



Walter Wagner, Lancaster Country Club, received the OTF Man-of-the-Year Award. He was cited for his outstanding contributions to the turfgrass industry. He and Mrs. Wagner were presented a commemorative plaque.

GREEN GROWS

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this country to develop these alternate energy resources.

The following day attendees chose between three sessions: Industrial and Commercial Grounds, Golf Courses, or Schools and Athletic Grounds. Roger Thomas, Jacobsen Manufacturing Company, gave an address on thinking ahead and adequate planning to get the job done easier. A discussion on mowing was given by Dale Atkinson of Toro Manufacturing Company. He reported on proper mowing techniques, use and misuse of equipment, and proper maintenance of mowers for longer use.

The most recent information on

Fusarium blight was presented by Dr. Joe Vargas, Michigan State University. He explained the *Fusarium* — nematode interaction and the resulting turf injury. Several fungicides and nematocides are controlling *Fusarium* but they have to be watered into the turf root zone.

Walter Wilkie of March Irrigation and Supply Co. reviewed the metric system at the afternoon session. He explained why United States industry is suffering because it hasn't gone with the metric and the effects on golf courses and turf areas. He urged that we recognize the need and begin the switch to the metric system as soon as feasible.

Another highlight of the session was the awarding of student scholar-
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Professional Excellence Awards were presented to five turfgrass leaders. They are (l-r) Sil Monday, Outdoor Recreation Association; Hartl Lucks, Chem-Lawn Corp.; Woodrow Wilson, Eastside Nurseries. Not pictured but award winners are: Dr. Joe Polivka, professor emeritus, OARDC; and Dr. Robert Schery, The Lawn Institute.



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Service To Industry

During the National Arborist Association executive meeting in 1968, Paul S. Walgren of the Walgren Tree Experts, West Hartford, Conn. made the statement that the tree industry needed a measuring stick for employees. The man in the field needed knowledge of the trade in order to progress from laborer to a position where the employer and customer had confidence that they were receiving qualified workmanship.

Bill Lanphear of Forest City Tree Protection Company, Cleveland, Ohio suggested a Home Study Program be developed. Much discussion followed and the executive secretary of NAA was instructed to research the possibilities and means of developing a program.

In June 1969 a proposal was submitted to the executive members and accepted based on the approval of the NAA membership. The executive secretary then promoted the program by traveling to six locations throughout the U. S.

After some frustrating delays Ed Irish, Charles F. Irish Company, Detroit, Mich. and Bill Lanphear started working on the program.

They are responsible for the successful writing of the course's 16 lessons.

The course has been offered to the tree industry for approximately two years. The following are comments from recent graduates of the course. They are presented as testimony of an industry group seeking to gain knowledge through its members.

Ed Irish (l) and Bill Lanphear



"Growing environmental concern has produced a demand for better trained people in many phases of industrial development," says Dennis M. Luczewski (r) of the Public Service Co. of New Hampshire. "The Professional Home Study Program for arborists is a big step forward in attaining levels of greater efficiency and increased productivity. My primary function with PSCO as technical assistant, is right-of-way maintenance. Paramount among these functions are initial line clearing, side trimming, selective clearing, roadside beautification and brush control."



Elden Poletti has been an employee of Griffin Tree & Landscape Co., Santa Barbara, Calif. for nearly 25 years. "Having learned something of the anatomy of a tree, how the various parts function, and its relationship and dependence on the soil which supports it," he says, "I can now visualize what reaction can be expected by the treatment I may perform. Although it is not difficult for me to realize when a tree is in trouble, I now know the areas in which to look for specific symptoms such as foliage, trunk and roots. By taking this course I am better prepared to discuss and explain to the owner what I propose to accomplish in a particular tree. This, I feel, benefits me, my employer and the client."

"As office manager and secretary of our company, it has been my responsibility to answer questions on the planting and general care of trees and shrubs when the men are not in the office," says Mrs. Doris Haddock, Haddock's Landscape & Tree Service Ltd., Calgary, Alberta, Canada. "Before taking the NAA Home Study Program, I knew the HOW of tree planting and the general care of same, but now I know the WHY. I can, therefore answer questions with much more confidence."



