

Tee to Green

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TED HORTON . . . and the Sherwood Moore Award



ed repeatedly — three times to

Strange indeed how the fickle finger of fate can intervene in our lives, manifesting itself under the most unusual circumstances, and often in the strangest ways.

Ask Edward C. (Ted) Horton, the awarded-winning golf course superintendent at Westchester Country Club, the 1988 recipient of the MGCSA's coveted Sherwood Moore Award, who readily concedes that fate took a hand where he and Mr. Moore are concerned.

But let Ted Horton tell his story:

"Initially, it is truly a highlight of a career to be honored in some manner by one's peers. But to be the first recipient, after Sherwood, of the Sherwood A. Moore Award from the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendent's Assoc-

iation is even more meaningful then even words can explain.

"I've been truly blessed, for I have known Sherwood all of my working life, and, as you might expect, he has played a significant role in my career.

"Sherwood has been a teacher, a conscience, an inspiration, and a confidant to me throughout my 23 years as a golf course superintendent. He continues, even in his retirement years, to establish goals that are out of reach for most of us. He is the quintessential "super."

"I have always enjoyed relating my story about how Sherwood Moore became the superintendent at Woodway Country Club.

"While I was a college senior, I had

interviewed repeatedly — three times to be exact — for the position of supt. at the Woodway Club in Connecticut.

"When confronted with a question about my apparent lack of maturity, and its effect upon how I would handle personnel situations, during one of the interviews, I responded with the statement that I would attempt to emulate or copy the example set by the best superintendent I had known and worked for, and quite possibly the best supt. alive — Sherwood Moore.

"Well, the rest is history. Woodway hired Sherwood Moore, who promptly recommended me for the very position he had vacated at Winged Foot. And "Happy Ending" was written to this story as the powers-to-be at Winged Foot hired



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Presidential Message "Participation, Participation, Participation"

In looking forward to my second term as President, I feel that we can be very optimistic about the upcoming year and the future of the MetGCSA. Except for our singular new Board member, Jeffrey Scott, we have the return of an experienced group of Directors who all have at least one year's tenure to draw from. With this experience and the many fresh new ideas coming from your Board and the membership at large, we will be able to better accomplish the goals of the Association and improve on our services to the membership. We also have a couple of important lessons which we learned in 1988 that will help to guide us through this year and in the future.

The first of these is the importance of maintaining a high level of quality with the Tee To Green newsletter, which is our primary source of communication. Secondly, we've learned that we cannot tolerate deficit spending on an annual basis. Last year we subsidized numerous special events and as you may have heard, subsequently finished our fiscal year in the red. The net result of this is a depletion of the funds which support our cash flow from month to month and allow for our privilege of signing for goods and services. Failure to balance the budget year after year would ultimately force us to operate on a cash or prepay basis only, which has historically been quite unpopular.

As always, this year your Board of Directors will do everything possible in negotiating the lowest prices obtainable for our special events and monthly meetings. However, as is the case with everything else, our costs to run the Association and host monthly meetings are continually escalating and these costs must be passed on to the membership. Thanks for your understanding in this matter, we hope any increases will not affect your ability to attend our meetings.

It has been often said that the three most important factors in constructing a golf course are "drainage, drainage, and drainage." To parallel that phraseology, I would say that the three most important factors of a successful Association are "participation, participation, and participation." Last year our attendance at meetings was at an all time high with an average of 85 for golf and 105 for dinner. If you will continue to come to all MetGCSA events this year and urge any potential members to join our group, perhaps we can set new attendance records in 1989. The strength and influence of the MetGCSA is directly proportional to the level of participation at our monthly meetings, as well as within our many committees. If you have some ideas on how we can better ourselves as an Association or as individuals, or would like to participate on a committee, please don't hesitate to call myself or any other Board member and air your views, we would be very happy to hear from you. Your Board of Directors and Association constantly strive for and need your participation.

I would like to thank John Musto who is leaving the Board of Directors this year for his many years of service to the MetGCSA. As Education Committee Chairman, John has tirelessly fulfilled his duties and brought us numerous excellent speakers for our monthly meetings and turf seminars. We will certainly miss his valuable input at our Board meetings.

