CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS





2022 CAGCS Winter Seminar Held at Mystic Marriot

The CAGCS Winter Seminar was held at the Mystic Marriot in Groton, CT on Jan 11th. It was a great day of education and networking for all the attendees.

John E. Kaminski, Ph.D. delivered lectures on "How to Identify and Manage Newly Emerging Turfgrass diseases" and "The Latest in Dollar Spot Research from Penn State". His first seminar recapped the last twenty years of newly discovered turfgrass diseases and how to differentiate diseases that show similar signs of infection. His second talk centered around his clinical dollar spot research at Penn State. He discussed different chemistry classes and what new chemistries have performed well in field trials.

Ben McGraw, Ph.D. discussed "Turf Insect Pest Management Year-in-Review" and shared that the 2021 season was an underwhelming year for insect damage on golf courses, commenting it was an A for superintendents, but a D for him in terms of research. His second talk "New Insecticides for Turfgrass Insect Management" gave insight on how well newly registered insecticides are working against ABW and other pests. He made note that at this point, all three are now registered in Connecticut

Gina Rizza of ARCUS Marketing Group communicated the importance of Best Management Practices and how to implement BMP's at your course in her talk titled

"Leading the Way with Connecticut Golf Industry Management Practices". If you haven't done so yet, it is important to create a BMP guide for your individual course, utilizing the tool that GCSAA has to copy and adjust the Connecticut BMP.

Stephen Rabideau, CGCS the Director of Golf Courses at Winged Foot explained how he renovated and prepared the property during Covid for the 2020 U.S. Open in his talk "2020 U.S. Open- West Course Restoration, U.S. Open Prep, Covid-19, & Championship Schedule Change".

I would like to thank our Presenting Partner Atlantic Golf

and Turf, our Gold sponsors Harrell's, Tom Irwin, Turf Products and all our silver sponsors for your continued support. I would also like to thank all our speakers and attendees for making it a great day of education and networking.

Duncan McGowan

Education Chair

Richard Kremer

Education CO-Chair

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

WRITTEN BY STEPHEN CURRY, PRESIDENT, CAGCS

Success! Specifically, I am referring to our recent January education seminar. The speakers and topics were all very good and engaging. The response from all I've spoken with has been very positive. This most recent success has everything to do with all our hard working and ever diligent Executive Director CraceMarie Chapin as well as the dedicated and well qualified leaders of our board of directors.

More generally, I am very proud to be a part of such a group of leaders as highly regarded and successful as we have in our association. This was made evident recently in attending the annual meetings of the CSGA, CTEC and Tristate Turf Research Foundation. Our members are well respected and represented. At the national association and especially in Governmental advocacy circles this association is second to none especially on a pound for pound basis. Our Vice President, Scott Ramsay, CGCS has represented us with exemplary professionalism. We have had numerous past President's move up to the GCSAA board of directors most recently Marc Weston, CGCS.

Now we find ourselves in the midst of true winter with temperatures averaging much closer to normal for January. In this time many are unwinding and some vacationing, but the conditions have yielded Ice accumulation and some in the area have already begun counting the days and taking measures to mitigate turf loss to winter injury. Keep in touch with your fellow superintendents nearby to be prepared and plan for recovery.

We have two new members added to the board at the last election, Rich Kremer, Hop Meadow and Wayne Lagasse, Rock Ridge each has already brought energy and enthusiasm. We are all making an effort to expand our committees and welcome those interested to contact the committee chair of your interest to get involved and look to future possibility of board service.



Education - Duncan McGowan
Golf - Peter Grace
Government relations - Robert Dorsch, III, CGCS
Nominating - Paul Bonini, CGCS
Membership - Wayne Lagasse
Historian - Bob Chalilfour, CGCS(ret)
Newsletter Committee Chair/Editor - Scott
Ramsay, CGCS
Scholarship and Research/Tristate - Rich
Duggan
Social and Welfare - Richard T. Kremer
Commercial - Gilberto Perez
Class C - Tim Dunn

A few of us are in the process of attaining GCSAA certification, which has been recently streamlined by the GCSAA board of late and those interested in learning more feel free to give me a call or send an email.

