

CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS



Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Devoted to sharing knowledge and experience for better turf

May, 1990

Volume 24, No. 1

**CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION
OF GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS**

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 The Connecticut Association of
 Golf Course Superintendents.

Newsletter Staff
 John F. Streeter, CGCS, Editor
 Michael Dukette, Technical Copy

The object of this Association is to encourage increased knowledge of golf course management and greater professionalism through education, research, exchange of practical experience, and the well-being of each individual member.

Next CAGCS Monthly Meeting

May 14, 1990
 Race Brook Country Club
 Orange, CT

Host Superintendent
 John M. Gallagher, III

**Around The
Board Table**

"News Flash" ... This newsletter is coming to you by way of CAGCS's newest addition to its inventory - a new Macintosh SE 20 computer with laser printer. This new computer replaces the original Macintosh which was bought back around eight years ago to help produce the Association's Newsletter. Since then, the computer has become the hub of all CAGCS communications and membership record keeping.

This is not the first communication to come from our new Mac. In the past few months, we have set up and compiled information for a complete new membership file, and the Green Book was produced as a result of this. All of the recent meeting notices have been produced in-house by our new Mac. The newsletter costs have been reduced due to the ability to set up in-house. The over-all operation of CAGCS has become more effective, so that we are able to deliver important communications in a timely manner. In simple terms, the addition of this new equipment has virtually eliminated the middle-man work (printer) in most of our Association business. As a result, it has enabled our Association to become a more self-sufficient and organized business.

Committee Activities

President Tom Watroba informed us that GCSAA has set forth Seminar Policies concerning guaranteed attendance at a regional seminar. For instance, if CAGCS registers 20 people or less for a two-day seminar, it will cost us \$1,650. If we register between 30 and 50, we break even. If we register 50, our Chapter earns \$825; 60 or more registrants, our Chapter earns \$1,650. And, on that note, Tom informed us that CAGCS has secured a GCSAA Seminar for 1991. The subject will be "*Disease Identification*" with Dr. Houston Couch which will be held on January 14 and 15, 1991. Make a note of it now. This is one of the most successful, well-attended seminars that GCSAA has to offer.

Peter Pierson has been very busy with his PPUC duties. Some highlights from the recent Board Meetings include the possibility of golf courses losing their tax exempt status on fertilizers and pesticides. Concerning posting laws, Peter informed us that because of all of the political confusion in Connecticut, there most likely will not be any posting law regulations for 1990. Don Kiley, Executive Director of PPUC, has sent a communication to Senator Lieberman concerning PPUC's disconcert with his political bashing of pesticides.

Fred Bachand, Chairman of Public Relations Committee, has sent news releases to local newspapers and radio stations reporting CAGCS events. It was reported that the Hartford Courant and a local radio station carried the news release of our Award to Harry Meusel as Superintendent of the Year.

Dave Stimson has secured sites for all of our 1990 monthly meetings with the exception of September. We are also looking into the possibility of changing our annual invitational tournament to September because of the non-availability of golf courses in June.

The in's and out's of deep aerification

It is easy to write about something you're excited about. The new management tool of Deep Aerification is having a tremendously positive impact on virtually all turf management programs.

By Patrick Lucas, CGCS

SOME BACKGROUND

Before describing the various Deep Aerification processes, let us review some history to determine how today's need for Deep Aerification developed.

The basis for many present-day turf-grass problems, such as poor drainage, compaction, and poor infiltration and percolation, were created during original construction. Few courses had the benefits of modern U.S.G.A. Green Section construction methods. On many older courses, greens were constructed from whatever local soil material was available on site. These materials were then mounded and graded to form a green. In addition to the problems created by using poorly textured soils, little or no drainage was installed; and in many instances, the soil material was severely compacted by equipment during construction.

In addition to problems caused by primitive construction, some thirty years ago the "core" type aerators were replaced by the "punch" type aerators. Recent research done at Michigan State and Cornell Universities shows that prolonged use of the punch type aerators actually creates a compaction zone just below the reach of the tines. The tapered shaped tines move only straight into the soil and straight out again. As

a result, by virtue of their wedge type shape, they compact the soil on the sides as well as the bottom of the aeration holes. A hardpan barrier some 3" to 6" below the surface of the green develops.

