

THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



August/September, 1981

Volume 14, No. 4

President's Message

The response of all CAGCS members and others in the turf industry to the benefit for John Perry, held July 14 at the Bel Compo Golf Club, was overwhelming and greater than anyone could have dreamed.

To date, better than \$3200 has been turned over to John with contributions continuing to be received. Those who participated in the day or who contributed through the mail should feel pleased for John and with themselves and the association which brought everyone together in an effort to help a friend and comrade when help was needed. It is this form of coming together that makes our association worthwhile for all who belong. CAGCS is a professional organization aimed at self-improvement, individual well-being, and contributions to the game of golf which, when viewed together, give our association meaning and goals toward which to strive. The success of assisting John Perry illustrates how effective our group can be when everyone pulls together to work toward a common goal.

Particular thanks to the ownership of the Bel Compo Golf Club for their tremendous generosity with golf, golf carts and dinner. A special thanks also to Tim Michaud, Ron Holcomb and Mike Wallace for their efforts in organizing the day. A very special thank you to the commercial members of CAGCS who, once again, came through in a very generous way!

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS

Some people not only believe everything they hear but repeat it.

Credit: The Greener Side

Future Happenings

August 11

CAGCS Monthly Meeting - Clinton Country Club John Halibozek - Host Superintendent (First qualifying round for the National Golf Tournament at Disney World and the Metropolitan team championship at the Country Club of New Canaan)

August 26

50th Annual Rhode Island Turfgrass Field Day Turfgrass Research Farm, Plains Road, Kingston, R. I.

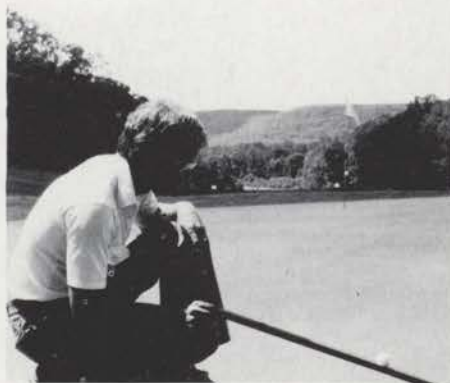
September 15

CAGCS Monthly Meeting - Pautipaug Country Club Fran Rodgers - Host Superintendent

(Second qualifying round for National Golf Tourney and Metropolitan Golf Tourney).

September 26

Metropolitan Team Championship Country Club of New Canaan



Fran Rodgers - getting his greens ready for the September meeting.

CAGCS Awards Scholarships and Research Grants

The following students were awarded \$250 scholarships:

Kimberly Phipps - Villanova University
Edward Lamphier - UMASS winter school
David Furgess - UMASS winter school

\$500 Research Grants were awarded to the following:

Bill Dest - University of Connecticut
Dick Skogley - University of Rhode Island
Dick Smiley - Cornell University
Joe Troll - University of Massachusetts

The money for these scholarships and research grants is raised by the S & R committee.

Superintendent Championship Results

Class A

Gross -	Peter Pierson	79+76=155
Net	Dave Roule	76+72=148

Class B

Gross -	Dick Parsons	83+81=164
Net -	Roy Sibley	81+76=157

Class C

Gross -	Tim Michaud	99+99=198
Net -	Tom Fletcher	73+81=154

Congratulations to our association champions for 1981!

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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Greg Wojick

Mark Loper, *Associate Director*

Robert Osterman, *Immediate Past President*

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.

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

Greg Wojick, *Editor*

49 John St.

Willimantic, CT 06226

Meet Your Class "C" Members

A class "C" member is a commercial member -any member who is supplying or servicing the turf industry. They cannot vote or hold office in our association.

In an effort to acquaint our membership with our commercial members, "Conn. Clippings" will run a feature on a commercial member drawn at random for each edition of the newsletter.

Our featured member for this issue is Joe Bidwell owner-operator of Valley Farms Nursery Supplies located in Simsbury, Conn. Joe served as superintendent of the Golf Club of Avon from 1951 to 1977 and started his own business because he was "tired of fighting with the memberships." Now Joe enjoys working for himself and selling bent and bluegrass sod and turf supplies throughout Southern New England, New York and New Jersey.

Joe served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and is a 1950 graduate of UMASS at Stockbridge.

Positions Available

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Black Hall Club
Button Ball Rd.
Old Lyme, Conn.

