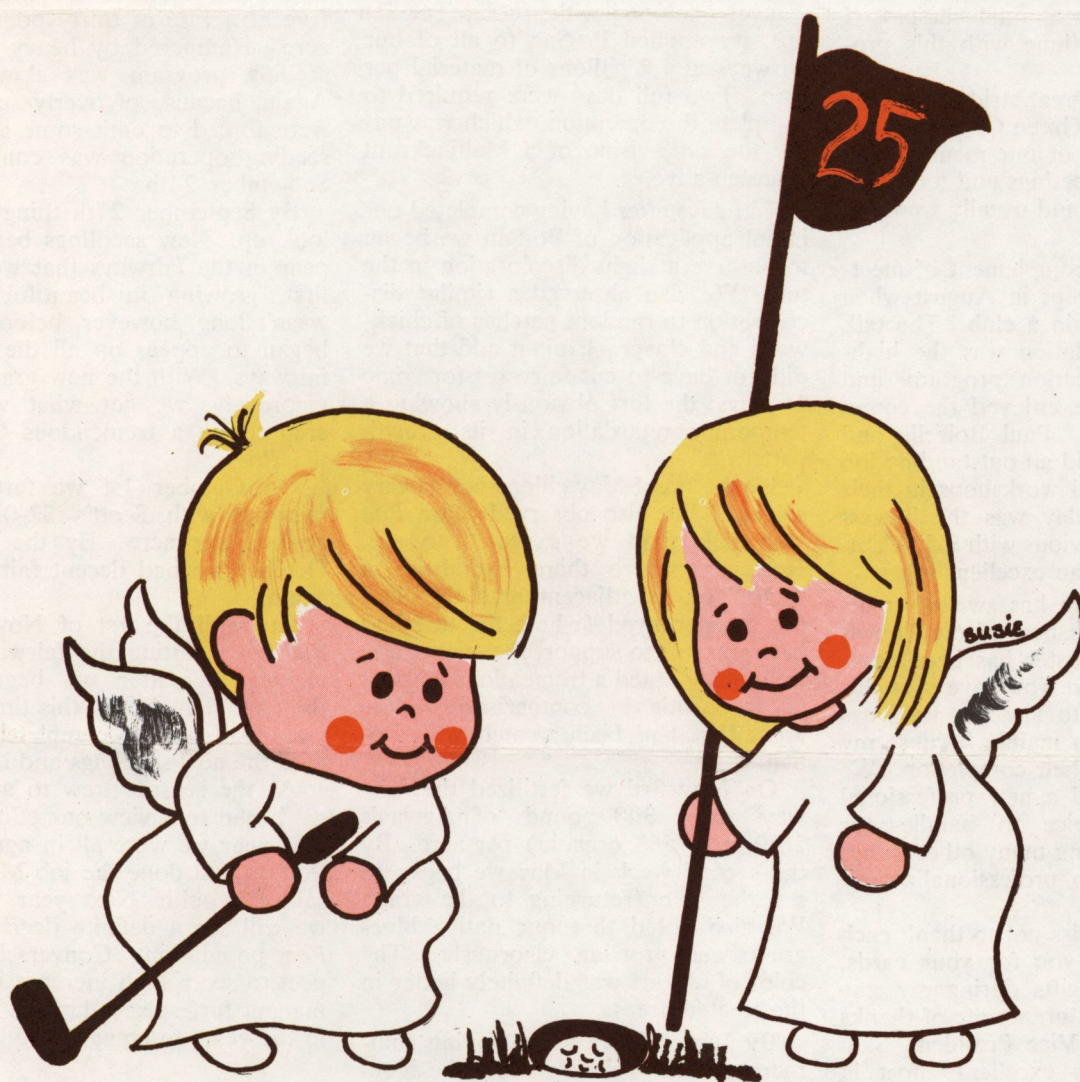


New Jersey Golf Course Report

Vol. IV, No. 9

December, 1971



JOY TO THE WORLD...

President's Message

The end of 1971 is fast approaching, our trials and tribulations are almost finished for this year and we look forward to new ones in 1972.

Since all of you were not able to attend our annual meeting on December 8th, I would like to highlight our 1971 year. I feel we made great inroads to the National Association this year. Our white paper, generally describing a lack of communications with the membership, received a good verbal response. The proof of the pudding was in June when Dick Blake, President and Charlie Baskin, Director attended our joint meeting. New Jersey also instituted the idea of considering national candidates with the Metropolitan, Long Island, and Hudson Valley Associations with the idea of voting as a block, and we were successful in electing all of our mutual choices. I hope we can continue with this program.

We also made great strides with the newly organized "Green Chairman Association." Many of our members attended all their meetings and took part in all discussions, and usually were the featured speakers.

