



September 1984

Published monthly by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association

Vol. XIV, No. 8

Meeting Notice

Date: October 18, 1984
 Location: Whippoorwill Club, Inc.
 150 Whippoorwill Rd.
 Armonk, NY 10504

Host
 Superintendent: Chuck Martineau, (914) 273-3755
 Gen. Manager: Steve Fischl, (914) 273-3011
 Golf Professional: Harry Montevideo, (914) 273-3059
 Green Chairman: Mike Labriola
 President: George H. Stewart
 Telephone: Chuck Martineau if weather is inclement
 Golf: yes
 Car: \$20.00
 Caddies: \$12.00 per bag plus tip

Lunch: 12 noon
 Social Hour: 6-7 p.m.
 Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
 Lunch & Dinner: \$35.00/person

Directions: From New Jersey take 87 to 287 E. to 684 North.
 From Conn. take 95 to 287 West to 684 North.
 Take 684 North to exit 2 (Westchester Airport) at end of ramp take a right. At traffic light turn left onto Route 120. Follow Route 120 for about 2.5 miles. Route 120 will intersect with Route 22. At first traffic light make a left in order to continue on Route 120 for another 100 to 200 yards. Take first right onto Whippoorwill Road for about 2.5 miles, the clubhouse will be on your right.

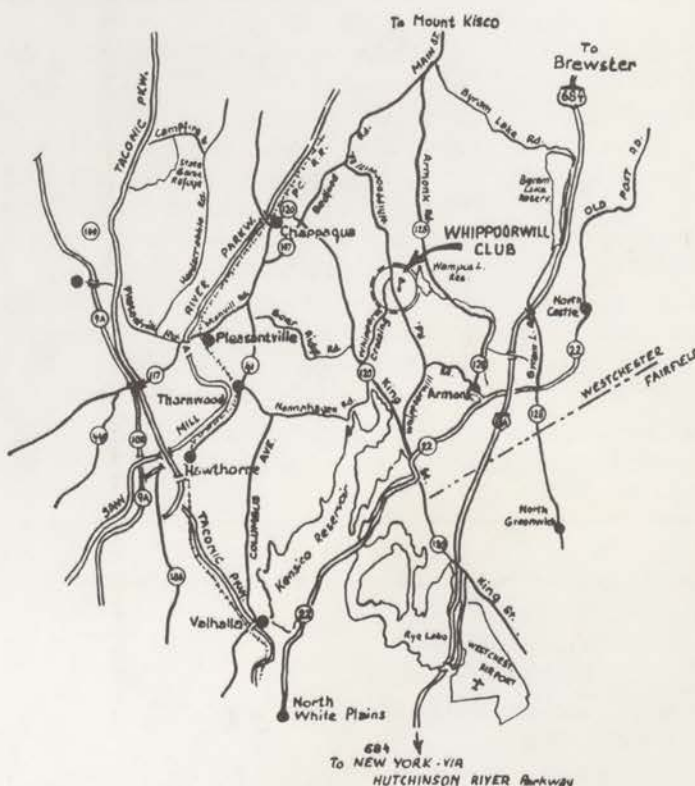
Coming Events

October 18	Met GCSA meeting - Green Chairman/ Superintendent, Whippoorwill C.C.
Nov. 15	Met GCSA Annual Meeting, Fairview C.C.
Nov. 7-9	NYS Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show, Syracuse, NY
Dec. 8	Christmas Party, Fairview C.C.
June 6, 1985	Met GCSA Invitational, Stanwich Club

Something To Think About . . .

The truth will ultimately prevail . . . when enough pains are taken to bring it to light!

Roads to Whippoorwill Club . .



Notice

The Met GCSA Board of Directors is exploring interest in a Corporate Membership in the White Plains Health & Racquet Club. Listed below is information relative to fees, etc. We would need 25 participants to qualify for the corporate rate. Anyone interested please contact Chuck Martineau.