Resumes to: Samuel M. Strong
Box 4
Old Lyme, Conn. 06371
Particulars: Housing Available
CMS & BC
2 - 3 weeks vacation
Conference and Dues Expenses paid
Salary \$20,000 - negotiable

ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Oak Hills Park Golf Course
Fillow St.
Norwalk, Conn.

Resumes to: Ken Miller
Golf Course Superintendent
Oak Hills Park Golf Course
165 Fillow St.
Norwalk, Conn. 06850

Particulars: Housing Available
Hospitalization & Major Medical
Paid Vacation
City Salary Schedule

ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Sterling Farms Golf Club
1347 Newfield Ave.
Stamford, Conn.

Resumes to: Joseph Gillardi
Golf Course Superintendent
Sterling Farms Golf Club
1347 Newfield Ave.
Stamford, Conn. 06905
Particulars: BC, BS, & Dental
Paid Vacation
Salary Negotiable



"You now have exactly 20 minutes to transform yourself into an alert, dynamic, brilliant greenskeeper."

Meet Your Hosts

Pautipaug Country Club - Fran Rodgers

"Above all, golfers come here to play our fast greens," says John Nobilski, head professional at the Pautipaug Country Club. And they certainly are fast. Superintendent Fran Rodgers and I recently measured the Pautipaug greens at 111 inches with the stimp meter.

This 20 year old Geoffry Cornish-designed golf course has more going for it than just fast greens. The Connecticut section PGA recognizes Pautipaug as one of the better golf courses in the state. This year, the Pro-Junior Championship was played at Pautipaug. In 1980, Pautipaug hosted the Pro-Assistant tournament and the ECAC New England Championship qualifying round. The 1977 Superintendent's Invitational was another major tournament held at Pautipaug. And much of the club's fine reputation is directly attributable to the efforts of superintendent Fran Rodgers.

Fran's golf course maintenance experience goes back to his childhood when he worked for Charlie Baskin at the Country Club of Waterbury. Fran is a 1966 UMASS winter school graduate and was first employed as a superintendent at the Pine Orchard Yacht & Country Club. A year later, he took over at the Madison Country Club where he worked for eight years. Fran has been superintendent at Pautipaug for five years now, and is married and has three sons.

Clinton Country Club - John Halibozek

The site for the August CAGCS meeting is the Clinton Country Club. Host superintendent John Halibozek says things are really shaping up now that an automatic irrigation system installation program has recently been initiated. To date, three quarters of the golf course is equipped with the new Toro irrigation system; the remainder of the installation will be finished this fall, and the first green will be rebuilt then as well.

John is married and has three sons and has been superintendent at Clinton for almost three and a half years. John began his golf course experience at the Edgewood Golf Club where he worked for four years. He was also employed at Lyman Meadows Country Club for five years before moving to Clinton in 1972.

The front nine at Clinton was designed and built by a group of members in 1957, and the Geoffry Cornish-designed back nine was completed in 1962. An interesting feature of the golf course is that it has one of the few double greens in Connecticut.

Too Many Cooks Can Spoil The Broth

Into the life of the golf course superintendent has appeared a new menace to his ever-demanding operation. Call him the intruder, the meddler. Whatever, he's a detriment, and he must be, as they say in the TV cop flicks, "dusted."

This dreaded curse surfaces in the role of a country club committee head or member of the same whose responsibilities DO NOT include supervision or guidance of the superintendent. Yet, for some strange reason, he has taken it upon himself to direct the day-to-day handling of the club's golf course maintenance and improvement program.

The in-house administrative mechanics of the country club encompass a myriad of duties. There is the house committee, the tournament committee, the pool committee, the grounds committee, the handicap committee. You name it, the country club has one.

Unfortunately, certain members of one or the other of these well-intentioned groups look at their appointments as a right to take part in every aspect of governing the club. In essence, they actually believe they are members of the "soup to nuts committee." Therefore, they think their input is mandatory in every issue discussed and every decision made.

As a matter of restating the specs, as they were, the superintendent answers to the chairman of the grounds or golf committee. Supposedly, they enter into a compatible relationship in which each offers suggestions, discusses their ramifications and comes to a joint conclusion in implementing the results.

Of course, the ideal grounds chairman is one who accepts suggestions rather than concentrating on giving orders. The history of any country club maintenance program shows that this arrangement has produced the best results.

