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THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



OCTOBER 1977

VOLUME 10 No. 4

President's Message

During the past two years it has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as President of this association. It has been a time of reward, frustration, excitement, depression, but most of all it has been a time for moving ahead. Personally, the position of President has made me a more complete person. I have been able to meet and get to know many of the fine people within this industry. It has given me the confidence to stand before an audience of my peers without feeling the shakiness below. For the association it has been a time of minor change but more importantly a time when new goals have been set and mechanics for achieving these goals have been set in motion.

I have been only a part of this overall plan. Without the dedication and hard work of the Vice-President, Bob Osterman, the entire Board of Directors, little could have been accomplished. The streamlining of association government, by-law revision, upgraded educational programs and the like are direct results of board meetings as well as the input from the general membership. These people deserve your thanks and your appreciation. It behooves you as a member of this association to learn the function of the board. It works for you and makes for a better association. Better yet, become involved. Volunteer for committee assignments and make the association work for you.

Elsewhere in the *Clippings* the report of the Nominating Committee is published. A fine slate of officers has been nominated to serve you next year. Bob Osterman, who has been nominated as President has dedicated himself to working for a better association. He has served as newsletter editor, Secretary-Treasurer and Vice-President. He has headed up the Organizational Study Committee and has served on national committees. Bob has worked hard and will provide this association with fine

Grass Catcher

Many thanks to Dave Roule and the members of Clinton Country Club for hosting the August meeting of CAGCS. Dave must be complimented for the excellent condition of the golf course. In spite of being out of water or nearly out for the previous month, Dave had the course looking and playing quite well. One surely did notice the lack of poa in the fairways and predominance of bluegrasses. Could there be a lesson here?

Although the scheduled speakers was unable to attend a good educational session did follow in the form of an open panel discussion by every one in attendance. This was the second time this season that such a discussion was held and again it proved quite interesting and helpful.

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GCSAA Landscape Seminar I Principles of Landscape for Clubhouse & Golf Course

November 2 & 3, 1977
Meriden, Connecticut
REGISTER NOW

leadership. Give him all of your support.

In closing I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your past support. It has been a pleasure.

Bob Tosh

The September meeting of CAGCS, a joint venture of the Rhode Island GCS, was a well-attended event and also the second round of the superintendents championship which again was won by Frank Lamphier. Although I was unable to play golf I did notice that the course looked to be in excellent condition and these observations were backed up by those who played. Bob Chalifour, as always a gracious host, had the day well organized. After golf everyone met at the Elks Club where dinner and the program followed. Dr. Tom Duff of the University of Rhode Island gave a very interesting talk on the possibility of developing an improved variety of poa annua. He stressed that such a venture was still in its infancy, that such work if carried out would be extremely slow and time-consuming. However, the possibility of such work being done is exciting and does offer at least, possible alternates to chemical control which will be more difficult as the years pass.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Don't forget to register for the Landscape Seminar to be held in Meriden at the Holiday Inn on November 2 and 3. This promises to be an interesting and helpful two days. More and more clubs are asking the superintendent to dress up the clubhouse area and indeed, even out on the course. This seminar will provide excellent information for designing and implementing your landscape plans.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Hasn't this been some year for weather! At this writing the rain continues to fall and has been doing so for nearly ten straight days. It has definitely hampered fall renovation projects as well as aerating and overseeding. Since the terrible colds and snow of last winter, the weather has been extremely inconsistent and difficult to work with. All of us in this profession have had our hands full on our courses. There should be much for discussion and questions at the conferences and seminars of the not too distant future.

Continued on page 2

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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Sec-Treasurer	David Stimson Tumble Brook C.C. Office 203-243-0150 Home 203-289-6979

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Ron Holcomb	Bob Viera
Ken Kelliher	Steve Cadenelli
Al Arison, <i>Associate Director</i>	
Frank Lamphier, <i>Immediate Past President</i>	

The object of this association is to promote research, education and an exchange of practical experiences in the field of turf grass culture so that the increased knowledge will lead to more economic and efficient management of golf courses and related turf areas.

