



TEE TO GREEN

Published by the
Metropolitan Golf Course
Superintendents Association

President's Message

As We Enter a New Era . . .

I'd like to start my first president's message by saying that after 14 years on the MetGCSA board, it is truly an honor and a privilege to usher in the new millennium as president of our association. I'd like to thank the entire membership for the support they've given me in my ascent through the chairs—with an extra-special thank you to the eight presidents I've served under: Peter Rappoccio, Pat Lucas, Scott Niven, Larry Pakkala, Tim O'Neill, Joe Alonzi, John O'Keefe, and Earl Millett.

No question, each of these people have played a large part in bringing our association to where it is today. I hope that I can lead as well as they did and continue to make the MetGCSA an example for other chapters to follow.

Special thanks also to Chuck Martineau of Whipoorwill Club for my initial seat on the board in 1986 as the first "Class B" representative—and to Pat Lucas of Innis Arden for appointing me to a one-year term as director in 1987. These appointments were the start of a tremendously rewarding experience. I was able to not only learn the our association's business, but also experience what it means to serve our industry. And during these years, I've made friends that I will have for the rest of my life. I hope that each and every one of you will endeavor to serve on the board. *(continued on page 5)*

Special Feature

John Carlone Prepares to Lead the MetGCSA Into the New Millennium

The MetGCSA Elects Meadow Brook Club Superintendent John Carlone, CGCS, Its 24th President

Throughout his career in turfgrass management, John Carlone's goal has been to make a positive, long-lasting impact on the golf industry. As the newly elected president of the MetGCSA, he has taken one more step toward attaining that goal.

John has set his sights high for the Met. And why not? According to John, the Met is one of the strongest associations in the nation, with board members, past and present, who have been nothing less than 100 percent dedicated to their members. "I want to tap into the great minds on our board for ideas to make us even better," says John.

Starting in the spring of 2000, John would like to see increased use of the Web—for meeting notices, pairings for golf meetings, recent board activity updates, association news, new members, birth and wedding announcements. "Anything pertinent to our industry and our association should be found on our home page," says John.



John Carlone, CGCS, Steps Into His New Role as MetGCSA President at the November 4 Annual Meeting.

"Everything but advertising and long-winded articles like this one," he adds with a smile.

Also high on John's list of priorities: Enhancing sales *(continued on page 6)*

Also in This Issue

- 2 What's Happening on the Moss Front
- 4 Member Notables
- 5 New Web Address: Don't Miss It
- 7 New Committee Chairs and How to Reach Them
- 8 Taking the Mystery Out of PDI . . . plus The State of GCSAA
- 9 Doings in New Orleans
- 11 Upcoming Events
- 15 Golf Results

'Surveying' the Met Area for Moss

Cornell University Researchers Set the Stage for Phase Two of Their Studies

With continued funding from the MetGCSA and the Tri-State Turf Research Foundation, Cornell University researchers Dr. Frank Rossi (assistant professor) and David Dudones (graduate research assistant) are preparing to enter the next phase of study in their pursuit of a nonchemical control—and ultimately, cure—for moss found on golf course putting greens.

Phase One Results

Initiated this past April, the first, critically important phase involved gathering information from superintendents in New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey on their experiences with moss on their courses. David Dudones designed the survey, which was intended to assess the distribution of moss and uncover any possible correlation between moss invasion and turf management practices.

The survey was distributed to more than 600 superintendents; 19 percent responded, which is a significantly higher response rate than the typical 10 to 12 percent expected from mail-in surveys.

After reviewing responses to the survey's nearly 50 questions, the researchers determined:

- The majority of putting greens surveyed were push-up, soil-based greens being topdressed with a sand-based material.
- There were several interesting management strategies, but none of them seemed to influence whether a putting green had moss or didn't. It did seem, however, that greens with moss were reported to have lower potassium (K) levels than greens without moss.
- There was no apparent relationship between green age and moss invasion.
- 46 percent of the survey respondents soil test at least annually, with 88 percent tissue testing at least once each year.
- 51 percent of the survey respondents use Dawn Ultra for moss control, which has motivated the researchers to investigate what in the Dawn is actually providing control.

Phase Two: Site Selection and Strategy

In reviewing the surveys, three locations were targeted for a field moss control study: Galloway National Golf Club, Galloway Township, NJ; Fairview Country Club, Greenwich, CT; and Westchester Country Club, Rye, NY.

