

# THE GREENERSIDE

May - June 1992 Volume 15 Number 3

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## The quest for the best

Quality is the number one word in industry today. You read about it in the newspapers as well as the trade press. Everyone knows that as a customer, they want the best quality. As a producer of goods and services, we recognize intuitively that better quality will result in more satisfied customers and, in the long term, a stronger business. This concept is certainly not new to the golf course industry or to superintendents.

The founding fathers of the modern total commitment to quality business movement were W. Edwards Deming and J.M. Juran. These two individuals were born at the beginning of this century and late in life have been recognized for their contributions to quality. They have brought their message to many industries all over the world. Quality is a marketing tool that is essential in the service industries and a fundamental management philosophy of on going improvement. It requires the input of everyone involved in a process so that it can be viewed from all perspectives. Quality has no end point. It requires a sustained effort toward a goal, which is never quite reached.

"The Greenside" interviewed several New Jersey superintendents on their thoughts on quality. We were interested in how quality is measured, because without that starting point, you cannot make progress. Chris Carson from Echo Lake CC measures quality by the final product or net yield. "In a service industry such as a golf course," he says, "quality is much tougher to measure than in manufacturing."

The measurement of playability and aesthetics are the key features used to determine quality by Dave Pease of Hominy Hill GC. He first "focuses on the perimeters and then works to the core, targeting on the greens. All too often the rough is a forgotten feature when it comes to cultural activities." Dave believes that, "The same energy that is applied to the greens maintenance should be applied to all features encompassed within the golf course."

"Quality is measured by the comments received after the job is done," according to Ken Krausz of Paramus G&CC.

But, how do you know when quality is getting better or worse? This can be done by surveying the players, the greens committee members and your fellow superinten-

dents. The survey must first determine what is important to them on the course, i.e., how they perceive quality. Then you must measure whether or not you are meeting or exceeding that standard. Over time, surveys can show you whether or not quality is increasing.

Chris Carson has used a formal survey, which was part of an overall club evaluation, as a base point and now, as he finds people, he asks on an informal but continuing basis. When purchasing a major piece of equipment that may impact on course playability, Ken Krausz will survey the players after using the equipment on a trial basis. Sometimes equipment saves labor but diminishes playability. If your goal is a quality course, then you forgo a labor

(Please turn to page 4)

### In this issue



Editorial	2
President's Message	3
GCSANJ NEWS	5
Plant Diagnostic Lab	7
Sports...just say no	8
Reflections on New Orleans	9
How to be like Ed tips	11
Willet Wilt	12
X marks the spot	13
GCSAA News	16



## THE GREENERSIDE

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# EDITORIAL



## The ultimate quality tool

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey is the ultimate tool for quality management, but it's only good if you use it.

A great source of innovations for quality improvement is your fellow superintendents. By regularly attending GCSANJ meetings, you can hear first hand of new ideas that have been tested on local courses, ideas on labor management or how to manage your boss. By playing in the tournaments you can see for yourself what others are doing on their courses. This will help you bring back ideas and convert them to innovations for your own course.

The monthly meeting and tournament schedule is published in this issue of "The Greenerside." You should mark your personal calendars to make certain that you attend as many as you can. We suggest that you go with a small check list of what you want to learn and ask your fellow superintendents your questions. Be advised that you will get three answers for every two questions and that you will leave with more facts and possibly more fun than you planned. If you are a "no show," then this quality management tool will not be available to you. Your portion of it will rust and wear and become ineffective over time. Good tools require good maintenance. Its cutting parts need to be kept sharp and its belts, gears and widgets kept tight. An occasional oiling is also of great importance.

With GCSANJ membership comes access to regional and national seminars. These are terrific overall tune-ups for that ultimate quality tool. Here again, regular maintenance is the best ticket for maximum efficiency of tool use. This year's meeting season is winding down and the work days are getting longer. But if you don't plan to come out of the course a couple of days this season, you miss all the GCSANJ doings.

GCSANJ also needs your help in working for this year's events. Contact your committee chairman and offer your input and assistance for areas that are of interest to you. See your new directory or the previous issue of "The Greenerside" for their names and numbers and have a great season!

**Ilona Gray, Editor**

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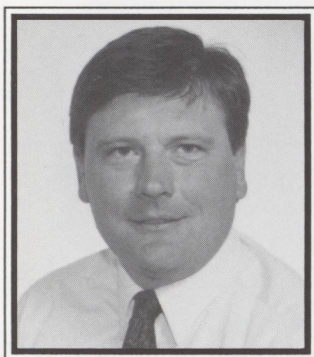
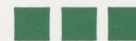
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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## "Unbeknownst to me"

David Pease  
President GCSANJ

It was a cool, if not a cold, day in early March. I say cool, because when I left the warm

confines of my office, I said to myself, "It's not bad out here." Wondering, where is the maintenance crew? As soon as the flesh on my cheeks began to get tight, I realized that it was a *cold* day in March. As a matter of fact, it was down right freezing!

Protected in that shell I call an "office," there were events going on that I was unaware of. The weather conditions being one, and the other was a sales Tech Rep parked in the driveway.

Upon leaving the office, I had an objective instilled in mind, but I had two hurdles to overcome to reach my destination. Obviously, getting out of the cold was one of those hurdles. I figured I could kill two birds with one stone. Instead of going back into my warm office to see what this guy wanted, I would freeze the information out of him quickly and be on my way. For literary purposes, I will refer to the Tech Rep as "Sven."

Sven and I talked about the products that I had purchased, and how we were going to apply the materials. I must admit, I like Sven and enjoy his company. At this point in our conversation, we were joined by one of my Superintendents. ("Safety in numbers" I was thinking.)

