



TEE TO GREEN

Published by the
Metropolitan Golf Course
Superintendents Association

President's Message

The Most Important Thing Is . . .

I'd like to start this month's message by congratulating Country Club of Darien Superintendent Tim O'Neill, CGCS, for his appointment to the GCSAA Board of Directors. (Read his article on page 8.) As you know, Tim was appointed to fill the one year remaining on Mike Wallace's, CGCS, term. Mike was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

With more than 3,000 votes, Tim finished in the elections a strong third, behind the two incumbents, John Maddern, CGCS, and Ken Mangum, CGCS.

The MetGCSA will continue to support Tim and his endeavors on the GCSAA board. Being appointed for only one year, Tim will be a candidate again in the fall.

Running for the GCSAA board may not be for everyone. But serving on one of GCSAA's many committees is the next best thing. It's a great way not only to become further involved in our profession, but also to enhance our chapter and even help support Tim's efforts.

On Being a Superintendent

During a recent trip to Arizona to cadie on the LPGA Tour (watch for the scoop in the next issue of *Tee to Green*), one of the young touring professionals asked me a question (continued on page 2)

Special Feature

Getting the Mosquito Before It Gets You

Expert Advice on Keeping Mosquitoes—and West Nile Virus—at Bay on Your Course

Until last summer, the presence of mosquitoes was about as consequential as the presence of geese: Both were annoying but relatively harmless. Then came West Nile—a mosquito-borne virus that killed seven people in the New York metropolitan region, caused encephalitis or meningitis in 62 others, and prompted widespread spraying of insecticides, particularly in and around New York City.

In the tri-state area, these pesky insects don't become active until late spring. But with the recent discovery of low levels of the West Nile virus genetic material in hibernating mosquitoes collected in Fort Totten, Queens, it might be worth launching an attack even before these mosquitoes take their first flight.

To prevent a repeat of last year's outbreak, health officials from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island are subscribing to a surveillance and control plan

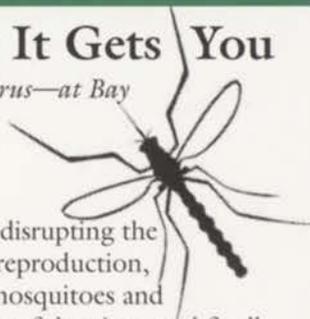
that involves disrupting the mosquitoes' reproduction, monitoring mosquitoes and birds for signs of the virus, and finally, instituting new procedures at hospitals to catch the earliest of human cases. The species targeted: the *Culex pipiens*, which seeks its meals in backyards and bedrooms and is known to carry the West Nile virus from birds to people.

Health officials say that pesticide spraying would occur only as a last resort, if it becomes clear that the virus may threaten people.

As golf course superintendents, there are steps you can—and really *must*—take to keep the number of new mosquitoes at bay on the course and club grounds. What follows is a collection of expert advice on how to keep your course—and ultimately, your crew and members—out of harm's way.

Eliminate the Breeding Grounds

Chief Medical Ento- (continued on page 6)



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The Most Important Thing Is . . .

that I actually had to ponder for a while. In fact, I had to get back to her on it the next day. Her question was, "What is the most important thing about being a superintendent?"

Now, think about this a minute before I tell you my answer. Think about how you might have responded.

Many issues ran through my mind: communication, with both members and staff; environmental awareness and IPM, buzzwords that describe issues important to us all; solid turf management skills; personnel and time management skills. All these things are extremely important to being a successful golf course superintendent.

But after taking the night to think this through, I came back to her with, "I think the most important thing about being a superintendent is playing the game of golf."

She looked a little puzzled at first. I am sure she was expecting a scientific answer about soil or grass, but after a moment or two, she said, "That makes sense."

Having had a month now to rethink this, I feel even more confident that the answer I gave her was absolutely correct. I'm not saying you have to be a low-handicap golfer, but I believe you should play well enough to be able to join your president or green chairman for a round without being embarrassed. I also feel strongly that you should have a good grasp on the rules of golf. This knowledge is a great asset in marking your golf course for competitions, as well as in making you a respected source of information for members.

Credibility Builder

Don't get me wrong. I still feel it's important to have a neat maintenance

area, properly maintained equipment, well-trained and neatly dressed staff, and an orderly, efficient office. Your employers will also appreciate your attention to these kinds of details. However, I feel strongly that playing and understanding the rules and strategies of the game will improve your credibility among club officials and members.