The objectives of the field study are to:

- Determine the effectiveness of two copper-based fungicides (Kocide (CuOH) and Junction (CuOH + ZnSO₄)) in eradicating existing moss populations.
 - Investigate the influence of application spray volume on moss control.
 - Determine the influence of topdressing immediately before a moss control application.
 - Evaluate the influence of seasonal (spring vs. fall) timing on moss control.
- In addition, the researchers will also monitor copper and zinc concentrations in the soil and moss tissue to determine turf toxicity levels.

Winter Work Ahead

During the winter, the researchers will conduct several studies in growth chambers to determine the effect of metals on moss establishment in mixed bentgrass/annual bluegrass stands. Their objective: to determine a critical turf/soil surface metal level that will prohibit moss from establishing without injuring the existing turf. The researchers suspect that they might be able to apply a much lower rate of metallic nutrients to prevent moss establishment than to eradicate an existing population.

When All Is Said and Done

In the end, the Cornell research team hopes to emerge from their studies with answers to the following questions:

- Is all the moss on greens the same species?
- If moss spreads so easily, why do some greens have it and some don't?
- Is there a way to manage greens at championship levels and exclude moss?
- Is there a nutritional program that controls or excludes moss from putting greens?

Watch for another update as Dr. Rossi's research unfolds.

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Congratulations to the Met's Marathon Men

As if superintendents don't have enough to do, Patterson Club Superintendent **Jon Jennings** and Country Club of Fairfield Superintendent **Pat Sisk** trained through the summer's record heat for the 26.2-mile New York City Marathon.

Pat, a third-time marathoner, coaxed Jon into running his first. On November 7, the two braved the unusually windy, chilly weather to race among the masses.

Cheering them on along the race route were both Pat's and Jon's families, Pat's earning celebrity status as they were interviewed during the telecast of the event.

The biggest thrill, the two will tell

you, was actually making it to the finish line. Pat came in at 4:48:35, placing 22,184 out of the 31,785 who actually completed the race. Jon finished in 3:46:13, placing 6,414 overall.

Other Met members who have dared to brave the New York City Marathon were Silver Spring Country Club Superintendent Peter Rappoccio and Stanwich Club Superintendent Scott Niven, who says he plans to run it again next year.



Marathon Men Jon Jennings (left) and Pat Sisk (right) gear up for the big race.

Members on the Move

Glenn Perry is the new superintendent at Rolling Hills CC, Wilton, CT. Previous position: Superintendent, Potowomut Golf Club, E. Greenwich, RI.

Steve Renzetti is the new superintendent at Quaker Ridge GC, Scarsdale, NY. Previous position: Superintendent, Wykagyl CC, New Rochelle, NY.

Ernie Steinhofer has joined the sales staff of Metro Milorganite, Inc. Previous position: Sales, Lesco, Inc.

Scott Tretara has joined the sales staff of Metro Milorganite, Inc. Previous position: Superintendent, Elmwood CC, White Plains, NY.

Recertified

Congratulations to Stanwich Club Superintendent **Scott Niven** for completing the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with GCSAA. Scott initially achieved his title of CGCS in 1985.



Happy Holidays to One and All!

Our very best wishes for a happy, healthy New Year!

The MetGCSA Board of Directors

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As We Enter a New Era . . .

The State We're In

So what, exactly, *is* the state of our association today? In a word, *healthy*. So healthy, in fact, that:

- Financially, our restricted funds for scholarship and research, invested in mutual funds, are performing well. Our future goal is for the interest on these funds to support our Scholarship & Research programs—so that we can continue to seek universities and direct them to conduct research that *we* consider necessary.
- Membership is at an all-time high and continues to grow.
- Attendance at our monthly golf meetings is at or near capacity every month. Hosting these meetings is an honor and challenge that every superintendent should eagerly pursue.
- Our Winter Seminar is new and different each year, always chockfull of timely, industry-specific information.
- Our Club Relations Committee is swiftly becoming a valuable tool to Met area clubs seeking to fill superintendent positions.
- Our Social & Welfare program continues to keep our families where they belong: first on our list and closely linked to the happenings in our profession.
- We enjoy a strong relationship with our affiliate members, which fosters our personal and professional growth.
- We launched a Web Site this year. You can reach it at www.gcsaa.org/metgcsa. Although in its infancy now, we hope to develop this site so that it will be the kind of resource that every member will seek to use regularly.

The MetGCSA can add to its list of

credits the great respect and recognition its earned in the industry—for its professionalism, strong leadership, and its golf courses—some of the best-conditioned playing fields in the world.