Sven pointed out that his corporation was offering this "new service." This new service was about infrared photography, and how it could be applied to golf course use.

I said, "Sven, I see about 4,000 plus problems with my naked eye, why in the world would I want to add to those problems?"

As soon as those words were spoken, I realized "unbeknownst to me," there are problems not fully evident to the daily regime of normal observations.

It is important for all of us to look beyond the horizon of conventional perception. To assume that obstacles do not exist simply because we cannot see them is the old blinker syndrome. How often we go through life failing to look beneath the surface for fear of discovering situations in need of attention. A progressive attitude takes energy on our part. Similar to resisting change, we have to overcome

those built in human barriers.

To be visionary within our field of endeavor requires us to see matters not fully evident. This intuition enables us to prevent problems from occurring. In the business of maintaining high playability standards on our golf courses, we need to take advantage of our cerebral ability.

## Calendar

- June 15** GCSANJ Monthly Meeting - Fairmount Country Club, Host: Vinnie Bracken, (201) 377-6904
- July 1** The annual Cornell Turfgrass Field Day - Pine Island, Contact: Cornell Cooperative Extension, (914) 344-1234
- July 16** GCSANJ Monthly Meeting - Howell Park Golf Course, Host: Matt Clement, (908) 938-5843
- August 3** District #1 Meeting - Darlington Golf Course, Host: Andy Schuckers, (201) 327-8770
- August 10** District #2 Meeting - Madison Golf Club, Host: Mark Sinto, (201) 514-1434
- August** District #3 Meeting - to be announced
- August** District #4 Meeting - to be announced
- Sept. 3** Invitational - Knickerbocker Country Club, Host: Sam Juliano, (201) 385-1996
- Oct. 2** Championship - Somerset Hills Golf Course, Host: Bob Dwyer, (908) 766-2307
- Nov. 6** President's Ball - The Barclay Hotel, Host: Harry Harsin, (908) 505-8870
- Nov. (tba)** Annual Meeting - Hollywood Golf Course, Host: Bob Tosh, (908) 531-3609

# The quest for the best

(Continued from page 1)

saving device that has an adverse impact.

An informal survey may be actually harder, because you have to keep comments in perspective over time. **Dave Pease** uses this approach because he believes that golfers seem to make their concerns known through casual discussion. "Believe me, if there is something out of place, it doesn't take long to hear about it." Good news travels well, too, and golfers will let you know what things they appreciate. "If you are spending the amount of time required to maintain high standards of playability and you play your golf course regularly, you are cognizant of the golf course quality you are producing."

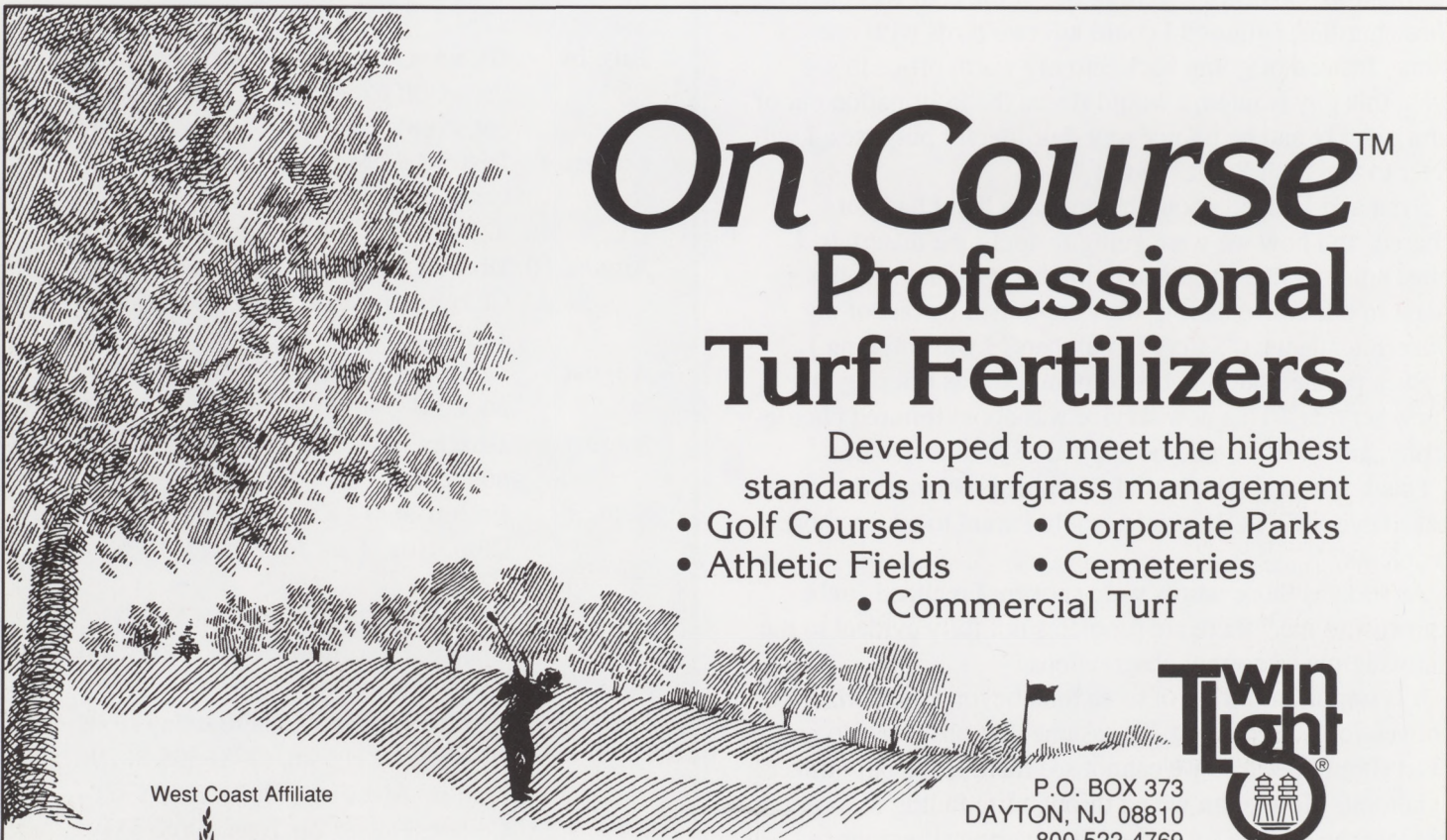
The bottom line is whether the course is getting better over time. If it isn't, then eventually the course will not be competitive with those that are getting better. At Paramus G&CC, a public course, the number of rounds of golf has increased nearly 30% over the last three years. This puts tremendous pressure on a course and its overall quality. More satisfied golfers reflects a course that is meeting their needs.