As if the problems caused by poor construction and punch type aeration are not enough, further stress is created by

increased. Soil on the surface easily smears with traffic under saturation and tends to seal the surface. This action also tends to break down the tenuous "bonding" of the individual soil particles which form desirable soil aggregates. All this reduces the amount of oxygen allowed to enter the soil for required root respiration. Carbon dioxide

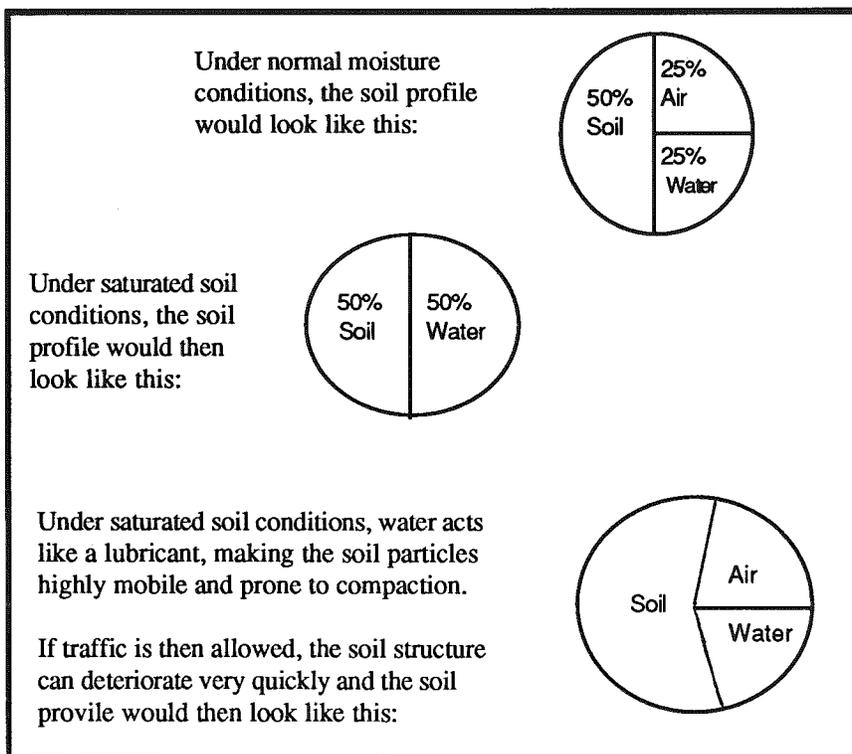
given off by the roots during respiration then becomes trapped in the soil and roots are killed by carbon dioxide toxicity.

I believe there needs to be more of a conscious awareness on the part of the players regarding agronomic issues that severely impact their courses.

Due to factors such as poor construction, hardpan barriers, and heavy use, soil related difficulties are an all too common experience. Problems such as compaction, puddling, reduced infiltration, black layer, decreased percolation and shallow rooting are becoming the norm.

And ... Superintendents are expected to grow turf under these marginal conditions. In growing turf under a marginal situation, a season of weather extremes can spell disaster. It has been our experience that introducing Deep Aerification into a routine maintenance program increases the margin of safety, particularly during periods of high stress. We do recommend, however, that the depth of each treatment be varied in order to avoid establishing

(continued next page)



intensive use. Most greens are not designed for the extensive management they receive today; certainly not built to support the tremendous number of rounds of golf they receive.

The current player frenzy to use the course regardless of weather conditions exacerbates soil related problems. For example, let's review what actually takes place in the soil when a wet green is subjected to traffic from play.

We see the desirable pore space of the soil reduced, and the bulk density

(In's and Out's of Deep Aerification ... con't. from page 2)

another hardpan barrier deeper in the soil.

Since 1988, we have worked with two types of Deep Aerification equipment; the Verti-Drain and the Deep Drill. Each machine is unique, with its own specific mode of action.

VERTI-DRAIN

The Verti-Drain is produced in Holland and has been on the market in the United States for about five years. Presently, there are four models to choose from. Each mounts on the rear of a specialty tractor. We use the model 105.145 Verti-Drain because it is small and compact, lending itself well to golf course use.

