

CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS



Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Devoted to sharing knowledge and experience for better turf

November, 1992

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**CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION
OF GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS**

President John F. Streeter CGCS
Vice President Peter Pierson
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 Education Michael Wallace, CGCS
 Membership John Napieracz, CGCS
 PPUC Peter Pierson
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Connecticut Clippings
 is an official publication of
 The Connecticut Association of
 Golf Course Superintendents.

Newsletter
 John F. Streeter, CGCS, Editor

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.

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President's Annual Report

Steven L. Rackliffe, CGCS

This month marks the conclusion of my term as President of CAGCS. While preparing my annual report, I asked myself what I had learned about CAGCS and what I felt the main objectives of our organization were or should be. I believe the objectives of CAGCS or any other superintendents' organization should be to (1) support education, (2) promote professionalism, and (3) support its members and fellow superintendents in a time of need. During this past year, CAGCS met all of these objectives.

Education can be further broken down into three groups: educating the superintendent; education of the golfer and community; and scholarship and research.

This past year, Peter Lewis did a tremendous job as Chairman of the Education Committee. He provided us with informative speakers at our monthly meetings and did a fine job coordinating the January Seminar.

CAGCS played an intregal part in the planning and producing of the 1992 Connecticut Golf Summit. The educational program was composed of speakers who represented four allied associations - CAGCS, CSGA, PGA and the CMA. The program was a huge success and helped promote education and professionalism. Tom Watroba was the key individual who made this possible for CAGCS. His hard work proved fruitful for the reputation of the golf course superintendent which has achieved new heights within the Connecticut golfing community.

Another part of education is that of keeping abreast of all environmental laws that are passed within the state. Peter Pierson served as the CAGCS liaison to PPUC. Peter attended all PPUC Board of Governors meetings and kept the members of CAGCS well informed. Peter also had the thankless job of keeping track of golf scores, registrants and guests for all our monthly meetings.

The third part of education is scholarship and research. I am proud to say that CAGCS awarded over \$3,500 in research grants to UMass, URI and Rutgers over the past year, as well as \$3,850 in scholarship monies.

Dave Stimson and his committee should be congratulated in the fine job they did in reviewing scholarship and research grant requests. Dave's committee also did a super job in running this year's Scholarship & Research Tournament which raised over \$6,000.

Bob Chalifour played a large part in promoting professionalism of our organization. He did so by submitting articles and news regarding CAGCS to many of the leading trade journals. He also placed ads promoting CAGCS and the golf course superintendent on television.

I believe the way we, as professionals, are perceived by the

(continued from page 1.)

golf community will shape the future of our profession. Promoting professionalism is not just a Board of Governors responsibility, but also is the responsibility of each and every one of us as golf course superintendents.

This year, Brian Skelly and his committee did a wonderful job in organizing and running the CAGCS Annual Picnic and Christmas party. While it is important that members interact and celebrate together, it is also important to interact and grieve together.

Two of the hardest moments during my presidency were attending the funeral of John Halibozek and the wake of Bob Johnston. These sorrowful times showed me the unity and caring of our membership towards the families that have lost loved ones. When Bob passed away, he left two young children (Robert and Brian). The Association was so touched and supportive that it raised \$1,450 in raffle money and committed \$2,000 over the next four years to be put into the education fund for Bob's children. CAGCS has recently donated \$400 to help families of golf course employees in Florida. This is what CAGCS is about - learning, education, professionalism, and helping those in need.

To achieve these goals, we need to have a strong membership, a strong financial base, and good communication.

The membership numbers of CAGCS are stronger than ever. Membership has grown immensely over the past 10 years. Keeping track of the membership and membership classifications is no easy task. John Napieracz and his committee have done a fantastic job in revamping the membership application forms, updating membership files and keeping track of prospective members at monthly meetings.

Unlike many other industries, golf course superintendents are fortunate to share a close comradery with those who sell in the industry. A very large portion of CAGCS' membership is composed of commercial members. This

year, I was fortunate enough to have worked with Peter Hull. Peter served as the commercial representatives' liaison to the Board, as well as Chairman of the Superintendent of the Year Steering Committee which consisted of past recipients.