Raising the Bar

We, as an association and profession, will enter the new millennium on remarkably strong footing. We are embarking on an era that will see decision makers at clubs realize the key role golf course superintendents play in the overall success and enjoyment of their clubs.

Let's face it. The New York Metropolitan area has long been known as the spot where trends are set in many industries. Whether it's in fashion, health care, technology, or another industry—the trends start here.

Some of the trendsetters in these industries are members of our clubs. They're among the most intelligent, successful people in the world!

These people are beginning to look more seriously at their clubs as a business. And every business, as we know, has standards by which they're measured. At country clubs, it is primarily the quality and condition of the golf course. It is fast-becoming clear to these individuals that the best way to achieve a high level of member satisfaction and enjoyment—and ultimately increase revenues—is to retain the services of a qualified golf course superintendent.

Superintendents are slowly beginning to receive the kind of recognition and compensation that you might expect of an employee who manages a club's most

valuable asset. We will see more of this, I'm sure.

I congratulate the individuals who have recently moved to clubs in the Met area that are offering them significantly better compensation packages. I commend the clubs, as well, who hired these individuals for recognizing the important contribution the golf course superintendent makes to their operation. The bar has been raised!

Association Notes

Take note that the committee chairmen for the year 2000 have been assigned and are listed on page 7 of this issue of *Tee to Green*. I encourage everyone to call the chairmen of committees that interest you and volunteer to get involved. You will be rewarded several times over by both the experience you gain and by networking with your peers while serving on a committee.

In other important news, Tim O'Neill from the Country Club of Darien, is running again for a director position on the GCSAA board. The MetGCSA is wholeheartedly supporting Tim's campaign. It would be an honor for Tim *and* our chapter if he were elected. So let's support him in any way we can.

Also on the horizon: a new-and-improved way to present—and make available—MetGCSA merchandise. Purchasing Met goods is an excellent way to get quality merchandise—and support your association.

Formula for R & R

Winter is an excellent time to seek out ways to enhance your skills—or just as important, to plan some fun, relaxing activities. Personally, I try to spend as much time with my family as I can, but I also try to squeeze in time to read and, hopefully this year, play a little hockey.

I hope you all can find time to relax and enjoy our "slow season"—and, of course, the holidays. Here's to a very happy holiday season—and an exciting New Year!

JOHN CARLONE, CGCS
President

Attention All Present and Future Web Users

The MetGCSA's Website has changed addresses—once and for all! You can now view our Web Page at

www.gcsaa.org/metgcsa

John Carlone Prepares to Lead the MetGCSA Into the New Millennium

of MetGCSA merchandise—and ultimately giving the MetGCSA name greater exposure in the golf industry. At any meeting, local or abroad, where golf attire is appropriate, John would like to see the Met logo promoted. “One of the big problems we’ve had in the past was having to burden a board member or two with carting boxes filled with salable clothing from meeting to meeting,” cringes John. “This was the only time we promoted our golf merchandise. What we need is a line of garments we’d be proud to wear and that’s readily available for purchase.”

“The plan,” John continues, “is to send out order forms of the glossy variety with clear pictures of what is available direct to the members two or three times during the year.” The funds generated, John is quick to point out, would be put toward scholarships or another of the worthy funds within the Met.

Last, but just as important as all the rest on John’s list, is doing all we can to promote Tim O’Neill’s election to the GCSAA Board of Directors. “What a tribute it would be to our association to have one of our own at the national board level,” notes John. “I know the board members share my sentiments and will help make this come to fruition.”

Once Committed, Always Committed

John’s commitment to the golf industry began long before most—when he was just a kid, growing up in Portsmouth, RI, near Newport. He started golfing at 11, playing junior, high school, and finally college golf at the University of Rhode Island, against—and alongside—current tour players and Rhode Island natives Billy Andrade, Brad Faxon, and P.H. Horgan III.

Though he toyed with becoming a touring pro, John found his way into turf management, with the help of the late Dr. Skogley, a professor then in URI’s Plant Sciences Department. While earning his B.S. in Turf Management, John did his placement training at Westchester Country Club in Rye, NY, and after graduating in 1983, he worked as an assistant superintendent at The

Stanwich Club in Greenwich, CT.

Two-and-a-half years later, John accepted his first superintendent’s job at Middle Bay Country Club in Oceanside, NY, and then in 1996 his current superintendent’s position at The Meadow Brook Club in Jericho, NY. It’s here that one of John’s larger professional goals has come true. “I’ve always wanted to prepare a golf course for a professional tournament,” says John, “and Meadow Brook just happens to be the site of an annual senior tour event: The Light Path Long Island Classic.

