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THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



SERIALS

Volume 11 No. 1

FEBRUARY 1978

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GRASS CATCHER

The annual Christmas Party, held at the Wethersfield Country Club, proved to be a most enjoyable evening and a fun time for all. The women, as always, were very pleased with the evening's gifts. Baskets of cheer, donated by many of the Commercial members, were raffled off and were sure to be enjoyed by the fortunate winners. A most sincere thanks to Fred Bachand, Ken Kelliher, and the entire staff at the club for a job well done.

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Immediate Past President Robert Tosh passing the gavel to CAGCS's new President Robert Osterman.

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Conference Proceedings will be available upon request to all GCSAA members, regardless of whether or not they attended the conference, shortly after the conference. Request order forms are available in the January issue of *The Golf Superintendent* on page 70. Order deadline is March 1. Additional copies may be requested at \$3.00 per issue. Non-members may request copies at \$10.00 per issue.

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Bruce Cadenelli, Chairman of the Education Committee reports that clubs are being lined up for the coming year. The committee is presently lining up speakers for these

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Special Meeting Report

The special meeting called to vote on by-law changes proposed by the Organizational Study Committee was held January 10, 1978 at My Dad's Steakhouse in Meriden. Twenty-nine voting members were present. During the course of the afternoon the by-law changes regarding the objective of the association, requirements for Class A status, the right of Class B members to vote, mandatory attendance at two meetings for prospective members were passed. Also approved was the change from three directors to seven, the abolition of the directors as the welfare committee, and the newly worded descriptions for Class C and D members. Tabled or defeated were the three items that would have given more specific responsibility to the president

regarding the appointment of members to standing committees. These items will be reviewed by the Study Committee and presented in an amended form.

Those present also reviewed the recommendations that did not require by-law changes. Discussion was held and a show of hands asked for on several items. All issues received favorable response except for the suggestion that would have decreased the number of general business meetings from seven to two. Those who spoke felt that a more rigid time schedule at meetings would help to shorten the day of regular meetings and would prefer that general meetings be continued as in the past.

Steve Cadenelli

President's Message

Next year CAGCS will be celebrating it's 50th year as an association. Fifty years of continuous progress and we are still moving ahead. At our monthly meeting on January 10th, several by-law changes were passed and some were defeated. It was really great to see and hear member participation in this meeting. All too often recommendations are made and the membership vote these changes in without even asking why. It was a tough way to start the year as President, but I think it was a good way and I would like to see this continue. Dialogue is a great tool, and you can build so much with good tools.

We now have all our committee assignments. Some thirty-five members have been asked and accepted to serve on committees. Many of these committees have been hard at work these past months building a good program for the coming year. I would like to see more members participate in our monthly meetings. The Education Committee is getting a cross section of clubs for these meetings, along with

an educational program aimed to reach all members of our association.

Along with education, we have been improving our image, by presenting ourselves in a professional way. It has been a written rule for some years that when attending a meeting at a golf or country club, a coat and tie must be worn. Because the quote "FASHION WORLD", unquote, decided to relax the fashions of the last few years, there has been a definite decline in the dress code of the members attending our meetings. One of the reasons I am sure is that we have taken in a great deal of new members and this has never been explained to them. Many clubs still require a sport coat and tie for dinner and I believe as guests of such a club, we should honor their requests. Let's all look like the professionals that we are and wear the proper attire when visiting these clubs.

Let's have a good turnout at our March 14th meeting at "MY DAD'S" Steak House in Meriden.

Robert W. Osterman, CGCS
President, CAGCS

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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President	Robert Osterman The Golf Club at Aspetuck Office 203-261-2544 Home 203-261-0526
Vice-President	Stephen Cadenelli Country Club of New Canaan Office 203-966-2145 Home 203-966-0223
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob McCarthy	Fred Bachand
Ken Kelliher	
Al Arison, Associate Director	
Robert Tosh, Immediate Past President	

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*

Grass Catcher

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meetings and would appreciate any input from the members as to what topics they would be most interested in. The following clubs lined up to date:

April	Shorehaven Golf Club (joint meeting with the MGSA)
May	Pautipaug Country Club
June	Open
July	Open
August	Open
September	Crestbrook Park Golf Club
October	RaceBrook Country Club
November	Farms Country Club

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Dick Cook, superintendent at the Black Hall Club, reports that three additional cart paths have been built this past fall. Also, approximately eighty tons of lime has been spread on the fairways and roughs this winter. The watering capacity of the eighth and seventeenth fairways has also been increased by the addition of more sprinkler heads.

