

REVIEW OF February 17-22, 1980 - GCSAA 51st International Turfgrass
Conference & Show, St. Louis, Missouri

David McLaughlin, Chief Executive Officer of Toro Company was keynote speaker with his talk on "Are We Savers or Spenders?" Educational sessions were held Monday and Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday morning and all day Thursday. The equipment show had a total of 230 exhibitors using 66,400 square feet to display their equipment, products and services.

At the annual meeting Wednesday afternoon, Melvin B. Lucas Jr., CGCS Superintendent of Piping Rock Club, Locust Valley, Long Island, New York was elected president. Michael R. Bavier, CGCS, Superintendent of Inverness Golf Club, Palatine, Illinois, was elected vice president. New board members elected were Robert W. Osterman, CGCS, Superintendent of The Golf Club of Aspetuck, Easton, Connecticut, and James W. Timmerman, CGCS, Superintendent of Orchard Lake Country Club in Michigan. They both will serve three year terms.

President Lucas appointed James A. Wyllie, CGCS, superintendent of the Bayview CC, Toronto, Ontario to serve as secretary-treasurer. Paul Boizelle, CGCS, Superintendent of Fiddlers Elbow CC, Far Hills, New Jersey was appointed to fill the remaining two years of Bavier's term as director.

Other members of the Executive Committee are David C. Holler, CGCS, Superintendent of Riviera CC, Coral Gables, Florida, and Edward F. Dembnicki, CGCS, Superintendent of Arcadian Shores CC, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Immediate Past President Charles H. Tadge, CGCS, Superintendent of the Mayfield CC, South Euclid, Ohio will remain on the executive committee.

Members attending from Northern California were Tom Thatcher, Bob Livesey (Dorothy), Ken Sakai, Jim Ross (Barbara), Roy King (Doris), Jim Prusa, Dick Viergever, George Santana, Jack Baker, Bert Graves, Ora Surret, Leonard Walsh, Gurmit Sandhu, Aart de Vos, Don Naumann, Wayne Burk, Cliff Wagoner (Myrtle), Jerry Gordon, Don Meyer, Bob Dalton Allan Mooser, Kaz Maseba (Yo), Tom Caranci, Bruce Jacobsen, Bill Tavener, Rich Lavine, Jack Hertwig (Bobbie) Any person that we missed our apologies.

Committee appointments have been made by President Lucas. Anyone wishing to serve on a committee contact GCSAA Headquarters, 1617 St. Andrews Dr., Lawrence, KS 66044. Committees consist of Membership & Chapter Relations, Welfare, Editorial, Public Relations & Awards, Education, Certification, Governmental Relations, Nominating, Election, Bylaws, Conference & Show, Presidents Council, Tournament, Historian, Allied Associations, Long Range Planning, Ethics, Special Committee on Organizational Structure, Finance, Scholarship & Research Review and Scholarship & Research Fund Raising.

ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING

Mike Clark, Nominating Chairman and his committee Jim Andrews, Al Mooser, and Mulkh Raj announce the following persons who are running for office
President - Bob Livesey, CGCS
Vice President, - Bill Nigh, Jim Ross
Secretary-Treasurer - Steve Carlton, Ken Sakai
Directors - Bob Dauterman, Gale Love, Tom Thatcher, Cliff Wagoner and Leonard Walsh (two to be elected)

Nominations may be made from the floor Be sure and get the persons consent though before nominating them. COME VOTE

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FUTURE MEETING DATES

- May 7 - Los Positas GC, Livermore
- June 11 - Boulder Creek CC, Boulder Creek
- July 8 - San Jose CC, San Jose
- August
- September
- October
- November 10 - Superintendent-Professional Golf Tournament
Castlewood CC, Pleasanton
- December 5 - Rancho Canada GC, Carmel

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TURFGRASS ADAPTIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM - T.A.R.P.

The TARP program was founded for the purpose of helping those who maintain a golf course to find answers to complex questions. It was not to be a visiting service like the United States Golf Association turf visitation program. It was designed to give the Superintendent an opportunity for increased education through attendance at Regional meetings and the Asilomar Institute. Also by involving club officials in Regional meetings a better understanding is developed in respect to the problems that face us in our work.

The program has resulted in making people aware of a variety of ways in which different maintenance tasks can be accomplished.

Northern California Golf Association has mailed out statements to all NCGA member clubs for their annual contribution. It behooves all

Superintendents to encourage their organization to support TARP by sending in their money. The Blue Book lists all clubs who participated. This list is growing, but without total participation, funds will be limited to carry out the work.

The Superintendents Institute will be held at Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, October 26 through 31, 1980. The Topic "Integrated Pest Management". A reservation card was mailed out to all Superintendents in California. The program is limited to 90 so if you want to be sure of a spot get your card in early. If you did not receive a notice call Bill Davis' office at 916 572-0412 and they can send one to you.

This program is a cooperative effort by the Cooperative Extension, University of California, Davis, the Northern California Golf Association, and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California. Please support it by taking advantage of the information developed by attending Asilomar, the Regional meetings with a club official and being sure your club sends in the contribution to NCGA.

TARP REGIONAL MEETINGS - Attend the one in your area

April 23	Corral de Tierra, Salinas	May 16	Merced CC, Merced
April 29	Menlo CC, Woodside	June 10	Santa Rosa CC, Santa Rosa
May 6	Redwood Empire, Fortuna	June 17	Sequoyah CC, Oakland
May 8	Gold Hills, Redding	June 19	Del Paso CC, Sacramento
May 15	Visalia CC, Visalia		

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FEDERATION ?? - Bob Livesey reports

A meeting was held on March 23rd with Central, San Diego, Southern and Northern California GCSA Chapters. This was a planning session to decide what was going to happen to the Federation. After over 3½ hours of discussion and ground work the organization is still alive. So much so that there will be an annual meeting on August 10th and 11th.