Most superintendents have yearly goals to improve

their course. This often requires a capital budget as well as increases in expenses. The addition of improved turf cultivars, irrigation equipment and maintenance practices are all needed to meet the escalating standards of today's golfer, according to **Dave Pease**. These growing demands reflect the attitude that if you are not getting better, you are falling behind. "You have to do a little better every year," according to **Chris Carson**.

These comments are right on target for quality management. You have to stop, look and listen. Ask, either formally or informally, everyone who is involved in the golf course (your workers, the players, the greens committee, etc.) what is important to them for the course and how it can be made better. Walk or play the course on a regular basis. You have to see for yourself what the players see. Experiment with new equipment, practices and turf varieties. Evaluate them for overall quality and impact on the course. All the interactions of turf agronomy, weather and thousands of rounds of golf make quality a two step forward, one step backward march. But don't get discouraged, just keep moving in the right direction.

**Iлона Gray**



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# GCSANJ NEWS



## TWO CHANCES TO QUALIFY

Qualifying for the Met Team Championship gross division will be based on a member's official U.S.G.A. handicap and his best score from the May and June meetings only. The Team will be chosen after the September handicaps are posted. The net team will be chosen only by the scores from the May and June meetings and the most current handicap at the time of the tournament.

Shaun Barry

## MEMBERSHIP ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

Please join me in welcoming several new members to our association: **John Dillon**, Silver Lake Park, B; **John Gasper**, Ridgewood, B-1; **Steven Hansen**, Bunker Hill, B-1; **Rebecca Hawkins**, Mendham, B-1; **Anthony Stefanik**, Stone Harbour, B-1; and **Bruce Zickafoose**, Cranbury, B. New C members are: **Leonard Bakelaar**, Rachele's and Michele's Oil Co.; **James M. Barrett**, James Barrett Associates; **Daniel Cavallo**, Lesco; **Richard Fritz**, Rhone-Poulenc; and **Dr. Robert Templeton**, Applied Environmental Enterprises.

**Rich Begley**, John Byrne; **Matt Clement**, Howell Park; **Sam Juliano**, Knickerbocker; **Ed McSeaman**, Toms River; and **Andy Schuckers**, Darlington, have been re-classified as A members. **Charles Clarke**, Eagles Nest; **Mark Johnson**, Essex County C.C.; **Ed Mellor**, Jumping Brook; and **Charles Saxon, III** have been re-classified as B members. **David Renk, Jr.**, Pine Valley; and **Walt Walsak**, Newton, have re-classified as B-1. **Gerald**

**Fountain**, Seacoast Laboratories, has re-classified to C, and **Robert Moore**, Aquatrols, to Life C.

Best of luck and congratulations to all.

Marty Mantell, CGCS  
Membership Committee

## HOW TO GET AN INVITATION TO THE INVITATIONAL

Over the years, there have been many problems associated with the Invitational Tournament. It is our premier tournament and more people usually want to participate than we can accommodate. Often, because of postal problems, invitations or replies have not been received on time. It is for these reasons we are making a few changes.

Invitations will be sent out on **June 20, 1992**. Replies will be accepted with a **July 30 or later postmark only**. Replies received earlier will be included with the July 31

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# GCSANJ NEWS



returns. The attempt is to let everyone have a chance to be prepared and reply. If you want to participate, do not miss the first date. ***There will be no exceptions.***

Shaun Barry

## GCSANJ 1992 WINTER SEMINAR

The GCSANJ 1992 Winter Seminar on March 19 lived up to its name. Upwards of 8 inches of snow in some parts of the state reduced attendance, but, for those who were able to make it to Cook College, the day was most informative.

Tom Grimac and Glenn Miller of the Education Committee had asked Dr. George Hamilton to set up the program and explain SARA Title III and New Jersey Right-to-Know laws and how they relate to public and private golf course operations. Dr. Hamilton gave clear and concise information to the attendees about these issues, removing much of the confusion and concern which often

surround these regulations.

Also included in the program was John Dana of FAI Insurance, who spoke about risk management and how it pertains to pollution, pesticides and underground storage tanks (USTs).

Finally, Dan Russel of the Bureau of Pesticide Compliance reviewed DEPE's regulations as we enter the 1992 season.

GCSANJ extends its thanks to Dr. Hamilton and the other seminar participants for their efforts in making the day so informative. Those people who were unable to attend but who would like information on SARA Title III and New Jersey Right-to-Know laws, should contact their local Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office and ask for fact sheets FS 350, 351, 352, 353 and 337. Also available from your local cooperative extension office are: a sample *Hazard Communication Program* and an *Emergency Response Reference Guide*.

