

MWPK



# TEE TO GREEN

Published by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association

## President's Message

### Worthy Endeavor Seeks Stamp of Approval

In this issue of *Tee to Green*, I want to discuss an area that is near and dear to the hearts of many Met-GCSA superintendents: finding a foolproof method for ridding our greens of moss.

As I mentioned in my last President's Message, our association is fortunate to have investments that partially fund our research and scholarship programs. With the past year's bull market, we saw double-digit returns on our money. Because of this, and a reasonable profit from the *Tee to Green*, the MetGCSA voted last year to allocate funds toward a moss research program to be conducted by Cornell University's Dr. Frank Rossi. (The details of our financial status will be available for review at the spring business meeting.)

Dr. Rossi is hoping to develop a nonchemical control—and, ultimately, cure—for moss, and, more important, he plans to tailor his work to golf courses in the Met area.

Unfortunately, our funds alone can't sustain this worthwhile effort. That's why we're actively seeking support from the Tri-State Turf Research Foundation, GCSAA, the USGA, and other private sources.

If you or a fellow superintendent has experienced a moss problem, you are well aware of the temporary nature of all the moss-control *(continued on page 2)*

## Special Feature

### Cigars and Wine: How Savvy Are You?

A Q & A That Will Put Your Knowledge to the Test



With cigar smoking and wine tasting at the height of popularity at club events and even among friends, it never hurts to put your cigar and wine acumen to the test. What follows is a Q & A that will show you how much—or how little—you really know on these all-important topics. Special thanks to two of our members—Pelham Country Club Superintendent Jeff Wentworth on cigars and Herb Waterous of ArborCom Technologies Inc. on wine—for gathering the facts and figures for this comprehensive test.

#### From Selecting to Smoking Cigars

**Q 1** Cigars have two size measurements. What are they, and what role do they play in selecting a cigar?

Length and ring gauge are the two measures. The ring gauge, measured in 64ths of an inch, indicates a cigar's thickness, which can range from as small as 25 to as large as 66. Knowing this measure is important since the larger the cigar diameter, the greater the quantity and variety of leaves, which can make for a far richer flavor.

The length of the cigar is also noteworthy since it determines the smoking time. Longer cigars (10 inches) can take up to four hours to smoke—ideal

for a round of golf. The smallest cigars (4 to 5 inches) are rolled to be smoked in as little as 15 minutes—perfect for a theater intermission.

**Q 2** True or false: Like wines, certain cigars are better with certain types of foods.

True. If you're lighting up after a meal of beef or game, for instance, you'll want to select a stronger tasting cigar. A lighter cigar is better suited as a follow-up to a seafood dish.

**Q 3** How does the cigar's condition affect your smoke?

The cigar's condition affects how it will burn.

## Also In This Issue

- ② Local Super Supports Education
- ③ Spotlight on Business Meeting Host
- ③ Info Alert Re: Scholarship Applications and Reid Award Nominations
- ⑧ All-New Met Web Site to Launch
- ⑤ Member News—and Lots of It
- ⑧ 1999 Meeting Calendar Update and Educational Events
- ⑪ A Thank You to Our Winter Seminar Exhibitors . . . Fun Facts and Figures

## Worthy Endeavor Seeks Stamp of Approval

programs available today. I feel very strongly that Dr. Rossi's research could provide groundbreaking results. Please take a moment to look at the following goals and objectives of Dr. Rossi's proposed research. I think you'll agree that his work offers great promise in finding a solution—once and for all—to this persistent problem.

### Moss Research in the Making

Moss invasion of putting greens has plagued golf course superintendents for the past 70 years. Several more recent investigations into the problem have yielded important findings that can be incorporated into curative control programs. These studies, however, fell short in several areas:

- Few were concerned with preventive approaches that seek to create an environment where moss can't persist.
- None of the studies have attempted to exploit the biological cycle of the organism, identifying the more critical times for vegetative and reproductive growth and then utilizing this information as a basis for control decisions.
- No one has explored the ecology—the response of moss to the environment—and management of moss.