This model Verti-Drain operates by driving twelve 3/4" tines into the soil to a depth of approximately 10" to 12". The tines then "tilt", lifting and fracturing compacted soil layers. This fracturing effect relieves compaction and greatly improves soil infiltration and percolation. An adequate description of the process is that it works like a pitchfork, only better.

Both hollow and solid tines are available for this model Verti-Drain. With regard to hole patterns, side-to-side spacing is fixed at 4". Forward spacing can be variable, ranging from 2" to 8", provided the proper type of tractor is used.

Some factors to think about when considering using the Verti-Drain are:

1. If sub-surface rocks are a problem, the Verti-Drain operation can temporarily disturb the putting surface. The tines can bend or break, and some rocks can be brought up to the surface.
2. Greens should be firm and dry for both maximum soil shattering and to avoid any "tracking" from the tractor. Our tractor is equipped with special balloon-type tires to distribute its weight evenly. Some surface moisture on the top few inches of the green will provide lubrication for tines penetrating down into the green, thus making for a cleaner job.
3. Deep Tine Aerification can damage your irrigation system if improperly marked. Clearly mark with surface spray paint either the location of buried lines, or the boundaries where the Verti-Drain should stop treatments.
4. Be prepared to topdress heavily two or three times in order to fill the holes. A light feeding one week before treatment will aid in healing time.
5. Lastly, once approval for treatment is obtained, communicate the process to the general membership. Most members are willing to put up with some inconvenience if they are informed as to the positive long-term results from treatment.

DEEP DRILL

The Deep Drill also produces similar benefits but uses a different mode of action. It has been on the market for about five years and is produced in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

The Deep Drill is a self-contained unit. It has a drill box measuring 25" by 60" that contains 60 drill bits. As the drill head is hydraulically lowered, the drill bits bore through the soil surface and penetrate to a depth of up to 10". As a result of this boring and loosening action, compaction is relieved and percolation and infiltration increased. Drilling depth is adjustable from 0" to

(continued on page 8)



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Harry Meusel

1989 Superintendent of the Year

Harry Meusel, Golf Course Superintendent at Yale Golf Club for the past 40 years, was presented with our 1989 Superintendent of the Year Award at the Annual Winter Seminar of CAGCS held at the Holiday Inn, Plainville, CT, on January 19, 1990.

The Award, whose recipient is determined by a mail in vote from all voting members, is given annually to a CAGCS member who has shown exemplary skills in maintaining a golf facility, minimum five years as a Class A member, and one who has devoted his or her time and effort to help benefit local Superintendents and local Associations.

Harry served as President of our Association in 1960-1961, and has also served on the Board as Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. He has been a member of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America for 42 years, and he has been a guest speaker at the National Convention on four occasions. He has also lectured throughout the State of Connecticut, including Yale, on Japanese Gardens, and has been a guest speaker at the University of Massachusetts Turf Conference.

Yale Golf Club is regarded as one of the most classic layouts in the northeast. With Harry at the helm, Yale has

been ranked in the top 100 courses in the country and has had its share of both local and national tournaments. Most recently, Yale has hosted the U.S.G.A. National Junior Tourney, and has been selected as the site for The New Haven Open, a stop on the newly formed Ben Hogan Tour.

While Harry is a member of the National Audubon Society and German American Singing Society, he likes to spend his spare time collecting and repairing cuckoo clocks.

Congratulations, Harry!

"We noticed that the ROOTS-treated turf was reduced in seedhead development of *Poa Annua*. This is most interesting since major efforts have been made to eliminate the seedheads of *Poa Annua* on putting green turf with many chemicals, some of which are phytotoxic. We keep finding new advantages of using ROOTS™ in turfgrass management programs."

R.E. Schmidt
Professor CSES
Turf Ecology & Research
Virginia Polytechnic Inst

"Due to concerns among local conservation groups, we had to find ways to maintain a quality course with limited nitrogen and pesticides. One product that really helped was ROOTS™. The use of ROOTS increased root growth to about a 14 inch depth. With a healthier root system, there was better drought tolerance, less disease infestation, and the ability to heal quickly. When applied with iron, ROOTS has reduced our overall nitrogen requirements, and it does not pose a threat to the environment."