"A person does not realize how little he really knows until after taking a course like NAA's Home Study Program," reports Jim Boling, park supervisor, Medford, Ore. "The course has been especially helpful to me when it comes to correctly diagnosing a particular tree problem. I highly recommend the course to anyone wishing to know more about trees."



"I was familiar with the material but there was a lot of little things that really came out," comments Paul Leimeister, Larry Holkenborg Nursery, Inc., Sandusky, Ohio. "The pollution part was the most fascinating. I learned how soil fills affect trees, the preventive and corrective measures to take when the problem is encountered."



"Tree identification is an important part of my work," says Carmen Di Mardo, Monroe Tree & Landscape, Inc., Rochester, N. Y. "I found that the professional course for arborists was a great help in identification as well as in diagnosing tree diseases. The chapter dealing with spraying techniques was particularly interesting."



"The NAA Home Study Program is the best course on arboriculture that 'I've ever taken in the 17 years I have been employed in plant care work,'" says Willie Ward (l) a heavy equipment operator at General Electric's Appliance Park — East Columbia, Md. "It is a 'Power-Packed, Fact-Filled' course."



"This course really puts the business of being an arborist in an entirety," says Robert R. Lenz, Parkway Tree Surgeons, Henrietta, N. Y. "It taught me details that would take years in the field to learn but had the advantage over college because I was able to apply what I learned while continuing to learn." Reports Richard R. Lenz: "This program should become as important to the tree man as his rope and saddle. It is a good investment both for learning and a continuing reference over the years. We feel that this is the only writings that really explain tree work in a way that can be applied commercially and at the same time is condensed where there is no wasted time in learning."

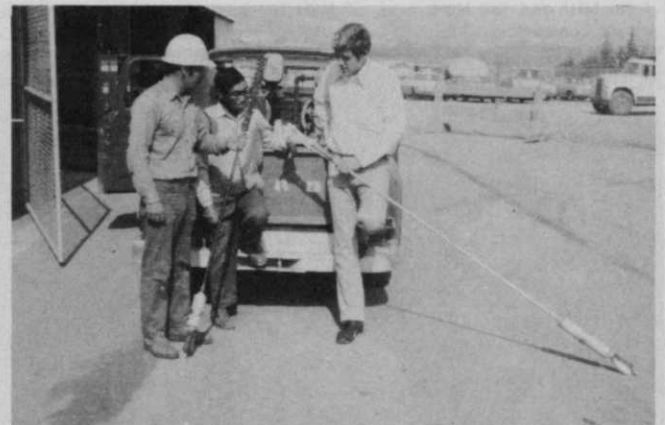


"The value of the knowledge received far exceeds the cost of the courses," says Joe Teixeira, (r) City of Walnut Creek, Calif. "I am pleased that my city and superiors had the farsightedness to realize the course value as a training aid and chose me to take it. It appears that the National Association put a great deal of thought into the course material and kept it interesting as well as easy to study. It is clearly written, concise and to the point."



"Now that I have completed all 16 lessons in the course, I can evaluate just what benefits it had to offer," says Bruce Egan, Hudson Tree Service, Belleville, Ill. "I had some previous knowledge of how to care for trees. But I really didn't know just why I was doing certain things."

John P. Stephens was hired by the city of Lynchburg, Va. in 1972 to fill the position of horticulturist. The position included the supervision of the forestry division, reports Floyd K. McKenna, director, department of parks and beautification. His background was in ornamental horticulture. He felt he needed further study of shade trees and their related insect and disease problems. He enrolled in the NAA Home Study Program. The information proved so beneficial that he enrolled in the advance course. The knowledge Stephens gained from this study is used daily in diagnosing tree problems, supervising pruning and surgery, equipment use and selection of trees for replacement.



"The NAA Home Study Program was not only of great benefit to me, but to my employer, and to new employees just starting out in arboriculture," remarks Donald R. West, street tree operations, Santa Barbara County, Calif. "Beneficial parts were sections relating to the diagnosis of tree and insect problems."

Green Industry Newsmakers

PEOPLE PLACES EVENTS



These six men led a workshop on yellow nutsedge at the recent Northeast Weed Science Society. They are: (1-r) Dr. Robert D. Sweet, Cornell University; Dr. John Meade, Rutgers University; Dr. L. L. Jansen, USDA; R. R. Libby, Stauffer Chemical Company; J. E. Gallagher, Amchem Products Company; and Dr. G. H. Bayer, Agway.