Dr. Rossi's project, therefore, will

employ a multi-faceted approach that will include:

1. Gathering information from superintendents nationally and analyzing the data to observe trends
2. Running tissue tests on golf courses in the Metropolitan New York area to explore how moss might be affected, long-term, by nutrition
3. Examining the area surrounding the moss roots to determine nutrient availability and its impact on turf growth
4. Identifying the biological cycle of moss, exploring vegetative and reproductive mechanisms that could be exploited for more effective control
5. Evaluating several integrated biological, nutritional, and sanitary approaches for development of a sustainable moss exclusion program

A final note: I hope you'll consider lending your support to this initiative. Just contact a representative of any of the groups I mentioned on page 1 to let them know about your interest in the study—or offer your golf course for this important research.

We, on the MetGCSA board, thank you in advance for your support.

EARL F. MILLETT  
President

### Regional News

## Former Super Supports Turf Education

If you've been in the industry for any length of time, you know the name Bob Osterman. Bob's served as superintendent and then general manager at two Connecticut clubs: the Redding Country Club and Connecticut Golf Club. In his tenure as superintendent, Bob's also led the CAGCS and, five years later, the GCSAA as their president.

Bob was schooled in turfgrass management, courtesy of Connecticut Golf Club, at UMass's two-month Stockbridge Turfgrass School.

His family's UMass connection has stayed strong. His oldest son also took the two-month course, and his younger son is a Stockbridge graduate.

Now, Stockbridge is benefiting in return. This year, Bob Osterman presented the school with its largest-ever gift, \$260,000, to be used annually for scholarships, with preference given to students majoring in turfgrass management.

The Charles E. and Frances M. Osterman Scholarship Fund honors the memory of Bob's uncle and aunt, respecting his uncle's wish that bequests be made to educational institutions with turf-related courses. Two other institutions will gain from the Ostermans' generosity: Michigan State University and Florida's Lake City Community College.

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TEE TO GREEN is published bimonthly by  
the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association  
49 Knollwood Road, Elmsford, NY 10523-2819  
914-347-4653, FAX: 914-347-3437  
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## It's All Business at Rockrimmon

Rockrimmon Country Club Superintendent Tony Girardi Hosts MetGCSA Business Meeting

**W**hen the MetGCSA Business Meeting rolls around, that's a sure sign to area supers that we're on the heels of a new season. This year's meeting is being hosted by Rockrimmon Country Club Superintendent Tony Girardi on March 25.

In his fifth year at the club, Tony seems to run full-throttle year-round. In addition to his all-consuming duties at Rockrimmon, which include the many projects set forth in the club's five-year master plan, Tony serves on several MetGCSA committees, he's a new father, and he's in the throes of launching the MetGCSA's first web site.

### Getting His Feet Wet

Tony started in the golf course business with a B.S. in turfgrass management from the University of Rhode Island. "My family owned a nursery business in Naragansett, RI, which is largely responsible for my interest in pursuing a field that allows me to stay in tune with nature," Tony says to explain his career path.

His first golf course job was at Country Club of Darien, where he interned for two seasons under Tim O'Neill. "He's the one," says Tony, "who gave me the opportunity in the golf course industry and instilled in me a desire to excel."

After completing his degree in 1992, Tony moved across town to Woodway Country Club, where he spent three valuable years, as Tony puts it, "working for and learning from one of the best, Larry Pakkala."

### Never a Dull Moment

In his tenure at Rockrimmon, Tony's been instrumental in the construction of 10 new tee complexes and the complete renovation of several greenside bunker complexes. In addition, he's been consumed with an ongoing irrigation upgrade and a bentgrass conversion program on the fairways.

A recent addition to the MetGCSA Board of Directors, Tony's hit the ground running. He co-chairs the Tournament Committee, is an active participant on the *Tee to Green's* Com-

munications Committee, and most recently, has spearheaded the development of a web site for the association, which is expected to debut in the spring. (See the announcement on page 4.)

Besides playing golf to a 14 handicap, Tony enjoys most winter sports, including skiing and hockey. He recently returned from a two-day hockey tourney in Canada, called the Golf Course Hockey Challenge, where a team of "locals" competed against superintendent teams across the U.S. and Canada. "Camaraderie," says Tony, "was the highlight of the trip."

The other highlight of his life right now is his firstborn, 7-month-old Nich-



Rockrimmon CC  
Superintendent  
Tony Girardi

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olas, and of course his wife, Christine.

Mark your calendar for March 25. Attending the business meeting is a great way to keep up with the inner workings of the association.

BILL PERLEE

The Apawamis Club

### Info Alert

## Get Your Scholarship Applications

**A**pplications are now available for the 1999 MetGCSA scholarship awards. The Scholarship and Research Committee will select recipients based on leadership, maturity, scholastic capabilities, activities, and commitment to a chosen career.