Melvin B. Lucas, Jr.
Round Hill Associates
Past President GCSAA

"A field test was performed on South German Bentgrass at the Yale University Golf Course in New Haven, to evaluate the effects of ROOTS™, a new root growth biostimulant developed by Soilizer corporation and scientists working at the Yale School of Forestry. Bentgrass treated with ROOTS™ showed 56% more root dry weight than the untreated control samples. All treated samples showed more root depth and development than untreated samples."

R. Russo
Yale University
School of Forestry

For information on the use of ROOTS on golf courses, call Wayne Williams
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Grass Catcher

Survey Results Mailed

The maintenance budget survey results are now in the hands of those brave souls who made the effort to complete the requested information.

Although the survey was quite extensive, we had over 60% of the eligible members reply. This is a good indication that all of the efforts of the committee were well received.

Hats off to Steve Rackliffe, Greg and Pandora Wojick, Scott Ramsay and Dave Stimson for a job well done.

We plan to do this type of a survey at least every two years. The information compiled will be used as a tool for fellow superintendents to share and educate themselves by way of learning more about our colleagues.

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CONNECTICUT TEAM WINS LAMPHIER TROPHY IN ORLANDO

The weather was hot for GCSAA's Annual Golf Tournament, and so was the Connecticut team of Mike Wallace, Ray Beaudry, Ted Maddocks, and Mike Reeb as they captured the low net prize in the Chapter Team competition. The Frank Lamphier Trophy is annually awarded to the winner of the low net team in the

Chapter competition. Twenty CAGCS members journeyed to Orlando to take part in the annual golf tournament.

Also in the Chapter Team Competition, Connecticut's #4 Net Team comprised of Ed Lamphier, Mike Miner, Dave Stimson, and Greg Wojick placed fourth in the net division.

Other notable results... On Saturday, in the best-ball competition, Peter Pierson and his partner, Gary Bennett, from South Carolina won the gross prize. Also in the best-ball competition, Connecticut had three winners in the net division with Tom Watroba and his partner, Ken Braun from Maryland, taking top honors. Close on their heels were John Callahan and his partner (whose name escapes my memory at this time) and John Streeter and his partner, Mike Iacono from Rhode Island, tying for second place.

In the tournament proper, we had Frank Lamphier placed fourth net in the Senior One Division. Mike Wallace was the gross winner in the fifth flight. Bob Alonzi finished with a fifth place net prize in the third flight, with Peter Lewis the gross runner up in the third flight.

The 1990 GCSAA Golf Championship was won by Roger Null from Norwood Hills Country Club in St. Louis, Missouri.

Congratulations to all!!!

See you next year in Scottsdale, Arizona, when the 1991 GCSAA Golf Championship will be held on February 4 and 5th.

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RE-ROUTINGS

It has been a busy year for the job market in Connecticut. The following CAGCS members have moved on to greener pastures. *Roger Barratt*, formerly the superintendent at Glastonbury Hills, is now with the Chas. C. Hart Seed Company; *Bruce Cadenelli*, formerly the superintendent at the Hollywood Golf Club, has now moved to take on similar duties in Baltimore, Maryland; *Larry Cunningham*, formerly the assistant at the Country Club of New Canaan is now the new superintendent at Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge, Mass.; *John Lynch*, formerly the superintendent at Woodbridge Country Club, is now superintendent of Beavertdale Memorial Park in New Haven, CT; *Scott Ramsay*, formerly the superintendent at Pauti-paug Golf Club is now the new superintendent at Cliffside Country Club, Simsbury, CT; and *John Streeter*, formerly the superintendent at Cliffside Country Club, is now the new superintendent at Woodbridge Country Club, Woodbridge, CT.; *Bob Tosh*, formerly the superintendent at Manchester Country Club of Manchester, NH, is now the new superintendent at the Hollywood Golf Club in Deal, New Jersey; *Herbert Watson*, formerly the superintendent at Indian Hill is now the new superintendent at the Hartford Golf Club.

