



BEARD
COLLECTION



Tee to Green

June 1985

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WATER GETS FULL ATTENTION

Horton Named to Water Task Force

Ted Horton, Golf Course Superintendent at the Westchester CC was appointed to the 1985 Westchester County Drought Emergency Task Force – an unprecedented accolade for our profession.

Ted Horton's focus is not, however, on the honor bestowed – rather on the practical benefits that will accrue from the opportunity. When asked to comment on this challenge, Ted indicated that he felt “there was a need to educate the Task Force regarding Green Belt management. Once this was done, equitable guidelines for the use of water would likely result.”

Members of the Task Force include: Harold Vogt, Chairman – *County Chamber of Commerce*; Louis Ackerman – *Plumbers Local*; William Borghard – *Environmental Facilities*; Anita Curran – *Health Department*; Russ Davies – *Refined Sugars*; Peter Eschweiler – *Planning Department*; John Hand – *Legislator*; Ted Horton; George Mekenian – *NYC Water Supply*; Ted Meserole – *IBM*; Constantine Papakrasas – *Con Ed*; Ross Pepe – *Construction Counsel*; Michael Ritchie – *Village of Port Chester*; Michael Steralacci – *Water Works Conference*; Stephen Tenore – *Legislator*; Anthony Veteran – *Supervisor of Greenberg*; Ray Windas – *General Motors*.

The Task Force meets every other Tuesday, with its next two meetings scheduled for June 11th and 25th. Ted Horton and Bob Martin presented recommended guidelines for water use in golf to Chairman Vogt on May 29th. ■

Take Advantage of the Drought

Mother Nature is playing games with us again. After two years of 40-plus inches of rain before June 1st, she is subjecting us to one of the driest spells since records have been kept.

Within every dark tunnel, a light shines at the other end – if we look for it. What benefits can be gained from this drought emergency?

- The opportunity to upgrade the irrigation system. Without question, a well designed, properly installed and efficiently managed irrigation system will conserve water. Put your system in the best possible operating condition.
- The opportunity to show golfers that turfgrass need not be green, lush and wet to play well.
- The opportunity to get rid of *Poa Annua* gracefully without committing to a harsh program. Order bentgrass seed early.
- The opportunity to suggest that some of your club's more influential members get involved with the political process within your community so as to be able to insure that golf courses are not treated unfairly when it comes to water access guidelines.

Experience has shown that it takes more than good intentions and hard work by the Superintendent to win the water battle on the ground and in the political arena. Keep your club and its golfers well informed about what is going on. ■

– Jim Snow, USGA Green Section

Fact Finding Meeting Generates Needed Information

The Westchester County Drought Emergency Task Force requested that vital information and guidelines be solicited from the local Green Belt industries to help guide its deliberations during the coming summer months when water restrictions are expected to be severe.

Task Force Member Ted Horton and the Cooperative Extension's Bob Martin called a meeting for this purpose on Tuesday, May 21 at the Cooperative Extension Office. The following industry representatives attended this meeting: Kay Winkler – *SE New York Nurserymen's Association*; Dan Antonecchia – *Institutional Grounds*; Frank Claps – *NY Turf and Landscape Association*; Lawrence Labriola – *Corporate Grounds Maintenance*; John Moran – *Tree Care*; Alviro Maiorano – *Westchester Gardener's and Nurserymen's Association*; Peter Rappoccio – *Met GCSA*; Mark Sosnowitz – *Irrigation Industry*; John Wistrand – *Marketing & Sales Industry*. The NYS Turfgrass Association was represented at the meeting by Board Member Ted Horton. In addition, several members of the Cooperative Extension Staff and the Met GCSA were in attendance.

The reason for calling the meeting was very clearly stated by Ted Horton at the beginning – to gather the necessary statistics and suggested guidelines that can be passed on to the Task Force to best insure that Green Belt industries are not asked to carry unfair burdens during the coming

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P.O. BOX 196
Thornwood, NY 10594

President's Message

Closing the Educational Gap

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For three days late in April, the first of what is planned to become an ongoing educational series was offered by the Association to its membership. Twenty-five Golf Course Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents gathered at the Apawamis Club in Rye, NY for the inaugural Met GCSA Career Counseling Seminar Program. All told, Executive Director Jim McLoughlin presented nine hours of lectures on topics designed to complement the Superintendent's formal university training and ranging from computer applications within golf and turf management to establishing priorities for shaping our futures.

The critical observation was offered that while our profession is very fortunate to have one of the best country-wide educational systems available to it, one in which we can all be justifiably proud – it does not cover all the bases that today's competitive society requires. As strong as our preparation is in the turf management field, significant voids exist within our overall education curriculum which limit our career and personal growth opportunities.