I am very excited to be traveling to both the National (GCSAA) and Regional (NERTF) conferences in February and March representing CAGCS and look forward to seeing many of you at each. I am especially excited to see many of you at our first monthly meeting April 25th at Tradition Golf Club Oak Lane with our Secretary, Kevin Collins hosting. We have frequent board meetings and are always available for comments or concerns. Enjoy your winter and see you soon.

Stephen Curry CAGCS President

New GCSAA Certification Process

Recently I was in Kansas City for the GCSAA Delegates meeting. During the meeting several important topics were discussed. Probably the most important was the new and improved certification process. In my opinion the portfolio was the biggest draw back to getting certified, the portfolio is NO LONGER part of the certification process. There are four steps to become certified.

- 1- Eligibility: Once you are a Class A member you are eligible to become certified.
- 2- Exam: The exam is now taken on-line.
- A GCSAA proctor will monitor the exam. Proctors may be remote via webcam. Acceptable Proctors include, school counselors, librarians, clergyman, attorneys, CPA's, Past Presidents of GCSAA, Chapter Executive Director, or GCSAA Field Staff.
- The Exam is closed book.
- It has three parts and multiple-choice questions.
- It must be completed in one sitting with a six- hour time limit.
- You may retake any failed part of the exam twice within one year. You must wait at least one week between retakes.
- 3- Course Attesting: To fulfill the attesting requirement, you must have your golf course operation evaluated by two certified golf course superintendents appointed by your chapter. The evaluation is conducted during the courses growing season and covers four major divisions.
 - Course conditions: This area includes putting greens, tees, fairways, roughs, bunkers, cart paths, ponds and waterways, driving range and general grounds.
- Maintenance facility: This section covers office area, shop area, pesticide storage, equipment storage,



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- **Record keeping:** In this section, the attestors will review financial records, employee records, chemical records, and employee training.
- **Communication skills:** This section will cover professionalism, management skill statements and communication with management, members, players, staff and the community.

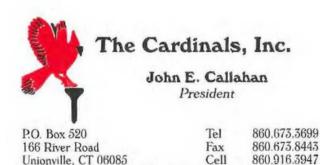


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Continued on Page 4



Unionville, CT 06085 Cell jcalcardinal@aol.com

New GCSAA Certification Process

Continued From Page

Prior to the evaluation of your course, you'll be requested to submit a report to the attestor. The GCSAA will provide the format of the report, which will include, demographic information, your involvement in GCSAA, course budget, annual rounds, number if employees, length of season and your resume.

4 - Communication and Leadership Attesting:

Option 1: Completion of the "Principles of Golf Course Leadership and Communications" Certificate within the Assistant Superintendent Certificate Series (ASCS)

Option 2: Provide proof of completion of three of the four following items.

- Write and publish and article for chapter newsletter or GCM
- Volunteer on a GCSAA chapter or golf organization task group, board of directors, participate in hosting a First Green event, serve as a Grass Roots Ambassador or attend National Golf Day.
- Give a presentation and document the experience by providing the date and time of the presentation, meeting outline and meeting minutes
- Complete or update the facility BMP template.

Kevin CollinsCAGCS Delegate



WE WANT YOU!

The golf season is winding down and we finally get to breathe a deep sigh of relief. Irrigation systems have been winterized, golf courses are beginning to close and we can spend the time with our loved ones during the Holiday season. As we reflect on 2021, I would like to highlight the need for help as we begin planning for an even better 2022 golf season.

It goes without saying that CAGCS is one of the strongest memberships across the country. CAGCS was one of the first states to complete our BMP guidelines, we continuously educate and advocate at the state capitol, and work diligently at the club level educating our members. Anyone who has interest helping out at the Board level, reach out! Whether it is assisting with golf events, reading Scholarship and Research essays or volunteering your course to host a meeting. We have been asked to create sub-committees to help alleviate any issues that may arise throughout the season. We all understand that the golf season can become hectic and unexpected, thus having additional help will allow for smoother operations.

As the newly elected Membership Chair, my focus will be to grow our membership. I am asking all Golf Course Superintendents to introduce and sign up their Assistant(s) to become a member of CAGCS. Hiring can be exceptionally difficult and for those quality Assistants who help make our operations run smoothly, I believe introducing them into CAGCS will highlight how special our association is. To those who are not members and have been considering joining, please reach out to any of our Board members and they can speak to how rewarding and enjoyable it is to be a member of CAGCS.