New officer roster for the Northeast Weed Science Society. The 1974 slate includes (1-r) Dr. H.P. Wilson, Virginia Truck & Ornamentals Research Station, Painter, Va., vice pres.; Dr. Walter Gentner, USDA Beltsville, Md., pres.; and Dr. James Parochetti, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, Md., secretary-treasurer.



Superior design, materials and execution toward improvement of man's environment are the criteria for awards given at the Denver Technological Center. Those receiving awards were: (1-r) John Cable, A Keeson & Sons., Inc.; Carl A. Worthington, Carl A. Worthington Associates; Bob Woodman, Woodman Bros. Landscape & Nursery Inc.; Jim Del Ponte, Del Ponte Landscape Company; George M. Wallace, board chairman, Denver Technological Center.



Mississippi State University welcomes the Associated Landscape Contractors of America to the campus. Jerry Lankenau (1) president and Bill Byers (r) chairman of the education committee of ALCA represent the association. MSU delegates are Robert Callaway (second from left) and Lee Nutt, pres. of MSU Landscape Contracting Club.



Dr. Otis Curtis, N.Y. State Agricultural Expt. Station (r) receives the award for the best research paper at the Northeast Weed Science Society meeting. Dr. Ralph Hansen (1) presents the award. Dr. Arthur Bing of Cornell (center) was chairman of the awards committee.



Associated Landscape Contractors of Mass. have elected new officers. They are: (1-r) Dan Peligrino, J&D Landscape Contractors, Inc., assistant sec.-treas.; Charles A. Laughton, Laughton's Garden Center, sec.-treas.;

Fred Heyliger, Farm Bureau Assoc., president; Normal F. Brisson, N.F. Brisson, Inc., vice president; and Daniel Leone, A. Capizzi & Co., Inc., past president.

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2 lbs./in. of trunk diameter =10 lbs. x 4.5¢/lb.	\$.45
½ hr. labor @ \$4/hr.	2.00
Labor and materials	<u>\$2.45</u>

$\$2.45 \div 5'' \text{ tree} = 49\text{¢/in. of diameter}$

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¹Using electric auger

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5 spikes 16-8-8 fertilizer—22¢/spike	
1 spike/in. of trunk diameter	\$1.10
5 min. labor @ \$4/hr.	<u>.33</u>
Labor and materials	<u>\$1.43</u>

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²Based on results of university field tests and recommendations.

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\$20 THOUSAND IN SAVINGS (from page 15)

and do not limit myself to any one type.

On greens and trees we use natural and/or synthetic organic fertilizers such as Milorganite and Witroform ureaform at a rate of no more than one-half pound of N per application. A straight mixture of milorganite is applied on fairways and supplemented with a second application containing one-half pound of Blue Chip ureaform per 1,000 square feet. We fertilize with organic fertilizer May through September.

The second application is put down in the fall. Because of our New Jersey climate, we put the first fertilizer application down in late May or June and we never fertilize when it is hot and humid.

My man makes two passes over the greens and trees and applies half the fertilizer in one direction and the rest at right angles to the first pass using an electric cyclone spreader pulled by a Cushman vehicle. This process has reduced the manpower requirement from two men to one.

Although it is common practice on other courses, we do not syringe our greens. In my opinion, syringing is harmful because it cooks the grass. We start watering fairways at 8 p.m. We have an all-electric automatic sprinkler system with heads that are turned on automatically for 15-minute periods to completely water greens, fairways and tees by 5:30 a.m. every morning. Anything more than 15-minutes is wasteful at Plainfield because that is all the soil can absorb at once.

My philosophy of growing good turf is to throw everything but the kitchen sink at our greens, tees and fairways. Our use of fertilizer ap-

plications on fairways, two or three pounds of actual N per 1,000 square feet annually, should be applied after the turf is dry. We apply fertilizer on an off day, generally Monday—especially in the fall—when using the 15-0-15 application. Otherwise, burning will be readily noticeable if golf car and foot traffic is heavy.

Our disease control program is preventive so our chemical costs and manhour expenses exceed those at courses where superintendents try to save dollars with curative programs. A curative program, in my opinion, is being penny wise and pound foolish. Inflation or otherwise, it is better to spend a few extra dollars in spraying than to risk losing greens to disease and being forced to undergo an expensive renovation program.