To be eligible, a candidate must be a Class A, AL, B, C, AF, or AFL member of the MetGCSA or a dependent of a member in one of these classes. You can receive an application form by contacting S & R Chairman John Carlone at The Meadow Brook Club, 516-935-6505, or Ineke Pierpoint at the MetGCSA Office, 914-347-4653.

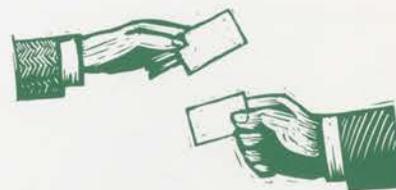
*The deadline for submissions is April 30.*

## Calling All Reid Award Nominations

**T**he Awards Committee is looking for nominations for one of the Met's most prestigious awards: The John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award.

Initiated in 1986, the John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to a metropolitan area resident "who has demonstrated a knowledge of—and commitment to—the game of golf and the science of golf course management."

Past Reid Award winners are



Charlie Robson, Dr. Patricia Vittum, the late Dr. Richard Skogley, Arthur Weber, Jim McLoughlin, Frank Hannigan, Geoffrey Cornish, Dr. Haruo Tashiro, the late Dr. Ralph Engel, Ken Venturi, the late Al Radko, and Guido Cribari.

*The Awards Committee needs your nominations by April 15!* So don't delay in contacting Awards Committee Chairman John O'Keefe, 973-694-0260, with your list of candidates.

# MetGCSA Gears Up to Launch All-New Web Site



**T**hanks in large part to the efforts of Rockrimmon Country Club Superintendent Tony Girardi and Patterson Club Superintendent Jon Jennings, the Met has joined forces with the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents to create a web site that we, together, can call our own.

The Met and Connecticut are among approximately 12 chapters in the country to develop a site to date. "Our thought in designing and launching a site," explains Tony, "was to get a jump on the electronic information superhighway. Just about any information you could want is available on the Worldwide Web, and this web site is going to make obtaining association and industry news quick and easy."

Among the kinds of information you can expect to find on the Met's web page: *Tee to Green* highlights, including

feature articles; president's messages; golf results; member news; and upcoming meetings and social, golf, and educational events. You'll also find postings for used and wanted equipment; research updates from the Tri-State

Turf Research Foundation; and much more, depending on how the needs of our membership evolve.

We have been working with GCSAA's design company, Knowledge Systems, Inc., to establish the main site design. From there, the Web Site Committee—composed of Paul Gonzalez, Paul Pritchard, Blake Halderman, and, of course, Tony and Jon—will be responsible for keeping the site well stocked with up-to-date news and information.

But like any new endeavor, this one will, at first, have a few kinks that will need to be worked out. The committee would, of course, welcome any feedback.

The site's address will be [www.gcsaa.org/metctgcsa.com](http://www.gcsaa.org/metctgcsa.com). Keep it close at hand. If all goes according to plan, you'll be able to visit our new site as early as March. Watch for a launch time update!

## Buy and Sell Equipment On-line

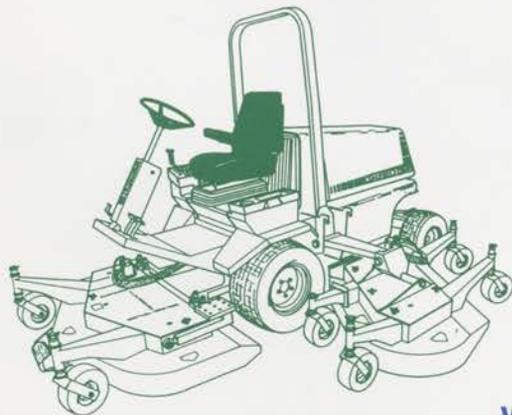
If you're looking to buy or sell equipment, the MetGCSA's new web site is the place to do it. Please e-mail or call Tony Girardi with your listing, and he'll be happy to post it on-line!

His phone number and e-mail address are 914-764-5010 and [tgirardi@cloud9.net](mailto:tgirardi@cloud9.net).



