

Vol. V, No. 10

Published monthly by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association

February, 1976

#### **MEETING NOTICE:**

March 18, 1976 Date:

Place: Country Club of New Canaan,

New Canaan, Conn.

Luncheon: 12:30

General Membership Business Meeting followed by Program

Robert Capstick

Directions: Take Merritt Parkway North to Exit 37 (Route 124), go North on Rt. 124 thru town of New Canaan. About 11/2 miles North of New Canaan look for Country Club Road on your right. Take Country Club Road to Club. From Conn. TPK take Exit 12. Take ramp to Boston Post Road, turn right (North on Boston Post Road). Take turn off to Rt. 124 to New Canaan, same as above.

Return Cards: Please return your cards.

#### COMING EVENTS:

February 8-13 G.C.S.A.A. 47th International Turfgrass

Conference, Minneapolis, Minn.

University of Mass. 45th Annual Turf March 3-4

Conference

March 18 M.G.C.S.A. Meeting, Country Club of

New Canaan

Westchester Home Gardners Clinic and April 3-4

Flower Show-M.G.C.S.A. Booth

M.G.C.S.A. Meeting, Sunningdale G.C. April 15th

May 20th M.G.C.S.A. Meeting, Greenwich C.C.

June 17th M.G.C.S.A. Meeting, Pelham C.C.

July

August Picnic and Softball game

September 30 M.G.C.S.A. Invitational—The Apawamis Club

October

November **Annual Meeting** 

Christmas Party December

#### M.G.C.S.A. ANNUAL MEETING:

We had a nice turnout for the Annual Meeting. We honored all the past Presidents with a plaque. Just about everybody made it back including Bob St. Thomas from Cape Cod. The results of the elections are as follows:

President: Garry Crothers; 1st Vice Pres.: Robert De-Pencier; 2nd Vice Pres.: Charles Martineau; Treasurer: Robert Alonzi; Secretary: Richard Gonyea.

Directors: 2 Year terms:

Allan Tretera; Ray Twombly and James Kaczenski.

Directors: 1 year term:

Terry Mulligan; Mike Maffei and Ralph Castelli.

President Garry Crothers expressed a note of thanks to Ted Horton and Bob Phipps retiring from the M.G.C.S.A. board.

The present list of honorary members was voted upon and passed plus the addition of Dr. John Kaufman from Cornell University and Dr. Richard Skogley from Rhode Island University.

Copies of all Committee Reports can be obtained from the Secretary. Also, Treasurer Bob Alonzi has copies of the Annual Statement.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:50.

#### M.G.C.S.A. Committee Chairmen for 1976

- 1. Program: Mike Maffei, Ralph Castelli, John Wistrand.
- 2. Membership: Terry Mulligan.
- 3. Field Day: Sherwood Moore and Robert DePencier.
- 4. Golf: Al Tretera and James Kaczenski.
- 5. Publicity: Charles Martineau.
- 6. Scholarship and Research: Sherwood Moore, Charles Martineau.
  - 7. Welfare: Harry Nichol and Dick Gonyea.
  - 8. By-Laws: Ray Twombly and Harry Nichol.
- 9. Insurance: Sherwood Moore, Robert Alonzi, Ray Twombly.
  - 10. Christmas Party: Robert DePencier
  - 11. Picnic and Softball Game: Harry Nichol.
  - 12. Tee To Green: Garry Crothers and Ted Horton.



Annual Meeting Past Presidents-L-R. John Madden, Bob St. Thomas, Vinnie Pentenaro, Everett Wood, Sherwood Moore, Jim Fulwider, Ray Twombly. Harry Nichol, missing from picture Bruno Vadala.



#### **Editorial Staff**

Ted Horton	S Co-Editor Co-Editor
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First Vice	Robert DePencier, Westchester C.C.

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Charles Martineau, Whippoorwill C.C.
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Richard Gonyea, Rye Golf Club

Office 914-967-6000, Home 203-531-9780

Treasurer:

Office 914-835-3205, Home 914-835-3204 Robert Alonzi, Burning Tree C.C.

Office 203 869 5779 Home Of

Office 203-869-5779, Home 914-937-1527

Not copyrighted. If there is good here, we want to share it with all chapters — unless author states otherwise.