This is my 10th year as a member of CAGCS. During this time, the financial stability of CAGCS has grown immensely. Keeping track of each and every account takes hours. John Motycka has done remarkably in updating CAGCS and its financial records. His job is, in my mind, one of the most difficult and time consuming. The evidence of his hard work was put in your hands at the Annual Meeting, the easy-to-read and accurate financial statement of CAGCS.

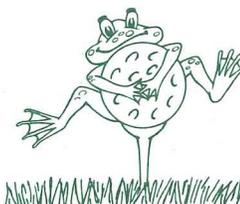
This year, the Board of Governors of CAGCS has mailed to its members very thorough minutes taken by Phil Neaton at each and every Board meeting. Our Vice President, John Streeter, has kept us abreast of all newsworthy information through the *Connecticut Clippings*. My hat goes off to John, who managed to edit the *Clippings* and chair the Long Range Planning Committee, that reviewed and presented the Bylaws change proposals.

I would also like to acknowledge Greg and Pandora Wojick for their help in making this year's Golf Course Operations Survey a success.

As President of CAGCS, I was fortunate to work with a dedicated Board of Governors. Each and every member worked hard on every committee they chaired, as did the members of their committees.

As my last duty, I would like to thank all of you who served on this Board and the committee members who served behind the scenes. I would also like to thank the membership of CAGCS for allowing me the honor and privilege of serving our Association. And last, but not least, I would like to recognize and thank Pauline Streeter, whose work and dedication all too often is taken for granted.

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CAGCS Annual Meeting

Highlights

The annual meeting of CAGCS was held on November 10th at the Rock Ridge Country Club. Officers and directors accounted for their duties throughout the past year with the reading of their annual reports.

Bylaws changes were voted on and approved with the exception of Article II, Section 2, Annual Dues. The proposed change to the bylaw read "all dues received after February 1st will be assessed a late charge." After motions and discussions, it was voted on and approved to amend this change with: "All dues received after February 1st will be assessed a 10% per month late charge".

Immediate Past President, Thomas Watroba, handled the duties of election of officers and directors. Voted in as officers were:

President - John F. Streeter, CGCS
Vice President - Peter Pierson
Secretary - Philip Neaton
Treasurer - John Motycka

After a very close election, Brian Skelly and Michael Wallace, CGCS, were voted in to serve on the Board for two-year terms.

Tom Watroba and Peter Lewis both have ended their terms on the Board and on behalf of the Association, we would like to thank them for their work and dedication while serving CAGCS.

After a fine lunch provided by host manager Don Samatulski, we had 63 golfers that ventured out into the bright, brisk day for a 9-hole scramble.

Host superintendent, Bob Welch, is to be congratulated for the fine conditions provided on this neatly-arranged layout.

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Around the Association

On December 19th, CAGCS will hold its annual Christmas party at the Old Lyme Country Club. Host, Brian Skelly, is arranging for a spirited night! Along with a vast entree of food, we will be enjoying our favorite tunes provided by a local D.J.

Please watch your mail for the party invitation and we hope you all can make an effort to attend and celebrate the holiday with your friends.

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Winter Seminar

The time is coming for CAGCS' Annual Winter Seminar. Peter Lewis, this year's Educational Chairman, has a full-rounded slate of education scheduled for January 5, 1993 at the Ramada Inn in Meriden, Connecticut.

We will have the opportunity to hear Dr. Pat Vittum, Dr. Steve Alm, and Dr. Michael Villani present their integrated insect research, pest controls, and nematode notes. We will also be hearing from Jim Connolly of the USGA Green Section and Wayne Wall who will speak on the role of bio stimulants.

Rounding out our seminar, will be Don Kiley, Executive Director of PPUC.