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## Met Members Take the Golf Course Hockey Challenge

**W**hen Peter McCormick of TurfNet Associates announced this past November that he was planning to sponsor a hockey team—covering the necessary uniforms and team fee—to play in the Fifth Annual Golf Course Hockey Challenge, 15 superintendents and assistants signed up for this unique—and friendly—competition. Contested since its inception on Canadian turf (or ice), this year's event was held in Fort Erie, Ontario on January 26 and 27.

Among the 15 who answered Peter's call to compete, were five Met members. Including **Peter**, himself, they were **Steve Finamore** of Alpine Country Club (NJ), **Tony Girardi** of Rockrimmon Country Club (CT), **Mark Fuller** of Connecticut Golf Club (CT), and **Jim Swiatlowski** of

Montammy Golf Club (NJ)—these players ranging in age, interestingly, from 25 to 52!

Other teams who took the challenge were from Western New York State and Michigan in the U.S. and from Niagara, London, Toronto, North Toronto, and Kitchener, Ontario, Canada.

Each team played four games over two days, with Michigan winning the A Division and Western New York winning the B Division. All participants were either assistants, superintendents, or commercial suppliers to the trade.

While Team TurfNet didn't win any trophies in their inaugural visit to the tournament, their 1–3 record was a good start for a team of individuals who had not only never skated together, but



*MetGCSA members who took the Golf Course Hockey Challenge were (left to right) Jim Swiatlowski, Steve Finamore, CGCS, Mark Fuller, CGCS, Tony Girardi, and Peter McCormick.*

also had never met one another before. Well, maybe next year, guys!

*Special thanks to TurfNet Associate's Peter McCormick for providing this write-up and accompanying photo.*

### New Members

Please welcome the following long list of new members to our association:

**Toby Alves**, Class C, Bedford Golf & Tennis Club, Bedford, NY

**Brent Borelli**, Class C, Pelham Country Club, Pelham Manor, NY

**Scott Curry**, Class C, Scarsdale Golf Club, Hartsdale, NY

**Christopher D'Agostino**, Class C, Burning Tree CC, Greenwich, CT

**Matthew DuTremble**, Class C, Sleepy Hollow CC, Scarborough, NY

**Douglas George**, Class C, Waccabuc Country Club, Waccabuc, NY

**Ryan Greenhill**, Class C, Orange County GC, Middletown, NY

**Matthew Heideman**, Class C, Lake-over National GC, Bedford Hills, NY

**David Henault**, Class C, Fenway Golf Club, Scarsdale, NY

**Jeff Hugeboom**, Class C, Sunningdale Country Club, Scarsdale, NY

**Albion Imondi**, Class C, The Stanwich Club, Greenwich, CT

**David Koziol**, Class C, Country Club of Fairfield, Fairfield, CT

**John LaVoie**, Class C, Minisceongo Golf Club, Pomona, NY

**Mark Mansur**, Class C, Brae Burn Country Club, Purchase, NY

**Paul Mazzola**, Class AF, Turf Products Corp., Enfield, CT

**Santos Nieves**, Class C, Innis Arden Golf Club, Old Greenwich, CT

**Sean Oberly**, Class C, Silver Spring Country Club, Ridgefield, CT

**Justin Santos**, Class C, Westchester Hills Golf Club, White Plains, NY

**Jared Viarengo**, Class C, Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, NY

**Thomas Weinert**, Class AF, Plant Food Company, Cranbury, NJ

**George Wise**, Class AF, Sawtelle Brothers, Inc., Lawrence, MA

**Michael Zenowich**, Class C, Golf Club of Purchase, Purchase, NY

**Branko Zdravkoski**, Class C, Centennial Golf Club, Carmel, NY

### Special Thanks



The MetGCSA would like to thank both Honorary Member **Roger King** and Sullivan Construction's **Kevin Sullivan** for their generous contributions to our Scholarship Fund.

Roger contributed \$100 and Sullivan Construction donated \$1,000 to our fund. We appreciate your generosity.

### Birth



Congratulations to Sleepy Hollow Country Club Superintendent **Tom Leahy** and his wife, **Jennifer**, who had the distinction of having their baby boy, Ty Robert, born on January 1!

## Cigars and Wine: How Savvy Are You?

**Q 4** How would you describe a perfect smoke—i.e., a cigar in prime condition?

The perfect smoke is a cigar that is firm when squeezed between the fore finger and thumb. If a cigar is too soft, it's typically too moist to burn properly. If it's too firm, it will be too dry to burn well.