Corporate Membership Fees

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Husband & Wife	\$425
*Each Child under 16	\$50.00

Racquetball/Aerobics Membership

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Pat Lucas, <i>Co-Editor</i>	Office 203-359-0133 Home 203-637-3939
Ted Horton, <i>Co-Editor</i>	Office 914-967-6000 Home 914-937-3613
Dennis P. Petruzzelli, <i>Staff Writer</i>	Office 914-946-1074 Home 914-946-2552
Pat Vetere, <i>Staff Writer</i>	Office 914-273-9300 914-234-6795

OFFICERS

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<i>Vice-President</i>	Peter Rappoccio, Silver Spring Country Club Office 203-438-6720; Home 203-431-3990
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Publication deadline for *Tee to Green* is 21 days before the regular meeting.

ter. Racquetball and Aerobics available at additional charge.

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A limited amount of permanent court time is available.

Racquet Rental - \$2	Guest Fee - \$5
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Symposium of Interest

The Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium will be held October 24 and 25, 1984 at the Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

This year's theme is "Directions in Golf Course Management." Subject matter will include R & D information on pesticides, soils and popular constraints, trends in golf course design and new challenges to superintendents.

For further information contact Bob Welch, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, 735 North Water Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. (414) 225-2222.



Innis Arden Meeting: (l. to r.) Peter Rappoccio, Program Chairman; Richard Weir, speaker from Nassau Cooperative Extension Service; Patrick Lucas, Host Superintendent.

Inter-Association Matches Team

The Met GCSA 6-Man Team for the Inter-Association Matches is the six low gross scorers from the 1984 Met GCSA Championship play at Innis Arden. The Inter-Association Match will take place at Wilmington CC on Tuesday, October 23rd and we wish our team success.

Chuck Fatum/Wee Burn	148
Scott Niven/Stamwich	166
Jim Fulwider/Century	167
John Carlone/Stamwich	169
Larry Pakkala/Woodway	170
Les Kennedy/Oak Lane	172

First Alternate:

Tony Savone/Quaker Ridge	173
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Second Alternate:

Paul Caswell/Greenwich	177
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Innis Arden Meeting: (l. to r.) Golf Chairman Larry Pakkala with the 1984 Met GCSA Champion Chuck Fatum, Superintendent of the Wee Burn Country Club.

Met GCSA 1984 Championship

Opening Round: Bedford Golf & Tennis Club – July 26th

Second Round: Innis Arden Golf Course – September 27th

Met GCSA Champion

Chuck Fatum/Wee Burn 148

Championship Flight

Low Net: Scott Niven/Stanwich 146

Class A (Hdcps. 11-18)

Low Gross: Peter Rappoccio/Silver Spring 201

Low Net: Bob Tosh/Rockrimmon 146

2nd Net: Terry Mulligan/Rolling Hills 150

Class A (Hdcps. 19-over)

Low Gross: Larry Pakkala/Woodway 170

Low Net: Tim O'Neill/Darien 142

2nd Net: Paul Caswell/Greenwich 151

Class B

Low Gross: John Carlone/Stanwich 169

Low Net: Dennis Petruzzelli/Brae Burn 161

Class C

Low Net: Dan Cancelleri/Canform Supply 150

Class B/C (w/o hdcps.)

Low Net: Bill Barrett/Magovern 145

One Day Event at Innis Arden Golf Club

Thursday, September 27th

NOTE: 65 players competed in this tournament.

Net Better Ball of Two format.

Low Net Team:

Pat Lucas/Innis Arden

Gerry Porricelli/Guest 61

2nd Net Team:

Tim O'Neill/Darien

Les Kennedy/Oak Lane 62

3rd Net Team

Paul Caswell/Greenwich

Chuck Fatum/Wee Burn 63

4th Net Team

Bill Gaydosh/Edgewood

Bill Brown/Guest 64

5th Net Team

Dan Cancelleri/Canform Supply

Tony Savone/Quaker Ridge 65

6th Net Team

Larry Pakkala/Woodway

Paul Veshi/Siwanoy 65

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3. It costs too much.
4. That's beyond our responsibility.
5. That's not my job.
6. We're all too busy to do that.
7. It's too radical a change.
8. There's not enough help.
9. We've never done it before.
10. We don't have the authority.
11. There's not enough time.
12. Let's get back to reality.
13. That's not our problem.
14. Why change it? It's still working O.K.
15. I don't like that idea.
16. You're right, but.
17. You're two years ahead of your time.
18. It isn't in the budget.
19. We're not ready for that.
20. Sounds O.K. but impractical.
21. Let's give it more thought.