In closing, we have a truly awesome association and we would like more member involvement. It does not matter in what capacity; any help will always be welcome. Please do not forget to sign up for the Winter Seminar in Mystic on January 11th. The speakers and education will not disappoint. Goodbye 2021, on to 2022!

Wayne Lagasse Membership Chair



KEVIN'S KORNER

One talking point that has been a lead topic at every site visit I can remember is labor. The early years in my role as Field Staff it would typically revolve around the quality of the crew. Now of course, discussion leans more towards volume, are you able to find enough labor. There are forward thinking people undertaking creative ways to solve those issues, and enterprising individuals blazing trails to assist others. One recent site visit reminded me the that the oldest marketing strategy may still be a very effective method. While word of mouth may work for some, would it work for you?

I was delighted to hear Chris Johnson at Bellport CC tell me late fall 2021 that his labor was in good shape. For this to occur on the south coast of Long Island was truly surprising to me. I know so many superintendents on the Island struggle to find labor. Johnson explained to me that a 2020 hire had recommended employment at the club to a family member. She was brought on this year and was a great fit! Word of mouth working at its best, but is it really that easy?

So, let's say one of your employees approached me and wanted me to work at your facility. What do you think they would say? They could be your biggest sales staff. Good pay, engaging work, flexible hours when needed, and being a wonderful place to work? That would pique my interest.

Now if I approached a friend of mine, one of your employees, and asked if they are hiring. I didn't receive the afore mentioned information, instead I got the opposite. Pay is ok, no flexibility to handle personal items, some people are nice but all I do is string trim and rake bunkers.

If you have tried to utilize current employees to fill out your staff, they may indeed have already given you a heads-up about your operation. If it worked, you may have found a great mix of the items employees are looking for. If your word-of-mouth initiative wasn't successful, understanding why could help grow your crew/business.

This area of Clippings has expanded on employee feedback before. The staff performing daily tasks are often the best resources for ideas to maximize efficiency. We have highlighted off-season strategic planning and how building a plan with the entire staff can build ownership in those new-innovative ideas. Consider utilizing your best possible sales staff, your current employees, to ensure your facility and employment opportunities are the best they could possibly be. If your employees are seeking to bring friends or loved ones to your team, you know you have built an employee package and inclusive culture that everyone at the facility can be proud of.

COMING SOON..
Ask John Inguagiato, Ph.D.

Coming this spring, the CT Clippings will feature a new section, Ask John Inquagiato, Ph.D.

See something on your course that you would like to ask John Inguagiato, Ph.D. about? Email a picture with your question to cagcs@sbcglobal.net





Continued on Page 7

KEVIN'S KORNER

GCSAA Resources and Deadlines

you Get Cool Stuff from your Association Already:

Get Started on Your Facility BMP

Once your state BMP manual is available through GCSAA's BMP Planning Guide and Template you can easily create a facility BMP manual for your facility. Access is easy with your GCSAA website member log-in using the link immediately below, then select the facility BMP icon and go. Webinars are available to assist you with this easy to use tool. https://www.gcsaa.org/environment/bmp-planning-guide

Education Line Up... In-Person and Virtual

Looking for the latest info an GCSAA Education? Whether in-person in San Diego, or the Virtual opportunities February 24-25th....You can find it ALL here:Education (gcsaaconference.com)



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UPCOMING FREE WEBCASTS:

Goosegrass Control Options to Avoid Resistance Fred Yelverton, Ph.D. Mar. 10 @ noon

Lowering the Cost of Managing Trees, Shrubs and Flowers
John Fech
Mar. 23 @ noon

Get Ideas to Get Ahead: Tips from a Veteran CGCS

Don Garrett, CGCS Mar. 29 @ 10 a.m.

Be Precise! Reduce Water Use in Your Fairways
Chase Straw, Ph.D.
Mar. 31 @ 10 a.m.