Research and Scholarship: Sherwood Moore announced that the following clubs have given to the Hyperodes Research Fund: Quaker Ridge, Sunningdale, Century, Winged Foot, Old Oaks, Blind Brook, St. Andrews, Sleepy Hollow, Silver Springs, Innis Arden, Sterling Farms, Wee Burn, Whippoorwill Club, Round Hill. It's hoped that we can make out a bill for the Superintendent to be able to present to his club and in this way be able to charge it to a particular part of the Green's Department Budget. You will be hearing more on this soon.

#### Certification G.C.S.A.A.

Congratulations to Frank Bevelacqua on his recent passing of the Certification exam. It's a great individual effort. Please let me know if any member would like to have applications for applying for certification.

Garry Crothers, G.C.S.A.A. Certification Committee



Frank Bevelacqua beaming on his receiving his Certification Plaque from Garry Crothers, G.C.S.A.A. Certification Committeeman.

#### G.C.S.A.A. NEWS:

G.C.S.A.A. National Delegates are:

Voting Delegate — Terry Mulligan.

Advisory Committee Delegate — Harry Nichol.

George Plimpton will be the keynote speaker at the G.C.S.A.A. National Conference.

G.C.S.A.A. members will vote on dues increase from \$65 to \$90.

#### M.G.C.S.A. Directory

The M.G.C.S.A. directory is now going to press. We will have them available for the March meeting. Mrs. Byrne, our secretary, has worked many hours trying to make all the corrections we know of. We don't expect it to be perfect but we did the best we could with what information was available.

#### M.G.C.S.A. Christmas Party

Our thanks go to Dick Gonyea, his wife Peg and Dan Cancelleri for the wonderful Christmas Party that was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. We couldn't have asked for more. Thanks again, Dick and Peg and the Rye Golf Club.



Bob Alonzi, Tres. telling it like it is. Annual meeting M.G.C.S.A.



New Elected Officers and Board of Directors: L-R, Terry Mulligan, Jim Kaczenski, Bob Alonzi, Mike Maffei, Ray Twombly, Sherwood Moore, Bob DePencier, Garry Crothers, Chuck Martineau, Harry Nichol, Dick Gonyea, missing Ralph Castelli.



Co-Chairman Christmas Party — Dick Gonyea, Dan Cancelleri.

#### 1975-1976

## CLUB MANAGEMENT PROGRAM . . . TRAINING FOR CAREERS IN A GROWING INDUSTRY

The New Program In Continuing Education At Manhattanville College

The private club industry is one of the major business segments of the American economy. Total annual revenues exceed four billion dollars. The focal point of this industry is the club manager... the one person on whom the ultimate success and profitability of all clubs rest, and who must be the resident authority for all aspects of club operation.

This program of study is designed to provide comprehensive training in key facets of club management techniques and skills, both for individuals already employed in the industry and for those aspiring to enter it. The Club Management Program at Manhattanville College has already had a significant impact on the private club industry in the metropolitan area, since more than 25% of the students enrolled in the first semester have moved on to new positions and increased responsibilities within the club industry.

The enthusiasm of the original participants has confirmed the need for this type of program for those people aspiring to positions in the private club industry.

#### THE CURRICULUM

#### Spring Semester — March 2-May 20 SP CM 01 Club Management R. I. Munson, Tuesdays, 4 to 6 P.M.

R.L. Munson, Tuesdays, 4 to 6 P.M.

Course covering all aspects of personnel management and various key business factors related to management in the club industry. Particular emphasis will be placed on job descriptions, assignments and training, as well as the important legal and insurance aspects of club operations. Special consideration of incorporation procedures and club by-laws will also be included in the course.

#### SP CM 10 Club Accounting Practice R.B. Fitzgibbon, Tuesday, 6:15 to 8:15 PM

Covering systems and procedures most commonly practiced in clubs in relation to their size, structure and purpose—cash flow analysis, credit and collection procedures—accounting department structure, payroll, analysis and systems, data processing, dues structure, budgets, inventories and the general importance of timely information and managements use of such information.