Paul Powondra

## NEW ARRIVALS

Please join "The Greenside" in welcoming four new children to our members' families. John and Karen Carpinelli had a baby boy named Michael Anthony; Bob and Lucretia Scott had a baby girl, Cristina, on March 13, joining two brothers, Nicholas and Daniel. Jim and Gretchen Acheson had a baby girl, Katlin Marie, and Kevin and India Neal also had a baby girl, Delaney Marie, on February 16.

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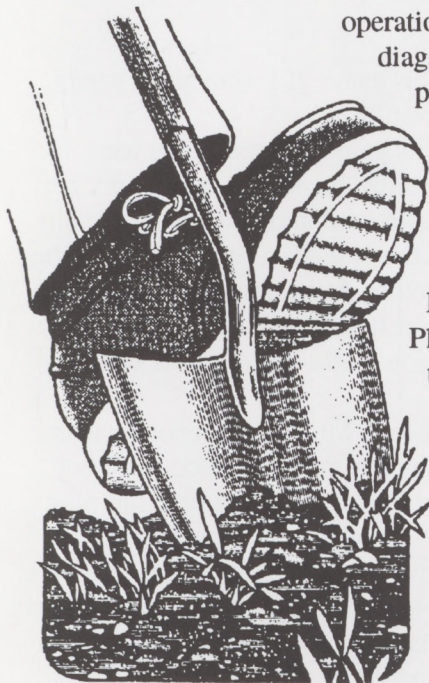
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tions on selecting and sending specimens as well as sample submission forms.

For the soil testing laboratory, contact the Operator Training Center, Room 105, Cook College, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, (908) 932-9295. The soil lab will provide rapid soil analysis and recommendations, including macro and micro nutrients and a "while you wait" soil pH test.

## Turf field day scheduled

The date for this year's TURFGRASS RESEARCH FIELD DAY has been set for August 6 at the Turf Research Center (Horticulture Farm II), North Brunswick, NJ. Registration will begin at 9 a.m., "rain or shine." Guided tours will commence at 10 a.m.

Recertification credits will be awarded at the conclusion of the program, so mark your calendars now for this worthwhile event.

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# Golf course superintendents and sports... just say no

SPORTS, golf is a great game, although, if you have ever seen me play, you might think differently. I used to play softball twice a week and volleyball during the winter. My better judgment forced me to stop playing about six years ago. That was about the same time I had my first child; I think there is some connection there.

Enough about me, let's talk about those Golf Course Superintendents who still play. It seems to me that maybe golf is the only game we should play. Let me state my case. Do the names **Mike Mongon**, **Sam Juliano** and **Kerry Boyer** ring a bell? They all have one thing in common, local hospital emergency rooms.

Kerry used to enjoy basketball, but a broken ankle during a game may have changed that. Talk about bad luck, Kerry broke a rib while moving, right after he got the job at Overpeck Golf Course (one of the reasons I believe in moving companies). As soon as his rib healed, Kerry

decided basketball was his game. If I were him I would seriously rethink that position.

Sam felt hockey was his game and was a real team player—when he broke his leg (in two spots), he had **Joe Porcello** with him at the time. He did not leave it there; the last time I saw him, he had his brother, Mike, pushing him in a wheelchair. If you are an assistant superintendent, you might want to steer clear of Sam.

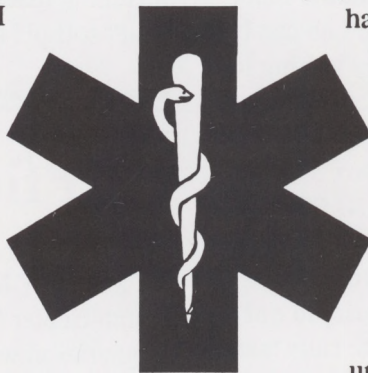
Then there is Mike. He did not have an assistant with him. He decided to go big time. If Ed Walsh calls and wants to play racquetball, make sure his insurance is paid up. It must have been, as Mike seems to have a lot more money in his pocket these days. I'm not saying it was Ed's fault; Mike is the one who wanted to play the extra game, but rumor has it Mike was catching up.

Speaking of Ed Walsh, he has survived without any broken bones although I am told he goes through a lot of Ben-Gay. Another thing about Ed, he has never mentioned my name in his "X Marks the Spot" column, so I guess I have not really made it yet in this business.

Bowling and golf are my two games; it works out well as my bowling and golf scores are about the same and I have never lost a bowling ball, although I did have to retrieve one from the next lane once.

Let's hope we all make it through a healthy season.

**Ken Krausz, CGCS**

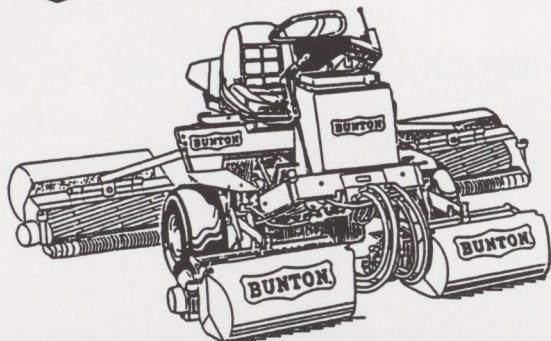


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# Reflections.... on New Orleans

"Way Down Yonder"—I've been to the Crescent City four times now, and each time the place gets better. Cleaner, new buildings, while keeping old ones in the quarter, and some new attractions. I ate well at some of the finer

*Oh yes, the SHOW! The covention hall was fantastic—biggest and best yet.*

restaurants and clubs such as Brennans, Mr.B's, The Rib Room and Palm Court. While there, I heard some great music at Palm Court, Mahogany Hall and the Louis Armstrong Room at the Meridian Hotel.