We spray greens and tees every week from mid-May through October, depending upon the weather, and also fairways every 21 days from June through August. We use one-half ounce of Clearys 3336 and three ounces of Thiram per 1,000 square feet. In addition, twice a year we spray fairways with a combination fungicide and insecticide. A regular spraying schedule is as important as a regular fertilization schedule, and I can honestly say I've never had a disease control problem at the Plainfield Country Club.

Renovation is expensive, so labor saving equipment, good personnel and proper techniques are important. We top dress our greens and tees at least twice, and up to four times yearly. Although top dressing is expensive, it provides excellent long-range results in maintaining high quality putting green surfaces. It discourages thatch build-up and encourages new, vigorous growth, better strains of grasses, upright growth, and less grain and disease.

The combination of water, fertilizer and air penetration minimizes the effects of heavy play and abuse.

We aerate our greens with a Ryan Greensaire with $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch tines set $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches deep. We go over the green in the same direction with a belt-driven vertical mower with blades set flush on a concrete pad so cores can be broken. We then drag the greens in several directions with a steel matt to further break cores and work them into the soil.

Next we blow off our greens to clean off excessive cores after using the vertical mower. Lastly, we mow the greens. If the greens are top dressed, we wait at least one week before resuming our fertilization program.

In order to maintain quality fairway turf, a thatching program should be implemented on an annual basis. We thatch in September or early fall—never in spring—because of our variable weather. If the weather goes against us, we'd never get the fairways to heal.

Opening up turf and soil permits better use of materials, penetration of air and water, and a deeper root system. Thatching has always been important and is doubly so today because of increased maintenance costs.

We never thatch our greens and we never thatch below 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches on fairways. I think only one in fifty golf courses has an ideal thatch level. I believe you'll never have problems unless thatch exceeds an inch in depth. Incidentally, we break up thatch material by pulling a heavy-duty, tractor-drawn steel mat in several directions, followed by mowing to "chew" it and let the pulverized material lay on the fairways. It serves as a mulch and within a week, with regular

(continued on page 70)

STH74-11 A



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Six students at Ohio State University received scholarships from the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation. They are: (1-r) Dr. Dave Martin, OSU turf advisor, Bill Job, Bill Huelsman, Rick Kucharski, Paul Revoldt, Bob Cochran and John Moser. Lou Greco, OTF scholarship chairman made the presentation.

GREEN GROWS

(from page 21)

ships. Ohio Turfgrass Foundation scholarships were presented to Ohio State University students William Job, Robert Cochran, Paul Revoldt, John Moser, Rich Kucharski and William Huelsman. Students from Clark Technical College receiving OTF scholarships were Joe Renner, Dave Pollock, and Craig Schoenberger. Richard Kress also received a scholarship. He is a student at the Agricultural Technical Institute of The Ohio State University, Wooster, Ohio.

John Spodnik, past president, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, presented GCSAA scholarships to Ohio State University student's Michael O'Connell, Robert Cochran, and Scott Cook.

The annual banquet was preceded by a reception given by Lakeshore Equipment and Supply Company, Cleveland. Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Professional Excellence Awards were presented to Robert Schery, Better Lawn Institute, Marysville, Ohio; Dr. Joseph Polivka, professor emeritus, OARDC, Wooster, Ohio; Woodrow Wilson, Eastside Nurseries, Canal Winchester, Ohio; Hartl Lucks, Chem-Lawn Corp., Dublin, Ohio; and Sil Monday, Outdoor Recreation Association, Cleveland, Ohio.

Newly elected OTF President Ron Smith then recognized Dr. Robert Miller for his outstanding contribution in serving as Executive Secretary of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation since its infancy. He was given the singular honor of a life-time membership in the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation.

The highlight of the evenings awards was the honoring of the OTF

Man of the Year for 1973. He is Walter Wagner, superintendent, Lancaster Country Club, Lancaster, Ohio. He has been active for many years in the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and is recognized as the dean of golf course superintendents in central Ohio.

New Officers of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation for 1974 are: Ron Smith, Bowling Green State University, president; Paul Mechling, Sylvania Country Club, Sylvania, Ohio, first vice president; James Seigfreid, Losantiville Country Club, Cincinnati, Ohio, second vice president; and Glenn Hudson, Walnut Hills Country Club, Columbus, Ohio, treasurer. Paul Morgan, Browns Run Country Club, Middletown, Ohio, is past president.