We had a full complement of meetings this year except in August when we could not obtain a club. The talk on pesticide legislation was the highlight of the education program, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed the comedian at Navesink. Paul Boizelle and Phil Scott again did an outstanding job with their regional workshops in their area. Our field day was the biggest success of any previous with Skip Cameron again doing an excellent job.

Our membership has swelled to its largest ever to the best of my knowledge. The new roster has been completed and I'm sure you have it at this time. I'm sorry to say the By-Laws were not rewritten mainly because my injury hampered their completion. We have also engaged a new professional management service to handle our mailings and among many other things expedite and help professionalize our Association.

I would be remiss not to thank each and everyone of you for your cards, well-wishes, and gifts during my stay in the hospital. A great note of thanks also goes to our Vice President, Skip Cameron, for his excellent effort in taking over in my absence.

We look forward to another super Christmas party again this year. The committee has done another excellent job. We have some new ideas coming up next year, and look forward to another progressive year. Best wishes to all with the coming holidays and New Year ahead.

Jack Martin,
President

Poa Annua Control At Woodcrest Country Club

Jack Montecalvo, Supt.

Shortly after assuming my duties as Golf Course Superintendent at Woodcrest Country Club, I was told to find a solution to the Club's most pressing turf problem—the loss of fairway grass during the months of July and August on fairways that boasted a *Poa* population of from sixty to eighty percent. With Woodcrest's, then, inadequate irrigation system it was almost impossible to maintain *Poa* during severe stress periods of summer.

After having researched all of the current avenues available to us for *Poa annua* elimination and control, I decided to use Mallinckrodt's Po-San program.

On April 13th, using a John Bean sprayer equipped with #8004 Tee Jet tips, we applied Po-San to all of our fairways at 1.2 gallons of material per acre. Two full days were required to complete the operation, which was under the supervision of a Mallinckrodt representative.

Ten days after having completed our initial application of Po-San we began to observe a slight discoloration in the turf. We also observed a similar discoloration to random patches of chickweed and clover. I might add that we did not have to cut fairways for some 16 days; the turf obviously showing a temporary retardation in its growth pattern.

By the 1st of May chlorosis was very evident. We also observed more *Poa* seedheads than we expected to see. However, where there had been a "skip," or an adjacent area that had not been sprayed (where the turf had been too soft to support the spray rig), we quickly noted a tremendous amount of seedheads in comparison to the areas that had been treated with Po-San.

On May 3rd we fertilized the fairways using 300 pounds of Agway's 20-0-10 (75% organic) per acre. By the second week in May we began to see the color returning to the grass. We also noted that our native bluegrass was growing vigorously. The color of all turf was definitely better in the treated areas.

By June 6th we were playing summer rules at Woodcrest and the bluegrass and *Poa* were growing nicely together. During the second week of June hot, dry weather began to appear. The fairways continued to improve; remaining beautiful until July 7th. At this point we began to experience the loss of some *Poa*. As of July 26th the fairways were still in fine shape despite some small areas of "lost" *Poa*.

During the first week of August we were "hit" by heavy rains that contin-

ued for several days. When, at last, the rain stopped—hot, humid weather followed. Then came another period of hot, dry weather. There are ways to describe what we looked like as of August 13th, but suffice to say it wasn't good. The fairways were very ragged. We lost considerable amount of *Poa* in all areas. On August 16th we began to aerify the fairways preparatory to our second Po-San treatment.

On August 30th we began to spray again using the same rate of application we had used in the early spring. Needless to say, with our sad looking fairways at the time, I had my moments of doubt.

On September 9th we began to seed the fairways using a Rogers Aero-Blade Seeder. We introduced a seed mixture consisting of 50% Pennstar, 30% Merion, and 20% Manhattan Rye at a rate of thirty pounds to the acre. Hampered by heavy rains, our seeding program was slowed down. Again, because of overly soft turf we were forced to omit some areas. Our seeding operation was completed on September 24th.

By September 27th things began to look up. New seedlings began to appear in the fairways that were seeded first, growing in beautiful rows. It wasn't long, however, before the rows began to appear on all the remaining fairways. With the new grass growing vigorously, we got what we considered to be a tremendous "jump" of the *Poa*.

On October 1st we fertilized our fairways with Scott's 32-0-8 at 125 pounds per acre. By the middle of October we had decent fairways back again.

Up until the 1st of November we had been cutting the fairways at 1¼ inches; thereafter we began cutting them at ¾ inch. By this time the fairways had almost completely filled in with the new seedlings and the *Poa*.

As the season drew to a close and we began to review our efforts for the past year we were all in agreement—Po-San had done the job Mallinckrodt said it would. Next year we believe we will see a definite decrease in our *Poa* population. Conversely, we expect to see a high increase in our permanent turf species here at Woodcrest in the years to come.