Finally, I urge all Superintendents to please support the advertisers of our Tee To Green. These individuals are strong supporters of the MetGCSA and provide the funds that make the newsletter possible. So let's hold up our end of the bargain and support them with our business as well.

Best regards to you and your family through this wonderful season of holidays and vacation.

Scott E. Niven, CGCS

President

Ted Horton . . . and the Sherwood Moore Award continued from page 1

22-year-old Ted Horton as the super at one of the world's most prestigious golf clubs.

"I still maintain to this very day that I got Sherwood Moore his job. But tongue-in-cheeking, aside, I know for sure that Sherwood got me my job at Winged Foot some 22 years ago this month.

"Now, won't you agree that lady luck, dame fortune or fate intervened? I do."

The Sherwood A. Moore Award, for the uninitiated, is named for the legendary pioneer in turf management of the same name, who happens to be the only "super" to have served as president of the Metropolitan, New Jersey and National golf course superintendent Associations.

The 45-year-old Horton, a native of Canada (actually Montreal Hospital), has been recently elevated to a unique position at Westchester Country Club where he has been named director of sports and grounds at the renowned Rye-Harrison play plant.

Horton, who often refers to himself as a "proud protege of Sherwood Moore's," began serving his apprenticeship under Moore at Winged Foot in the spring of 1965, while a placement training student at the University of Massachusetts. He was named assistant super two years

later, and in the fall of '67 took over as super when Moore left for Woodway.

"Ted Horton is being honored with the Moore Award not only for his notable contributions to the field, and for the science and art of golf course management, but also for enhancing the professional image of the superintendent in general," said MGCSA President Scott Niven of Stanwich.

Horton resides in Rye Brook with his wife, Nancy, and sons, Tim, a second year pre-med student at Johns Hopkins University, and Chris, a senior at Tabor Academy in Massachusetts.

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NY State Green Council Update

Northern District of New York to chal- are applied. lenge New York's Environmental Con-

On November 18, 1988, a suit was filed notification to owners and occupants of in the United States District Court for the buildings or property whenever pesticides

The plaintiffs, the New York State Pesservation Law Article 33, Title 10 and ticide Coalition, Inc., the Professional New York's pesticide notification regula- Lawn Care Association of America, the tions, 6 NYCRR Part 325. The suit chal- Pesticide Public Policy Foundation, Inc., lenges the statute and the regulations on the National Pest Control Association, the grounds that they are preempted by the National Arborists Association, Elithe Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and zabeth Seme, and Walter Schroeder, seek Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA")m 7 Y,S,C, a declaration from the Federal court that §§ 136 et seq. The regulations are sche- the entire notification system, which duled to become effective on January 1, includes the posting of warning signs, mandates specific contract language, and Title 10 requires Commercial Lawn requires that "cover sheets" be given to Care Applicators to enter into written the owners or occupants prior to the contracts with customers, provide warn- application of a pesticide, constitutes ings and post the perimeter of treated additional and different "labeling" within areas with warning signs. The new regula- the meaning of regulating labeling. The tions, promulgated under the putative suit names Thomas Jorling, the Commisauthority of New York's Environmental sioner of the New York State Department Conservation Law §§33-1001, 33-1003, of Environmental Conservation, as deand 33-1005, require most pesticide fendant, and also seeks an injunction applicators to provide detailed written prohibiting the enforcement of Title 10

and the notification regulations.

The Plaintiffs stated that they are not opposed to reasonable notification requirements, but were forced to initiate this litigation in response to the onerous requirements of New York pesticide notification program. The lawsuit will also protect the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's authority in this area, and will serve to prevent inconsistent regulations among the states and between the states and the EPA.

Plaintiffs are represented by Thomas S. West, Esq. of the Albany Office of Nixon, Hargrave, Devans & Doyle. Mr. West is counsel to the firm, and concentrates his practice in the environmental and litiga-

For more information contact: Walter Schroeder Box 301 Yaphank, NY 11980 (5160 281-3371

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Nominations are being accepted for the John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award for 1989. This award: "to be presented annually to a local resident who has demonstrated through a lifetime - a knowledge of and commitment to, the game of golf and the science of golf course management." Please contact anyone on the Awards Committee by March 3rd.