#### SP CM 02 Food and Beverage Management A.H. Conseur, Thursday, 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Designed to provide an in-depth analysis of the most critical segment of club operations. In this course, the student will be exposed to the essential areas of planning, organizing and implementing food and beverage services. Specific concentration will include menu planning, ordering, service considerations, dining room, snack bar and special function operations, as well as promotion and budgeting.

#### SP CM 09 Management of Club Athletic Programs J.E. McLoughlin, Thursday, 6:15 to 8:15 PM

Often times taken for granted, well run athletic programs do not just happen at a club. A club that can consistantly put forth attractive, diversified and well managed sporting events will have a happy membership and a decisive advantage in the very competitive membership development market. Course will thoroughly examine member-member and member-guest format options in golf, tennis and paddle; model notices will illustrate seasonal and per event rules and administrative guidelines needed to conduct club tournaments in all sports; a close look at effective registration procedures and score board usage. Special attention to golf's big problem—slow play. Course will outline a workable composite fast play program that can do the job at your club; finally—a close look at caddie master and caddie training programs.

#### THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The college's certification program in Club Management is designed to provide specific formal training in the key areas of club management over a time of from 2 to 8 semesters, depending on the participation desires of the student. Certification by the college will be awarded upon completion of the 8 required courses with a minimum of a C average. Attendance in at least 9 of the 12 class sessions for each course is required.

#### CMAA ACCREDITATION

The Club Managers Association of America (CMAA) has granted full accreditation. The CCM designation it sought by all club managers as the most important recognition of professional competence within the club industry.

#### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for the Club Management Program should have a high school diploma or work experience in the club industry or in related fields which, in the opinion of the Admissions Committee, is considered sufficiently broad to qualify the applicant for study in the field. Individual interviews with all applicants will be required in order to assure that this program is appropriate for the student and to provide additional opportunity for the student to make inquiries regarding course content and future employment opportunities. Interviews and Registration scheduled anytime before March 2nd first class meeting at the Registrar's Office, Brownson Hall. Registration may also be completed by mail by requesting a registration form from the Registrar's Office or calling 946-9600. Interviews for new applicants will take place at the first class meeting.

For further information please contact:

James E. McLoughlin, (212) 867-0730.

#### FEES

There is an application fee of \$15. The academic fee will be \$215 per course. Overnight accommodations are available on campus at a nominal fee for those desiring them.

#### ADMINISTRATION — FACULTY

RAYMOND J. LANGLEY, PhD. Manhattanville College: Vice President for Academic Affairs.

ALLAN H. CONSEUR, AS. BA. Reibers Inn of Westchester: General Manager. Prior General Manager, VP, of BG Foods and ARA Services—each food distribution services. Long noted in the field of food operations.

ROBERT B. FITZGIBBON, BBA. Harvard Club of New York City, Controller.

HUGH J. KELLY, BA, MBA. Howard Johnson Company: Group Vice President.

JAMES E. McLOUGHLIN, BA, MS, LLB. Metropolitan Golf Association: Executive Director. The Whippoorwill Club.

RICHARD L. MUNSON, BS. Transportation Consultants International: Divisional Managing Director. Scarsdale Golf Club: President; Chairman, Golf, Grounds and Finance Committees. Metropolitan Golf Association: Long Range Planning Committee, Presidents Council, Lecturer. Previous: Marketing/Advertising — Various Corporations.

#### POTENTIAL APPLICANTS

Individuals who fall into the categories below should consider themselves potential candidates for this program:

- Presently employed club managers and key department heads wishing to upgrade their credentials and ability to perform valued service.
- Golf and tennis professionals, superintendents and pool directors wishing to expand future career opportunities and earning potential.
- Key operational club committee chairmen (House, Membership, Finance, Activities, etc.) and future club officers wishing to increase their capability to direct vital club programs. (Individual course enrollment available for this category of student.)
- · Persons aspiring to the club-management field.

#### TREE WOUND MANAGEMENT by Bill Brewer, October 1975

Golfers will usually take no notice of individual trees on a golf course. Except for the occasional strategically positioned ones, trees tend to blend into the landscape and exert a more subtle influence on the game. There are times though when this is not true. The showy flowers, fruits, or fall colors of various trees may stand out as a positive seasonal contribution. And insects or disease sometimes attack, making a tree painfully noticeable. To combat these problems a long range strategy includes the use of well adapted kinds of plants, careful observation to detect problems early, accurate diagnosis of difficulties, prompt treatment when needed, and routine preventive maintenance. Wound management is an important part of a preventive maintenance program, through which decades may be added to a tree's effective lifetime.