Field Day Enjoys Record Success

A record number of forty-four booths were taken by exhibitors at this year's Turf Equipment Field Day held on October 7th at the Mountain Ridge Country Club. Chairman Skip Cameron assisted by Ed Nickelsen, Tony Bifano, Peter Scoville, Glen Gallion, and Rick Francis deserve much of the credit for success, as do Phyllis Cameron and Gail Gallion in helping with

the registration. On the other hand as Chairman, Vice President "Skip" points out, there would be no day at all without the companies and friends of the Association, who take the time and trouble to exhibit. In the hopes that such a mutual benefit plan will continue even more successfully in the future, we list the contributors to this year's Field Day as follows in no especial order:

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Report To the Chairman

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As I am sure you know, Peter left early the day before yesterday to attend the annual Yazoo University Turf Conference. If you knew Peter as well as I do, you would realize just how important this event is to him. On the other hand, as his dutiful wife, I am rather hard pressed to understand why the Club refuses to pay his expenses. I am beginning to think you took his one line report ("It was a ball!") regarding the same meeting last year seriously. From all that I can determine he does nothing but work! All those stories about drinking and women have no basis here as Peter is usually his old normal self within three days after he gets home. Anyway, he asked

me to compile his monthly summary for you (in as much as I always rewrite it anyway) in hopes that I have a general idea as to what is going on.

There are several problems that I would like to mention to the Board at this time of year. Just what is it about this liming program? It might not be so bad if we didn't live on the course, although I don't really believe it. To say that the lime is into everything is not enough. I had a big fight with Peter over it last week. I said the kids would have to be steam cleaned over at the shop. He said that was fine with him, but that the machine was too busy cleaning the lime spreaders. So I had to give them a bath here. The septic tank hit a pH of 9 and burped "God bless the Environment!"

I would also like to communicate on the subject of my husband's working hours. I can see the fact that during the summer the grass grows seven days a week, but really, does Peter have to be there everyday to watch it grow? The husbands of all my friends in the bridge club all seem to be off more than they are on, and generally make more money as salesmen, etc. The other night I even watched him at the bedroom window just making sure that the snow was really covering the grass — he was ecstatic until it dawned on him to plow the parking lots and paddle tennis the next morning, which naturally was a Sunday!

And by the way, we are about to leave on our annual January vacation. I realize you think this is a luxury, being able to head south in the winter, and all that. But, do you realize that we have never even seen anything north of the Mason-Dixon Line, and that all those wonderful places you talk about like Nantucket, Sabago Lake, and the Thousand Islands, are only a dream to us; and I might add far cheaper than the south! In fact you once told me you couldn't afford Florida — neither can we.

There is one more thing that has to be reported in my opinion. Peter works from about 7 A.M. to 5 P.M., except in the summer when he has to be out nights due to the antique watering system. Why is it that almost to the minute he sits down to dinner, you telephone for a resume of the day's problems and events? I don't question your interest, but Peter has a telephone in his office the same as you do. If you want to be called at home, Peter has often said he'd be perfectly willing to call you at night between sprinkler changes.

Other than the above, things seem to have been normal during the past month. Peter's ulcer is diminishing as it usually does this time of year, and

the kids are getting used to calling him "daddy" again. I don't think it even really bothered him when you overruled him and opened the course last weekend after he had closed it due to 2 inches of rain and frost.

I hope you will regard the above as a constructive report, which it is, but on the other hand how will it feel to be the correspondent in our divorce, when I tell Peter I don't give a damn about transpiration, but he might just consider talking to me about propagation?

Your truly,

Prudence Poa

Turf Clippings

President *Jack Martin* is on the mend after a serious boating accident at Toms River. As most already know, Jack was thrown out of, and then attacked by his own boat, which didn't do his left arm a bit of good.

Director *Gene Tarulli* of Colonia C.C. is reported to be recovering from a "mild" heart attack. Certainly hope both of the above have a speedy recovery.

Some recent job changes: *Al Caravella* leaves the Garden State for Brae Burn C.C. in Westchester. *Frank Leary*, formerly of the Knoll G.C. succeeds Al at Echo Lake, and *Ed Rockhill*, Asst. Supt. at Montclair moves to the Knoll.

And there's more: *Paul Boizelle* after four years at Navesink C.C. moves on to Fiddler's Elbow C.C. He will be succeeded at Navesink by *Bob Dobbie* out of Piersons Mill by Maplewood C.C. *Wayne Allen* has been named Supt. at Shackamaxon C.C. It's beginning to look like another "winter of discontent." Perhaps we're wrong, but it just seems like the local turf industry has a major "shake-out" about every three years.

There were 110 for the dinner at Navesink following the Annual Invitational Golf Tournament — something of a record. With the rigors of "Summer Sun" and "Fall Hurricanes" behind them, a relaxed field enjoyed the day to its fullest over Paul's beautifully conditioned course.