**Q 5** True or False: Once a cigar has dried out, you should discard it.

False. You can restore cigars to the appropriate moisture level by placing them in a humidor, a device designed specifically to store cigars for long periods of time. For a super dry stogie, you're probably looking at several weeks in the humidor before it's suitable to smoke.

**Q 6** True or False: You can tell a good cigar by its country of origin.

False. Actually, this has little bearing on the quality of the cigar. Among smokers in the U.S., Cuban cigars were thought to be the best, but this perception probably had more to do with the fact that Cuban cigars are illegal here due to the Cuban trade embargo established in the 1960s.

Fine cigars are produced throughout the world. In fact, our very own Connecticut River Valley is known worldwide for its light, shade-grown tobacco. The Connecticut-grown tobacco is used as wrapper leaf for such well-known cigars as the *Aston* cigar made in Honduras, the *Dunhill* made in the Canary Islands, and the *Macanudo* made in the Dominican Republic.

FYI: The cost of most premium cigars is between \$5 and \$9 with vintage and Cuban cigars running between \$15 and \$25.

**Q 7** How and why do you cut the cap of a cigar?

The best way to cut the cap is with a guillotine cutter. The goal is to open the cap or end of the cigar enough to allow it to be fully smoked. But because the cap holds the cigar wrapper in place, take care not to remove so much of the cap that you unroll the cigar.

**Q 8** How do you ensure that a cigar is evenly lit?

Using a wooden match, hold the cigar at a 45-degree angle to the flame, and char the end of it. Once the end is well-charred, it will light easily, as you draw on it and hold a match to the end. To make sure you have the entire end ignited, hold the cigar bottom up and gently blow on the lit end. The entire surface should glow.

**Q 9** Cigars frequently go out during smoking. What's the best way to relight it?

Gently roll off the ash and follow the same lighting procedure just covered.

**Q 10** Are there any rules on how long you should smoke your cigar?

No. But many people call it quits after two-thirds of the cigar is smoked since cigars do get stronger in taste as they're smoked.

### Wine: The Basics and Well Beyond

**Q 1** Where and when were some of the first vineyards cultivated? (Hint: You may be surprised at how long ago it was!)

The first vineyards could be traced back to sometime between 6000 and 4000 BC in the Caucasus. Wine was known by 3000 BC in Mesopotamia.

**Q 2** Wine falls into three basic categories. What are they, and when are they most commonly consumed?

- Table wines, also called still or natural wines. These are consumed primarily as complements to food.
- Sparkling wines. With champagne an example, these are distinguished by their effervescence and are generally reserved for festive occasions.
- Fortified wines. In this category are sherry and vermouth, which are most commonly consumed before or after meals. They're also used during cooking.

**Q 3** As you know, table wines are classified by color: red, white, or rose (pink). How is their color determined?

- Red wines, as you might expect, are made from dark grapes. The character

and depth of color are determined by how long the skins are allowed to remain in contact with the fermenting juice. The range is generally anywhere from two days to three weeks.

- Interestingly, white wines may be made from either "white" (i.e., green) or dark grapes. If dark grapes are used, however, the grape skins and pressed juice never come in contact with one another.

- True rose wines are made from dark grapes. Their skins, however, remain in contact with the juice only until they've turned it a pale pink.

**Q 4** Which country produces more wine than any other in the world?

France. Keep in mind, that doesn't mean you should limit your selections to French wines. California also makes some of the finest wines in the world. And other countries—Australia, Chile, Italy, and Romania, to name several—also produce some excellent wines.

**Q 5** Wines are generally classified by regions of origin. There are six well-defined regions in France. What are they?

Bordeaux, Burgundy, the Cotes due Rhone, the Loire Valley, Champagne, and Alsace. Bordeaux, the most important of these regions, is further divided into 36 districts, among the most outstanding of which are Medoc, Graves, and Saint Emilion.

As if that's not confusing enough, these districts are further divided into communes, such as Margaux in the Medoc district. Within these communes lie world-renowned individual vineyards, such as Chateau Lafite-Rothschild.

**Q 6** Wines are usually identified by the type of grape used to make the wine, such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, and Chardonnay. What are two grapes used in making the fine red wines in Bordeaux?

The Cabernet and Merlot grapes. The Pinot Noir is the grape used mostly in the great red wines of Burgundy and the Chardonnay grape in the fine whites of Burgundy.