> Pat Lucas, Chairman Guido Cribari Mike Maffei Pete Rappoccio

WINTER SEMINAR January 11, 1989

Registration 8:00

Welcome 8:50

Speakers 9:00-11:45

Mr. James Connolly, USGA, Herbicide Application Tools and Methods

Dr. Ahrens, Ct. Agricultural Exp. Sta, Herbicide Applications for Landscape Plantings

Mr. Dominic Bencivenga, President Fulcrum Resources, The Employment Process

Mt. Kisco C.C.

Lunch 11:45-12:45

Speakers 12:45-4:00

> Mr. Dominic Bencivenga, President Fulcrum Resources, Employee Retention and Supervision

Dr. C.R. Skogley, Univ. of R.I. Introduction of Providence Creeping Bent

Dr. Pat Vittum, Mass. Suburban Exp. Station, Update on Control of White Grubs and Hyperodes

Wykagyl's Monroe New MET PGA Head

Lloyd Sherman Monroe, the popular head professional at the Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, is the new president of the Metropolitan Professional Golfers Association (MET PGA), oldest PGA Section in the nation.

Monroe, 50, had almost two years on the regular PGA Tour before returning to New Jersey as a head pro. A four-time winner on the Club Pro Tour in Florida, he worked at such clubs as Upper Montclair, Springbrook and Essex before taking over at Wykagyl 10 years ago.

"They may not be the unsung heroes of golf, but I have long felt that a good deal of the superintendent's contributions to the game has gone unnoticed," Monroe has said on occasion.

Monroe, his wife, Valerie and three children reside in New Rochelle.

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Met G.C.S.A. Wins Team Championships

by John Carlone Host Superintendent

October 11, 1988

The annual Met. Area Superintendents Team Championships, this year hosted by the Met. G.C.S.A., were held October 5, at Middle Bay C.C. in Oceanside, N.Y. The Met GCSA team consisted of; Chuck Fatum, Mike Medonis, Matt Ceplo, Earl Millet, Mark Millet, and Jim Fulwider, Jr. For the third time in the event's nine year history, the Met GCSA took first place.

The format of the event is the low four gross scores out of six. The Met team was led by individual champion Jim Fulwider Jr. with a 76, Matt Ceplo 79, Earl Millet 83, Mark Millet 83.

The Met GCSA will hold on to the team trophy for the next year. The low

individual trophy which is donated by the MGA, was awarded to Jim Fulwider, Jr. Arthur Weber, Chairman of the MGA Green Committee, was on hand to present this award.

Second place in the event went to the team from Central Penn GCSA. Third place was taken by the Long Island GCSA.

The 1989 Team Championship will be hosted by the Long Island GCSA and held at the Meadowbrook Club in Jericho, N.Y.

Special thanks should be given to Ed Walsh for his continued support of this event. Without his involvement, it would not take place.

Mr. Scott Niven, President Met GCSA Stanwich Club 888 North Street Greenwich, CT 06830

Dear Scott:

I would like to thank the Award Committee, the Board of the Met GCSA, and the members of our Association for the honor bestowed upon me at the Met GCSA Superintendent/Green Chairman Tournament held at Willow Ridge CC. I am greatly honored to be the recipient of the "Sherwood A. Moore" Award from my fellow Superintendents. In particular, I was especially pleased to immediately follow Sherwood as a recipient of this award. For, as most know, Sherwood has been a teacher, a guide, and a confidant to me throughout my career.

Again, thank you for your consideration. It is truly a highlight of a life time to be so honored by one's peers.

Sincerely,

Edward Horton CGCS Director of Sports & Grounds



HAPPY HOLIDAYS







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Smarter Ways to Fight Pests (N.Y. Times 11/15/88)

The age of chemical pesticides is far from over, but it can hardly end soon enough. Last month, Congress finally revised the pesticide law, making it easier to get the most dangerous chemicals off the market. But the more permanent solution lies in developing new and subtler technologies for combating pests, like biological controls and the new genetic alchemy of biotechnology.

DDT seemed a miracle when first invented. It and other pesticides have saved millions from typhus, malaria or starvation. American agriculture depends more heavily than ever on pesticides. But drenching the countryside with fierce poison carries harsh side-effects.