Tentative program Sunday, August 10 3 hours educational program, fun, games, barbecue and social. Ladies program during education session.

Monday, August 11 - golf tournament

Location San Luis Bay Inn, Avala Beach, California (San Luis Obispo area)

With work that has gone into trying to get the organization going this past year and a half, it looks like we are on our way. START making plans now. Remember the good times we have had in the past at these get togethers. More information will be coming your way.

WISDOM IS KNOWING WHEN TO SPEAK YOUR MIND AND WHEN TO MIND
YOUR SPEECH

Editorial Note by William B. Davis, Environmental Horticulturist,
University of California, Davis

Many times when I talk with various superintendents who are experiencing problems with their greens they give many reasons why they can not follow a long-range program to solve their golf course problems. We still feel that properly planned and carried through a topdressing frequency program is one of the best solutions for most California golf courses. You might be interested in what Charles Nolan, Superintendent at Inglewood Country Club, Kenmore, Washington had to say at the Northwest Turfgrass Conference this past September. His specific program may not be the answer for your greens, but he has developed a program that works for him and he greatly reduced his problems while giving his membership better golfing conditions.

SAND TOPDRESSING AT INGLEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB By Charles Nolan

The topdressing of turf is certainly nothing new to golf course superintendents. For my part it goes back some 30 years, only in my part of the world it was called mulching. We as superintendents are facing ever increasing play on our courses. The golfer is demanding better playing conditions, faster greens. This coupled with inflation, puts us in a position where we should be ever searching for new and better ways to give our patrons the course they are paying for, let it be public or private. As we all know, there are many ways to achieve one's goal or to cut a blade of grass.

Before I set out on a topdressing program, I met with Dr. Roy Goss of Western Washington Research Station and some fellow superintendents to hear and see what they were up to in regards to topdressing. After some research I set out on a sanding program. The goal was to restore the greens at Inglewood Country Club or be faced with starting at the hard pan and rebuild. The ongoing sanding program at Inglewood achieved that goal.

So you can better understand why we started on a sanding program, here are a few brief facts about Inglewood Country Club.

Built in 1918, the greens were constructed from existing soils. No drain tile was, or ever has been put in. Inglewood Country Club is located in Kenmore, Washington. We have a rainfall of 35 to 160 inches per year which occurs during the fall, winter and spring months. Here at Inglewood we get some 45 inches of rain. The summers are typically dry, but golf is played 12 months a year. What the original depth of soil on the putting surface was, I can only guess at 12 inches or so, but in 1970 it was 6 to 7 inches. I believe that through aerifying and cup changing, as much as 6 inches of soil has been removed from the putting surface. The soil structure was broken down so badly that the greens were closed most of the winter months. In fact, they were maintaining 36 greens

because the regular greens were so bad. Not only the greens, but the aprons in some areas were 3 to 4 inches deep in mud, and like the greens, were churned up by foot prints making putting impossible.

Our first task was to core the greens with 5/8 inch tines, remove the cores, and topdress with a sand with particle sizes falling between No. 20 and 120 Tyler standard screen, U. S. Series equivalent. We followed up with another coring three months later, again removing the cores and topdressing with sand. Three months later we cored the greens again only this time we verticut the cores, topdressed with sand and overseeded. This was done to marry the soil and sand, thus relieving any layering that might occur.

Our third year we cored four times, verticut and topdressed. It was during the third year that we started topdressing once a week. We have now been sanding lightly each week (weather permitting) for four years. The greens now have a 3 to 4 inch mixture of sand and soil plus a 3 to 4 inch topping of sand on top giving us a total of 7 inches of new mixture to work with. We intend to continue for another two years. At that time we hope to reduce the topdressing program to once a month. We were coring the greens once a year and overseeding, but have found out that we get better greens by coring twice a year, which we are now doing. The course is closed on Mondays until noon. This gives us the time needed to topdress. Starting at 6:00 a.m. three men can topdress all 20 greens in a 3 hour period of time. The equipment we use is one tractor and trailer and one utility cart. They are used to supply the sand. We use a Lely fertilizer spreader equipped with a sand ring, pulled by a utility cart to put down 9 cubic ft, one hopper full of sand on each green. (The time on each green is about 1½ minutes.) The sand is let dry for 2 to 3 hours. By this time, all greens have been sanded and we can start dragging on No. 1 green and continue around the course, thus keeping ahead of any golfers. The light amount of sand drags in quite easily and is barely noticeable. We water Monday night, so on Tuesday morning little or no trace of sand can be seen. We leave the catchers off the mowers on Tuesday. This, plus decaying roots, adds a little humus to our mix.

We have eliminated all thatch problems. As we have none, we experience less disease, our fertilizer bill has been cut in half, verticutting need only be carried out once or twice in the spring as the drag mat eliminates graining better than any machine to date. It also eliminates the use of combs and brushes. As for the putting quality of the greens, they are all so consistent, one can't tell one surface from the other. The vertical and lateral movement of water has been improved greatly, almost eliminating puddling. As for dry spots that plagued us seven years ago, they are non-existent. To date we have experienced little damage to our mowers. The golfer can enjoy his golf course 12 months a year now, the surface stays drier, and there are less foot prints making for much improved conditions.

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