“Each year,” continues John, “I’m thrilled to not only meet, but in some cases, get to know some of the great people within the world of golf.” Last year, the day before opening round, one of John’s crew members told him there was a woman walking around the course asking a lot of questions. To his amazement, standing on the 17th Tee was former LPGA great, Carol Mann. “She was brought to Meadow Brook as a public relations figure for a major corporation, and I was more than happy to act as a club liaison to her,” says John. Among the other notables John’s

rubbed shoulders with are Tom Watson, Lee Trevino, Ray Floyd, and Arnie—to name just a few.

John has a very strong belief that being an active golf enthusiast with a good golf game is critical to his future success in the golf industry. “I just don’t feel I would have the opportunity to mingle with the heads of our profession if I didn’t have a love for the game,” notes John.

“I’ve been fortunate to have qualified for two Met Opens and to compete regularly in the Metropolitan area amateur golf circuit,” he continues. “This has allowed me to spend time with influential golfers and decision makers at top clubs and indirectly demonstrate that superintendents are educated professionals who play a significant role in a club’s overall success.”

Tapped Into the Industry

Another of John’s professional commitments has been to “remain a part of the industry’s growth and progress.” Soon after becoming a superintendent, John became actively involved in the MetGCSA. A board member since

Who’s Who on the Met Board of Directors



The November 4 MetGCSA Annual Meeting ended with the following members elected to the board. Back row, left to right: Peter McCormick of TurfNet Associates; Matt Ceplo, CGCS, of Rockland CC; Jon Jennings, CGCS, of The Patterson Club; Pat Sisk of the CC of Fairfield; Past President Earl Millett of Ridgeway CC; Jeff Wentworth of Pelham CC; Tony Girardi, CGCS, of Rockrimmon CC; Steve Renzetti, CGCS, of Quaker Ridge GC. Front row, left to right: Secretary Will Heintz of Centennial GC; President John Carlone, CGCS, of The Meadow Brook Club; Vice President Tim Moore of Knollwood CC; Treasurer Dave Mahoney of Siwanoy CC. Not present for the photo: Eric O’Neill of Scarsdale GC.

1986, John's served on numerous committees and as the group's secretary and vice president.

John's also served two years on the board of the Tri-State Turf Research Foundation and has been actively involved in the GCSAA. Since 1991, he's served on GCSAA's Election, Education, Tournament, and Membership Committees.

He's also been on the speaking circuit, talking, over the years, at numerous national conventions and regional conferences. In addition, John's spent the past two years spreading the good word about the green industry to area civic groups and schools as a member of GCSAA's Ambassador Speakers Program.

"I'm greatly concerned about the welfare of our industry," says John, to explain his commitment to "talking up"

golf course maintenance practices to the general public. "I'm concerned that tools we need to properly maintain high-quality golf courses will gradually be taken away from us," he continues.

"I've just learned that, within the next two years, organophosphate and carbamate insecticides will be eliminated. And we're not sure whether there will be any products to replace them.

"It's inevitable," says John, "that before long, many pesticides will be eliminated. In fact, Suffolk County has already approved a pesticide-free golf course law for county-operated courses, and it will go into effect by 2002.

"With pesticide use in jeopardy, we have to start educating club members now to accept courses with some blem-

ishes. We have to spell out to members that without the proper tools, picture-perfect courses will be unattainable."

Carrying the Torch

"As I approach these next two years," says John, "I'm filled with ideas and excited about the possibilities. For the 14 years I've been sitting on the board, I've listened to and learned from many of the best in the business. Now, at a time of change in our industry, I get my chance to lead this great association. I look forward to two, very productive years with a terrific group of people. I'll do my best to carry the torch into the next century."

SCOTT C. APGAR

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MetGCSA Business

Committee Chairmen at Your Service

Please feel to contact any of the following committee chairmen with questions or comments. We've provided their numbers, here, for your convenience.