• • • • •

New Members

William Abetz, Jr. - B
Skungamaug River GC

Peter O'Meara - C
B & P Turf Farm

Bruce C. Budrow - C
Soil Resource Group

Timothy J. Pogue - C
Atlantic Irrigation

Dana K. Garvin - B
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William D. Raus - C
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Shawn A. Gill - B
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Mark Gostkowski - B
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Joseph Rustici - A
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Anthony Grosso - B
The Farms CC

John Weber - C
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Congratulations to Greg & Pandora Wojick on the birth of their baby girl, Kara, born September 24, 1992.

Connecticut team captures Met Team Championship,

A very sweet victory. . .

On October 5, 1992, the Met Area Team Championship was held at the Country Club of Farmington. Teams of superintendents from throughout the tri-state area and beyond competed in the annual event.

Accolades were a plenty for the conditions provided by host superintendent, Peter Lewis. The CC of Farmington and all its staff is to be congratulated for a most hospitable day. CAGCS has been competing in this event since its inception. Winning it on our home turf, after a nine year drought, was especially sweet.

Mike Dukette was the low gross individual winner with a hard fought 77. Mike's 77 was good enough for a four-way tie which resulted in a playoff victory on the 2nd hole over John Carlone, Met GCSA, Dave Kroll, Philadelphia GCSA, and Scott Wagner, Mid-Atlantic GCSA.

The CAGCS team consisted of four players on the gross team - Mike Dukette, Ward Weischet, Peter Pierson and Frank Savakis.

The net team was comprised of Frank Lamphier, Ed Lamphier, Paul Jamrog and Mike Ovian.
Congratulations to all participants!

Met Team Competition Results

First Place
Connecticut AGCS - 469

Second Place
MET GCSA - 482

Third Place
New Jersey GCSA - 488

Individual Low Gross
Mike Dukette - 77

S & R Tourney yields record attendance

On October 6, 1992 the Annual CAGCS S & R Tournament was held at the Golf Club of Avon. With over 148 participants, the largest field ever, the objective for the day to support our S & R Fund was easily achieved.

Thanks to the support from all of our members and our commercial members who purchase tee signs, our profit for the day was \$6,645.

One of the most important events which was staged for the day was the raffle fund raiser which was held to support our late colleague, Bob Johnston's childrens' educational fund. It was very rewarding to see the membership of CAGCS support both the tournament and the raffle that day.

In addition to the \$6,645 for S & R, we raised \$1,450 for the Robert Johnston Memorial Educational Fund.

A special thanks goes to the Golf Club of Avon for their generosity and hospitality. If not for the cost conscious effort that was made between Dave Stimson, Jim Medeiros, host superintendent, and his manager Don Malen, the profits that we realized for that day would not have been possible.

Also congratulations to Jim Medeiros and his staff for the fine conditions that they provided for the field. After many years of a steady diet of sound turf management practices, Jim Medeiros seems to be getting a hold on the ever difficult growing conditions found at the Avon Golf Club.

Gross Winners

1st Place - 60
Jim Staszowski, Peter Bacon
Peter Cure, Al Adaskaveg

2nd Place - 62
Ward Weischet, Brian Pope
Chuck Myers, Jud Smith

Net Winners

1st Net - 56.2
Al Arison, Alan Arison
Jim Morehouse, Ed Mallox

2nd Net - 56.4
Eric Cadenelli, Kevin Williams,
Mark Giannetta, Richard Sheldon

3rd Net - 56.8
Jim Medeiros, Dave Roule,
Matt Howland, Mat Medeiros

4th Net - 58.2
Mike Dukette, Greg Stent,
Dick Kaupin, Dave Basconi

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

by Frank E. Lamphier

How many Class A & B members there actually are in GCSAA?

Why, if something isn't broken, there is always someone who wants to fix it?

Where the "best" candidates for GCSAA office come from? Chances are at one time they were delegates learning the in's and out's of our Association.

Why it costs so much to attend a seminar?

Why it costs so much to become certified and how expensive it is to remain certified?

Why seminars that are already filled might not always be filled by our Class A and B members first?

Why, if through proper planning (at least one year ahead) everything has to be done yesterday and can't possibly wait for the next annual meeting where the membership can also cast their opinions and ideas, no matter how silly this may sound?