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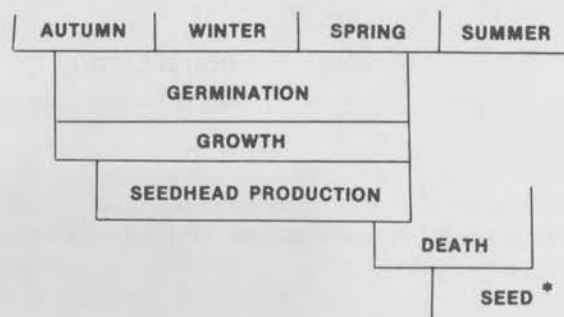
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Facts:

Low Phosphorus & high Sulphur – give low level of Poa
High Phosphorus and high Potash encourages Poa
pH 5.5 – 6.5 ideal for Poa (pH 6.5 optimum)
Shade (dull cloudy days) ideal for Poa
Cold water irrigation

Germination:

Temperature regime 80°F day, 68°F night
Significant germination 60°F – 90°F range.
Light enhances germination (fall renovation, aerification).
Poa does not germinate in soil below pH 4.5
Light-air-moisture required for seed germination
Heaviest seed germination occurs in late summer to early fall.

Growth:

Long, bright days ideal plus temperature regime 75°F day, 60°F night

Responds to organic nitrogen (.5#-.75#N per month except during heat stress periods in summer).

Responds to and survives with moisture (several syringes a day)

Susceptible to about 20 turf diseases*

Poa will tolerate close mowing (will produce seedheads at a ¼ inch cut)

Soil Water:

Poa likes cool water (50°F - 55°F well water)

Maximum growth when soil shows 50-60% water holding capacity

30% poor growth and 70-80% fair to poor growth

Seedhead Production:

Seedhead production heaviest in late spring to early summer.
Nitrogen increases vegetative growth but reduces seedhead production.*

Phosphorus and potash added to nitrogen increase seedhead formation.*

Summary: Management vs. Control

By very candid admission, few can successfully manage Poa Annua over a period of years. With all the facts available, when Poa populates fine turf available, when Poa populates fine turf beyond 65%, one has a choice to try to culture it as turf or eliminate this culprit by renovation.

Finally, Poa will generally invade turf areas when the permanent grasses are under climatic stresses or severe compaction.

* Life cycle chart of Poa Annua originated by Dr. V.A. Gibeault, University of California at Davis.

Give the Bug or Weed a Lemon

Our thanks to John Wistrand of Metro Milorganite for forwarding this to us.

In the not-too-distant future, farm suppliers may be able to serve cotton growers with a product which controls insect pests without damaging the environment. This will be good news for cotton growers and farm suppliers alike — this pesticide is unlikely to be banned since it's harmless to humans and animals.

This new form of chemical control of insect pests uses citrus limonoids, a plentiful by-product from citrus processing plants. Researchers at the University of California at Berkeley, James A. Klock and Isao Kubo, tested three types of citrus limonoids on cotton plants recently.

In tests in both the laboratory and in greenhouses, citrus limonoids repelled the larvae of fall armyworms and cotton bollworms. Limonoids are the culprits behind the bitter taste in parts of grapefruit and lemons.

During the experiments, the scientists applied limonoids to the leaves of cotton plants. The limonoids gave the cotton leaves such a bad taste, that the insects chose to eat something else if they had the choice.

But when the larvae were put in lab dishes with nothing to eat except cotton leaves treated with limonoids they did eat some. White citrus limonoids didn't kill the insects, they did slow their growth by more than 50 percent.

As it turned out this works to the farmer's advantage. The smaller insects are less able to fend for themselves and are more vulnerable to their natural enemies.