Here's an example of what I mean. I'm sure all of you have had complaints on a hot weekend in August that the greens "weren't fast enough." We all know the reasons why it's dangerous to push greens in August—I won't get into that now—and we also know that members often don't want to believe or hear those reasons when you tell them. So think about how playing and understanding the game of golf might work, here, to your advantage if you were to reply this way:

"You know, Mr. Smith, I love fast greens too. But I played nine holes after work last night to test the greens, and I just felt they were too stressed to double-cut and roll this weekend; so we just single-cut them. I'm hopeful that this break will allow them to recover so we can get back on the cutting and rolling schedule that'll provide the kind of speed you and the rest of our members are accustomed to."

In my experience, members appreciate the fact that you are experiencing the playing conditions and can comment on them from a golfer's perspective.

On a final note, be sure to keep a balance. There's no need to play five rounds a week (would be nice though!), but if you can find the time, try to improve your game a little. You'll experience many rewards for the effort.

JOHN CARLONE, CGCS
President

Quotable Quote

"Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you you are wrong."

Ralph Waldo Emerson
(1803 -1882)

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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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Will Heintz Brings Two-Ball Qualifier to Centennial

On April 25, Superintendent Will Heintz is hosting this year's Two-Ball Qualifier at what's been described as "an awesome new course"—the Centennial Golf Club in Carmel, NY.

Opened just two years ago, this 350-acre, daily-fee course has 27 holes and an extensive practice facility. Will came on the job in September of 1997 in the midst of the construction phase and in his words, "hit the ground running."

"Being involved in the construction and grow-in of the golf course has been rewarding—definitely a career highlight," says Will. "We faced many adversities but were able to get through them all with teamwork and persistence. We met every deadline."

Will credits the success of the project to the thoughtful input and dedicated efforts of the work crew, purveyors, numerous Met superintendents, and last but not least, to Centennial's owners,

the Leibowits's. "They made sure I had every resource I needed to get the job done," says Will. "There was never any question about their commitment."

Life Before Golf Courses

Will is no stranger to hard work and knows well the value of cooperative efforts. He grew up with six brothers and five sisters—working the 200-acre dairy/hobby farm where they lived in upstate Clinton, NY.

With a ready-made crew at hand, his father—a now-retired oral surgeon—had decided to activate the farm when Will was just 8. "At an early age," says Will, "we learned to operate equipment, work the soil, care for livestock, and face the elements. Teamwork was critical to our success."

"The Amish have a saying: 'Many hands make for light work.' No question, it's much easier to get things done when you are all pulling in the same direction."

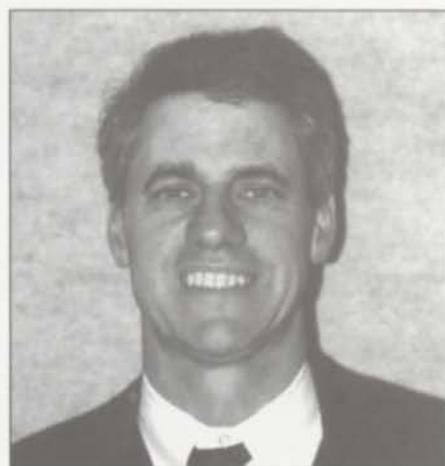
His years on the farm inspired Will to pursue a degree in biology. But after graduating from St. Lawrence University, he realized he was trained for a career he wouldn't enjoy: scientific research. He opted for a job working in a stone quarry instead.

"It didn't take me long to see I was going nowhere—quickly," says Will. "That's when I decided to pursue a career in turfgrass management." A golfer since the age of 10, Will had already gotten his feet wet in the field, working summers on golf courses during high school and college. He enrolled in UMass's Turfgrass Management Program, receiving his associate's in 1977.

The Turfgrass Track

His first job out of school was as an assistant at Teugega Country Club in Rome, NY. But his real training ground was Westchester Country Club under then superintendent Ted Horton. Despite his previous experience, it was back to square one. "I started on the divot crew," says Will, "and had to work my way back up to assistant superintendent."

After five years there, Will accepted his first superintendent's job at Hamp-



Centennial GC Superintendent Will Heintz

shire Country Club, where in 1993, he hosted his first Met meeting. Will spent 12 years at Hampshire before moving to Centennial—and a home on the grounds—with his wife of 24 years, Linda, who gave birth to their son, Will, just 17 days after they arrived.

