



MEETING NOTICE:

Date: September 12
 Place: The Whippoorwill Club
 Lunch: Available in grill room
 Golf: Starting times—Annual Lawrence Labriola Memorial Tournament sponsored by MGCSA—All members invited
 Cocktails: 6 PM
 Dinner: 7 PM
 Host: Charles Martineau—Reservations call: 273-3755—273-3011

Directions: Take I 684 to exit 3 Armonk, take route 22 to route 120, take route 120 north. First road to right is Whippoorwill Road which leads to club.

COMING EVENTS:

September 15 LIGCSA Fresh Meadow Golf Club
 September 29 MGCSA Invitational, Brae Burn Country Club
 October 11 MGCSA Siwanoy C.C. (2nd round Supt. Championship)
 October 11 LIGCSA Hampton C.C.
 October 4 NJGCSA Annual Turfgrass Equipment Irrigation and Supplies Field Day, Hopewell Valley Golf Club, Hopewell, N.J. 12-5
 November 15-17 N.Y. State Turf Conference, Turf Inn, Albany, N.Y.
 November MGCSA annual meeting

MGCSA NEWS:

We sure had a nice meeting at Waccabuc C.C. It certainly is a nice homey country like atmosphere. Al Moore had the course in great shape, especially since this was after that heat wave. Now I know you won't forget the heat wave of 1977. If you got through the heat wave you probably survived the summer, although the weeks that followed were touch and go with showers, high humidity and pythium. We seem to be seeing more and more of it and certainly nobody wants it. We should feel lucky after seeing George Thompson's slides at a recent NJGCSA meeting, George is from that lovely Washington DC area. Some of the fellows in that area haven't had much turf since last year. They lost their Bermuda last winter along with winterkill and the summer has been a real wipeout with pythium. It seems one of our former members doesn't like the South either. Pat Lucas will be returning to the Met area next year at Innis Arden.

John Traynor certainly had his 1st year headaches with the vandalism just prior to the Westchester C.C. Classic. It turned out O.K. and John gave them some rough that they hadn't seen before and the scores showed it. The rabbits enjoyed playing Fairview C.C. Boy, what a way to make money. 170 players to qualify for 7 spots for the Westchester Classic.

Word has it that Vic Cedrone is now one of the Superintendents at Pinehurst, working under Bob DePencier. Good luck Vic.

Sherwood and Marie Moore along with Roger Morhardt, Dan Cancelleri, Terry and Joan Mulligan, did a great job at the picnic at Woodway Beach club. It was a nice turnout, lots of kids, games, good food and a lot of fun. Too bad more of you didn't enjoy it.

Everybody is always glad to see Labor Day roll around so why don't you enjoy a real nice golf outing sponsored by MGCSA. The Lawrence Labriola Memorial Tournament.

Our dear friend the hyperodes weevil has been busy along with the Dung Beetle. We sure could use some more monies from clubs and Individuals. We can't do it without your support.

Garry Crothers

Welfare: We know that Mel Lucas Sr. along with an old friend and life member Jack Ormond would appreciate hearing from you. Both have been ill and are on the mend.

Also, condolences to the Vadala family, Bruno's mother passed away and soon after his father-in-law.



MGCSA President Ed Horton presenting John Musto, CGCS, with his certification plaque.



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Ted Horton

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

MGCSA Research Fund Report

To date we have heard from 26 clubs but we still haven't heard from many of the clubs that contributed last year. Many individuals also have not sent in their contribution for this year. MGCSA is committed to raising at least \$8,000 for the research work to be conducted this year. If you or your club has not contributed to date, please try and help us in this important research for all of us.

To date the following clubs have contributed:

The Apawamis Club	Piping Rock Club
The Ardsley Country Club	Ridgeway Country Club
Blind Brook Club	Rockland Country Club
Bedford Golf and Tennis Club	Round Hill Club
Brae Burn Country Club	St. Andrews Golf Club
Century Country Club	Sleepy Hollow Country Club
Elmwood Country Club	Waccabuc Country Club
Fenway Golf Club	Wee Burn Country Club
Knollwood Country Club	Whipoorwill Club
Greenwich Country Club	Winged Foot Golf Club
Old Oaks Country Club	Woodway Country Club
Pelham Country Club	Wykagyl Country Club
Quaker Ridge Golf Club	MGCSA
	Metropolis

