. Many hilly areas of play in the existing design will be routed away from in the new design. Fourteen holes will be completely renovated from tee to green, in accordance to USGA specifications. Four new holes will be built on recently purchased land and 210 luxury townhouses will occupy club borders around the golf course. No real drastic changes will occur in the golf course design with the exception of sand bunkers which will possess the true scotch style. Benefits achieved through a scotch styled golf course are the reduction of maintenance and costs. Many areas will be "left to grow" yielding the "natural effect" of the great scotch golf courses.

A "true outdoorsman" can briefly describe Larry's hobby types. He loves golfing, fishing, hunting and occasionally racquetball.

Larry, Carole and their two children currently reside on the Saint Andrews property.

Many thanks to Larry for taking time out for this interview.

### Note from Mike Maffei:

Once again this year, the *Reaching Out Committee* is seeking toys, usable clothing, or other items which may be of use to the needy of the community. We have been very successful with this program over the past two years and hope for success again this year. Joe Macellaro of Fore Wheels Inc. has once again volunteered the use of a building for the drop off and storage of donated items pending its distribution by committee members. If you have items you wish to donate, call Joe at his office (914) 948-4812 or at home (914) 946-2833 or contact Mike Maffei, Bob Bruce, or John Wistrand to arrange a pickup or drop-off.

\*\*\*\*\*

Communication Ventures Inc. of New York has arranged for quantity prices for *The Golf Course* written by Geoffrey Cornish and Ronald Whitten. Mr. Heinz, President of Communication Ventures describes the book as covering the history of course architecture and architects and describing by text and illustrations concepts of both penal and strategic design, shot values, etc.

Quantity prices are as follows:

1 copy	\$29.95 + \$2.25
2-10 copies	25.00 + UPS charges
11-25 copies	21.00 + UPS charges
26-49 copies	19.25 + UPS charges
50-99 copies	17.50 + freight

MGCSA will place an order for the membership if the demand is there. If you wish to take advantage of this offer, contact Mike Maffei by Jan. 7, 1983 for details.

## What is the Weatherman Really Saying?

Throughout the winter meteorologists often use terms like squall, winter storm warning, wind chill factor and blizzard when issuing forecasts. But those same meteorologists are the first to admit that, while people plan their outdoor activities around the weather, they have no idea what many of those terms mean.

"It happens all the time. People hear the words, but they get confused about meanings," said Roland Guy Loffredo, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Albany. "It makes things a lot easier for everyone when people know what we're talking about.

The following is a list of some of those winter forecast terms with an explanation of what each means:

● **Winter storm watch** — Whenever the National Weather Service issues a winter storm watch it means there is a possibility of heavy snow, freezing rain or drizzle, sleet, or a combination of the three during the next 12 to 36 hours. Loffredo said a watch usually means there is only a chance that severe weather will occur. Since a storm watch is issued so far in advance, they may not always be accurate.

● **Winter storm warning** — A winter storm warning usually means severe weather — more than 6 inches of snow within a 12-hour period — is imminent. When a storm warning is issued, it usually is 80 to 100 percent accurate, Loffredo said. Storm warnings are issued for large areas, usually several counties.

● **Blizzard** — Blizzard conditions exist when there is a combination of strong winds — usually more than 35 mph — snow and poor visibility because of blowing snow. Those severe conditions must last for at least three hours for a blizzard to exist, Loffredo said.

● **Traveler's advisory** — The National Weather Service will issue an advisory whenever there are widespread driving difficulties, such as ice or snow on roadways, dense fog, freezing rain, or sleet, and when an area receives less than 6 inches of snow in a 12-hour period. Loffredo said most areas can handle up to 6 inches of snow, but after that, "we run into problems," he said.



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a Happy and Prosperous New Year.*

●**Heavy snow** — Meteorologists will confirm that an area has received a heavy snowfall whenever accumulations reach 6 inches or more in a 12-hour period.

●**Freezing Rain** — Forecasters define freezing rain as rain that freezes upon contact with an object. Even a little freezing rain can be dangerous, Loffredo said, especially for motorists, because roads can quickly become hazardous.

●**Snow squalls** — Squalls are fairly unique to New York state because of the Great Lakes, Loffredo said. They occur when cold air passes over the comparatively warmer lake water. Moisture from the lakes rises and is absorbed by the cold air. This causes the air to warm up. As this newly warmed air comes in contact with more cold air, additional moisture builds up and the result is large amounts of snow in a relatively short period. Some areas in the state can get up to 15 or 20 inches of snow within two or three hours, Loffredo said. Squalls are localized, so the National Weather Service usually will not issue storm warnings for squall areas.



Left to Right: Steve Finamore, Wykagyl C.C., MGCSA President Mike Maffei; and Ted Horton, Westchester C.C. The MGCSA presented Finamore and Horton with plaques in recognition of outstanding effort in tournament preparation.

## Palmer Wins Prestigious New Golf Award

Arnold Palmer has been named the first recipient of the "Old Tom" Morris Award, established recently by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to satisfy the need for a significant international award that would help identify with the true heritage and traditional founding of the game.

"Old Tom" Morris, one of golf's first greats, was a greenkeeper, golf professional, club and ball maker, golf course architect and accomplished player who won four British Open Championships between 1861 and 1867.

While at the Royal and Ancient, St. Andrews, Scotland, "Old Tom" acquired worldwide fame, boosting the popularity of golf through his role as the first superstar of golf — as detailed in the November 1982 issue of *Golf Course Management* magazine, GCSAA's official monthly publication.

Selection of Palmer as the first recipient of such a significant award was an easy task, according to GCSAA President, James A. Wyllie. "Besides being a superstar like 'Old Tom,' Palmer has displayed a continuing, selfless commitment to golf and furthered the welfare of the game in a manner exemplified by 'Old Tom' Morris," Wyllie said last week.

Palmer, himself the son of a greenkeeper, has made clubs and balls and designed golf courses in the course of a career studded with more than 70 tournament victories. His contributions to the popularity and welfare of the game are, according to Wyllie, "immeasurable."

Palmer is slated to accept the award at GCSAA's 54th International Turfgrass Conference and Show in Atlanta, GA, on February 24, 1983.

GCSAA, the sponsor of this premier international event in turfgrass management, is a professional association 5,500 strong representing golf course superintendents in the United States, Canada and 25 foreign countries.



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Thank you very much.

Tim Horton



*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 snowy 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.*

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Officers and Directors of MGCSA wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Prosperous New Year.



*His Touch!  
(At Christmas Time)*

Do you feel Him?  
Then fear not;  
Reach out!  
And touch His Hand,  
And walk in Thy path;  
Search for the beauty of truth —  
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The glowing torch of life,  
Of a love —  
That's engraved —  
By His hand.

— Frank Paladino

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