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CAGCS WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS

Congratulations to **Dave Pijnenburg**, superintendent at the Redding Golf Club, Redding, CT, and **John Deering** of John Deering Company, Bethel, CT.



NEWS FROM GCSAA HEADQUARTERS

GOLF COURSE SHOW RECORDS SHATTERED

More than 17,400 members of the golf community attended the 1990 International Golf Course Conference and Trade Show hosted by GCSAA. Held February 19 - 26 at the Orange County Convention/Civic Center in Orlando, Florida, the conference and show broke all existing Association records. The 17,400-plus attendance figure represented a 20% increase over the previous record of 14,534 made last year in Anaheim.

A record 552 exhibits showcased their products and services during the three-day trade show -- almost 100 more than exhibited at the 1989 Anaheim show. The exhibition covered nearly 170,000 square feet, up from 143,000 in 1989.

Record Number of Foreign Visitors Attend Conference

The worldwide nature of the golf boom was evident as international attendance was up as well with nearly 1,600 international guests representing some 44 countries outside the United States took part in the event. This year's attendance reflects an almost 55% increase in visitors from outside the U.S.

Highlighting the conference and seminar portion of the week were 38 continuing education seminars, a state government relations forum, a meeting of allied associations and an international roundtable. More than 2,200 members participated in seminars and symposia on environmental and water resource management, budgeting and financial management, safety and risk management, golf course design and more.

Dr. Ken Blanchard, author of *The One Minute Manager*, delivered the keynote speech at the opening session. A mul-

ti-projector slide presentation "The Challenge of the 90's" which outlined the key environmental challenges facing superintendents in the next decade, rounded out the opening session.

At the Association's Annual Meeting, Gerlad L. Faubel, CGCS, Saginaw, Michigan, was elected President.

Faubel succeeds Dennis D. Lyon, CGCS, Aurora, Colorado, who as Immediate Past President will continue to serve for a year as Director.

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, Jackson, New Jersey, was elected Vice President. Re-elected as a Director and appointed Secretary/Treasurer was William R. Roberts, CGCS, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan.

Also re-elected as Directors were Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS, Lyndhurst, Ohio, and Randall P. Zidik, CGCS, McMurry, Pennsylvania.

Charles T. Passios, CGCS, Hyannisport, Massachusetts, was appointed to the Board to fill Cadenelli's vacated Director's position.

Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, Overland Park, Kansas, and Randy Nichols, CGCS, Dunwoody, Georgia, continue serving

terms as Directors. Officers serve one-year terms, and directors are elected to two-year terms.

At the gala closing banquet following the Annual Meeting, Sherwood A. Moore, CGCS, was presented with GCSAA's highest honor, the coveted Old Tom Morris Award. Moore is the first superintendent to be honored with the prestigious Morris award.



GCSAA ELECTS 1990-1991 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sitting (l-r): Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, Vice President; Gerald L. Faubel, CGCS, President; William R. Roberts, CGCS, Secretary/Treasurer.

Standing (l-r): Gary T. Grigg, CGCS; Randall P. Zidik, CGCS; Charles T. Passios, CGCS; Dennis D. Lyon, CGCS, Immediate Past President; Joseph G. Baidy, CGCS; Randy Nichols, CGCS.

New program insures fuel tanks on golf courses

Why should golf courses have to worry about insuring underground fuel storage tanks? "Because they are an uninsured liability ... and because it's the law," says Richard L. Shanks, President of Financial Guardian of Kansas City.

Financial Guardian worked in cooperation with the GCSAA to develop the only insurance program that specifically covers pollution resulting from underground and above ground fuel tanks on golf courses. Coverage under the new program actually exceeds the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's financial responsibility standards that require owners of tanks to prove that they can pay for the costs of a leak.

According to Tom Akins, GCSAA Government Relations Manager, the U. S. golf community had "few, if any

options that would help courses meet the October, 1990 deadline for financial responsibility." The GCSAA-sponsored program "puts golf courses into compliance with the law and also fills a rel liability void," Akins says.