Pesticides now contaminate groundwater, rivers and estuaries throughout the country. In Iowa, half the shallow wells are tainted. The nematode-killer DBCP is now found in a quarter of California's wells. Use of aldicarb in Suffolk County, L.I., was halted in 1980, but numerous wells bore traces of it six years later.

Pesticides can kill or sicken the farm workers who apply them, especially in the third world. In a National Cancer Institute study, farmers in Kansas were found six times more likely to contract lymphatic cancer if exposed to herbicides more than 20 days a year.

Pesticide residues often contaminate the crops they are meant to protect. Three-fifths of the 480 million pounds of herbicide used annually in the United States are agents known or suspected to cause cancer. Some 90 percent of all fungicides are carcinogenic. Americans are exposed to pesticide residues in almost everything they eat — meat, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, sugar, coffee, oils and most processed foods.

Pesticides too often provide only temporary relief. They must be increased or replaced as pests develop resistance. On Long Island, the Colorado potato beetle has taken two years or less to resist each of nine pesticides. Some 447 insect species are now resistant to members of all major classes of insecticide. Despite increasing expenditures on pesticides, now at \$6.5 billion a year, insects, diseases and weeds destroy a third of America's crops. That's the same proportion as in the 1940's, and indeed the same as in the Middle Ages.

The Environmental Protection Agency has been almost powerless to regulate pesticides. Some 600 chemicals marketed before 1972 have been inadequately tested for their effects on humans. Until last month, if the agency decided on a ban, it had to compensate the manufacturer for unused stocks—at fair market value. That was a powerful disincentive to action. Last month's revision of the law sets a nine-year deadline for testing all pesticides, and kills the compensation rule.

That's a step forward, but the real reform of pesticide abuse will come as farmers switch to alternative controls. One is integrated pest management, which combines cropping techniques with carefully timed doses of pesticide. Another is biological control — using a pest's natural predators. For instance, a small wasp imported from Australia can control the longhorn borer beetle that attacks eucalyptus trees in California.

The most promising technique is to introduce pest-resistant genes into crop plants. A Maryland company, Crop Genetics International, is testing a way to protect corn by enabling plants to grow their own pesticide. The seed is inoculated with an algae that thrives in the plant's sap. The algae is equipped with a bacillus gene whose product is toxic to corn borer beetles, a major pest.

Biotechnology has not yet revolutionized crop protection, in part because the possible hazards of releasing genetically changed organisms into the environment need careful assessment. But building pest resistant genes into plants promises to be cheaper and far more sparing of the environment than the brutal technology of chemical pesticides.

All for Better Turfgrass

Bound Brook, NJ — "Royalties are the lifeblood of continuing turf programs." That statement was made recently by Rutgers University's Dr. Henry Indyk. And that's what one leading seed company, Lofts, has committed itself to support.

For many years Lofts Seed Inc. has contributed hefty royalties to Rutgers University. Each year the increased sales of Lofts' proprietary turfgrass seed varieties allow the company to give proportionally more generous royalty checks to Rutgers. This year's payment of \$176,000 represents a good share of the 34 million Rutgers hopes to receive during 1988.

Royalties, in turn, help to perpetuate turf research. Much of the money paid by Lofts directly funds programs conducted by Dr. C. Reed Funk; the balance goes to other Rutgers research projects. Ultimately, this process results in the sale of new and improved turfgrass varieties, beginning the cycle again.

Lofts conducts some of its research programs jointly with Rutgers University. During the many years of their association, Lofts and Rutgers have together introduced many turfgrass varieties. Palmer and Prelude Turf-Type Perennial Ryegrasses and Rebel II Turf-Type Tall Rescue, have offered significant benefits to professional grounds people. These varieties have been so successful that they made up the largest share of this year's sales and royalties.

This year's ample royalties result not only from increased domestic sales, but also from expanded foreign markets Lofts has developed as the world's largest marketer of turfgrass varieties. The global network includes Canada, Japan, Europe, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

Domestic markets include golf course overseeding, sod, parks, retail and unused areas such as roadsides. When turf professionals in these markets buy certified seed, more funding is available to further academic research of better turfgrass varieties for the future.

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