Naturally the best approach is to avoid severely damaging limbs and trunks. If the pruning of branches greater than an inch in diameter can be avoided, for instance, the sizes of wounds are limited and uneventful healing is more certain. Also, if plantings are made so that mowers can maneuver easily between and around trees, there is greater assurance that workman will make an effective effort to steer clear with large machinery. (In some cases, as with the Sugar Maple, merely heavy traffic over its root system may be sufficient to cause its decline.)

Should a sizeable wound be made, however, will it become infected? Regardless of the treatment given there is now no way to predict this. As a general rule most relatively minor wounds will heal with no harm done to the tree. Still there are steps which can be taken to either promote rapid healing or to counterbalance structural defects which may be caused by infection with wood decaying organisms.

1) Trees under stress are often more susceptible to insect and disease damage. Thus attention given to water and fertilizer needs is important, especially with new plantings or particularly valued specimens. This becomes even more critical when heavy pruning has been done or there has been an accidental injury. Wound healing is positively correlated to rate of growth¹ which in turn largely depends upon adequate moisture and nutrient availability.

2) The time of year when pruning is done is a factor too. Most trees are best trimed during their winter dormancy. Otherwise, wounds made early in the season (before July) are best. Significant healing can then occur during the same year since the plants will still be actively growing.

3) Care also should be taken with the tools and techniques used in pruning or cleaning an injured area. The final cuts must be sharp and absolutely flush to the trunk or branch. Ragged edges or stumps, even small stumps, <sup>1</sup> impede the healing-over process, thus inviting infection.

4) The most important dimension of a wound is its width. Even though one cut may be somewhat greater in surface area, a smaller one that is wider will take longer to heal. This is because tree wounds heal primarily from the sides. Damage to more than half the circumference of a limb or trunk usually results in its early death although there are grafting methods which can be used to save an important tree that has been so extensively damaged.

5) As the last step in the treatment of a large wound it has normally been recommended that a pruning paint be applied. In 1970 Dan Neely reported that in a three year study at the Morton Arboretum in Illinois no dressing increased the rate of healing of test wounds over that of untreated wounds. 1 Dr. Alex Shigo of the USDA Forest Service has also been looking at the value of presently available wound dressings. In two preliminary reports his group noted no decreased incidence of infection in treated wounds. 2.3 His final conclusions, to appear shortly in the Journal of Arboriculture, do not contradict these findings. 4 Therefore, until better materials are developed, the practice of painting wounds can at best serve an aesthetic function.

- Ref. 1. Neely, Dan. 1970. Healing of wounds on trees. J. Am. Soc. Hort. Sci. 95(5): 536-540.
- 2. Shigo, A. and C.L. Wilson. 1971. Are tree wound dressings beneficial. Arborists' News 36(8):85-88.
- 3. 1972. Discoloration associated with wounds one year after application of wound dressings. Arb. News 37(11): 121-124.
  - 4. Shigo, A. 1975. Personal Communication.

# RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOLF COURSE SUPT. AND GREEN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MIDWEST. ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS 23rd ANNUAL TURF CLINIC

December 3, 1975

This subject matter has to do with the relationship between the Golf Course Superintendent and the Club's Green Committee Chairman. Another way of saying this is their responsibilities to each other. I suppose I was chosen to discuss this because I have been Green Committee Chairman at Medinah since 1964, and if proper relationships haven't been established in that time—it's a hopeless case!

One thing about those 12 years is that it certainly provided continuity which is so important in long range programs. There is, of course, with this long tenure, the danger of becoming complacent, a possible lack of new ideas, a sameness of emphasis, and so forth.

I hope there is no evidence of that out on our Golf Courses!

I must say, too, that there have been times when I wonder if things wouldn't go along just as well without a Green Committee. I'll bet there are quite a few of you out there cheering that little idea!

Seriously, however, overall, I do believe a Green Committee and its Chairman can perform a valuable service to a Club and be of use to the Golf Course Superintendent.