Individuals:

Robert Alonzi	Jerry Scafa	Ted Joswich
Terry Boles	Phil Santucci	Mike Russo
Garry Crothers	Robert Tosh	Alan Tretera
Michael Dale	Dan Verrille	Paul Caswell
Roger Harmonay	Dr. Andrew Virtuoso	John Corsi
Edward Horton	Almstead Tree Co. Inc.	Paul Sartoretto
Roger King	Robert Phippe	Bob Bruce



**AL KRAUTTER ADDRESSED MGCSA
by Steve Puvogel, Winged Foot Golf Club**

Mr. Alfred Krautter was our guest speaker at Waccabuc Country Club. He is the proprietor of Sprain Brook Nursery Inc. and president-elect of the New York State Nurserymen's Association.

He asked for us all in the horticulture industry to pull together for more legislative power and to show society the value our industry offers in the form of aesthetics and recreation.

On the horticultural note Mr. Krautter discussed the uses of annuals and perennials. He stated that successful use of these plant materials comes from good planning. Areas to consider are:

PICK THE PLANTS FOR THE LOCATION

- Sun versus shade.
- Dry versus moist soils.
- Formal versus informal area.

SUCCESSION OF BLOOM

- Length.
- Profusion.
- Color.

SOIL PREPARATION

- Fertilizer—lime.
- Organic matter.
- And whatever soil ammendments might be needed.

MAINTENANCE

- Select low maintenance plants, weed control—mulch, and herbicide are most effective.

USE OF ANNUALS VERSUS PERENNIALS

- Annuals** —Hold display all summer
- More formal.
- More effective when massed.
- Perennials** —Need depth.
- Informal.
- Effective in strategic spots.

*Keep in mind both are more effective when used together.

Some of the better plants mentioned:

Impatiens—Good for shady location, better massed with good color until frost.

Zinnias—Informal annual that blooms around July until frost, practically pest free effective when massed, use mixed

colors.

Marigolds—Excellent flower bloom, especially with Nugget variety, use different heights for different effects.

Agultum—Blue flower, low grower, good in mass planting, good border plant.

Day Lillies—Good hardy plant with orange and yellow flowers depending on variety.

Caladium—Foliage plant that needs shade and lots of water.

Dusty Miller—Foliage plant that does best in full sun, goes well with Salvia.

Salvia—Well drained fertile soil is best with blue and red flowers depending on variety.

Ivy 238th St.—Good winter hardiness and climbs well.

Hosta—Excellent perennial flowers in mid-summer. Pest and maintenance free. Multiplies readily, propagated by division.

Lidune—Good poor soil plants, good rocky plants, flower depends on variety.

Mums—Excellent fall color, pinching helps flower profusion, still has interest after frost.

Candy tuft—Good spring color and has evergreen foliage.

Spirea—Excellent woodland plant that is hardy and durable.

Climates—Nice vine, vigorous grower with excellent fall color.

Phlox—Good summer color divides easily, color depends on variety.

NON-CREDIT COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT— PEST CONTROL OPERATIONS

New York City Community College has announced a series of courses designed for those already working as pest control operators as well as for those wishing to enter this field. A certificate will be issued for successful completion of each course. The courses begin in mid to late September. If interested, contact the New York City Community College of the City University of New York, 300 Jay Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., 11201, Division of continuing education and extension Services.

Mr. Ted Horton
Winged Foot Golf Club
Mamaroneck, N.Y.

August 10, 1977

Dear Ted:

Hello Again. May we ask you to contact your memberships and request that they return the **Course Maintenance Survey** within the month of August. To date we have about 25 surveys in and would like to get to at least 75. You might advise your members that if any question bothers them—to simply **leave the answer blank**. Also, no names of clubs will be published with the results.

Second copies of the survey were mailed to the superintendents last week. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Regards,
James E. McLoughlin
Executive Director



Waccabuc Country Club Superintendent Al Moore with his Assistant Superintendent Ed Binsse.