"I am blessed with my family," says Will, who praises Linda's support and understanding in his frequent long hours. "Linda, probably more than most superintendent's wives can appreciate what we go through," notes Will. "She worked 12 years as the Executive Chef at Metropolis Country Club—a job with hours that rival even ours."

Other Pursuits

Will and Linda like to kick back with their son and, in the winter months, enjoy spending time in their home-away-from-home in upstate New York, an old stone schoolhouse they restored years ago before leaving the area.

Two of Will's other after-hour pursuits are golf and music. After some prodding, he admitted to being a banjo player—accomplished enough to play a few "gigs" now and then. He fondly remembers making guest appearances when a friend's bluegrass band played in Greenwich Village.

Will's latest "gig" is as the MetGCSA's secretary, a position he'll hold on the board for the next two years. In his 10th year on the board, Will has chaired the Education and Government Relations committees and served on several others.

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Superintendent/Manager Tourney Makes a Return Trip to Silver Spring

The May 18 Superintendent/Manager Tournament is being held on very familiar turf: Silver Spring Country Club in Ridgefield, CT. Superintendent Peter Rappoccio has hosted this annual event four times before and has welcomed the MetGCSA to Silver Spring for at least three other meetings in his 23-year tenure at the club.

Big Doings

If you're among the many members who have made repeat visits to the club, you know just how much the 315-acre property has evolved over the past decade. Working with golf course architect Geoffrey Cornish, Peter has enhanced—and restored—many aspects of the 71-year-old course's original Robert White design, making sizable changes to the cart paths, bunkers, greens, and even several tees.

Since the last time our group was invited to play the course—at the 1996 Superintendent/Manager Tourney—Peter's completed what became an "in-house" renovation of all green site bunker complexes. "We began the process with Geoff Cornish overseeing the project," explains Peter, "but after tackling a hole by ourselves, we found the outline of the old bunker edges as clear as day. With Geoff's blessing, we continued on our own and are quite proud of the results."

Peter's latest coup was getting the go-ahead on a new \$1.2 million irrigation system. Having hired a consultant to evaluate their irrigation needs, Peter felt the project was an easy sell. "After about 30 minutes into our presentation," he says, "a board member asked if anyone needed to hear more. No one did, and we got the green light to install the system this coming fall."

In Peter's tenure, the club has also built a new driving range, swimming pool, and rebuilt the maintenance facility, which involved renovating two existing structures and constructing a new storage building.

Next on the docket, Peter hopes, is to create a Master Plan that would include reevaluating the size of the course's original tees built in 1929.

To Manage Turf, or Not to Manage Turf

Peter's entree into the world of golf began early—first, as a caddie at The Apawamis Club in Rye, NY, and then, as a crew member at Fairview Country Club in Greenwich, CT. Peter joined Fairview's crew when he was only 15, working through the course's construction phase and every summer during high school and college.

Peter attended St. Francis College in Maine, but instead of pursuing a degree in turfgrass management, he earned a B.A. in sociology with a minor in business and education. After being offered a position as a rehabilitation counselor, Peter realized he was better suited for a career in golf course management and returned to Fairview.

While working with then superintendent Ted Jozwick, Peter received a two-year degree in Turf Management from Rutgers and was elevated to assistant superintendent. That was in 1975. Three years later, Peter accepted the superintendent's position at Silver Spring.

Above and Beyond the Call of Duty

Though managing the course clearly keeps Peter busy, he still finds time to serve the association he once led. MetGCSA president in 1985 and 1986, Peter has always juggled numerous committee responsibilities and actively participated in association events.

Right now, Peter is serving on six Met committees; he's also actively involved in the Nominating Committee—and has been since 1987.

Reflecting on his career, Peter has many good things to say. "It's been rewarding," he says, "both professionally and personally. It's allowed me to get close to my two boys, Pete and Tim, and be a part of their life growing up."



Silver Spring Superintendent Peter Rappoccio, CGCS

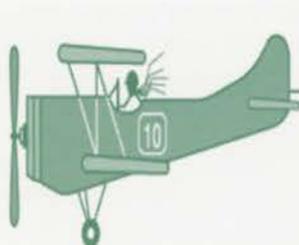
Peter's eldest son, Pete, is a junior at Virginia Tech majoring in Turfgrass Management, while Tim is a senior at Fairfield Prep. Peter is proud to report that both sons will spend this summer working with him at Silver Spring.