So, for the most part, it is the chairman who sets the ground rules for his relationship with the superintendent. If he insists on one-way input obviously, there is nothing the superintendent can do about it other than hope the chairman is well-versed in the intricacies of grooming the golf course.

Some grounds chairmen are, and it is to their credit that they are interested enough in the job to avail themselves of information so vital to the overall operation.

The bugaboo, though, comes from another direction. Too many members, associated with other communities, are putting in their

two-cents' worth and expecting a dollar in change.

It has been reported that superintendents are being hounded and harassed by foreign committee people to the extent that they find themselves in a state of confusion.

"One guy tells me he wants the greens mowed to a certain height and the next thing I know another is telling me he prefers a different cut," one superintendent said recently. "Of course, it puts me on the spot since, regardless of my rank or station, I am an employee of the country club. I only wish some order and definition of authority within the framework of the committee setup could be effected."

Therein lies the solution to a problem that could become a very serious obstruction to the superintendent's day-to-day work schedule.

The country club chain of command doesn't need any reconstruction. However, the principal parties in its makeup should make an attempt at its redefinition. If a meddler is rocking the boat, he must be made to sit down or be quietly advised that his presence on the board or committee is no longer required.

The task of maintaining and improving the golf course already has suffered its share of complications because of the prevailing economic cutbacks instituted by most country clubs. The superintendent is burdened with the job of producing the same results with less at his hand to produce them.

Now, along comes another headache in the form of people insisting that they should take part in the greening of fairways and smoothing of greens. As far as the superintendent is concerned, such intrusion (most of which border on the idiotic) only adds to the confusion.

The country club, then, not only has a responsibility to provide the nearest thing to the ultimate in service to its members, it also has the responsibility of creating reasonable conditions under which its employees can help deliver those services.

One sure way to do this is to keep unauthorized members out of the superintendent's hair. While he tries desperately to comb them out, the golf course could go to "you know where."

Credit: Golf Course Superintendent Association of New England



GCSAA Highlights

GCSAA will be offering an extended medical coverage plan to all members. Designed to supplement basic hospital coverage, this plan will offer low rates based on the buying power of GCSAA at group rates. Information and application forms will be sent to all members in September.

* * * * *
One benefit of GCSAA membership is the opportunity to attend major tournaments free of charge by showing a current GCSAA Gold Membership card. But because persons other than GCSAA members have been using these cards, all members risk loss of this benefit. Please . . . DO NOT allow others to use your membership card to gain entry to tournaments. Protect this advantage of GCSAA membership for yourself and for others by not allowing anyone to use your card.

* * * * *
San Francisco has been added to the list of future conference sites by the Executive Committee. GCSAA will travel to San Francisco and the soon-to-be-completed George R. Moscone Convention Center, January 30 - February 5, 1985. Other future conference sites include New Orleans - 1982, Atlanta - 1983, and Las Vegas - 1984.

* * * * *
Zahid Iqbal has been named to replace Dick Hale as Director of Communications of GCSAA. Iqbal comes to GCSAA from the University of Kansas where he was an assistant professor of journalism. He also brings to GCSAA nearly 14 years of executive experience in publishing, printing, public relations and advertising in magazine and newspaper journalism.

* * * * *
Members who have not paid their 1982 dues are now suspended from membership privileges and benefits. These privileges and benefits will be reinstated if dues are paid by October 1, 1981.

Members who have paid their 1982 dues and do not receive their new membership cards within three weeks should call the Headquarters Office to verify receipt of their payment.

* * * * *
During October, members will be receiving conference materials for the 1982 Conference & Show in New Orleans. The 1982 Conference promises some new twists with an extended educational format, possible repeat sessions and computerized advance registration which will eliminate long lines for those who have registered in advance. Members planning to participate in the annual golf tournament will undoubtedly enjoy the Disney Golf Resort in Orlando Fla.

Steve Cadenelli

"Brown! 6 is brown all over!" "The 10th green is covered with worms!"
 "The 6th hole are ruining 13!" "18 is a mess!" "YOU'RE THE GREENSKEEPER —
DO SOMETHING!!!"