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At the present time, just as this is being written, the drive to elect Bob Osterman to the GCSAA Board of Directors is in full swing. Frank Lamphier, who is also the voting delegate for CAGCS, has been hard

Editorial

The January meeting called to vote on the proposed by-law changes vividly illustrates that CAGCS is a viable organization, capable of sound adjustments to its structure and more importantly, however, illustrated that the members of CAGCS possess the ability and willingness to address the critical problems that are sure to face their industry in the years to come.

The fine turf industry as we know it today faces stiff challenges in the decade to come. Critical shortages in oil-based products, chemicals, fertilizers, and water will occur. More stringent government regulations regarding chemicals and equipment safety are already upon us. Inflation and the tremendously increased costs for club operations will tax the ingenuity of turf managers to their fullest extent. These conditions will demand that those people willing to face such challenges be capable of change and adjustment. Associations such as CAGCS will be forced to work together to influence government action, to influence the huge corporations that dictate to the consumer, and finally, to illustrate to club memberships that a well trained, up to date, professional turf manager is the one person who can meet the challenges of the future. Poorly trained grass cutters with little initiative will not measure up.

Change is not always for the best; but change will occur. It is best to accept this premise and make change work for you.

Steve Cadenelli

at work writing letters and making phone calls spreading the good word about Bob and what the members of CAGCS feel Bob can add to the national. It is this writer's greatest hope that Bob is elected so that he can add some new impetus to an organization that badly needs new blood.

Steve Cadenelli

1978 Committee assignments are as follows:

Membership

Ken Kelliher - Chairman
Ron Holcomb
Tom Gresh

Education

Bruce Cadenelli - Chairman
Bob Viera
Al Arison
Sherwood Moore
Bert Furgess

Social

Fred Bachand - Chairman
John Mulhearn
John Ferry
Charles York
Tom Gresh
Mark Johnson
Al Hawkins

Scholarship & Research

Bob McCarthy - Chairman
Dick Hosking
Bob Viera
Bob Phipps
Armand LeSage
Dave Roule
Bruce Cadenelli

Organizational Study Committee

Steve Cadenelli - Chairman
Charles Baskin
Dick Hosking
Bob Phipps
Charles York
John Lynch
Bill Dest

Please contact anyone on these committees if you have questions or suggestions regarding their work.

A Salesman's One Woeful Day!

A White January Starches The Road Into An Icy Bale,
Along The Ever-Winding Bend Of The Antique Rail,
And Drapes The Sleeveless-Trees In A Silvery-Veil,-
As The Wheels Point Skyward Against A Sea Of Glare,
In A Stubborn Whirl To Reach The Barn — On-A-Prayer;

But The Barn's Hollow, With Nary A Trifling Whisper,
Impelling A Cold-Stillness To Grip A Dispirited Ring;
The Day Fails To Hear The Missing Dog's Eerie Whimper,-
Or Even A Mere Flapping Of A Pigeon's Wing,
To Awaken The Ghostly Silence In The Wind;

Only The Tempo Of Tinsel Pelting The Shingle Remain,-
And Smothers The Imprinted Tire-Trail Of Its Stain;
As The Salesman "Barn-Lingers" In A Patient Cling,-
In The Midst Of Machinery Which Lie In A Reposed Sling;

The Car Drenched With A Cake of Lathered-Flake,-
Ignited - Now Squealing Crazy From A Cautious Brake;
Viewing Acres Of Sleeping-Fairways Along The Way;
Disappears Under A Restless Sky — Turned Gray.