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TURFGRASS INDUSTRY LEADERS MEET AT CORNELL

Leaders from New York's turfgrass industry participated in an invitational forum at Cornell University, Ithaca on June 16, 1977. Presidents of 26 associations of golf course, cemetery, school grounds, and landscape maintenance supervisors, and of sod producers and nurserymen were invited. Since formal associations of some specialties (sod production, landscape maintenance and seedsmen) are lacking in some areas of the State, recognized leaders from each geographic area were invited to represent their interests. A cross section of the State's chemical and equipment suppliers, of cooperative extension agents, and of the U.S. Golf Association were also invited, as were the Cornell turfgrass research and extension personnel, Department chairmen, and Associate Directors of Research and Extension.

The day began with a breakfast and discussion session which was hosted by the New York State Turfgrass Association. The group then toured the University's Turfgrass and Nursery Field Research Facility, and were briefed on the current research being conducted throughout the state on insect, disease, and weed control, on turfgrass fertility, and on variety evaluations on both full-sun and heavy-shade plots. After a box lunch on the shade research plots, the industry leaders reunited at the University Golf Course's Moakley House for further discussions. Preliminary results from the

survey of New York's turfgrass industry were presented. The survey is based largely upon computerized retrieval of data accumulated in highly accurate aerial photographic surveys of New York. Nearly all specific uses of turfgrass are categorized separately, and over 1.1 million total acres (3% of the State) are currently identified. Plans for extending the survey into meaningful economic terms were also discussed. Round table discussions concluded the turfgrass leaders forum. Topics dealt primarily with teaching, research and extension program priorities needed by the industry. Techniques for developing a more effective dialogue between Cornell University and the turfgrass industry were also discussed. Future meetings of the turfgrass industry leaders are planned at Ithaca, and at the 31st Annual New York State Turfgrass Conference in Albany, November 15-17.

ATTRACTANT DESTROYS ELM BARK BEETLES

The Dutch elm disease has devastated elm populations in the Northeastern United States and presently threatens American elms throughout their natural and cultivated range, according to Patent 4,034,080, received this week by the Department of Agriculture for a means of eliminating the bark beetle that transmits the disease.

One of the seven inventors is Prof. Robert M. Silverstein of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry of the State University of New York, in Syracuse. Four of his colleagues and two research scientists from the Forest Service are the co-inventors.

The invention is regarded as offering important protection against the European elm bark beetle, ranked as one of the most pernicious destroyers of elm trees. The inventors identified a beetle secretion that is an attractant, and devised a synthetic simulation consisting of three chemicals.

Traps containing the mixture may be set out near the infested areas and when enough beetles have been lured, they can be removed and destroyed. Or a poison such as methoxychlor can be placed in the area to kill the lured beetles.

Credit: The New York Times, July 9, 1977

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never stopped learning. He reads everything he can get his hands on. He belongs to the local superintendents' association, the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council and GCSAA. Rarely does he miss a meeting, a conference or a chance to talk with his fellow superintendents or his professional and academic friends. His zeal for knowledge in his profession is contagious, infecting those who work with him. Many are motivated to take university courses so they, too, can become top superintendents.

"From this analysis of my husband's progress, and from seeing other superintendents operate, I have developed a deep sense of pride. I have come to realize that there is more—much more—to being a superintendent than just helping grass grow for the pleasure of a privileged few.

"I'd like to erect a monument to those who transform areas of ordinary appearance into places of beauty by planting and maintaining grass, flowers, shrubs and trees.

"Now, when someone asks what my husband does for a living, my heart swells with pride and I say, 'He is a golf course superintendent!' Then if they ask what that entails, they had better be prepared to listen, because I'll tell them, verse and chapter. One I started on his accomplishments it would be hard to stop me. All superintendents' wives should be inordinately proud of their husbands and what they do for mankind. I am."

This woman's letter touched me. She gave me permission to send it to you.