Oh yes, the SHOW! The covention hall was fantastic—biggest and best yet. I spent three days. Although I missed some things, I sure picked up some lines to sell. I didn't see as many people from New Jersey as usual because I

wasn't manning a booth. Nor did I keep a list of attendees this year. Sorry about that. I heard a great rumor about a New Jersey hospitality room, however, I had no luck in finding it. Even though I could not find the hospitality room, I did find a monster of a party that was hosted by a manufacturer. Thanks PX.

I'm sorry to hear that some of you had unpleasant experiences, but, put that many people in a city that size, odds are someone will have a problem. Still, when I think of some of the other places the convention has been held—Atlanta, St. Louis, Houston and Dallas—in my opinion, New Orleans is one of the better locations.

Sky Bergen

## The "far side" of quality

There is a "far side" to all subjects. Our survey (see lead story) on Quality also captured a superintendent's view of quality in his observations of the players. Player quality can have a significant impact on the course. We couldn't get Gary Larson to sketch out a cartoon based on the following paragraph, so use your imagination and, if you'd like, send us your sketch or photograph.

When "The Greenside" asked: "Have you every surveyed your players?", the reply shot back, "Many times." He elaborated, "I've surveyed them **not** repairing their ball marks, **not** raking bunkers, driving golf carts to the edge of the greens, hitting balls at the grounds crew without warning, disregarding directional signs and walking onto the frost covered practice greens to 'check' on how the frost was doing."

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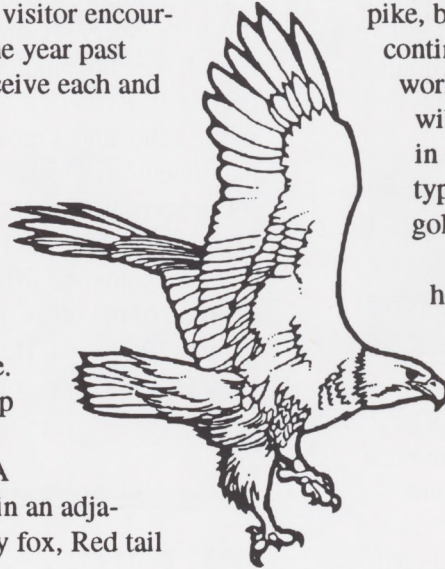
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# Yours in turf



On Dec. 9, 1991, an unexpected, but welcomed, visitor showed up on my doorstep. My door opens up to the Packanack Golf Club, a beautiful private 9-hole golf course in the township of Wayne. My visitor encouraged me to look back and reflect on the year past and I was reminded of the "perk" I receive each and every morning.

I share my course with a diverse assortment of wildlife. Just to see them everyday makes me feel good knowing that what I am doing on the course doesn't discourage them from staying. I have a pure black skunk living somewhere behind #6 tee. The noisiest pair of Kingfishers dart up and down my brook. Two Great Blue Herons patrol the edge of my ponds. A flock of 50 goldfinches spent the day in an adjacent field. The list goes on. Deer, Gray fox, Red tail



hawk, rabbit, ten billion crows (roosting, not peeling back turf), and, yes, Canada goose. Snapping, Box, Musk, Paint, even Wood and Spotted turtle. Snakes, possum, crayfish, pike, bass and woodpeckers. The list grows and will continue to do so with our continued efforts of working responsibly with nature. I have compiled a wildlife checklist which I use for public relations in our local community. The list helps reverse a typically common perceived negativity toward golf courses.

I hope my visitor returns someday. I know he was only passing through, but, whenever you can spend even 30 minutes with an American Bald Eagle, it is time well spent.

Douglas A. Vogel



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# The truth leaks out on how to be like Ed tips



Well, it's time someone spoke about **Ed Walsh**. As I am reflecting on all the good things I should say, I'm reminded of what my parents told me as a child, "If you don't have something nice to say about someone, don't say anything at all." I guess this will be the shortest "Greenside" article in history.

Ed is a role model whom every superintendent that I know tries to emulate. Emulate! I don't know what that word means but it worked well in the sentence. Anyway, Ed will probably call me and explain it. His qualities are too numerous to list here so I'll just give you a few:

**1. Ed is a very neat person and this is not hearsay.** I recently had the unfounded pleasure of being his roommate at the GCSAA tournament in Jacksonville, Florida. My side of the room was a disaster area and Ed's was like a hospital. He made his own bed every day, because he did not care for the way the maid did it. He also vacuumed because he doesn't like dust.

**2. Ed is very organized and systematic.** This became evident when you saw our bathroom. All his vitamin pills and other supplements were organized and separated in color-coded baggies. All bathroom linens were folded and in place, even after being used. He made me use the bathroom down the hall, because I never put the toilet seat down.

**3. Ed is, how shall I put this, thrifty.** If you will. I had strict orders not to open that little refrigerator in our room because his expense account didn't cover anything he could not get a receipt for.

One evening, though, Ed did go all out. After all, no one likes to come back from a convention with as much money as when they arrived. He decided to treat me to a few beers. Well, in Florida, they have drive-through package stores, but Ed didn't rent a car like the rest of us. He wouldn't use mine, because I might ask him to put gas in it. So how does one get beer without wheels? Rent a car? No way! One uses the free hotel shuttle that was provided to bring hotel guests to the tournament courses. Picture a bus with only the driver and one other person pulling up to a drive-through liquor store.

Well, I guess this is enough for now, but in the next issue of "The Greenside" I'll have more "How to be like Ed tips." Oh . . . and Armand . . . I'll bet my office is similar to yours, but I don't call it messy. I call it "an exercise in free expression!" Maybe someday we'll all have a maid on our staff and can be just like Ed (Felix Unger) Walsh.