**Q 7** Name three of Italy's best reds. Good choices are Chianti Classicos, Barola, and Amarone. Two whites that are among Italy's most highly regarded are Pinot Grigio and Soave.

**Q 8** True or False: Red wines should always be opened just before serving. False. Reds should be opened at least half an hour before they are to be poured to allow the wine to "breathe." This softens the taste and helps alleviate any bitterness, which is present particularly in newer red wines.

In addition, reds should always be served at room temperature, while whites should be served chilled.

Care should be taken, however, not to *overcool* the whites. This diminishes the taste of a fine wine. If you've refrigerated a white wine, always take it out 15 to 20 minutes before serving.

**Q 9** Certain types of wine and food have long been considered complimentary, like champagne and caviar, dry whites with hors d'oeuvres, seafood, and light fowl in blond sauces.

Can you describe what might best accompany Bordeaux- and heavier Burgundy-type reds, sweet whites and champagne, and sweet reds and port?

Bordeaux are best served with roast fowl and lighter roasted meats. Heavier Burgundies are better with rare meats and game. Sweet white wines and champagne are naturals with desserts, while sweet reds and port are traditionally served with cheese.

**Q 10** True or False: Wine bottles should always be stored so that the wine does not come in contact with the cork.

False. Wine bottles should be stored horizontally to keep the corks from drying out. Ideally, they should also be stored in a darkened or moderately dry

room or cellar with a temperature of about 55 degrees.

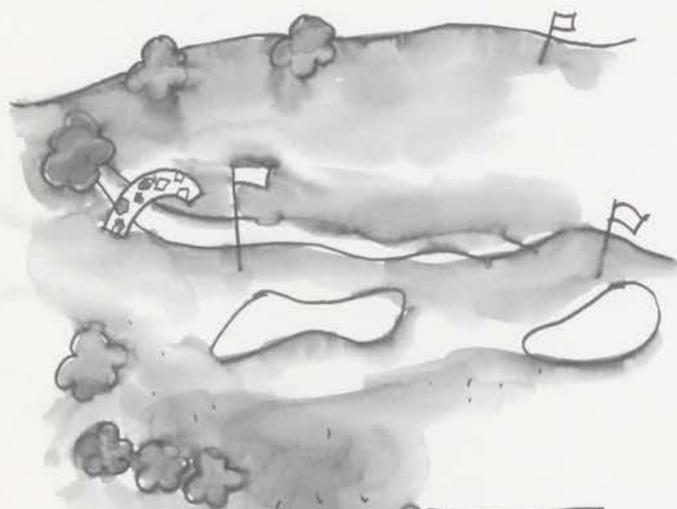
**Q 11** What kind of wine glasses are best suited to red and white wines?

Red wines should always be served in large, bowl-shaped glasses to more easily enjoy the "bouquet" or the aroma of the wine. White wines should be served in the tulip-shaped glasses, tapered more near the stem.

#### End Note

If, after putting your cigar and wine savvy to the test, you found your knowledge quotient a little lower than you'd hoped, don't worry. The real key to enjoying fine wines and cigars is not memorizing a lot of facts and figures, but rather trying these little pleasures in life and finding those that you, yourself, find most enjoyable.

JEFF WENTWORTH  
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## 1999 Meeting Calendar Progress Report

**M**ore of our meeting sites and dates have been confirmed, but we're still on the lookout for a few more volunteers. Please consider offering your club for one of the open meeting sites. Call either of the Tournament Committee co-chairs: Pat Sisk, 203-254-1240, or Tony Girardi, 914-764-5010.

### MetGCSA Business Meeting

March 25  
Rockrimmon Country Club, Stamford, CT  
Host: Tony Girardi

### Two-Ball Qualifier

April 22  
Ardsley Country Club,  
Ardsley-on-Hudson, NY  
Host: George Pierpoint III

### Superintendent/Manager Tournament

May 17  
Willow Ridge Country Club,  
Harrison, NY  
Host: Bert Dickinson

### Invitational Tournament

June 7  
The Patterson Club, Fairfield, CT  
Host: Jon Jennings, CGCS

### MetGCSA Championship/Met Area Team Championship Qualifier, Round 1

July 6  
Century Country Club, Purchase, NY  
Host: Jim Fulwider, CGCS

### Poa Annual Tournament

August  
Sands Point Golf Club, Sands Point, NY  
Host: Richard Raymond

### Golf Meeting/Format TBA

September  
SITE OPEN

### Superintendent/Green Chairman Tournament

October 5  
Wykagyl Country Club, New Rochelle, NY  
Host: Steve Renzetti, CGCS

### Met Area Team Championship

October  
SITE OPEN

### Annual Class C Outing

October 14  
Century Country Club, Purchase, NY  
Host: Brian Benedict, assistant superintendent