Trustees are: John Fitzgerald, Century Toro Distributors; John Laake, Crest Hills Country Club; Lou Greco, Squaw Creek Country Club; Don Collins, Upper Landsdowne Golf Links; Bill Eble, Ohio Toro; Fred Buscher, area horticulture extension agent, Ohio Cooperative Extension Service; Art Edwards, publisher, WEEDS TREES AND TURF; Ron Giffen, Lakeshore Equipment and Supply Company and Mac Gilley, Findlay Country Club.

The concluding educational sessions were designed for builders and contractors, golf course superintendents, and landscape contractors. Dr. William Daniel of Purdue University presented an up-to-date report on the Purr-Wick greens system. There also were talks on fertilization, irrigation, and golf greens construction.

The 1974 Conference and Show of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation will be held in Columbus, Ohio, December 3-5, 1974. □

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And you can outfit your basic vehicle for other jobs, too. Ditch Witch offers a versatile utility backhoe, a hydraulic boring unit and other money-saving attachments.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WAY TO GO

You did a terrific job with the Texas Industrial Weed Control Conference. In fact, your report is so detailed that we might just lift it and print it as the proceedings for the Conference.

We were honored by your coming to our Conference. We are deeply indebted to you for this fine national coverage you have given us. **Wayne G. McCully, resident director, Research and Extension Center At Chillicothe-Vernon, Tex.**

LONG REMEMBERED

Thank you for your immediate and complimentary obituary regarding the death of my husband, Felix V. Juska. I do not believe I have ever seen such a clear photograph as in your publication.

Felix would have been so pleased to know that such a well respected publication as yours carried a story about him in the November, 1973 issue when he had died only on October 25, 1973. Such a fact makes me feel most appreciative, humble and proud!

WEEDS TREES and TURF was one publication Felix was most anxious to receive following his retirement so that he could continue to keep up to date with the latest developments. Sir, that is a compliment to your company!

When Felix started work for his Doctorate, he was asked why he selected turfgrass as his study — his reply was typically frank and simple that he didn't know anything about it and thought it might be interesting. Indeed, it was to become a most interesting field of study and for eighteen very busy, happy years, turfgrass was our "bread-and-butter" and led us to so many happy, helpful, cooperative friends.

"Turfgrass Authority" — the label you gave him is indeed one of the highest honors you could have bestowed on my husband. On Felix's behalf, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for meaningful words of respect. However, let us acknowledge that, no one person can become an "authority" without the help of fellow workers — so to you, and to the many others who have cooperated in so many ways to help Felix in his achievements — and, yes, for the many laughs and good times shared, I am most grateful.

Thank you for the respect and honor you have shown Felix, and for being such a good friend.

Mrs. Felix V. Juska, 10309 Parkman Road, Silver Spring, Maryland.

**Three Point Program Helps
Increase Battery Life**

A three point program for longer battery life consisting of knowledgeable purchasing, proper mounting and systematic service checks was outlined by Robert Buesing, product manager, Microporous Products Division, Amerace Corp. in a recent interview.

A basic knowledge of the construction and component parts of a battery can be extremely helpful in making an intelligent purchase, Mr. Buesing stated. For example, rubber separators are widely used in heavy duty batteries because they are strong, durable and lightweight.

Even the best battery will lose power and fail before it should if it is subjected to excess vibration, he added. The second point of the program is to make sure the battery is properly mounted in a place where it will get a minimum of vibration.

Correctly used holddown devices are vital for less vibration and

longer performance. Heavy duty battery retainers should be used.

And another important factor to consider in the mounting of a battery is its accessibility, he noted.

The water level of the battery should be regularly checked. The battery case and terminals should be kept clean and free from corrosion. Non-metallic grease can be used to retard corrosion on the battery terminal posts and the top of the battery should be kept clean.

Battery cables should be checked to see that they are not scuffed or worn through. Cables should not be loose and therefore subject to excessive movement or too taut and subject to excessive stress.

"By following this three point program of educated buying; mounting the battery so that it will be subjected to a minimum of vibration and following a regular schedule of routine service checks, batteries will last longer and give better service. This is a big return for a small investment of time," observed Mr. Buesing.