Steve Malikowski, CGCS



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# Willet Wilt by Ken Kubik



In an effort to speed up play on the golf course and, therefore, produce a round of golf that is more fun to play, Willet has come up with some rather innovative ideas.

The three different flag colors being used for the last couple of years do not go far enough. The colors now only indicate whether the pin position is in the front, middle or back of the green. Willet suggests that you also put a large L, C or R on the flag so you will now know whether the pin is located on the left, center or right of the green.

Once you do get on the green, there will now be one of three different colored flag poles. This would be according to the stimp meter reading of the speed of the greens for that day. If the green is slow, the pole would be red; if they're fast, it would be green; and if they're right in the middle, the flag pole would be yellow.

Play can be speeded up by reducing the time spent trying to decide what golf club to use. The number of clubs allowed will be reduced from 14 to three. You get to have a wood, an iron and a putter.

The golfers will only be allowed to have between three and six golf balls when playing a round of golf, depending on the difficulty of the golf course. Once a player has lost the allotted number of golf balls, the round will be considered over.

The next thing to be implemented will be borrowed from football. It seems that the golfer wants to know at all times how far he or she is away from the center of the green. We now have yardage markers in various forms on and around the fairways. The need for this will no longer be necessary.



Willet Wilt recommends that all fairways be marked just like a football field—markings will be placed down the center of the fairway in ten yard increments with each yard marked out in between. In this way, the golfers will know exactly how far they are from the center of the green at all times.

Now we will borrow from the NBA 24-second shot clock. The golfers will have 24 seconds to complete all the necessary putts in order to get the ball into the cup. If the golfer does not complete this task within 24 seconds, the shot clock (soon to be called the "putt clock") will go off, and he or she will be penalized one stroke.

Willet is now seeking golf courses to volunteer to initiate these innovative methods of shortening the time it takes to play a round of golf. All interested parties should call Willet Wilt's agent, Ken Kubik, ASAP.

Ken Kubik

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# X marks the spot



Have you noticed how many advertisers have their own 800 phone number? You know the ones. There are the lawyers who tell you to call them at 1-800-LAWYERS. The list is almost endless.

Well, because this seems like such a catchy idea, I thought it would probably work in our business too. Here are a couple of people who might benefit by having one of those 800 numbers.

Suppose you wanted some information on Toro equipment. Wouldn't it make sense to call 1-800-TARULLI? Or maybe you wanted to find out about Toro irrigation. How about calling 1-800-CHALTAS. Taking this a step further, what happens if you're not satisfied with Toro equipment or irrigation and want to voice a complaint. In that case, you could call 1-800-MARYLOU.

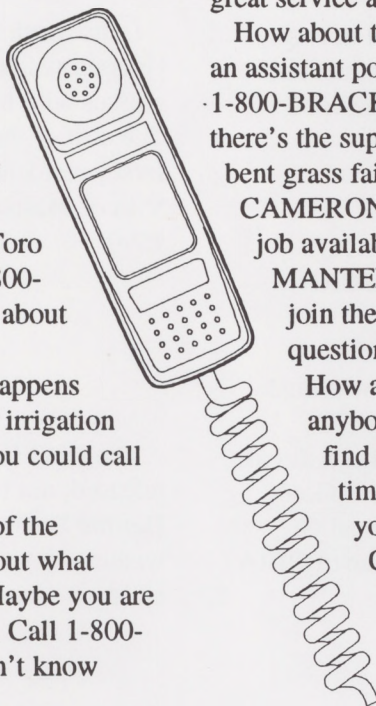
What if you were going to play golf at one of the Somerset County courses and wanted to find out what condition it was in. Call 1-800-UJOBAGY. Maybe you are having a problem with insects on your course. Call 1-800-VASVARY. You need some fertilizer and don't know

where to turn. Call 1-800-BERDINE. Looking for information on Ransome equipment, call 1-800-ERICSON. Need great service and products, call 1-800-KKROOTS.

How about the young person who might be applying for an assistant position at Shackamaxon. He or she could call 1-800-BRACKEN and get all the information needed. Then there's the superintendent who wants to produce the finest bent grass fairways possible. Certainly call 1-800-CAMERON. What happens if you need information on a job available through American Golf? Call 1-800-MANTELL. What do you tell a person who wants to join the Alliance for Environmental Concerns? No question here, call 1-800-AECGRAY.

How about needing to know almost anything about anybody? Call 1-800-MCNALLY. You want to find out which vendors usually come by at lunch time? Call 1-800-AMFJACK (as in Martin). Are you looking for Al Rathjens or Joe Flaherty?

Call 1-800-PLUMBER. You may have to read between the lines to figure out those



(Please turn to page 17)

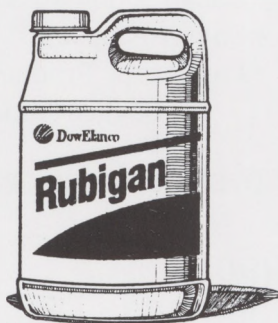
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## CIBA-GEIGY DONATES TO GCSANJ SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH FUND

CIBA-GEIGY has donated \$1,250 to the GCSANJ Scholarship and Research Fund. The donation was made on behalf of **Ken Thompson** of Stone Harbour GC, **Richard Christian** of the Pine Valley GC, **John Aducat** of the Kresson GC, **Chip Evans** of the Voorhees Golf Farm and **Steve Malikowski** of the Cape National GC. The donations were made through **Owen Towne** of CIBA-GEIGY. Our thanks to all for this great effort.

## POSTER AVAILABLE

Lofts Seed, Inc. has an original poster of Ornamental Grasses available. It depicts some of the more popular grasses with helpful hints on their use in the landscape. The cost of the poster is \$4, which includes postage (New Jersey residents add 7% state sales tax), payable by check, Visa or Mastercard. For more information, call (908) 560-1590.