And those who do survive can't eat as much as larger insects, so they do less damage to crops. Actually, the scientists point out that in a natural pest control program, it is better to reduce the insects' growth, rather than to kill them outright.

If all the armyworms or cotton bollworms were killed then the insect predators which feed on them would be left with nothing to eat.

Isao Kubo said he became interested in using citrus limonoids to control insects after he had studied limonoids from the neem tree, which is a member of the mahogany family from India.

This limonoid is called azadirachtin, and Kubo said it's one of the most powerful insect control agents to be derived from botanical sources. But azadirachtin isn't very common and is currently too difficult to synthesize.

On the other hand, citrus limonoids are plentiful and are already extracted from citrus products to make them palatable. Even seeds used in livestock feed must have the limonoids removed, or the animals won't eat them. Currently, after limonoids are extracted, they are disposed as waste products.

Since limonoids are already extracted from citrus, Kubo points out there will be no additional expense involved in supplying this natural insecticide.

And there is plenty of interest in Kubo's work. "I get a lot of phone calls from all over the world. And some chemical companies have expressed interest in this," Kubo said.

If Kubo and his associates are successful in their upcoming field tests, citrus limonoids may provide farm suppliers with a product which keeps their customers and environmentalists happy.

Going after weeds

Since 1977 JLB International Chemicals in Vero Beach, Florida has been marketing Cide-Kick, a herbicide using a d'limonene, a product of the citrus industry.

At that time Cide-Kick was known as SA-77. According to Steve Brewer, JLB vice president for marketing, the first tests were conducted in 1976 in LaBelle, FL.

"We were looking for a penetrating product that would break down the waxy cuticle of the weed and allow more herbicide to be absorbed by the plant," Brewer says.

"D'limonene was chosen for several reasons: it seemed to have the ability to aid herbicide absorption; had great potential as a masking agent due to its orange blossom odor; and we could assume access to a plentiful supply."

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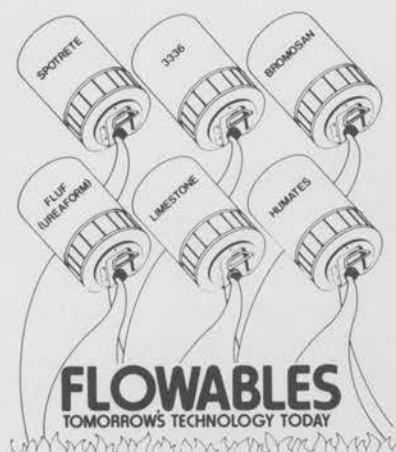


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Since that time the SA-77 formulation has been tested by several universities, private custom applicators and some agencies like the South Florida Water Management District, which used it in combination with other herbicides to control hydrilla in canals and rivers.

Nearly all of the studies concluded that the limonoid substances did enhance the penetration of companion herbicides.

Virginia tested it with paraquat on crabgrass in rye. Texas used it with Tordon on mesquite. Florida used it with Banvel on holly. It was also used with Round-up on torpedo grass on golf courses, with Malathion Ethion and Zineb to control city mold on citrus, and with Aatrex 4L on corn in Indiana to control Fox-tail.

Brewer says that JLB buys its d'limonene from frozen juice concentrate plants who can extract it from the peels. Alone it is insoluble so JLB adds an emulsifier. The company has the exclusive patent rights to d'limonene with herbicides and is currently doing research on its uses with insecticides and fungicides.

The product is primarily being used now in aquatics, turf and sod farms, citrus, vegetable and right-of-way weed controls.

Credit: Farm Supplier

The Breaking Point!