Dr. Fred V. Grau

Consulting Agronomist

Musser International Turfgrass Foundation

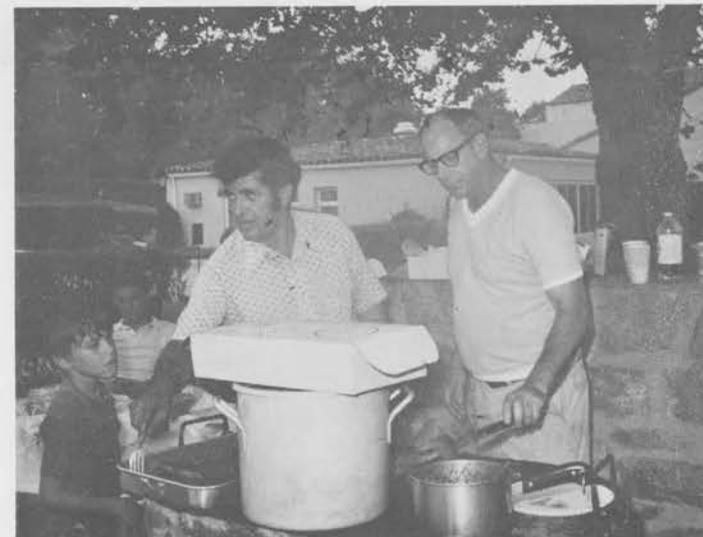
Credit: Golf Superintendent July 1977



Our picnic hosts: Sherwood and Marie Moore. In the background is Frank Bevelacqua.



Volleyball action at the picnic.



Our chefs: Lowdy and Roger.



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John Wistrand
Tony Grasso

ROOTS HOW THEY GROW

It is probable the broad subject of plant—soil—water relationships is the least understood of all the maintenance factors to be considered on the golf course. True, there is much information on the relationships mentioned, but sometimes it is not clear enough as to what the information is trying to say. For one thing, there is a considerable failure to qualify statements made because they do not distinguish between saturated and unsaturated water conditions. The reactions of plants growing in saturated, unsaturated and dry environments is considerably different. No doubt our understanding here needs to be broadened.

One area difficult to understand is in the area of root growth and extension as related to water supply. Recommendations have been made, but without enough qualification concerning a definition of the existing water conditions as related to cause and effect. For example, what water and soil conditions exist if you water thoroughly and less frequently? I believe the meaning is to avoid saturated conditions, but it needs to be so stated. Then if this is the meaning—where do we stop? Water less frequently but how much less in definitive terms? It has been written that deep infrequent watering encourages deep root growth. 'But why? Surely it's because roots don't grow in saturated soil. But they don't grow in dry soil either. It has been said that roots go down into the soil and search for water. It might be better to say roots proliferate and grow in the immediate area where the best combination of water, air and nutrients exist. It is doubtful if much happens when the root comes upon an area where any one of these items is missing. Roots should not be expected to go through an area of saturated or heavily compacted soil because of the limited oxygen. Nor should it be expected to go through a layer too dry to supply adequate water to the extending root. Nutrients are not so limiting in practice.

There is little doubt, that of the three limiting factors mentioned, (water, air & Nutrients) air or oxygen is the most predominant. Shortage of oxygen is usually related to excess of water or to compaction. An excess of water should be easiest to eliminate. Compaction is more difficult.

You may feel it best to begin a green reconstruction



Al Moore and his daughters, both members of his Waccabuc maintenance group. They do a great job.

program. If you do this **be sure** you don't build back in the very things you are trying to eliminate! A thorough reading and study of this material and analysis of your own situation with plenty of good consultation from the right sources should be adequate guidance. CRC.

Credit: REPORTER March 1977

MORE THAN A "SERVANT"

I received the following letter from the wife of a golf course superintendent a month after I met her in Portland at GCSAA's conference and show.

"Dear Dr. Grau:

"I have read many of your articles and I know some of your accomplishments. I was glad to meet you in Portland and I appreciate your interest in others. For a long time I've wanted to tell this story. I was encouraged by a conversation with another superintendent's wife and by your interest.

"During my first few years of married life I was embarrassed when someone asked, 'What does your husband do for a living?' My husband worked as assistant to his grandfather, who was a country club superintendent. To me—then—he seemed to be just a 'servant' for demanding, wealthy people who needed him (or someone like him) to keep their expensive 'playground' green and in good condition for their amusement. His job, to me, seemed to have no future or redeeming quality in terms of improving the lot of mankind.

"As my husband continued in this hard, demeaning work, he injured his back. We realized that he might never again be effective in physical work and that an education might prepare him for an effective managerial position.

"My husband was accepted for the Pennsylvania State University turfgrass winter course. Almost at once a change came over both of us. As he received an education in turfgrass management, some of it rubbed off on me. Not until then had I realized the number of skills a golf course superintendent needs to be successful. His expertise grew in agronomy, engineering, management of the grounds and operation and repair of equipment.