A Compliment How to Accept

(1) "Thank you" is the best response to a compliment; (2) Avoid a compliment-swapping. Compliments are not debts to be repaid; (3) Consider praise from others as an

inspiration to even greater efforts, not a reward with intrinsic worth. When you are praised, ask yourself how you can do even better; (4) Don't disdain praise. If you appear too modest, you will seem to be fishing for another compliment; (5) Don't belittle praise. Allow people the satisfaction of praising you

without insulting their opinion; (6) Finally, don't take praise too seriously. As Adlai Stevenson said, "Flattery is okay if you can handle it right. It's like smoking cigarettes. Quite all right, as long as you don't inhale."

Credit: GCSAA of Southern California

Grass Catcher

Chuck Myers, Turf Products Corporation's new equipment salesman, is the proud father of a new son. Chuck's wife gave birth to son, Travis, in June.

Fran and Mary Ellen Rodgers also had a new arrival. Their third son, Joshua, was born in July.

Don't forget to get your foursomes together for the annual Scholarship & Research Tournament to be held at the Edgewood Golf Club on October 6.

David J. Sylvester has been honored by the UpJohn Company for outstanding achievement in sales for 1980. He is one of 31 sales representatives recently named to the company's Agricultural Division Sales Academy.

Briefs

Frank Lamphier has been named to head the 1981 Nominating Committee. All those interested in becoming more active in CAGCS through membership on the Board of Directors should contact Frank.

Please do not embarrass yourself or the association by leaving just prior to or during a guest speaker's presentation. Not only do you show a profound lack of courtesy by leaving, but you also miss out on what you came to the meeting for . . . to learn!

REMEMBER JACKETS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL BUSINESS MEETING AND DINNERS. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS. ANYONE THAT PLAYS GOLF AT A MEETING MUST PAY FOR DINNER EVEN IF THEY DO NOT STAY FOR THE MEAL.

50th Annual Rhode Island Turfgrass Field Day

Date: Wednesday, August 26, 1981
Location: Turfgrass Research Farm, Plains Road, Kingston, RI
(Signs will be posted on main roads near campus)

Program: 9 a.m. - noon, Exhibits and demonstrations of turf products and equipment. Exhibitors welcome (no charge!). Research Plots open for individual review.

12-1 p.m., Steak Barbecue available at research farm.

1-4 p.m., Guided tour with researchers. See: Fertilizer trials, weed and growth control trials, disease control and evaluation of new fungicides, topdressing studies, grass mixture and variety trials, sod production studies, etc. We hope you will join us for the day. There is no charge.

Membership Report

The following have yet to attend the required two meetings:

Michael Minor - Class B
Oaklane Country Club

Glen Moore - Class C
Glenmore Landscape

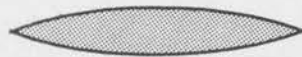
James Viggiano - Class C
Bacher Corp.

James O'Kelly - Class B
Race Brook Country Club

Lee Shaw - Class B
Tumblebrook Country Club

Steve Duran - Class A
Country Club of Farmington

Peter Louis - Class B
Country Club of Farmington



Golf Results

Hopmeadow Country Club

Class A

1. Gross - R. Barrett	78
1. Net - S. Elliot	73
2. Net - F. Lamphier	74
3. Net - G. Wojick	75

Class B

1. Gross - J. Fabiani	80
1. Net - D. Parsons	69
2. Net - P. Lund	71
3. Net - R. Tosh	72
4. Net - P. Witoba	74
5. Net - S. Cadenelli	77

Class C

1. Gross - T. Michaud	99
1. Net - P. Streckfus	71
2. Net - J. Ferry	76
3. Net - M. Wallace	78
4. Net - S. Smith	79

Bel Compo Golf Club

Class A

1. Gross - R. Witkowski	76
1. Net - P. Pierson	71
2. Net - J. Fabiani	71
3. Net - D. Roule	72

Class B

1. Gross - D. Parsons	81
1. Net - D. Hosking	65
2. Net - S. DeVito	71
3. Net - L. Diezik	74
4. Net - D. Stachura	75
5. Net - R. Sibley	76

Class C

1. Gross - M. Wallace	96
1. Net - C. Wallace	67
2. Net - B. Johnson	71
3. Net - S. Smith	71
4. Net - T. Fletcher	73
5. Net - T. Michaud	73

Guest Division

1. Gross - R. Edmunds, Jr.	77
1. Net - D. Grant	73

The always popular rope pull at the Annual Picnic.



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