If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me. Kevin Doyle GCSAA Field Staff kdoyle@gcsaa.org Follow me on Twitter @GCSAA NE



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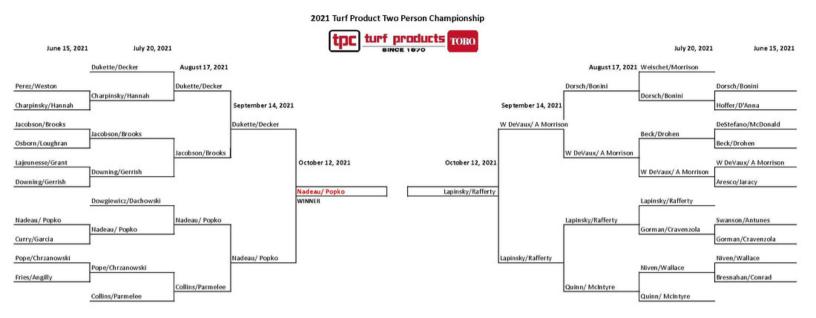


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Congratulations to Tim Nadeau & Jay Popko the winners of the 2021 Turf Products Two Person Championship

2022 CAGCS Board of Directors





GRASS CATCHER

CONGRATULATIONS!

Mary Jo and Les Kennedy on the arrival of their new granddaughter Josie Hart Branson born on January 20, 2022.

Ed Downing on the birth of Luca Mariani Downing born on Feb 20. 2022.

Marc Weston, CGCS on being re-ecleted to the GCSAA national board of directors.

Michael Marino, CGCS, newly recertified by GCSAA The Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) designation is bestowed upon those who voluntarily meet the stringent requirements. The CGCS designation is the most widely recognized in the golf industry and the highest recognition that can be achieved by golf course superintendents. Read more:

https://www.gcsaa.org/education/certifications-exams

Andrew Hannah for a 2nd place finish in the 2022 Health in Action 5k with a time of 18:39. Andrew was join by several CAGCS members on the beautiful San Diego morning.



Do you have news to share? We would love to hear it Email cagcs@sbcglobal

CONDOLENCES

Jud Smith and family on the passing of Walter "Bud" Smith. Bud, who turned 97 on Dec. 27, was a lifetime member of the CAGCS, having joined the association in 1949.

Jonathan Case and family on the passing of his father, Kenneth Case.

https://www.ahernfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Kenneth-Edgett-Case?obId=23731489#/obituaryInfo

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Victor Faconti - Golf Course Superintendent - The Farms Country Club

Wayne Lagasse - Golf Course Superintendent - Stonnington Country Club

Mike Morawski - Golf Course Superintendent - Country Club of Waterbury

Josh Breiling - Assistant Superintendent - TPC River Highlands





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CAGCS 2022 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 11 **Mystic Marriott**

Tuesday CAGCS Winter Seminar

Atlantic

April 19 **Tradition at Oak Lane**

Tuesday Host: Kevin Collins

2 Ball Shamble

PLANT FOOD COMPANY, INC.
The Liquid Fertilizer Experts

May 16 Mill River Country Club

Monday Host: Sean Flynn

CAGCS Scholarship & Research Tournament

syngenta

turf products TORO

June 7 **Richter Park**

Tuesday Host: Robert Dorsch, CGCS

Low Gross/Net by Flight

1st Round CAGCS Championship & MET Team Championship Qualifier

July 11 Golf Club at Windham

Monday Host: Kevin Miele

Low Gross/Net Blind Partners

2nd Round CAGCS Championship & New England Team Championship Qualifier

July 26 The Hartford Yard Goats

Tuesday CAGCS Social/Network Event

September 26 The Hartford Golf Club

Monday Host: Curtis D'Anna

CAGCS Member/Guest

tpc turf products TOR

October 17 Fox Hopyard

Monday Host: Jeff Swanson

2 Person Best Ball

Superintendent/Assistant Tournament & President's Cup & McLaughlin Trophy

October TBA

Host:

CAGCS Class C Tournament

November 3 **Borough of Fenwick**

Thursday Host: Daryl Aresco

9-Hole Scramble ABCD

CAGCS Annual Meeting

TBD CAGCS Christmas Party



WINFIELD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Robert Dorsch, CGCS

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Tues. March 8 • 8am-5pm Several Pre-Conference Seminars including Full-Day Cemetery Management and Grass Tennis Court Management

Wed., March 9 • 8am-11am & 1pm-4pm Golf, Sports Turf & Grounds, Equipment Techs.

Thurs., March 10 • 8-10am & 1pm-3:30pm Golf, Sports/Grounds, Equipment Techs and Lawn Care/Landscapes

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