Through the years, Peter's enjoyed coaching his sons' various team sports. He coached both Pete and Tim through the Pop Warner football program and rooted both of them on while they wrestled and played football at Fairfield Prep. For the past two years, Peter's coached Fairfield Prep's freshman football and next season will be moving on up to the junior varsity program.

Pop Warner recently recognized Peter's 10 years of coaching the league, presenting him with a lifetime achievement award.

Peter and his wife, Birdie, of 24 years, live on club grounds in Ridgefield, where Birdie is active in the community and serves as a registered nurse for the school system.

BILL PERLEE
The Apawamis Club



Be sure to join us for the
SUPERINTENDENT/MANAGER TOURNEY...
Thursday, May 18, Silver Spring CC, Ridgefield, CT!

Getting the Mosquito Before It Gets You

mologist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven, CT, Dr. Theodore Andreadis, explains that the best way to reduce the number of mosquitoes is to remove or treat any standing water—preferably now, before the egg-bearing females take flight.

“Adult *Culex pipiens* emerge from hibernation during May and start laying eggs in a suitable habitat soon after,” Dr. Andreadis says. “Eggs hatch within one to two days, and in two weeks’ time, a new crop of adults emerge.”

On the golf course—and around many homes—the breeding grounds for the offending *Culex pipiens* is almost limitless. A tiny puddle will do.

Other places likely to attract egg-laying mosquitoes, says Dr. Andreadis, are birdbaths, pool covers, pools that aren’t well chlorinated, buckets, dishes under flowerpots, unused equipment, wheelbarrows, ornamental garden pools and swamps that don’t have any fish, low-lying wet areas, and last but certainly not least, leaf-clogged rain gutters.

“During midsummer, mosquitoes can develop from egg to adult in as little as 10 to 12 days,” notes Dr. Andreadis. “That means that a single neglected rain gutter could produce hundreds of mosquitoes each day.”

Not a happy thought even if the West Nile virus *weren't* a threat.

Your Best Defense

“Any area that collects water, should be checked on a weekly basis,” suggests Dr. Andreadis. When you’re dealing with an ornamental pool, you might consider stocking it with fish. “The fish will feed on the mosquito larvae,” says Dr. Andreadis adding, “That’s why deep ponds generally don’t produce large numbers of mosquitoes.”

What kind of fish should you use? Dr. Michael Potter, urban entomologist at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, suggests mosquito fish, referring to what are called *Gambusia*—essentially predacious minnows; they’re about an inch to an inch-and-a-half long and dine quite happily on mosquito larvae. Dr. Andreadis finds goldfish work well and offer an added bonus: They tolerate low oxygen levels. “Both goldfish and

minnows may not survive the winter,” cautions Dr. Andreadis, “which means you’ll have to be sure to restock your ornamental pools come spring.”

Another alternative, says Dr. Andreadis, is to treat the pond, swamp, or wet area with a “biorational” insecticide that will kill mosquito larvae while leaving pets, plants, and people unharmed.

Among the products out there:

- Bactimos, Vectobac, and Vectolex. You can get these, and other similar materials, through local suppliers.



“During midsummer, mosquitoes can develop from egg to adult in as little as 10 to 12 days. That means that a single neglected rain gutter could produce hundreds of mosquitoes each day.”



- Mosquito Dunks, manufactured by March Biological Control in Sherwood, OR. They’re sold in six-packs and can be purchased through the company’s website—www.marchbiological.com—or, again, through local vendors.

“Mosquito Dunks,” explains Dr. Andreadis, “are similar in size and shape to small doughnuts, and they float on the surface of standing water. These products contain a bacterium called *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, which is toxic only to mosquitoes. The larvae eat it and die.”

Each dunk will treat 100 square feet of surface water for 30 days and will remain effective for that time even in wet areas that may dry up and reflood.

Zapping the Adults

If you don’t catch the mosquitoes in the larval stage, you can go after them again as adults. There are numerous products out there. Which one you choose will vary with your state’s rules and regulations governing pesticide use (see sidebar on page 7), but areas you’ll want to target will remain the same. Some favorite adult hangouts: the bases

of shrubs and high plants and vegetation along a pond’s edge.

One purported mosquito killer you *don't* want to count on, however, are bats. Though we’ve all been led to believe that bats feast on mosquitoes by the hundreds per hour (600 per hour, according to one estimate), this is, apparently . . . well . . . a crock of guano.