## 1962 GCSANJ MEMBERSHIP MADE PUBLIC

The 1962 GCSANJ membership list was recently released, not by the STASI Files or by the KGB, but by **Dennis De Sanctis** of Wilfred MacDonald, Inc. Anyone wishing to view this list should call "The GreenerSide" editor.

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## NEW JERSEY SHADE TREE FEDERATION

Located at Lake Hall, Cook College, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, the Shade Tree Federation has two publications of special interest to Golf Course Superintendents. "Trees for New Jersey Streets," a 29-page book outlining important considerations for street and park trees, is available at \$6.50. "The Planting and Care of Urban Trees" is a new loose leaf publication with eight sections, including Trees for New Jersey Streets, Laws of New Jersey, Nursery Standards, NAA Standards, Urban Forestry Manual, Tree City, New Jersey Big Tree List and 122 Street Tree Fact Sheets. The cost is \$30. The Shade Tree Federation can be reached at (201) 246-3210.

## NEW JERSEY STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

May 6-8	Ninth Mid-Amateur	Preakness Hills CC
June 9-11	91st Amateur Championship	Shore Oaks GC
July 7	72nd NJSGA Pro-Amateur	Navesink CC
July 8-10	72nd Open Championship	Navesink CC
July 27-29	Four-Ball Championship	Mendham Golf
Aug. 3	Father & Son Championship	Essex County CC
Aug. 10-12	Junior and Boys' Champ.	Raritan Valley CC
Aug. 19	Mixed Pinehurst Champ.	Roxiticus GC

Aug. 24-25	Senior and Pre-Senior Champ.	Echo Lake CC
TBA	28th Best-Ball-Of-Four Champ.	Atlantic City CC

The tournaments raise money for former caddies as grants and aids for higher education.

## MGA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The MGA Distinguished Service Award was presented to Ann Beard of Essex Fells, New Jersey, one of the most dynamic women to ever serve the game of golf in our area. As chairman of the Women's Committee, Ann Beard has the responsibility of overseeing six USGA National Championships. Beard also has served as President of the Garden State Women's Golf Association, Tournament Director of the WMGA and on the Board of the WMGA for five years before serving as its President in 1979 and 1980. "The Greener side" extends its congratulations.

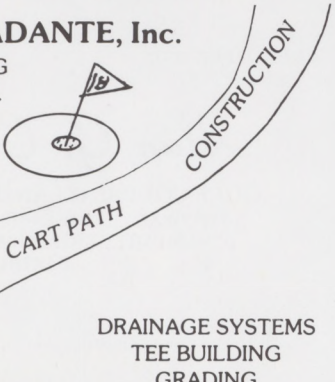
## CORNELL TURFGRASS FIELD DAY

The annual Cornell Turfgrass Field Day will be held in Pine Island, New York on July 1, 1992. The education sessions will be complimented by a trade show that will feature the latest in turf equipment and supplies.

The cost for this all day program is \$20, including lunch. Pre-registration is required.

For further information, call Cornell Cooperative Extension of Orange County at (914) 344-1234.

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## GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Exclusive information about the growing golf course management profession is available to superintendents in a new marketing research report prepared by the Center for Golf Course Management. CGCM, a subsidiary of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, serves as GCSAA's marketing research division.

The 1991 "Golf Course Superintendents Report" offers an extensive look at trends in golf course maintenance. Available only to practicing golf course superintendents, the report is a synopsis of the three previously released 1991 CGCM research reports: "Pesticide and Fertilizer Usage Report," "Golf Car and Turf Utility Vehicle Report" and "Mower and Maintenance Equipment Report."

"The Superintendents Report" is an invaluable resource, especially in simplifying the budgeting process," said John M. Schilling, GCSAA executive director. "By purchasing the report, superintendents can have comprehensive, unbiased information to reference when making difficult purchasing decisions."

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The study looks at eight areas affecting daily golf course maintenance operations: labor rates, equipment inventory levels, market share (chemicals, equipment, vehicles), maintenance trends, budget information, course demographics, product ratings and average replacement intervals (equipment, vehicles).

"The Golf Course Superintendents Report" is only available to practicing golf course superintendents. The cost is \$25.

To order the report, or for more information on CGCM's 1991 marketing research reports, contact Robert Shively, director of marketing for CGCM and GCSAA, at (913) 841-2240.

## ABSENCE OF EYEWASH STATION MAY MEAN FINES

Golf courses that don't have permanent eyewash stations at their facility should consider obtaining one soon. One course was recently fined for not having an adequate eyewash station at its golf course maintenance facility.

If any employee works with any chemical which offers first aid information on the label or MSDS to the effect that, "if sprayed into eye, immediately flush with water for 15 minutes," an eyewash station is probably mandatory. One state OSHA inspector said this statement precludes the use of eyewash bottles because of the length of time needed for flushing. Ordinary hoses cannot be used because the water pressure could cause injury to the eye.

OSHA inspectors are likely to give immediate fines because the absence of a proper eyewash station poses imminent danger to a worker. Superintendents should call their regional or state OSHA representative for information about eyewash facilities.

*Reprinted from GCSAA Government Relations  
"Briefing", November 1991.*

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# A look ahead or "Back to the Future"



In less than eight years we are going to enter the Twenty-first Century. Let me repeat that: the Twenty-first Century! All the people born before the ball falls in Times Square that night will always be considered to have been born in the last century!

My grandmother was born on March 22, 1902; the same day that I'm writing this article she turns 90 years old. She is still moving around quite well and still has a very sharp mind. Granny still has a real good recollection of what it was like growing up as a child in the beginning of the century. She recently talked to me about when everything would come bouncing, backfiring and smoking down the cobblestone streets of western Massachusetts, all the horses would give their drivers a very terrible time. Progress is never dull.