The CONN. CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Inc.

Stephen G. Cadenelli, Editor
127 Country Club Road
New Canaan, CT 06840

New Officers and Directors Nominated

Bob Viera, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reports the nomination of the following people for positions on the Board of Directors:

President	Bob Osterman
Vice-President	Steve Cadenelli
Secretary-Treasurer	Dave Stimson
Director	Bob McCarthy
Director	Ken Kelliher
Director	Fred Bachand

Grass Catcher *Continued from page 1*

This has also been a season of innumerable pests and disease. The hyperodees weevil, although heaviest in Fairfield County, is on the move and has been found throughout the state. The New Haven area has had serious difficulty with the dung beetle. At any given time serious outbreaks of pythium, fusarium, and more common diseases could be found. Indeed, it has been that kind of year.

Steve Cadenelli

Organizational Study Committee Update

The purpose of the Organizational Study Committee has been to study the organizational aspects of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, its by-laws, and to make recommendations that will benefit all members of the association. With this in mind the Committee met bi-monthly for the last several months hashing over ideas, soliciting ideas from guests, and finally putting together two categories of information that would be offered to the membership.

Although the by-laws have just recently been revised, it became obvious that many shortcomings existed within. Therefore, a list of by-law provisions is being drawn up and will be sent to all Class A members. The revisions are in the areas of: object of the association, Class A membership, voting rights, requirements of membership, committee selection, election of directors, and associate and/or commercial membership. These areas within the by-laws proved to be most in need of revision. The Committee feels strongly that continued yearly review of the by-laws is necessary to assure that the by-laws are always kept current.

The second category formed relates to general recommendations made to the incoming Board of Directors for improving the association and its offerings to the members. A broad list of recommendations includes: formation of a speakers bureau to promote our profession, further study of the district concept of organization, reinstatement of educational meetings in January and February, reduction of the number of general business meetings and changing of the regular format for regular meetings, expansion and changes in social get-togethers, continuation of member surveys, changes in S & R guidelines, and broadening of scholarship offerings.

Undoubtedly there will be questions about much of the above. It is important that questions are asked so that a complete understanding of these revisions and recommendations can be understood. When you receive these proposed by-law revisions *read them* and make it a point to attend whatever meetings will be scheduled to enact these revisions. *These revisions are for you! Be There.*

Steve Cadenelli

Educating a Crew & Sharing Information are Superintendent's Job

If the golf course superintendent is to do a quick and efficient job, he must be able to educate his crew regularly and in depth. It isn't easy to find time in a hectic day during the golf season to tend to the basics that don't affect the golfers directly, but it is essential to do it anyway. Following are some ideas to help the superintendent see to the effective education of his crew:

First, share information with them first thing in the morning, when they are fresh and not yet busy all over the course. Tell them in as few words as possible what you need them to know. Don't let your thoughts stray or the conversation wander from the subject.

Share praise promptly with all crew members. It doesn't always have to be in group meetings, but when you see a good job being done, stop and say so. Occasionally mention some especially well done work in your group meetings — it builds morale. But be very careful to criticize discreetly and in private. Always try to work in a little encouragement or helpful suggestion with the criticism so it isn't just negative words. This will help build trust and confidence that will spill over into all areas of your crew's work.

Focus whenever possible on what a topic means personally to the crew. A well-

kept green can be a reflection of their personal pride and abilities. "What's in it for me?" is a key point of view that's guaranteed to get their attention.

Keep your presentations short — don't kill the subject with words. Break it into segments you can handle in short sessions several days running if it takes more than 15 or 20 minutes. Try to allow as much time for questions as you do for your own talking.

Follow up your teaching sessions with on-the-job information. You might explain how a new nine-gang mower works in the shop and then have the operator run it in your presence for a while, for instance.