"His formal education ended many years ago, but he has

Emanuel Shemin
Horticulturist



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HOW TO BUY GRASS SEED

by George A. Davis

After buying grass seed for 52 years, one reaches some very definite conclusions which embraces some old cliches, such as "Caveat Emptor" (Let the buyer beware!) You can't get something for nothing or a bargain is usually worth what you pay for it. What I'm saying is—Long experience trains one when buying seed to buy only from reliable sources because almost never are two lots identical. Let's take each category by itself:

PURITY

The purity of any seed is determined by trained technicians in State, University, or Commercial laboratories where they have all of the necessary equipment and knowledge to obtain the highest accuracy. They separate the pure seed in a measured quantity from chaff, crop, and weed seeds, thus giving the per cent of pure seed. Next, they separate the chaff, crop, and weed seeds, and give the percentage of each by count and weight.

CROP AND WEED SEEDS

Crop seed is seed other than the one being tested and consists of more than one variety. For example: If you are testing Kentucky Bluegrass, you might find such crop seed as Canada Blue, Merion Blue, or some other variety. If any other one variety is greater than 5% of the seed being tested, then it officially becomes a mixture and is not considered a straight seed, the count or percentage of each other variety is given by the analyst in the test. Poa Annuua and Bent are usually given by count per pound when so requested, thus giving the presence or absence of either seed.

Next the percentage of weeds are given in the total mixture—which is then broken down by the analyst into the number of each variety of weed seed that would occur in one pound. There are three kinds of weed seeds—(1) allowable, (2) noxious, and (3) secondary noxious. Most states allow up to 2% of weeds in a mixture or 2 lbs. per 100 lbs. of seed. Certain noxious weeds are not allowed in almost all states. Each state



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lists its own noxious and secondary noxious weeds. Most states allow secondary noxious if written on the tag. These weeds are usually annuals and not a serious hazard when used for ornamental purposes where the grass is continually mowed, such as, a lawn, golf course, or park. Many states now treat Poa Annua as a noxious weed and prohibit any seed containing Poa Annua from being sold in their state and will remove it from being sold. This is where judicious buying by the supplier comes in and naturally, seed that has Poa Annua is cheaper than seed that is Poa Annua and Bent free. All purchases should specify in the contracts that the seed you purchase must be Poa Annua and Bent free if this is your desire. Any other seed not of the type purchased is considered by experts who want a pure variety as a crop or a weed seed, such as Poa Annua which is considered a noxious weed in some states but not in Illinois.

GERMINATION

To get the percent of germination, 100 seeds are put on a germination tray and placed in a germination cabinet that has high and low temperature controls resembling Mother Nature. Then it is incubated for the usual time allotted for the different varieties of seed and the percent of live seed is thus determined. For instance, if 11 seeds do not produce a hair root, the germination is 89% of live seed.

HOW CHEAPER SEED IS OBTAINED

Some shippers have been known to buy some good lots of seed on the basis of 85% pure, but tests show a 92 purity and

89 germination. They then blend some cheaper seed showing 78 pure and 71 germination at a much cheaper price. By blending the two, you get 85-80 and a cheaper price of say 5 cents under market and sell it as first grade seed. The weed content in the first lot could be .05 or 5 hundredth of 1% and the second lot could be .55% or 55th hundredth of 1% so that the mixed seed would show 85 purity, 80 germination, .30 weeds, and it might contain Poa Annua and Bent. The crop seed would be figured the same way. Here you have a bargain seed.

SEEDING IN THE FALL

If seeding in the fall, the best seed to use is a high grade, high purity, high germinating seed with low weed content of the seed harvested in the previous year because new crop seed reaches its best germination in the following January or February of the next year, such as 76 crop will germinate better in January or February because of the natural curing process.

The best known way of buying seed is know your seedsman and his reputation as a buyer of the highest grades available on the market. Believe it or not, there are some who sell the best by test but lose out on a price basis which is not the best way to purchase seed. Buyers should ask the seller for a laboratory test showing lot number and name of seed one each type of purchased. Good seed sellers should be able to furnish this information to the buyer, especially if a fairly large quantity of seed is involved.

Credit: The Bull Sheet, July 1977

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