Awards Committee

Earl Millett, *Ridgeway CC*
914-948-5876

Bylaws Committee

Tim Moore, *Knollwood CC*
914-592-7829

Club Relations Committee

• Dave Mahoney, *Siwanoy CC*
914-961-8698
• Tim Moore, *Knollwood CC*
914-592-7829

Communications Committee

• Jon Jennings, *CGCS, The Patterson Club*
203-259-7390
• Steve Renzetti, *CGCS, Quaker Ridge GC*
914-725-2144

Education Committee

• Jon Jennings, *CGCS, The Patterson Club*
203-259-7390
• Matt Ceplo, *CGCS, Rockland CC*
914-359-5346

Government Relations Committee

Will Heintz, *Centennial GC*
914-279-8960

Long-Range Planning & Steering Committee

Earl Millett, *Ridgeway CC*
914-948-5876

Membership Committee

Will Heintz, *Centennial GC*
914-279-8960

Met Merchandise Committee

Steve Renzetti, *CGCS, Quaker Ridge GC*
914-725-2144

Scholarship & Research Committee

Tim Moore, *Knollwood CC*
914-592-7829

Social & Welfare Committee

• John & Leslie Carlone, *The Meadow Brook Club*
516-935-6505
• Joe & Judy Alonzi, *Westchester CC*
914-967-6000 ext. 360

Special Events Committee

• Matt Ceplo, *CGCS, Rockland CC*
914-359-5346
• Peter McCormick, *TurfNet Associates*
908-359-3370

Tournament Committee

• Pat Sisk, *CC of Fairfield*
203-254-1240
• Jeff Wentworth, *Pelham CC*
914-738-2752

Web Site Committee

• Tony Girardi, *CGCS, Rockrimmon CC*
914-764-5010
• Peter McCormick, *TurfNet Associates*
908-359-3370

Taking the Mystery Out of PDI

Your Questions Answered on the Association's Up-and-Coming Professional Development Initiative

Over the past decade, GCSAA has grown—and endured its share of growing pains—all in the name of better serving the evolving needs of its membership. Now, as we enter the new millennium, GCSAA has a few plans up its sleeve—with an eye toward enhancing the long-term health and welfare of its member superintendents and the golf course management profession.

On the front burner is one of the most talked about, but least understood, initiatives on the block: the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). To help take the mystery out of this worthy initiative, we've put together a Q & A that hits all the high points.

For an up-close-and-personal discussion of PDI, be sure to attend the MetGCSA Winter Seminar on January 5, 2000. A member of the initiative's Membership Standards Resource Group, Raymond Davies of Crystal Springs Golf Course in California, will join us for a no-holds-barred discussion of PDI.

Q. *What, specifically, does GCSAA's new Professional Development Initiative (PDI) entail?*

A. The PDI has been on the drawing board for about four or five years. It has numerous facets—all related to elevating the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the professional superintendent—and, ultimately, increasing the superintendent's value in the eyes of employers and influential golfers, like club officials. If successful, GCSAA feels this initiative will benefit superintendents by offering greater job security, recognition, compensation, and job opportunities—perhaps even in other related fields.

To achieve the initiative's goals, GCSAA is building a plan that first and foremost will ensure members have access to high-quality education and training required for their job. As we know, the superintendent's job today extends far beyond greenkeeper. Superintendents are expected to perform as high-level managers; the problem is many aren't fully prepared. GCSAA is going to offer a state-of-the-art curriculum that will give them the tools they need to succeed.

Another part of the plan will be to establish a new membership classification system that will be based on a series of attainable, but necessary, on-the-job competencies or requirements—particularly those that would be of value to an employer. To achieve Class A status, for instance, GCSAA is looking at requiring:

- some amount of formal education,

primarily to ensure superintendents have the necessary knowledge base to perform as a multifaceted manager

- ongoing education, which might include something as simple as reading *GCM*, participating in a local turf conference, or attending a GCSAA seminar

- a specific number of years experience or, perhaps, service in a local chapter

Still another important aspect of the PDI is to promote the value of the new-and-improved GCSAA-brand superintendent among employers in the marketplace. GCSAA has already set in motion a plan that includes:

- funding a national image campaign
- running a U.S. Open sweepstakes, with the prize winner receiving a behind-the-scenes tour of the Open
- taking the lead position in the First Tee program
- developing a public relations Tool Kit to aid superintendents in enhancing their visibility at the club and in communicating about various turf issues, such as aeration, winter play on greens, or frost

Q. *Who's involved in developing the Professional Development Initiative?*

A. Paul McGinnis, GCSAA's president in 1997, appointed a Membership Standards Resource Group (MSRG) to guide and evaluate the development of the Professional Development Initiative. Right now, the group has 17 members composed of superintendents and industry experts.



GCSAA has also contracted with several firms to conduct superintendent and employer surveys and research that have influenced the direction the association has taken with the initiative.

