

## Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents NEWSLETTER

Published by this Association to aid the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through education and merit.

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### From The Golf World

It should come as no surprise to learn that JoAnne Carner has been chosen by ballot of the Golf Writers Association of America to become the 47th member of the World Golf Hall of Fame down in Pinehurst. JoAnne, the all-time LPGA money winner and thrice player of the year, will be inducted into the Hall, now run by the PGA, at the Hall's Invitational Pro-Am Nov. 1-3.

One of the events going on at the same time as the GCSAA Mid-Year Conference and Show in Indianapolis will be the annual meeting of the GCSAA Certification Committee on Sept. 22 and 23. To get valuable input from members on the certification program, an open forum has been scheduled from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 22 in the Indiana Convention Center. Dennis Lyon, chairman of the Certification Committee, is interested in hearing member concerns as well as personal thoughts and ideas for continuing the growth and improvement of this program.

Also meeting in Indianapolis on Sept. 21-22 will be the GCSAA Nominating Committee, which will open its session on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. for comments concerning nominations from any GCSAA member. This open meeting is designed to include GCSAA members in the nominating process and to receive other input from them.

A GCSAA team will compete in the International Superintendents Golf

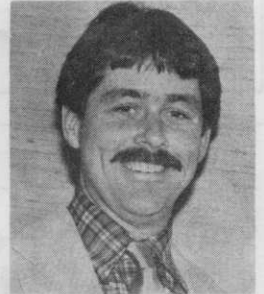
## Flex-time: Can We Use It?

by Ken Ingram, Superintendent, Columbia Country Club

After years of watching Connecticut Avenue traffic, I was intrigued recently when Congress made Flex-time permanent for some government employees, after years of experimenting. The Flex-time program sought to break the rigid 9 to 5 work hour schedule in order to relieve traffic congestion during rush hour while at the same time allowing employees to adjust their own schedules to get children off to school or baby-sitters, etc. Basically, Flex-time allows employees to arrive whenever they want before 9:30 a.m., and when their 8 hours are up, they can leave. Attendance between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. is called "core time" and is mandatory.

I see some applications for Flex-time on the golf course. Most of us work religiously from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. How many times have you left jobs unfinished or had to finish them yourself because everyone left at 3:30? All of us have guys that would love to start work at 5:30 a.m. if they could leave at 1:30 or 2, plus those at the other extreme. Our core time might be 8 to 12, and it would certainly be advantageous to have the course staffed for more daylight hours on long summer days. I've often wondered how much night-time vandalism didn't actually occur late in the afternoon when no one was around. Also, we might be surprised to learn how many jobs are better done in the afternoon. We all know that grass mows better without the dew, and I'd swear we'd get a better cutworm kill by spraying at night rather than in the morning. Also, there probably is an entire league of late afternoon golfers we've never seen. Finally, have you ever noticed how often the phone rings between 3:30 and 5 in the afternoon? I don't mean the "gallon of milk, loaf of bread" calls from crew members' wives but rather the important calls from the golf shop and businesses, for whom 3:30 p.m. is a strange quitting time.

Of course, the plan is not without drawbacks, including unsupervised subordinates, increased disturbance to play, greens cut too early in the morning re-dew, tee markers moved in late afternoon getting tossed into the creek at night, a longer day for superintendents, plus who's going to lock the barn? It might work for some of us, though, and a maintenance building that bustles with activity is great public relations.



Team Championship as part of the Turf Management Conference in St. Andrews, Scotland, on October 6-9, and a "travel-only" package has been organized for other members wishing to attend. The team includes 1985 GCSAA champion Dave Powell, Richard Stuntz, Kevin Downing, and Eugene D. Baston. If interested, call Vickie Shelby at 801-486-2336, or Bonnie Stephenson at 1-800-GSA-SUPT.

The two-day golf course design seminar given by Geoffrey Cornish and Robert Graves at the GCSAA annual conference in Washington will be repeated at the Indiana Mid-Year Conference. The two architects also put on the seminar at Harvard on June 27-28 under the sponsorship of the Graduate School of Design.

Dr. Richard C. Skogley of the U. of Rhode Island has received the Man of the Year Award from the Oregon Seed Trade Association for his many years of work in producing and marketing grass seed varieties, including Exeter, Colonial bent, Kingstown Velvet bent, and Jamestown Chewings fescue. He is

currently developing a Georgetown Kentucky Bluegrass variety in cooperation with VPI and Loft's Seed Co.

### Seminar Is Open to GCSAA Members

A seminar in "Business Communications and Assertiveness Techniques" will be held at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania, on October 22 and 23 under the sponsorship of the GCSAA and the Central Pennsylvania GCSA. The two-day seminar, to be conducted by John P. Meszaros, a former superintendent and landscape architect, will cover verbal communications, managing conflict and stress, effective persuasive presentations, and asserting yourself without aggression. It offers two CEU's and the price is \$95 for GCSAA members and \$120 for nonmembers. Registration forms can be obtained by calling Betsy Evans at the GCSAA's toll-free number, 1-800-472-7878.