For example, if *marketing* can be defined as doing that which will create the environment within which a *sale* can take place, then we Superintendents must learn to do those many things which will produce an atmosphere where we work that will allow our "sale" (recognition and an understanding of what we do) to happen comfortably. Too often, we expect to sell ourselves only with job results that, unfortunately, are taken for granted and often not understood. The central theme of the Apawamis Seminar Series was to list and demonstrate what needs be done to produce the conditions where the Golf Course Superintendent will be recognized, grow and mature.

Those who attended the Seminar agreed that this was time well spent and that we came away from the talks with a new and different outlook as to what the world of the Golf Course Superintendent should be now and can be in the future. It is not possible to review the three-day Apawamis agenda. However, two situations were of particular importance to me – dealing with limited vertical job opportunity within our industry and communications. I am sure each attendee will have his own priorities when it comes to noting topics of importance.

The point was made that each industry balances its advantages and disadvantages. Every industry is consistent in this regard. In the golf club and turf management fields, we are presented with excessive horizontal job security in lieu of vertical job opportunity. We must recognize the problem, learn to deal with it – and not stagnate in place. The Golf Course Superintendent is also given a great deal of job responsibility early in his career. This is a doubled-edged sword that brings us closer to the vertical job barrier earlier than most other professional groups. Opportunity abounds in our profession and we are given more freedom to operate than most salaried people. We are always being judged, however, on how we handle the responsibility of freedom – often without knowing it.

Every Golf Course Superintendent has a need to communicate well – whether this be verbal or in writing. Our notes, letters, reports, newsletter articles, budget presentations and resumes are judged every day by one of the most sophisticated audiences in the business world – the men and women who play golf in the Metropolitan New York area. We have always known that the choice of words and data put on a page were important. We now also know that where and how we put this information on paper might be as important, because this dictates whether what we write will be read and respected.

Solid writing contributes to the marketing atmosphere mentioned earlier that will help "sell" our profession. Writing deficiencies are, generally, not a result of an ability gap, rather an experience gap. It takes practice and time. We should commit to at least one major *supervised* writing project every winter. Once we become

(continued on page 5)

Right to reprint must
be requested of the Editor.

Chapter Announces Photo Contest



A good contest shot? Maybe!



A good file shot. Need better for contest.

The Met GCSA Scholarship & Research Committee has announced that it will sponsor what is expected to become an Annual Photograph Contest for the Association's full membership.

Committee Chairman Mel Lucas, Jr. advises that the goals of the innovative contest are: one – to refocus the Golf Course Superintendent's attention on the benefits that can be derived from the regular use of cameras on the golf course; two – to use the results of good camera work to demonstrate the role and solid contribution that Golf Course Superintendents make to the game of golf; three – to allow the golf club community to share in the "Magical World of the Golf Course Superintendent;" and four – to generate the color pictures (when converted from slides) that can be used within any number of publications, calendar books or possibly an Art Show – to raise money for the Met GCSA Scholarship and Research Fund.

The contest is open to all Met GCSA members – who are invited to forward an unlimited number of the best 35 mm color slides they have taken recently or in the past to Met GCSA Photo Contest, P.O. Box 196, Thornwood, NY 10594 – all with proper identification. Slides submitted will not be returned to members, but will become the property of the Met

GCSA.

The Committee intends that a wide variety of subjects be submitted for Contest purposes – primarily focusing on the Golf Course Superintendent and his work, but also on the game of golf, how it is played, its marvelous golf courses, the design of the buildings on club grounds and the people within the industry. *Original* shots taken for the sole purpose of the Contest are encouraged.

The Contest will close on November 15th for this year – making sure there will be every opportunity to capture the rapture of Fall colors within golf's landscape. A panel of judges will select the 100 Best Photographs submitted this year and will list the Member photographer for each in the January-February issue of *Tee To Green*. The Best 25 pictures from this lot will be chosen for publication purposes. The three (3) Best pictures submitted will receive worthy and special recognition. The names of the Judging Panel will be announced in the next issue of *Tee To Green*.