“The reality is bats don’t eat many mosquitoes at all. In fact, mosquitoes make up less than one percent of the bat’s diet,” says Dr. Andreadis, referring to a recent study which, among other things, examined the contents of mosquitoes’ stomachs and feces. “They eat more moths than they do mosquitoes,” he adds.

A mosquito killer that *may* be worth a gander, however—particularly for your clubhouse or golf shop areas—is a new bug-zapper-like product. Unlike the old and notoriously ineffective backyard bug zappers, this new device claims to increase its mosquito-killing power considerably by using heat and even carbon dioxide to lure its prey.

“Our machine actually mimics the body temperature of humans, cattle, and pets, all the things that mosquitoes like to bite,” says Alvin Wilbanks in a *New York Times* interview. Wilbanks, president of Environmental Products and Research in Blytheville, AR, the company responsible for this nifty product, goes on to say that while the device may look like an aluminum wastebasket with a hat to a human, it looks like a human to a mosquito.

Sounds too good to be true, but proof is in the pudding: The town of Pollard, AR, bought five of these devices last year and has bought five more for this summer, claiming they’ve worked well enough to be considered an alternative to using airplanes to spray insecticide in public parks.

The technology, however, doesn’t come cheap. The basic Mosquito Killer unit costs \$399. And according to Wilbanks, a \$120 add-on that emits carbon dioxide, mimicking exhaled breath, increases the kill rate.

You can find additional information on the Mosquito Killer at www.epar-mosquito.com.

Personal Protection

"Even without concrete evidence that the virus is threat," says Dr. Andreadis, "people should take basic precautions to avoid contact with mosquitoes."

Universal recommendations:

- If you must be outside at dawn, dusk, or early evening when adult mosquitoes are present, wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Apply insect repellent—sparingly, however, to exposed skin. Most effective are repellents that contain 20- to 30-percent DEET. In higher concentrations, DEET may cause side effects, particularly in children. Don't apply repellents to children under 3, and always avoid spraying their hands since repellents can irritate the eyes and mouth.
- Spray clothing with repellents containing permethrin or DEET since mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing.
- If you find dead birds on your property with no visible sign of injury,

contact your local wildlife pathology department or health department to find out whether the bird should be tested for West Nile virus.

Though there is no evidence that a person can get the virus from handling live or dead infected birds, avoid bare-handed contact when handling a carcass. Use gloves or double plastic bags to remove the dead bird from the course.

The bird you're most likely to find belly-up, according to Dr. Andreadis, is the crow. "Crows seem to be the most sensitive indicator of virus activity," he says, adding, "That's where the virus seems to appear first."

What if You Get the Bug

The symptoms of West Nile encephalitis range from barely perceptible to severe and can appear within 5 to 15 days of an infected mosquito bite. Most infections are mild, with symptoms including fever, headache, and body aches, often with

skin rash and swollen lymph glands. More serious infection may be marked by headache, high fever, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and, rarely, death.

Unfortunately, there is no specific therapy. More severe cases may call for hospitalization. If you think you have West Nile encephalitis, seek medical care as soon as possible.

For further information on mosquito-borne viral encephalitis, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website on Arboviral Encephalitis: www.cdc.gov.

For more information on pesticides used to control mosquito populations, visit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website on Pesticides and Mosquito Control: www.epa.gov.

Special thanks to Communications Committee members Mike Cook, Pat Sisk, Scott Niven, and Blake Halderman for their help in researching this piece.

Rules and Regulations, State-by-State

Here's a quick take on the type of licensing you'll need to apply mosquito-fighting pesticides on golf courses in New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey.

As you run through the list, you'll see that biological controls are not restricted in Connecticut and New Jersey. Just be sure to look at the product label carefully: Not all products billed as biorational controls are wholly biological. Some also contain restricted-use pesticides. If you see an EPA number on a product, that's usually a tip-off that you're dealing with a material that requires a special permit or license.

Another point worthy of mention: Homeowners applying similar materials may not be bound to any of these laws.

In New York

- Superintendents who would like to apply pesticides—*biological or otherwise*—to control mosquito larvae in stagnant or moving bodies of water, will need to be certified in Category 5b,

Aquatic Insect Control. If the body of water has an outflow, you will also need to apply for an Aquatic Use Permit through the New York State DEC.

- Superintendents who would like to apply pesticides—*biological or otherwise*—to control adult mosquitoes, will need to be certified in Category 8, Public Health.