Like a Bird it flew,
Way yonder in the blue,
Went a wild-pitched ball,
And with it, the Classic in the Fall;

The Scoreboard-Keeper posted zeros until the ninth,
When, with two-out, Willie Stone pitched tight,
And though brilliant, lost control of his curve,
Allowing the home-team player to score from third;

Devastated! Willie stood head-bowed in a daze,
Replaying in his mind, the errant pitch in a haze,
For having thrown the ball to the back-stop screen;
The distressing heave spoiled a childhood dream;

From her Box, Willie's Girl shouted; – "Not to despair;"
Tearfully insisted; – Second place is OK to bare;"
But "Whirlwind" Willie Stone wanted this one bad;
You see, this 1-0 game meant the PENNANT! It's sad;

A wary Willie Stone now stepping down off the mound,
Suddenly, (in a changed gait), waving his cap around,
Responding to the fans (surprising) standing ovation;
Surely, softens the blow during the Winter duration;

Willie, entranced by the rising tide of applause,
Forgetting for the moment, the agony of his loss;
Will it carry-over (this moment) 'til the Spring,
When the cry of "play-ball" assumes a lively ring?

Brood not, Willie Stone. Go get 'em in '85. ATONE!

— Frank Paladino

After Market Parts a Threat? To Whom?

Golf Course Superintendents, as a whole, are definitely getting better educated, more sophisticated, and frequently, well traveled. Being responsible for the expenditure of their employers' funds, most golf course and grounds superintendents have learned that judicious expenditure is quite important to stay within one's budget. It has been suggested that "will fit like original" parts and accessories are a threat to the "superintendents continued progress". It has been suggested by Mr. J. Wayne Goodwin, Vice President of Lawn & Turf, that "will fit suppliers did not share in product development costs" and that "superintendents have a responsibility to act wisely in carefully selecting companies that will help rather than hinder progress", that the "purchase of parts and supplies from the local stocking distributor of the original manufacturer will ensure you of continued products, and with parts supply as required to do your job".

NOW — let's look at the facts and face a little reality. The "after market" parts business has been around in the automotive and agricultural equipment business for years, but only recently have a few suppliers in the turfgrass industry taken the time and invested the money to develop a significant line of replacement parts. It is quite interesting that the "after market" parts business is readily accepted in the automotive industry, with the giants — GM (Ac-Delco), Ford (Motorcraft) and Chrysler (Mopar), as well as such well known chains as NAPA, aggressively encouraging this concept. Apparently it has not retarded progress at these levels — why then would it in the turf industry? **NO MAJOR MANUFACTURER ASSESSES PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT COSTS TO THE REPLACEMENT PARTS.** You pay for product development costs when you buy the original piece of equipment — and you pay well. Sometime ask your original equipment supplier to see a manufacturer's recommended price list on the equipment and see how much more you are actually paying. Better yet, ask for a copy of the original manufacturer's parts price list. You may be surprised compared to what you're paying.

Let's talk a little more about product development costs. Who developed the engines, bearings, seals, air filters, hydraulic filters, hydraulic lines, tires, wheels, gear boxes, hydraulic motors, hydraulic cylinders, batteries, mufflers, tail pipes, nuts, bolts, belts, control cables, etc.? Certainly **not** the manufacturers of the vast majority of the turf equipment on the market today. Who paid for the development of the basic bedknife? Obviously someone back at the turn of the century, since they have not changed significantly since then. Many machines (gang mowers, greens mowers, triplexes) have not materially changed in design in 50 years. Are we to be led to believe that you are **still** paying product development costs when you buy parts?

Let's be realistic! Timken, Torrington, BSA, etc., make bearings, and a #36842 Timken bearing is the same whether you buy it from an "after market" supplier, a bearings distributor or a Toro or Jake dealer. In fact, many original equipment dealers buy bearings, seals, etc., from the true "original" manufacturers (Timken, etc.) and resell them at the prices suggested by the equipment manufacturers, often at 300% markup. Let's take a hydraulic motor for the reel of a riding greens mower. If the model stamped on the manufacturer's motor housing is the same, why should you pay \$175.00 for a



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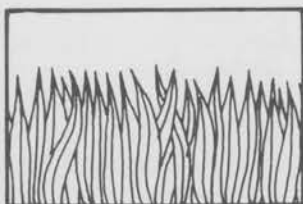


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motor that went from the hydraulic motor manufacturer to the equipment manufacturer to the dealer, when you can buy it from an "after market" supplier for \$125.00?