Q. *What, exactly, will the new membership classification system be like, and where does the present certification program fit in to all this?*

A. Right now, GCSAA is toying with three basic membership levels, with the highest level being reserved for certified superintendents. There will be a category for:

- General Member, which covers anyone who pays their dues
- Class A, which is a GCSAA-branded member who has met a series of special requirements
- Certified, which is a higher level GCSAA-branded member who has met a higher tier of requirements

Under this plan anyone could be a General Member of GCSAA and retain the right to vote, attend seminars, and take advantage of all the typical member privileges. It's just that if they choose not to take the steps required to achieve Class A or certified status, then they will *not* be among those members marketed to employers. It's the Class A and certified members who will have the added advantage of being "branded" within the industry.

Q. How will the initiative's membership classification affect current Class A and certified members who may not meet the new criteria?

A. Right now, it appears that all current Class A and certified members will be "grandfathered" into the new system and will be expected only to maintain ongoing requirements. It would be silly, for instance, to have a Class A member who's been in the business 25 years go back and get a formal education at this point.

Q. When does GCSAA plan to launch the initiative?

A. GCSAA is hoping to implement the PDI by July 1, 2002. But it will first be put before the membership for vote. This will be done at the Dallas conference in February 2001. That means members will have more than ample time to voice their opinions. In fact, members of the MSRG will be visiting affiliated chapters to discuss the PDI and hear any questions or concerns. Remember, you can hear more about the PDI at our January 5 Winter Seminar.

Big Doings in New Orleans

With the GCSAA International Conference and Show in New Orleans fast approaching, we thought we'd give you a heads-up on the talks you can hear by some of our members—and two events that are not-to-be missed. Mark your calendars now!

On the Speakers' Circuit

• On Thursday, February 17, **Steve Cadenelli, CGCS**, of Cape Cod National GC, Brewster, MA, will speak about "Managing New Generation Bents."



On Friday, February 18, catch the following member talks in the Innovative Superintendents Session I:

- **Pat Sisk** of CC of Fairfield, Fairfield, CT, on "Building Professional Relationships"
- **Jon Jennings, CGCS**, of The Patterson Club, Fairfield, CT, on "Creating a Strategic Plan for Your Golf Course Maintenance"
- **Tony Girardi, CGCS**, of Rockrimmon CC, Stamford, CT, on "Saving Lives on the Links"

On Saturday, February 19, **Dennis Petruzzelli, CGCS**, of Lakeover National GC, Bedford Hills, NY, will speak about "Preparing for Irrigation Emergencies?"



Events to Remember

On Thursday, February 17 from 6 to 8 p.m., join your colleagues at the New Orleans Marriott for the cosponsored **Reception for Northeast chapters.**

On Saturday, February 19 at 8 a.m., be sure to attend the Annual Meeting. Come to the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center and support MetGCSA member **Tim O'Neill, CGCS**, is his run for GCSAA director.



The State of the Association

A By-the-Numbers Account

On Membership

GCSAA currently has 20,000 members from 65 different countries. Though most are from the U.S., 65 different countries are represented.

On Staffing

GCSAA employs 115 staff members at its headquarters in Lawrence, KS.

On Revenues

The association generates \$20 million in revenues from three entities:

- GCSAA, a tax-exempt organization responsible for core association activities, including educational programming, informational material distribution, and member services.
- GCSAA Communications Inc., a for-profit corporation designed to advance core association activities through programs and services, such as *Golf Course Management* magazine and "Par for the Course" television programming.
- GCSAA Foundation, a tax-exempt charitable organization devoted to education and research initiatives.

On the International Conference and Show

Last year's International Conference and Show attracted 23,000 people. In addition:

- The trade show included 750 exhibitors and occupied 230,000 sq. ft. of floor space.
- Approximately 800 superintendents participated in the annual GCSAA Golf Championship.

On Education

- More than 7,000 attended the seminars at last year's International Conference
- 3,000 attended regional seminars
- 1,000 attended one of the Etonic's Leadership Series programs, which provides management-focused educational programs for affiliated chapters.