In Connecticut

- Biological controls have no restrictions in Connecticut, whether you're applying them on land or in a body of water.
- Superintendents certified in Category 3B, Turf & Ornamental Control, can apply pesticides to control adult mosquitoes *on the property they manage*, but you *do* need to get a permit from the Connecticut DEP that details the specific sites you plan to treat.
- Superintendents who would like to apply pesticides to control mosquito larvae in stagnant or moving bodies of water, will need to be certified in Category 5b, Aquatic Insect Control. If the

body of water has an outflow, you will also need to apply for an Aquatic Use Permit through the Connecticut DEP.

In New Jersey

- Biological controls have no restrictions in New Jersey, whether you're applying them on land or in a body of water.
- In New Jersey, superintendents who would like to apply pesticides to control adult mosquitoes on their property must be certified in Category 8B, Mosquito Pest Control. In addition, if you're planning to treat more than three acres in total, you will need to apply for a seasonal permit through the New Jersey DEP.
- Superintendents who would like to apply pesticides to control mosquito larvae in stagnant or moving bodies of water, will need to be certified in Category 5b, Aquatic Insect Control. If the body of water has an outflow, you will also need to apply for an Aquatic Use Permit through the New Jersey DEP.



An Inside Look at What It's Like as a Newcomer on the GCSAA Board

Campaigning for the GCSAA board isn't unlike campaigning for political office: It takes a tremendous amount of energy and countless hours of thought and preparation. After two years on the campaign trail, Tim's efforts finally paid off. On February 19 following the GCSAA Annual Meeting, Tim was appointed to serve a one-year term as director on the GCSAA board, filling the position left vacant by the newly elected Secretary/Treasurer Mike Wallace.

"I was proud to represent the MetGCSA as a national candidate," says Tim, "and I am thankful to the many Met members who supported my campaign."

What's it like to suddenly find yourself in high places? Tim offers a brief look at life at the top, as a new GCSAA director.

Getting Started

My first real experience as a GCSAA director—when it all really hit home—was at the GCSAA Banquet. My wife, Jennifer, and I met the other board members and their families, who couldn't have made us feel more welcome. We sat at the head table and were introduced to all who attended the banquet. It was extremely exciting and, at the same time, kind of strange to be looking out at the audience, rather than up at the cast of board members as we always had before.

The next day, I attended the post-conference board meeting that included the executive staff: CEO Steve Mona, COO Joe O'Brien, and CFO Julian Arrendondo. Among other things, we reviewed the conference and show, as well as the Golf Tournament, discussing what went well and what we might do to make it all even better.

Getting Oriented

A week after the conference, I joined fellow board members for a formal orientation. When you're new to the board, GCSAA makes certain that you get oriented quickly, not only with your roles and responsibilities, but also with the technology necessary to keep you closely linked to GCSAA events, board members, and staff.

The orientation started with a seven-hour course in what they call "etiquette," which involves everything you need to know to put your best foot forward—when traveling, presenting issues to a group, and even dining.

At the same time, we were given committee assignments. I was appointed chairman of two committees: the Membership Committee, which recommends strategies for recruiting

new members, reviews classification requirements, as well as benefits and services for GCSAA members—and the Student Resource Group, charged with suggesting services for GCSAA student members and student chapter members, as well as providing a student's perspective on associationwide programs and activities.

With the assignments done, we all opened our calendars to map out, right then and there, our travel and meeting schedules for the coming year. Needless to say, coordinating all our schedules took a bit of time.

Conquering the Computer

I left the orientation with a laptop loaded with the software I'd need to handle my new responsibilities and a date set when GCSAA representatives would travel to Darien. Their goal was to get acquainted with my operation, my crew, clubhouse staff, and club officials—all the people they might need to communicate with during my term on the board.

The second part of their visit was to provide computer training. In two days, I learned the ins-and-outs of using the word processing and Powerpoint software needed to build effective communications and presentations. I also learned a lot about navigating the internet—and GCSAA's board *intranet*, which allows me to communicate quickly and efficiently with others on the board and at headquarters.

Where From Here

Next on the docket are committee meetings this month and a board meeting in May.

The summer promises to be busy, too, with PDI discussions and planning heating up.

I hope that everyone in the membership will feel free to contact me with any questions or GCSAA-related issues. You have a contact, now, right in your own backyard. Don't hesitate to take advantage of it.

Many thanks, again, to all of you for your support.