The most surprising element in this whole scheme is that if the equipment dealer was really an enterprising businessman, long ago he would have been buying 50% of the wearing parts from the "real" original manufacturer, adding a reasonable mark up, and would have been saving the superintendents considerable money that could have been spent on additional labor saving equipment.

The allegation that after market parts are "slightly lower" is simply not realistic. Is 30-60% lower cost a slight reduction? These savings are **standard**, not exceptions. Are these type of savings worthwhile when a typical 18 hole golf course may budget \$3-5,000 per year for parts? You be the judge. Now, let's consider the statement about "reputable manufacturers". What does it take to be reputable? I must assume it means a good reliable reputation in the business. Are Timken, Torrington, Champion, Motorcraft, Goodyear, etc., reputable— These are some of the many names that appear on "after market" turfgrass equipment parts. Possibly more importantly note that the two major "after market" turf part suppliers are buying American Steel and manufacturing in the U.S. not having bedknives and some bearings made in Japan. Who's local? Who is looking for the turf managers welfare? Who's reputable? You be the judge.

What "threat" does your buying "after market" parts really create? Possibly the threat to the equipment manufacturer that his parts supply chain needs overhauling. Possibly a threat that the local distributor had best reassess his buying habits and his pricing habits.

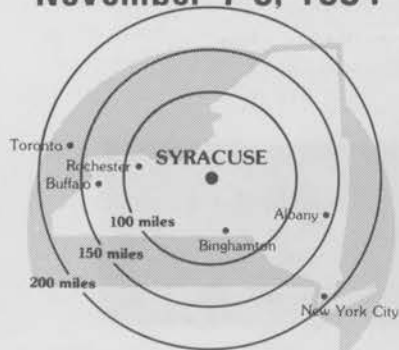
Last, but not least, is the term "local" inventory and delivery. How often have you ordered a basic part, only to find that the order has to be called into the factory. Too often? Delivery? Did you know that often UPS delivers a package from 1500 miles away as rapidly as it delivers one 50 miles away? And how about the "after market" manufacturer who brings most of the parts to your door on his truck — how's that for being local with good delivery?

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Turfgrass Industry Conference

The New York State Turfgrass Conference, being held from November 7-9, 1984 in Syracuse, New York, will center on the concerns of the entire turfgrass industry, new trends, new ideas and new techniques, as well as offering pesticide certification credits.

New this year is a *special training session in turfgrass management* which will be of special interest to those desiring a refresher course or for those with new employees who need this training. Subjects covered include soils, turfgrass types and varieties, establishment, mowing, irrigation, fertilizers and calibration of spreaders and sprayers. This training session will be held all day Wednesday, November 7th. For those not interested in the training sessions, Wednesday's program also offers sessions covering management, fusarium blight, the future of turfgrass breeding and managing, motivating, evaluating and supervising personnel.

Thursday, November 8th, is devoted to sessions geared to the *lawn and landscape, golf, and athletic field* areas of the industry. Topics include tank mixing, nutrition, grub control, equipment, drainage, soil testing, construction, thatch, aerification, customer relations and controlling Poa Annua. There will, in addition, be a special session on *tree maintenance and care*.

On Friday, November 9th, there will be an all-day pest and pesticide workshop offering the *certification exam and recertification credits*.

The *Trade Show* is open on November 7th and 8th and is the largest of its kind in New York State, expanded for the fourth

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year in a row. Free refreshments are served, and all attendees are invited to a gala farewell cocktail party.

For more information on the Conference, trade show and registration, contact NYSTA Executive Director Ann Reilly, 210 Cartwright Blvd., Massapequa Park NY 11762.

Circadian Rhythm . . .

The Clock that Makes You Tick

If you know someone who seems to "march to the sound of a different drummer," maybe it's because he really does. For scientists are just beginning to uncover the secrets of circadian rhythms – body cycles that regulate everything from hormone production to heartbeats.

"Circadian" comes from the Latin "circa" (about) and "dies" (a day), because the rhythms correspond roughly to a 24-hour day. They should not be confused with "biorhythms," which claim to predict physical and emotional highs and lows from a person's birth date. Circadian rhythms are well-documented physiological cycles common to animals and plants as well as humans.