As required by federal law, the policy covers clean-up costs and third-party liability for each pollution incident up to \$500,000 and all incidents up to \$1 million annually. Furthermore, the policy also provides \$250,000 annually for legal defense costs arising from a pollution incident. "Because of the lower risks associated with these golf course tanks, we were able to build a lot of nice "extras" into the program and still make it very affordable for golf courses," Shanks says.

The GCSAA tank insurance is provided by Employers Reinsurance Corporation (rated A+ XII by A.M. Best),

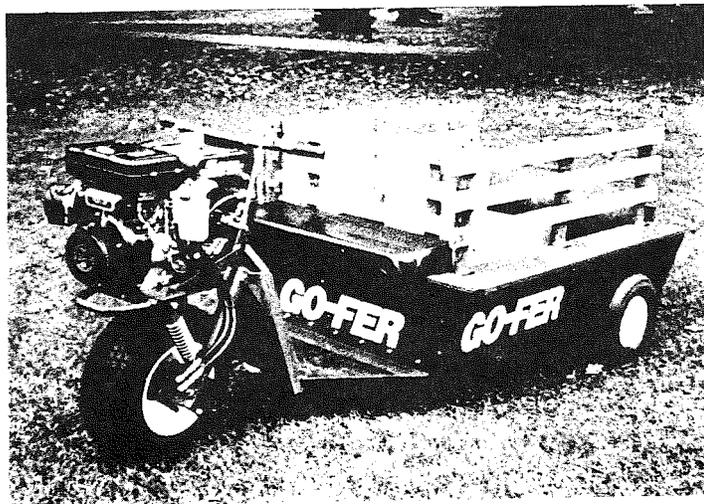
one of the nation's largest reinsurers. The program will mesh with any golf course's existing general liability coverage. To obtain details or an application, contact the Pollution Liability Department at Financial Guardian at (800) 727-0250.

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*(In's and Out's of Deep Aerification ...
con't. from page 3)*

10" and drill spacing is fixed on 5" centers. The Deep Drill can be equipped with 1/2", 5/8", or 3/4" drill bits.

Some factors to think about when considering using the Deep Drill are:

1. If sub-surface rocks in the greens are a problem, the Deep Drill will not cause surface damage as the Verti-Drain might because the depth of the drill head is controlled at all times by the operator. If the drill head hits a rock, the operator can stop the drilling and raise the drill head, then move ahead a few feet. This minimizes the possibility of damaging the putting surface.

2. The amount of soil moisture present is of little consequence due to the light weight of the machine.

3. The Deep Drill brings up minimal soil, thus clean-up is simple. The usual method is a sweeping up of the drilled soil followed by a light topdressing.

4. We have found that rolling the green with a hand greens mower prior to regular mowing levels any tufts of grass sticking up from drilling. Have the reel out of gear and place the transport wheels in the basket to provide some weight.

5. As with the Verti-Drain, clear marking of irrigation lines helps to avoid damage.

It is hoped that the foregoing will help you determine if the time is right for you to incorporate Deep Aerification into your maintenance program.

Note: Pat Lucas graduated from Stockbridge in 1964 and has been Superintendent of the Innis Arden Golf Club in Old Greenwich since 1977. He and his family own and operate a Deep Aerification business named Earth Works.

CAGCS News Continued

Scholarship Application Deadline - June 15th

Peter Pierson, Chairman of the S & R Committee, has announced that Scholarship Applications are now available. Requests for Applications must be made before May 15th, and the deadline for submitting the Applications is June 15. CAGCS Scholarships are open to immediate family of CAGCS members or employees of members, if field of endeavor is turf related. If interested, please contact Peter.

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Green Book & Membership Cards mailed

The 1990 CAGCS Membership Directory and Membership Cards have been mailed to only those who had paid their 1990 dues by March 1st and who had properly filled out and returned the requested information form. If anyone has not received a directory or membership card, please contact Membership Chairman, Frank Lamphier. Remember, only those who paid their dues by March 1st and returned the required form have made the green book listing.

You will find enclosed with this Newsletter, another form to be filled out and returned. The Membership Committee is very concerned about the information regarding each member which had to be reinserted into the new computer program. While every effort was made not to make any errors, it is impossible to assume that everything is correct. More importantly, please be sure that your membership class is correct and up to date, as this

information is necessary for special mailings, such as the Annual Invitation Tournament, voting privileges and eligibility for Superintendent of the Year, etc. The invitations for the Annual Invitation Tournament will be mailed out on or about June 1st, and is only open to Class A Members. If your membership class is not correct, you may miss out.