On GCSAA's Goals

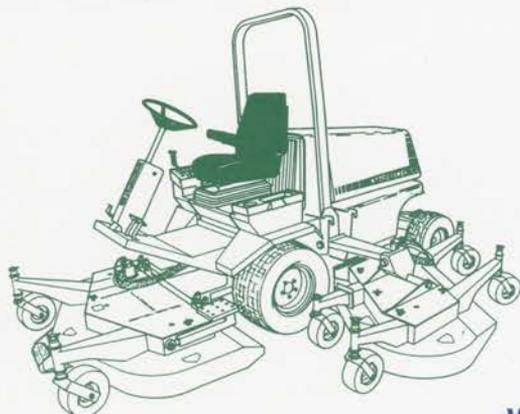
GCSAA's initiatives are intended to:

- enhance the image of the superintendent
- build superintendent sensitivity to and awareness of the environment, as well as educate the golfing public about the positive impact golf courses have on the environment
- strengthen chapter affiliation by providing member education and services through the individual chapters
- enhance job satisfaction by expanding job continuity and career opportunities for our members



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Upcoming Events



Social Event

MetGCSA Christmas Party

Sunday, December 19
Ridgeway Country Club, White Plains, NY
Host: Earl Millett
Save the date! Join fellow association members in ringing in the holidays.

Educational Sessions

MetGCSA Winter Seminar

Wednesday, January 5, 2000
Westchester Country Club, Rye, NY
This year's event promises to provide another interesting lineup of topics. Among them: USGA Greens Construction Specifications and Grow-in: Is There Change on the Horizon?, Managing Trees in a Turf Environment, Preparing Your Golf Course for a Competition, Moss Research Update: Maximizing Putting Green Performance, The Professional Development Initiative (PDI) and GCSAA.

For further information, contact Education Committee Chairman Jon Jennings at The Patterson Club, 203-259-7390.

Turf Equipment Manager's Training School

Monday - Friday, January 10 - 14, 2000
SUNY Cobleskill, Cobleskill, NY
Cosponsored by SUNY Cobleskill, NYSTA, and the Golf Course Mechanics Association, this session will help mechanics sharpen their skills and offer insight to the latest equipment maintenance techniques. For further information, contact Larry Van De Valk, 518-234-5011.



Recertification Seminars

Using Pesticides Legally & Safely

Run by Pesticide Training & Consulting company, this recertification program is designed for commercial and private pesticide applicators. Among the topics covered: Record-keeping and annual reports for certified applicators and registered businesses; preventing environmental damage; rules and regulations, including new certification requirements; handling pesticides safely; the why and how of IPM.

You'll find this seminar at the following nearby locations:

Holiday Inn, Kingston, NY
914-338-0400
Tuesday, January 18, 2000

Holiday Inn, Newburgh, NY
914-564-9020
Wednesday, January 19, 2000

Ramada, Elmsford, NY
914-592-3300
Thursday, January 20, 2000

Recertification Seminars *continued*

Integrated Pest Management

Tuesday, January 25, 2000
Best Western, Poughkeepsie, NY
Run by Pesticide Training & Consulting company, this recertification program will cover such topics as why and how to set up an IPM plan; alternative pest controls; identifying a variety of pest and plant problems; protecting water quality; landscaping to minimize pest problems.

For further information or to register for either of these seminars, contact Pesticide Training and Consulting at 607-749-5318.



Rutgers Continuing Education Sessions

Rutgers, Cook College

New Brunswick, NJ
Rutgers continuing education program is offering the following series of educational sessions for turfgrass professionals.

Professional Landscape & Grounds Management School

Monday - Friday, January 3 - 14, 2000

Applied Topics: Successful ID and Control of Turfgrass Diseases

Thursday, January 20, 2000

Integrated Pest Management

Tuesday - Wednesday, January 25 - 26, 2000;
February 1 - 2, 2000; February 8 - 9, 2000

Applied Topics: Successfully Identifying and Effectively Managing Turf Weeds

Tuesday - Wednesday, February 15 - 16, 2000

Applied Topics: Better Landscape Through Better Soils

Monday - Tuesday, February 28 - 29, 2000

Beyond the Basics of Landscape Construction

Tuesday - Wednesday, March 14 - 15, 2000

Applied Topics: Successful Insect ID and Control for Ornamental Plants

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Hazardous Tree ID

Thursday, March 16, 2000

For further information, contact Kurt Martens at 732-932-8451.

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Did You Know?

FUN FACTS AND FIGURES



A **snowflake's** descent can be quite slow—easily several hours—since even the heaviest flake falls no faster than one mile per hour.

Winter winds are actually stronger than summer winds. Winter air is more dense, so it can push harder.

Putting down **salt** doesn't melt snow and ice. Instead, salt keeps melted snow from freezing again, even when it's well below 32 degrees.



The **goose bumps** that appear when you feel a chill are nature's way of warming you. Hair is more effective insulation when it's standing on end.