TIM O'NEILL, CGCS
Country Club of Darien

GCSAA Board at a Glance

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Scott Woodhead, CGCS, Valley View Golf Club, Bozeman, MT

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Immediate Past President

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Jon Maddern, CGCS, Elk Ridge Golf Course, Atlanta, MI

Mark Woodward, CGCS, Parks and Recreation Director, Mesa, AZ

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Minisceongo Golf Club Recognized for Environmental Excellence

Congratulations to Minisceongo Superintendent **Blake Halderman** who has, over the past two years, worked to earn his club the prestigious designation of "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary." Minisceongo Golf Club is the 10th course in New York and the 225th in the world to receive the honor, which is endorsed by the USGA and made available by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, the educational division of Audubon International.

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses is intended to provide information and guidance to golf courses to help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

To reach certification, golf courses must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in several categories. Among them: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Outreach & Education, Integrated Pest Management, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

"Minisceongo Golf Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program," says Joellen Zeh, staff ecologist for the Cooperative Sanctuary System. "They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property."



New Members

Please join us in welcoming the following new members:

Ronald S. Cutlip, Class AF, Ron Cutlip, Architect, New York, NY

Bryan M. Diggle, Class C, Glen Arbor GC, Bedford Hills, NY

John D. Fowler, Class AF, Novartis Turf & Ornamental Prods., Oxford, PA

Joseph Gardner Jr., Class C, Old Oaks CC, Purchase, NY

Alias Imondi, Class C, Wee Burn CC, Darien, CT

Ronald Kerley, Class C, Westchester Hills GC, White Plains, NY

Jeff Kronick, Class C, CC of Fairfield, Fairfield, CT

Jose Ortiz, Class D, GC of Purchase, Purchase, NY

Shawn T. O'Sullivan, Class B, D. Fairchild Wheeler GC, Fairfield, CT

Jason Struss, Class C, Edgewood CC, Rivervale, NJ

Royal Watters Jr., Class C, Powelton Club, Newburgh, NY

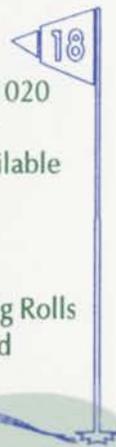
James E. Weiland, Class A, Shore Haven GC, Norwalk, CT

Jason M. Ziesmer, Class C, Minisceongo GC, Pomona, NY

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Members on the Move

Kevin Quist is the new superintendent at Lake Isle Country Club, Eastchester, NY. Previous position: Assistant superintendent, Ardsley Country Club, Ardsley-on-Hudson, NY.

Tom Watroba is a new representative with Irra-Tech, Inc., Port Chester, NY. Previous position: Assistant superintendent, Quaker Ridge Golf Club, Scarsdale, NY.

Newly Recertified

Congratulations to Met members **Tim Powers** of MLI, Inc. in Walnut Cove, NC, and **Ernie Steinhofner** of Metro Milorganite in Bedford Hills, NY, for completing the renewal process for maintaining their certification with GCSAA. Both Tim and Ernie were first certified in 1995. Maintaining certified status requires that a renewal process be completed every five years since the initial date of certification.



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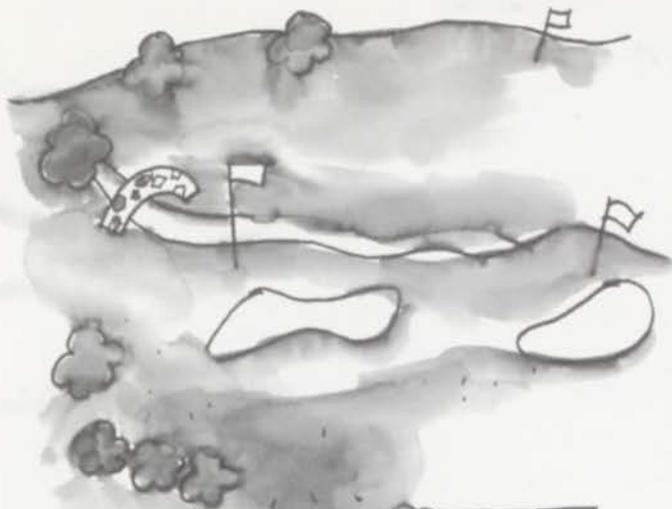
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2000 Meeting Calendar Has Two Openings!