Why you, as a member, have a difficult time getting a straight answer to anything?

Why, if your opinion differs from that of the "powers that be" can't we have our opinions expressed in "our magazine" and not just selected depositions?

What is being done with the former headquarters building and what is it costing us annually to maintain?

What is the new expansion (approx. \$1.5 million) to our new headquarters building all about? Or, is this just a rumor?

Why the directors shy away from meeting with the delegates to perhaps pick our brains for the betterment of all?

Why everything is a deep, dark secret within the Board? Are they sworn to secrecy, blood oath, or what? We are paying the freight!

Why the Board seems to want the power of just setting the dues, with no input from the membership as a whole? What are they afraid of? Only once in my 30 years in the Associa-

tion has a dues increase been shot down and that was instituted a year later. Again, plan ahead and the membership will back you 100%, through individuals and delegates.

What is wrong with a 2/3 vote to amend bylaws? Let the directors sell their ideas to the membership, both individually and through the delegates, instead of mandating them.

What are we paying yearly for legal council? To defend us from what? Are we afraid of something or someone? If so, we want to know!!!

What are our key personnel being paid and how many do we really have on the staff? Are we being governed by the assistants' assistants?

Finally, it has often been stated, "The best government is the least government." What is wrong in this country today can usually be traced to too much government. Take away the voice of the people and you can count us along with the countries in Europe that have failed in the past two years. Are we about to let ourselves fall into this trap? I hope not.

We, as an Association have too much to offer in a positive manner. Let's not try to be everything to everyone.

The last time I looked, we were still the "GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA"!

The recent Bylaws changes by GCSAA and the continuing presence of a separation of Association officers and the rank in file members has spurred questions such as these from GCSAA members.

Frank Lamphier is the superintendent at Aspetuck Valley Country Club and has been for the last 20+ years. Frank is a past president of our Association and has also served many years as voting delegate to GCSAA.

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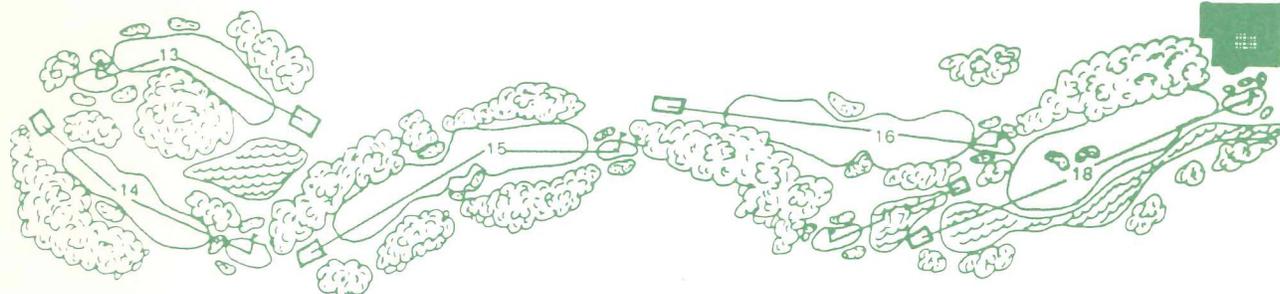
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The Clippings



Calendar

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST
Dec. 1, 2 & 3	N. J. Turfgrass Expo	Garden State Convention Center	N.J. Turfgrass Assoc.
December 19	CAGCS Christmas Party	Old Lyme Country Club Old Lyme, CT	CAGCS
January 5, 1993	Annual Winter Seminar	Ramada Inn Meriden, CT	CAGCS
January 23 & 24 1993	GCSAA Golf Championship	Golf Championship San Diego, CA	GCSAA
Jan. 25 - 30 1993	GCSAA Conference & Show	Anaheim Convention Center Anaheim, CA	GCSAA
March 16, 1993	Technical Training for Spray Technicians Seminar	Hartford Golf Club Hartford, CT	GCSAA
March 23, 1993	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	TBA	CAGCS

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