Ants spend the winter huddled underground. There, under the frost line, the temperature is a nearly constant 55 degrees year-round.

The first **clocks** to roll over into the next millennium will be on the Kiribati islands in the South Pacific, just northeast of New Zealand.



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The MetGCSA Takes Second Place in the Met Area Team Championship

The Met Team was a close second in the race to win the 20th Annual Met Area Team Championship held October 26 at Westchester Country Club in Rye, NY.

Special thanks to Joe Alonzi and his staff for hosting the event, which gave contestants the opportunity to play a world-class golf course with the added surprise of Sunday Classic hole locations. Thanks a lot guys!

Ushering the Met to near-victory with a score of 500 were the following Gross and Net Team members:

Gross Division

Ed Binsse, *Waccabuc CC*
John Carlone, *The Meadow Brook Club*
Earl Millett, *Ridgeway CC*
Matt Severino, *Scarsdale GC*

Net Division

Tony Grasso, *Metropolis CC*
Blake Halderman, *Minisceongo GC*
Jeff Wentworth, *Pelham CC*
Bob Zaletsky, *New York CC*

Seven other teams competed for the grand prize, which this year went to the Philadelphia AGCS with a score of 495. Placing third was the Connecticut AGCS Team with a score of 510. The other participating teams were the Northeastern GCSA, Mid-Atlantic AGCS, Hudson Valley GCSA, Long Island GCSA, and New Jersey AGCS.

Other noteworthy results: Chet Walsh of Philadelphia AGCS earned Individual Low Gross with a 75 and Nearest to the Pin Gross. Representing the Met, Earl Millett took the Long Drive Gross, while Austin Young of the Northeastern GCSA earned Long Drive Net. Also doing the Met proud was Bill Perlee who won Nearest to the Pin Net.

Congratulations to all the winners, and special thanks to all who attended.

PAT SISK

Country Club of Fairfield

What Ever Happened to That Two-Ball Tourney?

If you're wondering about the outcome of the MetGCSA's summer-long Two-Ball Tourney, here's the final-round results. Congratulations to the emerging winners: Fred Scheyhing and Chuck Martineau in the Class A Division and John Apple and Dan Cancelleri in the Class AF Division.



For the Class A Division

Fred Scheyhing, *Mt. Kisco CC/* defeated John Carlone, *The Meadow Brook Club/*
Chuck Martineau, *Whippoorwill Club* Tim O'Neill, *CC of Darien*

For the Class AF Division

John Apple, *Westchester Ford Tractor/* defeated John Currie, *Currie Landscaping/*
Dan Cancelleri, *J.A. Jackson Corp.* Scott Apgar, *Metro Milorganite*

PAT SISK

Country Club of Fairfield

Class C Outing's Winning Results

Class C Met members gathered at Century Country Club October 14 for the 10th Annual Class C

Outing. Hosted by Assistant Super Brian Benedict and Superintendent Jim Fulwider, the event's 46 players competed in a Two-Man Best Ball and individual low net/low gross.

Here are the winning results:

Individual

Low Gross

1. Chip Lafferty, *Wykagyl CC*
2. Toby Alves, *Bedford Golf & Tennis*
3. Brian Benedict, *Century CC*

Low Net

1. Scott Imbro, *Putnam CC*
2. Seth Greenwood, *Anglebrook GC*
3. Scott Curry, *Scarsdale GC*

Two-Man Best Ball

Low Gross (1-6)

1. Brian Benedict, *Century CC*
David Henault, *Fenway GC*
2. Chip Lafferty, *Wykagyl CC*
Brian Hall, *The Apawamis Club*
3. Scott Curry, *Scarsdale GC*
Darrell Marcinek, *Canoe Brook CC*
4. Frank Buschini, *Knollwood CC*
Bryan Diggle, *Glen Arbor CC*
5. Tom Watroba, *Quaker Ridge GC*
Scott Zalinski, *Siwanoy CC*
6. Matt Lapinski, *Elmwood CC*
David Conrad, *Sunningdale CC*

Longest Drive

#18 Chip Lafferty, *Wykagyl CC*

Closest to the Pin

- #4 Tom Tooley, *Mt. Kisco CC* 12'5"
#7 Sean Taggart, *Rolling Hills* 20'5"
#13 Yogi Daughson, *Rolling Hills* 2'4"
#17 Tom Watroba, *Quaker Ridge* 30'9"

Many thanks to all the participating Class C members, and a special thank you to Superintendent Jim Fulwider.

TOM WATROBA

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