The relationship between the Golf Course Superintendent and the Green Committee Chairman is dependent on many factors, including such basic things as the Club's by-laws and organizational structure. It depends, too, on how much time the Chairman has or will devote to his committee work. In my case, I see John Jackman quite often and we talk on the phone once, twice and often three times a week. I would like it better if I could get out on the grounds more often.

The most important ingredients of a meaningful relationship, in my opinion, is to make sure there is understanding on common problems and goals, the establishment of trust in each other and good two-way communications on current conditions, problems and actions being taken.

If the Green Committee and Chairman function properly, they provide a means of communication between Superintendent and membership, which can be anywhere from 200 to 1,000 people. Without liaison, the Golf Course Superintendent conceivably could have these 200 to 1,000 individuals as bosses—a horrible thought—and a fate possibly worse than death. The Golf Course Superintendent should ideally answer only to one club member-the Green Committee Chairman. To me, this is one of the Chairman's prime responsibilitiesto act as a "buffer" between club members and the Superintendent. Except as casual conversation, I see no reason why a Superintendent needs to explain to a member why certain things were or were not done or why conditions are one way or another. Now, I'm not so naive as to think that the Superintendent will clam up or not respond to the Club President or other members on occasion but those are the exceptions we must accept. Explaining to the general membership is the duty of the Green Committee and its Chairman; although the Golf Course Superintendent should be provided a means of communication directly to the membership if he so desires. This can be in the form of letters, articles in the club periodical, bulletin board notices, etc.

The Chairman and Superintendent should make every effort to inform the membership of construction plans or work that may interfere with play ahead of time. It's best to avoid surprises.

The Green Committee Chairman can be of help to the Golf Course Superintendent by being alert to the comments of members relative to golf course maintenance. He can be observant himself as he plays his course and other courses and inform the Superintendent of things he has noted or heard. These observances can then be evaluated by the Superintendent. This type of communication by the Chairman must be done in a constructive manner—not nit-picking or in the form of complaints.

The Green Committee has the great responsibility of serving fellow members, by seeing to it that the type of golf course and grounds the members want, is maintained. This is often difficult to ascertain. The big pitfall here is that too many Green Chairmen try to rebuild the course the way they want it. As a member I would hardly appreciate the idea of some 18 handicapper using my dues to change a 40 year old golf course to suit his game. The ideas of a 2 handicapper might be just as bad. I believe this is an area where the Superintendents can and should help the club membership by stopping members and committeemen from doing anything silly, which could spoil a good golf course.

Golf Course alterations should be planned and done by experts, with the best interests of the total membership in mind. The Golf Committee, Green Committee, Golf Course Superintendent, Golf Professional and, most important, a competent Golf Course Architect should be involved when a course design change is being considered. The Golf Course Superintendent should welcome this help and support since he can always have a shot at altering the plan to accommodate maintenance or changes based on his local knowledge of conditions. One thing I can guarantee—no alteration is accepted by 100% of the membership!

Another pertinent duty of the Chairman in establishing a proper relationship, is to see to it that the Golf Course Superintendent and only the Superintendent, runs the grass-growing operation and everything related to it. This must be done in both a business-like way and a friendly, firm fashion. However, the Green Committee Chairman has the right to be informed so that he can again effectively act as liaison between the Superintendent and the membership.

Here at Medinah, John Jackman attends all our monthly Green Committee meetings, and is invited to participate occasionally at Financial Committee and Building Committee meetings as well as at Board of Directors meetings. His input is valued highly and is an example of good communications.

The Golf Course Superintendent must be supported fully by the Green Committee Chairman and his committee. The Green Committee Chairman should see to it that the Superintendent has the support of all officers and directors of the club. This support is needed, for example, when it is necessary, in the judgment of the Superintendent, to close the course, establish temporary greens or tees, restrict the use of golf cars, or any other action that affects normal play. To place this authority in hands other than the man directly responsible destroys the proper line of authority and may cause costly damage. This does not mean that the Superintendent does not consult the Golf Professional and Club Manager or committee

members, but the final decision must be his.