Granny talked of the first silent movies, the excitement of radio, the deep poverty of the Great Depression, rationing and seeing young men and women go off to fight those wars, many never to return, in places never mentioned in any of her geography books.

She talked about the joy of silent comedies, of raising her family, of her grandchildren and of her numerous great-

grandchildren. My grandfather died when he was 33 years old, and Granny had to do most of the child rearing as a single parent.

*I believe that we can learn from the past; many revolutionary maintenance practices which we are doing today have already been done successfully in the past.*

Her lifetime has extended from the Wright brothers to the Hindenburg to jet airplanes to watching us land on the moon on television. She has seen Presidents elected, assassinated

and resign. Republicans and Democrats made the same promises of peace and prosperity for all Americans. Her hope for the future is for no more wars and work for anyone who wants it.

At the time my grandmother was born, golf was a sport that few had heard about and not many working people had the idle time to play. Golf had been organized for only a few years in America. Although many clubs were already established, golf course maintenance was carried out by a variety of "professionals:" architects, members and some of the early greenskeepers. We, as superintendents, should reflect (like my grandmother) on what has preceded us into this coming century. We should also be challenged to look into the future to what we would like to be able to see in the Twenty-first Century.

Golf course maintenance has passed from the horse and buggy days to the computer generation. Greenskeepers trained under golf professionals or other greenskeepers until they could take over a course of their own. Today's college educated professional superintendents stand head and shoulder with all levels of management within the club structure.

*(Please turn to page 18)*

## X marks the spot

*(Continued from page 13)*

last two.

What do you do when your course is in pretty bad shape after a terrible summer? Call 1-800-POAGONE. You may not get anybody at that number, but if the course is in that bad a shape, there's probably nobody that can help anyway.

When you think about it, this makes a lot of sense. I sometimes think I should have been in advertising and not turf management. Such a creative mind is mine. So for Ed Walsh, call 1-800-XMTSPOT.



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# Y responds to X



About a month ago, I read an article by an "X marks the spot" columnist. I was impressed by the subject of who do you turn to to get an answer or information, etc. Probably because it was referring to a fellow alumni from Delaware Valley College and member of GCSANJ, it grabbed my attention. Also, I really didn't know much about the columnist before this year, when I asked him to be one of my sponsors for membership in GCSANJ and we got into some conversation about landscaping.

Let me digress at this point. I called Ilona Gray to ask if she would like to have a response to the "X" columnist. She said she would love one, as she is always looking for interesting articles for "The Greenside." I said I'd try to get one to her while I was in Florida to play the winter circuit! Needless to say, my putting took more time than I expected, so I never got to pen and paper, not even when I return home after four weeks in the sun. Until today, when I received the March/April issue of "The Greenside" in which I read another tirade by the "X" columnist. Something has to be done. He just included another neighbor of mine in his jail house!

Now to return to what I started.

I wanted to say the other day, but now it's been over a month, I received a phone call from Ed Walsh asking if I could help him out with some landscaping problems. I responded, "Sure, I'd be glad to help, and I'll even give you some surplus plants." So, I have a date to keep sometime this Spring.

Next, I met Armand Le Sage at one of our District meetings, and he told me of a recent visit to Lofts Seed to hear a presentation on ornamental grasses by Chris Raush. The speaker had shown some slides which she had taken in Northern New Jersey. Armand mentioned that he would like to come over and visit and learn more about grasses. I enthusiastically invited him to visit when the grasses are growing. Who wants to see dead cornstalks in March and April? You see plenty of them out in Iowa. I again mentioned he was welcome to some of our surplus when we divide them in March.

What I have learned from all of this are several similarities:

1. Armand and I both have offices in a similar state of disorder.
2. Ed will go to any length to get information if it doesn't cost him anything!!
3. I have a problem of which grasses do I give Ed that Armand won't have and which do I give Armand that Ed doesn't want!

Whatever the outcome, all I can summarize at this point

is two more golf courses are going to have their grounds supplemented with some ornamental grasses. Whether it's around the tees or accenting water holes, the growing trend to add ornamental grasses to golf courses is here to stay. Copper Hill comes to mind when I play the Storr Invitational and Basking Ridge is another. Ornamental grasses add a nice touch to many of the golf holes. So, besides Bent and *Poa*, try *Miscanthus* and *Pennisetum*. Also, don't forget to compliment them with and Sedum Autumn Joy. It's an awesome foursome!!!

In the short time that I've been a member of GCSANJ, I have found that professionals such as Ed and Armand are the caliber of superintendents that we all look for in this profession. Sharing ideas is cheap—sharing materials sometimes costs a little more, but sharing is a way to improve everyone's professional image.

Give me a call. I would like to evaluate your displays—of course I bring my full compliment of clubs on inspection trips.

**John R. Van Vorst**  
Superintendent of Parks, Tenafly

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## A look ahead or "Back to the Future"

*(Continued from page 17)*

I believe that we can learn from the past; many revolutionary maintenance practices which we are doing today have already been done successfully in the past. One example of this is the trend in 1992 of hand raking bunkers. A great many of us remember the good old days (early 60s), before the mechanical bunker rake was to become a "necessity." It has now been generally accepted that on our old constructed bunkers, the bunker rake has caused many superintendents nightmares.

If any of you have new or old revolutionary ideas, please let us know. All ideas, no matter how far fetched, will be given consideration. Also, if any of the veterans of the early years of turf maintenance have any photos, stories or find us returning to old time practices, please forward them to me. Remember, we only have eight short years to correct all the errors of the previous 92, before the Twenty-first Century arrives.

Happy Birthday, Granny!

**Armand H. Le Sage**

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