— Frank Paladino

Bator Accepts Oak Hill Position

Dick Bator, CGCS, superintendent at the Country Club of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and formerly at the Mill River Country Club has recently accepted the position of Golf Course Superintendent at the Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York. Bator had been at Pittsfield since 1971 and had spent two years at Mill River. He has been a member of CAGCS until just recently.

The Oak Hill club is blessed with a rich tradition as well as an exciting future. It has hosted many national tournaments among them the 1956 and 1958 U.S. Open championships. It will also be the site of the 1980 PGA Championship. Oak Hill is a 36 hole lay-out with approximately 850 members.

Congratulations Dick and best of luck in your new endeavor!

ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

Are you an active member —
The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the flocks?
Or do you stay at home
To criticize and knock?

Do you ever go to visit
A member who is sick?
Or leave the work to just a few,
And talk about the clique.

Do you take an active part
To help the work along?
Or are you satisfied
To only just belong?

Think this over members,
You know right from wrong!
Are you an active member,
Or do you just belong?

— Carolinas Newsletter, Vol. 13 #6

Scholarship Applications Available

Bob McCarthy, Chairman of the S & R Committee, has announced that scholarship applications are now available for the 1978-1979 school year. Those interested in applying for scholarship must request the proper forms from Bob in writing. Deadline for applying for these scholarships is June 1. To obtain the application form write:

Mr. Robert McCarthy
Box 511-B Lakes Road
Bethlehem, CT 06751

Future Happenings

FEBRUARY 12 - 17, 1978

GCSAA 49th International Turfgrass Conference and Show
San Antonio Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas

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FEBRUARY 28, MARCH 1 & 2

University of Massachusetts Annual Fine Turf Conference
& Industrial Show
Springfield Civic Center
Springfield, Massachusetts

Plan to attend this well-run and informative event!

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MARCH 14 Monthly Meeting

My Dad's Steakhouse
Meriden, Ct.

*Let's have a large turn-out for the first meeting of the new season.
It will be a great time to catch up on the past winter's happenings.*

SAND TOPDRESSING OF GREENS

Editor's note: The following information has been compiled by the Scott's Proturf Organization and is passed on to us by Al Arison. Thank You.

Recently, many golf course superintendents have been hearing the accolades being given the sand topdressing maintenance procedure. The following criteria and benefits are derived from the experience of several superintendents in the Milwaukee, Wisconsin area.

Sand topdressing criteria:

1. Select low calcium sand in the -1.0 mm to +0.05 mm range (#18 + #200 screen). Excess calcium can react with acid from fertilizers and create a gummy, somewhat impermeable lime layer. Generally, best results have been achieved using a high percentage (80%)

medium sized sand with 10% coarse and 10% fine rounding out the mix.

2. In first year of program aerify in spring and fall, pull off plugs, and drag in 0.1" of sand each time. Between these two aerifications drag in .05" of sand approximately every two weeks. There will be about a 0.5" buildup the first year. Following years apply approximately 0.05" every 3 weeks through growing season.
3. No abrasion on grass blades from traffic when application depths kept at .05" (or 0.1 when aerifying). Amount of applications and timing may vary from course to course due to climatic as well as traffic conditions.
4. To put down .05" of material on the greens you need 400 lbs./1000 ft.² or .16 yds.³/1000 ft.².
5. Once a sand top dressing program has been started, it must be carried on religiously. Quitting this program and going back to a sand-silt-organic topdressing for example, may cause *layering* — a definite problem.
6. Bent seed may be added to topdressing to help compete with and fill in for *Poa Annua*.

Benefits from this program:

- a. Eventual lessening (if not complete eradication) of any aerification process.
- b. Eliminates thatch and need for frequent verticutting.
- c. Non-grainy, thicker turf, on which the ball rolls faster but also "bites" after approach shots. Most of these results will not be seen until end of the first season.
- d. *Poa annua* seems to go out due to less aerification needed and greater competition from bent.
- e. Less fungicide needed (probably due to lessening of thatch).

Thanks!

The following contributed greatly to the success of the Christmas Party through their contributions to the basket of cheer which was raffled off. All proceeds went to the S & R Fund. Many thanks!!

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