Met GCSA President Peter Rappoccio when asked to comment on the Contest said, "An exciting idea – giving our members every chance to show what they do and what we are all about. I hope everyone will participate." ■

Coming Events

June

6	Met GCSA Invitational Tournament	Stanwich C
5-9	Westchester Classic	Westchester CC
18	CAGCS Meeting (see notice on page 7)	Sterling Farms GC
25	Met GCSA Board Meeting	Whippoorwill C
26	Massachusetts Field Day	South Deerfield

July

11	Met GCSA Championship – 1st Round	Tamarack CC
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August

19	Met GCSA Family Picnic	Woodway CC
27-9/1	US Amateur Championship	Montclair GC

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Met GCSA Blazer and Accessories Available

Met GCSA Members may, for the first time, purchase and wear their own Association Navy Blue Blazer with pocket emblem. The jacket may be purchased exclusively at *Wallach's* in White Plains for the price of \$139.00 – which includes emblem and alterations, but not local taxes. Direct inquiries at *Wallach's* to John English at 914-946-7600, except on Tuesdays.

The Association also has made the following accessory items available to its membership, each with the Met GCSA logo appropriately attached: a soft Orlon Pull-over Sweater @ \$24.00, a Cardigan Sweater @ \$25.00, a Golf Shirt @ \$18.00, a Garment Bag @ \$15.00 and a Wind Breaker @ \$25.00. Wear items are available in small, medium, large and extra-large sizes – in white and some other colors.

Questions and orders for the above accessory items should be directed to Chairman Bill Gaydosh at the Edgewood CC, Riverdale Road, Riverdale, NJ 07675; telephone number is 201-666-1204. ■

Social Calendar

The Social and Welfare Committee is pleased to announce that the major Met GCSA social events have been set for the year. Open your calendar books and note the following:

- The *Annual Picnic* will take place on Monday, August 19th at the delightful Woodway CC Beach Club. The theme of the Picnic Party will be expanded to make it even more enjoyable for both children and adults.
- The *Annual Christmas Party* has been scheduled for Saturday Night, December 7th at the Fenway GC in White Plains. The evening agenda will be modified to add to everyone's enjoyment at a comfortable price.

Because of the popularity of the Picnic Party, plans for the Summer Social Reception and Dance have been cancelled.

The John O'Keefe's graciously welcomed their second daughter, Maureen Frances, on April 26th. ■

– W. Gaydosh & H. Nichol

1985 Invitational attracted 38 foursomes.

Family Survey Results

Returns (37) from the recent Family Survey have been tabulated to guide Social and Welfare Committee planning.

These results indicate: wife's age in years – youngest is 23, average is 34.6, oldest is 60; average number of years a member has been a Superintendent is 11.9; a Met GCSA member is 8.2; and at present job is 5.6 years.

The wives of member Superintendents distribute their working intentions rather evenly with about a third working full-time, a third working part-time and a third not professionally employed. Eight families are without children, five families have one child, fifteen have two, six have three, two have four and one family has five children. Of the 65 children reported – 23 are girls and 42 are boys. The average age of members' daughters is 8.7 years, of members' sons is 12.7 years.

Thirty-three percent of those reporting attended both the Picnic and Christmas Party last year. Forty-two percent have never attended either of these functions. ■

– N. Horton

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Fact Finding (continued from page 1)

summer's expected drought emergency. It was agreed that separate industry guidelines would be submitted to Messrs. Horton and Martin by Friday, May 24th for conveyance to the Task Force on Tuesday, May 28th.

Conservation guidelines for golf courses were presented in the May issue of *Tee To Green* and need not be repeated here. Sample information that will be passed on to the Task Force from within the golf course management industry follows: there are approximately 50 public and private golf courses in Westchester County; averaging 140 acres of land; worth about \$40,000 an acre – which means the total value of the golf course land in Westchester County approaches \$280,000,000 – before considering improvements to the land.

Allowing that a golf course averages four acres of greens and two acres of tees, the areas normally allowed to be watered – the County totals about 200 acres of greens and 100 acres of tees. The total fairway acreage in the County approximates 1,200 acres. Environmentally, an average 150 acre golf course will pass 82,000 gallons of water into the ground from an average day's rainfall. Research

shows that of the 37 private golf courses reporting, 17 are totally self-sufficient with their own water, 12 depend totally on outside sources for water and 8 clubs get their water from combined sources. Mathematically, 57.6% of the water put on golf courses in the County comes from the clubs' own water supplies.

Golf courses employ an average of 12 men and women during the year for a total of 600 across the County. Golf clubs employ over 2,000 people within the County and pay in excess of \$25,000,000 in taxes each year.

Over 1,100,000 rounds of golf are played in Westchester annually. Golf courses spend some \$14,575,000 on maintenance through the course of the year. Overall, golf clubs spend over \$74,000,000 each year in Westchester County – for all purposes.

Similar statistics are being developed within each of Westchester County's Green Belt industries for Task Force use.