Researchers hope that by learning to monitor and adjust human rhythms, we will someday be able to reduce accidents, increase productivity, even abolish the Monday morning blues. They already know that when the rhythms are properly synchronized you feel good and can work well. But when the cycles are disrupted, look out.

Ripple Effect

You've probably noticed that you "just aren't yourself" without a good night's sleep. That's not simply because you've missed out on much-needed rest but because you also may have missed essential hormone secretions, nerve repair and brain activity that take place during your normal sleeping hours. Experimenters at sleep research centers around the country theorize that even slight disruptions in circadian cycles can have a ripple effect for a day or two, upsetting all your mental and physical rhythms.

Under normal circumstances the body responds to a number of internal and external cues to keep everything in balance. Among these are: sunlight, food, drugs, body temperature and the activity of other people. Given the proper cues in the right sequence, circadian rhythms follow a fairly predictable pattern. For instance, the physiological processes that aid mental activity and skills are at their peak in early afternoon. Memory is sharpest in the morning, while pain can best be tolerated after 6 p.m. Taste and smell are most sensitive around dinner time when the body processes governing them are active. Steroid hormones, necessary for metabolism, surge just before waking, in preparation for the day.

Jet Lag Woes

Nature's plan is an effective one and, as long as you follow her rules, you can stay happily in harmony with your circadian swings. But woe to the world traveler who arrives in Paris in time for a French breakfast but whose body is protesting that it's still 4 a.m. back home. Jet lag is no laughing matter. It's a classic example of rhythms "out of synch."



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Jet lag results from a confusion of signals to the brain that trigger a number of circadian responses. Unfortunately the responses are out of sequence and leave you feeling out of sorts and even clumsy. Researchers refer to this state as "dischronia." Scientists haven't absolutely identified just which part of the brain "short-circuits" temporarily during dischronia, but they have some theories. Dr. Martin Moore-Ede, assistant professor of physiology at Harvard Medical School, has found a structure in the brain that might be the circadian synchronizer. This tiny bundle of nerves receives visual input directly from the eyes. It is, says Dr. Moore-Ede, the pacemaker that sends signals to other parts of the brain, which in turn move the body to sleep, wake, eat, secrete hormones and carry out hundreds of other functions.

When the eyes perceive sunlight the message travels to this nerve center, and it signals the body that it is time to get up. But if body temperature and hormones are still geared for sleep, everything gets thrown off temporarily.

Unfortunate Shift Workers

On vacation you may be able to take a few days to adjust and "sleep off" the effects of dischronia. Shift workers aren't so fortunate. Dr. Elliot Weitzman and Dr. Charles P. Pollak are sleep researchers who head the Sleep-Wake Disorder Center at Montefiore Hospital in New York City. Their findings from experiments with shift workers underline some of the difficulties those people face trying to adjust to unusual schedules.

The work schedule may require the shift worker to be alert all night, but the wife, husband or children also expect some participation in their daytime activities," the doctors wrote in a re-

cent article. "Shift workers often attempt to compromise between conflicting demands by sleeping at multiple or varying times during the day and reverting to the day-wake, night-sleep pattern on weekends and days off."

The doctors report that the resulting dischronia causes shift workers to suffer "gastrointestinal disturbances that include a dramatically increased rate of peptic ulcers," along with other physical and emotional problems.

Shift workers may also be less productive than day workers and even take "microsleeps" while at machine controls without realizing it. Situations like that can be dangerous for everyone.

For those of us who don't work shifts or travel overseas, understanding circadian rhythms can still be beneficial. You might be careful to respect your rhythms, going to bed about the same time every night all week and waking up in time for work in the morning. But Mondays just seem to get you down. Take stock. Do you usually stay up late on the weekends, sleeping in on Saturday and Sunday to compensate? Or do cat naps tide you over during the weekend to prepare you for a Saturday night party?

Research is continuing to determine just what it is that makes our biological clocks tick. Understanding our circadian rhythms brings us one step closer to understanding ourselves.

Credit: National Secretary

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