Foresgate C.C. is in the process of building nine more holes to bring their total to thirty-six. Roy Ern is the builder with *John Wanty*, Supt.

Cheers and Tears Dept. — *Pat Campbell*, Supt. of Flanders Valley will host the U. S. Amateur Public Links Championship in 1973. *Ed Nickelsen* and *Don Marshall* of Montclair will take turns pulling sick time prior to the U. S. Ladies Amateur in the same year. One begins to wonder

in this business whether it pays to get a good thing going. The U.S.G.A. Officials rated Flanders Valley as being the "best conditioned public golf course" in the Metropolitan area over the past two seasons. Seems their comments on Montclair escaped the press.

Jim Gilligan is the newly elected Fire Chief of the newly organized foundation savers near his Bedens Brook Club. Probably more of us could follow the example set by Jim. A civic approach such as this would do much to enhance that all important image. On the other hand if the local Lodge Hall were to burn down in the afternoon of a 96 degree Fourth of July while Jim's greens were wilting . . .

Carl Ostberg, "scarred veteran of umteen Thunderbird and Dow Jones Classics," has tendered his resignation at Upper Montclair C.C. after having served a long and illustrious career. Carl's well indoctrinated Asst., "*Red*" *Dickson* will succeed his former boss as of the end of the current season. Both deserve congratulations and best wishes.

The nominating committee for the New Jersey Turfgrass Association has submitted the following slate for the coming year: President — Don Marshall; Vice President — Eugene Field; Secretary — Dr. Ralph Engel; Treasurer — Janet Scherneck. While only a year old, this group has come a long way in attempting to represent all turf interests in the state in these times of screwed up legislation and now has a membership of over 250.

President "Jack" has appointed *Don Marshall* and *Paul Boizelle* as delegates to the National Conference. A poll of the above two finds them very happy, because they found it very tough to find a real reason to go to Cincinnati in February!

Phil Scott just recently "cut the ribbon" for Bamm Hollow's new nine. Phil also drew plaudits from the local press for the splendid job he did in bringing the course in after a very trying summer. Phil's wife had no comment.

Research has revealed a very dedicated group. *Jack Ormond* (also known as the "White Fox" and already known to be dedicated), *Jim McCormick* of Bea Lea, *Heinz Fritschka* of Toms River, and Woodcrest Country Club's *Jack Montecalvo* all travel a minimum of 100 miles to attend Supt. meetings and often more. It's great they're that dedicated, but let's hope they don't request mileage.

Jim Tosco is leaving Fertl Soil Co. to join the sales staff of O. M. Scott.

Les "Bucky" Carpenter, Supt. of Braidburn C.C. has added a newly

completed tennis complex to his growing list of responsibilities. Big deal you say? Try on seven courts *under one roof* for size! And the courts are heated and air conditioned! Next they'll want grass courts.

More changes: *John Johnson* has been named Supt. at Knob Hill C.C. Recently purchased from the Handwerg family, this club is now in the process of renovation, green reconstruction, automatic water system, etc. *Don McDaniels* is the new Supt. of the newly constructed Monmouth County Golf Course near Farmingdale, New Jersey. Don comes to Jersey via the Dupont C.C. at Wilmington, Delaware. *Joe Flaherty, Jr.* redesigned his life-style finally and got married. Efforts to contact him have failed.

In the business world, *Jim Roach* reports that increased business has compelled him to construct a new warehouse, which will be finished shortly. *Leo Cleary* has unleashed his secret weapon to the hilt in the form of son, *John Cleary*. John is a little bitter about having 3366 tatoed on his chest, but is otherwise enjoying seeing the country by plane.

And lastly, another on the sick list has been *Bill "Silver Fox" Riley*. It's a long and rather confusing story, but basically you could say he was attacked by a minimum human former em-

ployee and as a result fell and broke a wrist. Bill has promised us an article entitled "Basic moves when Employer-Employee relations break down."

Did You Know:

The thinner sod is cut the greater the number of new roots emerge from the sod, recent research at the University of California, Davis, indicates. This conclusion has been reached through experiments conducted by Dr. John H. Madison, Department of Environmental Design, using Kentucky bluegrass and colonial bentgrass cut at a thickness of 1/2, 1, and 2 inches.

The experiments also showed that rooting of the sod was from new roots and that there is negligible branching and re-growth from old, cut roots. The sod was laid and after a period of 8, 15, and 22 days, or 29 days in the case of colonial bentgrass, the sod was examined to see how much root and shoot emergence had taken place.

After 8 days the bluegrass cut at 1/2 inch had more emerged roots than had thicker sods of bluegrass at any time in the three week period. Bentgrass showed a greater increase in the number of roots emerged with time, but failed to show a significant difference in number of emerged roots with thickness of sod.

The Rocky Mountain Reporter

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