Communication is part of the turfgrass manager's job, both with the crew and also with golfers. Remember, you'll also have to communicate with the green committee and club officials, so get in practice and learn to relay information efficiently and comfortably. It will pay off.

Reprint from "Forefront"



"We've taken care of the checks and balances."

Future Happenings

OCTOBER 6 — MONTHLY MEETING

Cliffside Country Club, Simsbury, Ct.

Ron Holcomb — Host Superintendent

Our host for the October meeting, Ron Holcomb, is one of CAGCS's more active and hard working members. As a member of the Board of Directors for the past three years, he has reorganized much of the association's membership files and has worked to set up procedures to keep track of all new and existing members. He has also worked unselfishly in getting out meeting notices to all members each month resulting in considerable savings to the association.

Ron has been at Cliffside for seven years and before that served as assistant superintendent at Crestview Country Club in Agwam, Massachusetts. He is a member of GCSAA as well as CAGCS.

NOVEMBER 2 and 3 — GCSAA LANDSCAPE SEMINAR I

"Principles of Landscape"

Holiday Inn, Meriden, Connecticut

Make plans now to attend this seminar in Connecticut which is being sponsored by CAGCS. Topics of special interest include:

*Functionalized Landscaping
Identification of Specialized Needs
Balancing Beauty and Need
Design of Comprehensive Plans
Selecting Proper Materials
PLAN NOW TO ATTEND*

NOVEMBER 8 — ANNUAL MEETING (LUNCHEON)

Pine Valley Golf Club, Southington, Ct.

Leo and Larry Della Bianca — Hosts

The father and son operated Pine Valley Golf Club will be the site of 1977 CAGCS Annual Meeting. Pine Valley, owned by Leo Della Bianca, has been in existence since 1960. Formerly in the construction business Leo always wanted to own and operate his own golf facility. So in 1960 he and his brother with the help of Ben Kowalski, the first superintendent, built the Oron Smith designed golf course. Since that time there have been many changes. Leo is now the sole owner and his son Larry, who has grown up with the golf course, is the superintendent. They are presently installing automatic irrigation in stages, are initiating a program of tree and shrub plantings to dress up the golf course and have hopes of redesigning several of the holes.

DECEMBER 3 — CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wethersfield Country Club, Wethersfield, Ct.

Fred Bachand — Host Superintendent

Mark this date down early so that you may attend our annual Christmas party. Ken Kelliher has done an excellent job of planning this event which will run from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. and will include hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dancing. All this for only \$30.00 per couple!

GCSAA 49th International Turfgrass CONFERENCE AND SHOW

February 12-17, 1978

San Antonio, Texas

"ECONOMY THRU IDEAS" is the theme for the premier turfgrass industry conference and show, sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. This is a once-a-year opportunity for turfgrass managers, educators and industry representatives to learn about and share the latest ideas and develop-

ments in turfgrass management, services and equipment Exhibits featuring new products for the turf industry will be open February 14-16; the conference will be in session February 12-17. This is the place for you to meet the other people who make the turfgrass industry dynamic and to capture dollar-saving ideas. See you in San Antonio in '78.

Landscape Seminar I Registration Form



- Yes, I want to attend the GCSAA Landscape Seminar I in Meriden, Connecticut Wednesday & Thursday November 2 - 3, 1977

My check, made payable to GCSAA Landscape Seminar I, for \$_____ is enclosed. (GCSAA Members \$50.00 each, non-members \$70.00 each.)

Send to: Director of Education
GCSAA

1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, Kansas
66044

Name _____ No. _____

Title _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cancellation Policy — Fee will be deducted as follows: 2 weeks prior to seminar 10%; 1 week prior 20%; 2 days prior 30%. No refund within 24 hours.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN VOTED IN AS NEW MEMBERS OF OUR ASSO- CIATION. CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME.

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Assistant Superintendent
Country Club of New Canaan
New Canaan, Ct.

Richard Klimaszewski
Assistant Superintendent
The Farms Country Club
Wallingford, Ct.

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