### MetGCSA Annual Meeting

November 4  
Milbrook Club, Greenwich, CT  
Host: Jim Calladio

## Educational Events and Seminars

### NYSTA Southeast Regional Turf & Grounds Conference

Monday, February 22  
The Holiday Inn, Suffern, NY  
Cosponsored by the Cornell Cooperative Extension, this conference will feature an extensive trade show and roster of lectures on nearly every aspect of turf management. For further information, contact NYSTA at 800-873-8873.

### Strategic Career Planning for Assistants and Superintendents

Wednesday, February 24  
The Rock Spring Club, West Orange, NJ  
Sponsored by the GCSA New Jersey Class C Committee, this seminar is being presented by former GCSAA executive director Jim McLoughlin. He will touch on all aspects of building and maintaining a successful career. For further information, call Rock Spring Superintendent Wayne Remo at 973-736-2154.

### New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show

Tuesday - Thursday, March 2 - 4  
Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI  
350 product and equipment booths and a host of informative presentations await you. For further information, contact Julie Wilson at 401-848-0004.

### Managing Golf Courses in the Next Millennium: Putting Environmental Principles Into Practice

Wednesday, March 10  
Westchester County Center, White Plains, NY  
This workshop will explore the techniques used by golf course designers, builders, and managers to develop courses that offer exciting playing fields while protecting natural resources.

### Etonic's Superintendent Leadership Series: Managing Your Hispanic Work Force

Friday, March 12  
The Patterson Club, Fairfield, CT  
Cosponsored by the MetGCSA and GCSAA, this session is designed to help you learn and practice Spanish for the Green Industry. For further information, call Jon Jennings at 203-259-7390.

### 1999 Green Section Regional Conferences

Friday, March 19  
Wesleyan College, Middletown, CT

Thursday, March 25  
USGA Golf House, Far Hills, NJ

These sessions will offer informative talks on some of the most challenging aspects of a turf manager's job—everything from communications and budgeting to managing turf and turfgrass diseases. For further information, call the USGA at 908-234-2300.

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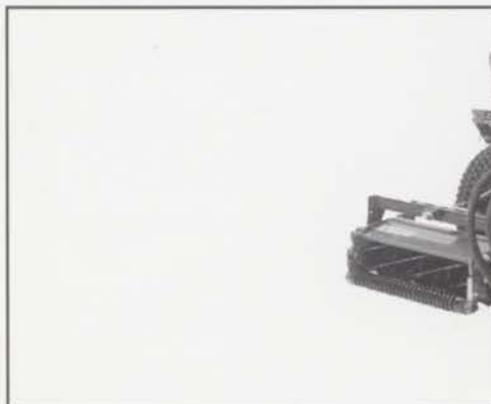
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## And Now, a Special Thank You to Our Winter Seminar Exhibitors

**A**s a special thank you to the exhibitors who participated in our Winter Seminar event, we've put together this directory with their names, areas of specialty, and phone numbers. We hope you'll clip and save this sheet and, when the opportunity arises, show these contractors and suppliers the same support they showed us during our Winter Seminar—and throughout the year.

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## Did You Know?

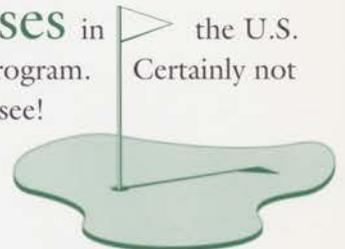
FUN FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT THE TURFGRASS INDUSTRY

The number of **insects** in the world far outweigh the number of people. In fact, for every acre of land in the U.S., there's an average of 400 lbs. of insects—and only 14 lbs. of people.



There is no full **MOON** in February. This lunar phenomenon happens every 20 years or so, when the calendar falls out of sync with the solar system.

Currently, there are only 119 out of 16,000 **golf courses** in the U.S. that are fully certified in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Certainly not the kind of participation the environmental community likes to see!



The number of Internet users has soared to more than 60 million people. **Turf** and landscape professionals have some catching up to do, however. Just over 30 percent surf the web.

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