Though our year 2000 meeting calendar is filling in, there are still two meetings looking for a host. Please consider offering your club for either the October Superintendent/Green Chairman Tourney or our November Annual Meeting. Call one of the Tournament Committee co-chairs—Jeff Wentworth, 914-738-2752, or Sean Cain, 914-723-3238—to lock in a meeting!

Two-Ball Qualifier

April 25
Centennial Golf Club, Carmel, NY
Host: Will Heintz

Superintendent/Manager Tournament

May 18
Silver Spring Country Club, Ridgefield, CT
Host: Peter Rappoccio, CGCS

Invitational Tournament

June 26
Tamarack Country Club, Greenwich, CT
Host: Jeff Scott, CGCS

MetGCSA Championship/ Met Area Team Championship Qualifier, Round 1

July 5
The Hamlet Golf & Country Club, Commack, NY
Host: Stephen Rabideau Jr.

Poa Annual Tournament

August 10
Brooklawn Country Club, Fairfield, CT
Host: Peter Bly

MetGCSA Championship/Met Area Team Championship Qualifier, Round 2

September 19
Burning Tree Country Club,
Greenwich, CT
Host: Gary Glazier

Superintendent/Green Chairman Tournament

October
SITE OPEN

Annual Class C Outing

October 5
Scarsdale Golf Club,
Hartsdale, NY
Host: Eric O'Neill, assistant superintendent

Met Area Team Championship

October 16
Country Club of Fairfield,
Fairfield, CT
Host: Pat Sisk

MetGCSA Annual Meeting

November
SITE OPEN



Area Professional Golf Events

The Buick Classic

Monday – Sunday, June 5 – 11
Westchester Country Club, Harrison, NY

Japan Airlines (JAL) Big Apple Classic

Thursday – Sunday, July 13 – 16
Wykagyl Country Club, New Rochelle, NY

U.S. Amateur Chai

Monday – Sunday,
August 21 – 27
Baltusrol Golf Club
Springfield, NJ



Did You Know?

FUN FACTS AND FIGURES

Topping the list of **endangered species** in our neck of the woods are plants (71 percent), followed by birds (11 percent), invertebrates (9 percent), reptiles (3 percent), fish (2 percent), mammals (1 percent), and amphibians (1 percent).

Golf courses once had 22 holes—up until 1764, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club combined eight of the holes into four, making it an 18-hole course.



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2000 GCSAA Golf Championship Highlights

Mobile, AL, and its surrounding golf courses played host to the 2000 GCSAA Golf Championship. Affiliate members from around the world gathered for three days of competition and camaraderie. Congratulations to our neighbors, the Long Island GCSA, for placing second in the Chapter Team Competition Gross Point Division. And of course, three cheers to the following championship contestants from the MetGCSA for their prize-winning efforts on the links.

First Flight, 6th place net

John Gallagher III, Racebrook CC, CT

Third Flight, 7th place gross

Dave Mahoney, Siwanoy CC, NY

Fourth Flight, 3rd place gross

Matt Severino, Scarsdale GC, NY

Seventh Flight, 4th place net

Bob Alonzi, Fenway GC, NY

Eighth Flight

2nd place net: Paul Pritchard, Wiltwyck GC, NY

3rd place net: Mike Reeb, CC of New Canaan, CT

4th place net: Jim McNally, Rock Spring GC, NJ

Super Senior Flight, 1st place gross

Frank Lamphier, Class AL

MetGCSA Notes

Don't Miss the Met's New-and-Improved Website at an All-New Address

The MetGCSA's website has changed more than just addresses. "It's gone from vanilla to fudge ripple," says Rockrimmon Superintendent Tony Girardi, who worked with TurfNet's Peter McCormick to improve our website, making it more visually appealing and easier to navigate.

The site has been up-and-running for about one year, making the Met one of nearly a dozen chapters in the country to develop a site to date.

For those who still haven't visited our site, here's what you've been missing:

- *Tee to Green* highlights, including feature articles; president's messages; golf results; member news; and upcoming meetings and social, golf, and educational events

- Postings for used and wanted equipment
- Research updates from the Tri-State Turf Research Foundation

- A host of other industry-related information

Our website's new—and we hope final—address is:

www.metgcsa.org



Please Excuse the Oversight

Our apologies to Turf Products Corp./TORO for mistakenly omitting them from our list of valued Winter Seminar exhibitors enclosed in the past issue of *Tee to Green*. Please be sure to add Turf Products Corp. to your list, and support them when you can.

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