In still another area, the Green Committee Chairman must thoroughly understand the equipment and supply needs of the Superintendent. Normally, the only way a Superintendent can get the things he needs to properly do his job is through the Green Committee Chairman. This includes the securing of money, ideally through establishment of sound and reasonable budgets.

It must be the responsibility of the Golf Course Superintendent to develop and propose the course maintenance and

capital budget.

Budgeting must be a mutual effort, with equal consideration given to the Superintendent's problems and desires of the membership. I suppose a Superintendent can produce almost any grade of golf course quality dependent on the amount of money available. We'll have to allow some leeway for weather conditions.

Working closely with the Green Committee Chairman a logical reason or argument must be formulated for each expenditure or cost center. This is necessary to defend the proposed budget to the finance committee, the Board of Directors and finally to the membership. Here is where you determine the quality golf course the membership is going to get. Here, too, is one of the real tests a Golf Course Superintendent must undergo. To me, budget preparation, and then the big task of living within that budget, is the name of the game.

The Green Committee Chairman must recognize the Golf Course Superintendent as a real professional. Not only is he a turf-grower, but an agronomist, mechanical engineer, chemist, supervisor and business manager. We must do all we can to increase his skills in each of these areas.

The Chairman must insist that the Superintendent be allowed and encouraged to attend, at club expense, seminars and meetings of various associations to which Golf Course Superintendents and country clubs belong. The Superintendent should take advantage of the U.S.G.A. services and the beneficial programs of universities and demonstrations by suppliers.

The Green Committee should be alert to golf course news found in golf magazines, trade journals and publications. Contact with instructive and informative agencies is an

essential adjunct to successful planning.

The Green Committee Chairman has other responsibilites in maintaining a good relationship with his Golf Course Superintendent. For instance: the Chairman, in my opinion, should not ask other Golf Course Superintendents opinions or advice on correcting problems at the Chairman's golf course. This obviously creates an awkward situation for everyone and probably should be met with stony silence!

The same goes for calling in consultants. This must only be done with the approval of the Superintendent, or better yet, at the Superintendent's recommendation.

Oddly enough, many club members are impressed with the use of consultants or experts in various fields.

It might be a political gambit, but maybe Golf Course Superintendents should consider using such services more often. I wonder how many club members know that Golf Course Superintendents get together and discuss common problems! They should be told this. They should know about this very Clinic here today.

Another policy the Green Committee Chairman must observe is to deal only with the Golf Course Superintendent. He must avoid the pitfall of ordering anyone in the grounds crew to do anything. This is an organizational no-no, since it dilutes the authority of the Superintendent and lowers morale.

Finally, the Chairman should make every possible effort to see to it that the Superintendent is fairly compensated and recognized for his work.

I've talked quite a bit about the Green Committee Chairman's responsibilities to the Superintendent. Let's go the other way a bit.

Aside from the normal turf growing function, a good relationship should foster a condition where the Superintendent readily accepts the responsibility for attaining certain goals. I'm referring to such things as constant cost reduction through mechanization, better equipment, use of his own turf and tree nurseries, his own small scale experimentation on turf, chemicals, seeds, fertilizers, etc. I'd expect him to surround himself with competent workmen with high morale and capable of withstanding unionization.

The individual crew member should be trained to do several jobs so that there is back-up available at all times. The Superintendent and the Green Committee Chairman must be concerned about the safety and general well-being of the crew including such items as lodging, wash-up facilities, food, hours of work, rates of pay, vacations, and every other working condition and fringe benefit.

Later today, you're going to hear John Jackman give an interesting talk on his experiences relative to Medinah's hosting of the U.S. Open so I will say very little about that event.

From my point of view, however, the holding of this tournament strengthens the case for everything I've said about our relationship. It was a very busy and interesting period, what with two years of preparation and tending to hundreds of little details and several large projects. I wouldn't trade that experience for the world.

At the beginning I mentioned that good relationships mean a sense of responsibility to each other, trust in each other, an understanding of common goals and problems and good communication. In closing I'd just like to add one more and that is—that both parties use good old-fashioned horse-sense.

D.F. Johnson

ED NOTE — Donald Johnson has been Green Chairman at Medinah C.C. for the past twelve years. Really a remarkable record.

#### **ITEMS FOR SALE**

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