The New Jersey GCSA has recently been able to effect healthy change within applicable guidelines for golf courses to this extent: greens may be syringed daily from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. for 10 minutes each; and greens and tees may be watered

daily between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 12 midnight and 3:00 to 6:00 a.m. Congratulations to New Jersey for a job well done, but not finished – yet. Pending the establishment of permanent guidelines, clubs requesting variances from the Task Force might at least model these requests along the guidelines recently granted across the board in New Jersey.

The Met GCSA will continue to keep its members informed about this very important water crisis. Calls are invited by Ted Horton and Jim McLoughlin. ■

President (continued from page 2)

comfortable when communicating within our clubs, we will expand our horizons and begin to consider writing for larger audiences. This can be fun and a real challenge.

I have only begun to scratch the surface when it comes to the everyday practical things we need to know to do well on our jobs and in life. I thank Jim McLoughlin for opening this door for some of us. The door will stay open to all Met GCSA members who are encouraged to take advantage of this continuing opportunity. ■

– Peter R. Rappoccio
President



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(It is recommended that the Met GCSA Member reproduce this Commentary, as is or amended, within his or her Club's Newsletter.) ■

– Mark Millett, Old Oaks CC



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Bayleton	2 oz.	30 days	11.7	1.7
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Fungo 50 ¹	1 oz.	21 days	26.3	19.0
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Tournament News

The Tournament Committee and the Board of Directors recently confirmed existing policy that requires members and their guests to pay the \$8.00 entry fee for the monthly tournament – event though they may elect not to compete in the tournament for the day.

The reason for this is that the Association incurs expense when conducting a tournament for printing, mailing, gratuities to the host club, among other things – and every player on the course for the day has an obligation to fund his or her fair share of these expenses.

At a May 22nd meeting, the Tournament Committee voted to require proof of handicap for members to play in the July (Tamarack) – September (Ridgeway) Association 36-Hole Championship. All members are encouraged to subscribe to an Association Handicap Program through their club or the Chapter – now. All names that have been submitted to the Tournament Committee have been passed on to the MGA and these individuals can expect to have their official handicap by the time they receive this Newsletter. Call Jim McLoughlin with any questions you might have regarding what has to be done to get a handicap.

Plans for an attractive Green Committee Chairmen's Tournament at Winged Foot this October are solidifying nicely at this time. Look for a formal announcement on this subject very soon. The 1986 Tournament Schedule is nearly in place. We are pleased to announce that the opening Tournament has been scheduled on one of Long Island's finest courses – the Nassau CC. This will be a cooperative meeting with the Long Island GCSA.

Low Gross honors at the Wykagyl Tournament were won by Chuck Fatum and Paul Caswell, with Assistants Dave Pijnenberg and Charlie Siemers taking second place in the Match Play versus Par competition. Low Net awards went to Larry Urik and Dave Pease – Followed by the teams of Pakkala – Niven and Savone – Leary. ■

– L. Pakkala & T. O'Neill

Met GCSA members are invited to the CAGCS meeting at *Sterling Farms* on June 18th. For reservations call Greg Wojick: 203-322-5316.

Summary of Board Activity

The Met GCSA Board of Directors last met on Tuesday, May 14th at the Whip-poorwill Club from 5:10 p.m. through to 7:45 p.m. The following Association business was addressed:

- It was agreed that the Membership Committee would contact the few members who had not paid their 1985 dues to ask that they do so promptly.
- The Education Committee is completing arrangements to schedule a GCSAA Educational Seminar in this area this coming Fall.
- The 1985 *Met GCSA Membership Directory* is presently going through an extensive proofing process and will be mailed to the membership in June.
- The Board voted to accept the recommendation of the Social & Welfare Committee to schedule the Christmas Party only at a country club and not a public restaurant. (See page 4.)
- The Scholarship & Research Committee will be meeting for the first time shortly under Chairman Mel Lucas' direction to consider ways and means to raise money for the many worthy causes that merit consideration. (See page 3.)
- Awards Committee Chairman Chuck Martineau and Historian Mel Lucas advised that plans are well underway to provide a worthy keepsake memento for the annual recipient of the recently announced John Reid Award. The Committee is also considering where the Award should be presented to give it maximum visibility.
- Consideration continues for the establishing of a second Association Award next year that would be given annually to the Met GCSA Member who has advanced the professional image, status and reputation of the Golf Course Superintendent in an exemplary and consistent manner.
- The Board reviewed the state of development of plans to permanently honor the memory of Bill Caputi and was satisfied that Bill's Club, the profession and the Chapter were each respectfully sensitive to the need to do the right thing at the right time. Announcements will be made soon.

The Board will next meet on Tuesday, June 25th at Whip-poorwill. ■

– S. Niven, Secretary

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