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Scores from Black Hall

A blind draw partner format was used for the monthly meeting tourney.

First Gross, 173 combined score
Mike Dukette & Tom Watroba

Second Gross, 180 combined score
Peter Pierson & Eric Johnson

Third Gross, 186 combined score
Greg Ellis & A. Berleutti

First Net, 148 combined net score
Peter Lewis & F. Noto

Second Net, 154 combined net score
Don Grant & Steve Rackliffe

Third Net, 158 combined net score
Bob Viera & T. Fletcher

Thanks to Winding Brook Turf, for the longest drive and closest to pin prizes

Phil Neaton, closest to pin
Heather Garvin, long drive

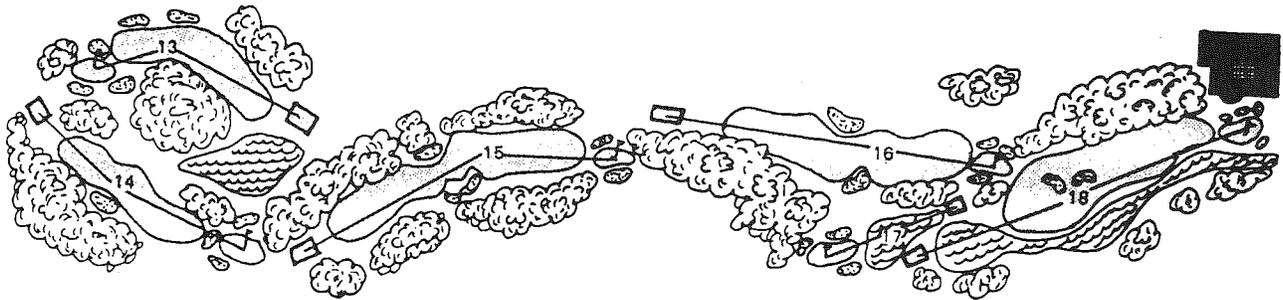


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The Clippings



Calendar

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST
May 14	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Race Brook Country Club Orange, CT	John M. Gallagher, III
June 5	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Blackledge Country Club Hebron, CT	Tom Gresh
June 25	Annual CAGCS Invitational Golf Tournament	Hop Meadow Country Club Simsbury, CT	Michael Wallace
July 10	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Tumble Brook Country Club Bloomfield, CT	David Stimson
October 3	S & R Tournament (Scramble)	Glastonbury Hills Country Club Glastonbury, CT	Douglas Webber
October 17	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Heritage Village Country Club Southbury, CT	Peter Burnham
November 5	CAGCS Annual Meeting	Old Lyme Country Club Old Lyme, CT	Brian Skelly

CAGCS Thanks the Following Patrons for Their Continued Support of our Association

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Metro Milorganite (914) 666-3171

Fairway Landscapers, Inc.

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South Glastonbury, CT 06073
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Glenmore Landscape Service

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Carl Wallace - Peter Moran
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(203) 348-8211 - Stamford

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Bob Reinhold
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Bedford Hills, NY 10507
Joe Stahl
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Nor-Am Chemical Company

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Kensington, CT 06037
David Sylvester
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O. M. Scott & Sons

Proturf Division
Marysville, OH 43041
Al Arison
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Old Fox Chemical, Inc.

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Pro-Lawn Products, Inc.

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The Reichert Company

Automotive Lubricant Distributor
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Frank Reichert
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Ro-Brand Products, Inc.

Automotive & Industrial Fasteners
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Somers Turf Supplies

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Devon, CT 06460
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Terre Co. of NJ

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Turf Products Corporation

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John Ferry, Mark Loper
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Turf Specialty, Inc.

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Dave Schermerhorn
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P. O. Box 198
Lincolndale, NY 10540
Bob Lippman
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Winding Brook Turf Farm, Inc.

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Wethersfield, CT 06109
Donald Grant
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