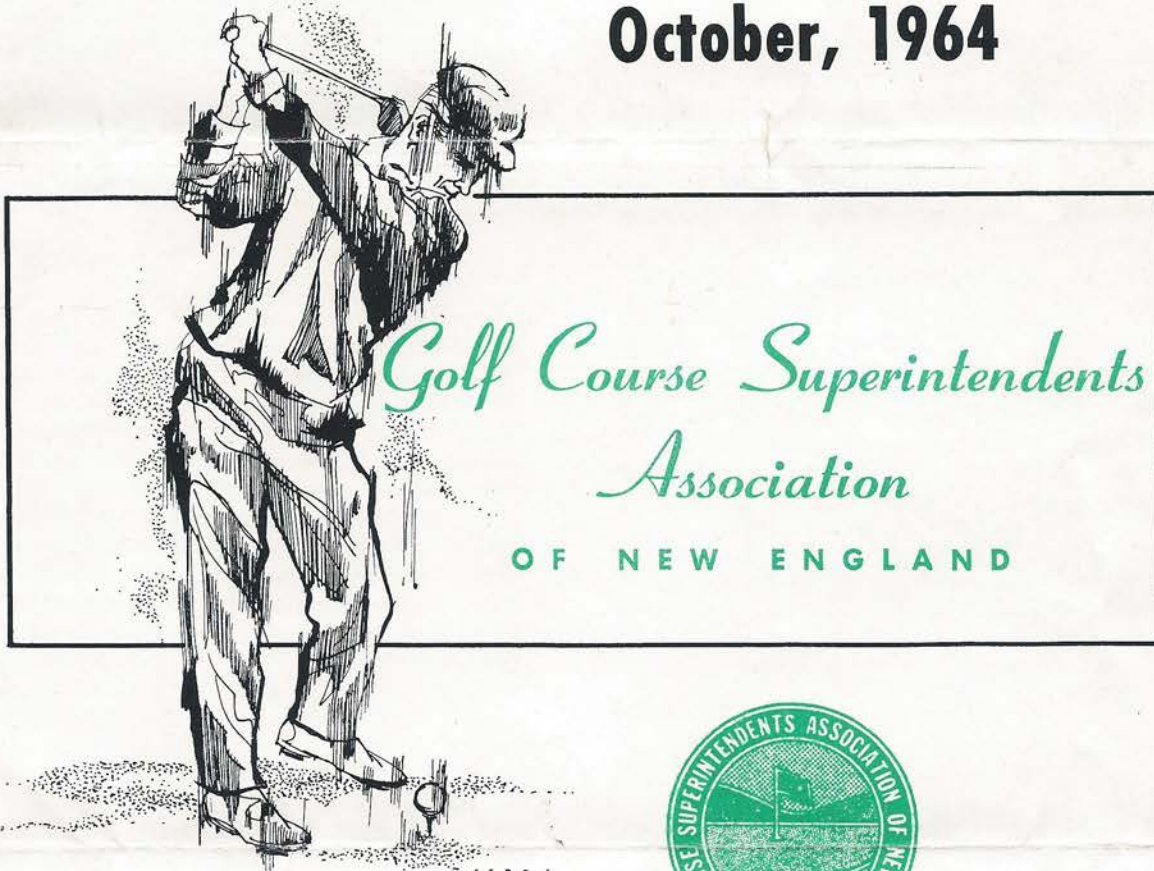


# NEWSLETTER



October, 1964



**President—**

JOSEPH BUTLER  
United Shoe Country Club  
3 Ridgewood Terrace  
Beverly, Mass.  
Phone WA 2-1263

**First Vice-President—**

LEON V. ST. PIERRE  
Longmeadow Country Club  
51 Fenwood Road  
Longmeadow 6, Mass.  
Phone LO 7-5562

**Second Vice-President—**

ANTHONY D. CARANCI, JR.  
Ledgemont Country Club  
22 Hillview Drive  
North Providence 4, R.I.  
Phone PA 3-1688

**Secretary—**

JOHN CALLAHAN  
Spring Valley Country Club  
194 Edgehill Road  
Sharon, Mass.  
Phone SU 4-6370

**Treasurer—**

ARTHUR L. CODY  
Wollaston Golf Club  
Phone Supt. Office at club  
GRanite 2-3535  
Home GRanite 2-7913  
19 Ardell Street  
North Quincy, Mass.

**Trustee—**

ALBERT L. ALLEN  
Kernwood Country Club  
Phone PI 4-7783  
Kernwood Country Club  
Salem, Mass.

**Trustee—**

WILLIAM ASH  
Allendale Country Club  
Phone WY 3-8767  
9 Patton Street  
No. Dartmouth, Mass.

**Trustee—**

JOHN KEALTY  
The Country Club  
209 W. Plain Street  
Cochituate, Mass.  
Phone DL 3-1408

**Finance Committee Chairman—**

GEORGE ROMMELL  
Hyannisport Club  
Phone SP 5-2419  
169 Gosnold Street  
Hyannis, Mass.

**Educational Committee Chairman—**

THOMAS CURRAN  
Oak Hill Country Club  
Phone DI 2-9198  
37 Parker Street  
Fitchburg, Mass.

**Golf Committee Chairman—**

EDWARD J. MURPHY  
Lexington Country Club  
194 Oxbow Road  
Wayland, Mass.

**Newsletter Committee Chairman**

RICHARD C. BLAKE  
Mt. Pleasant Country Club  
Phone 869-2737  
211 Sewall Street  
Boylston, Mass.

**Past President—**

N. J. SPERANDIO  
Concord Country Club  
Concord, Mass.  
Phone EM 9-4723

## September Meeting

The September meeting was held Sept. 14 at the Lake Sunapee C. C., New London, N. H. The excellent weather, scenery and turkey dinner was enjoyed only by a few Supts. who ventured North for the day. Probably the heavy rain warnings kept many at home.

Host Supts. Henry Holman Jr. and Sr. welcomed all and were most hospitable. Henry Sr. delayed his fishing trip to Hudson Bay to have lunch with old friends. We hope all the "big ones" don't get away this year.

### Results of Golf Tournament

1st low net	Bill Carter	77
2nd low net	Ted Murphy	78
1st low gross	John Almonte	
2nd low gross	Norm Muccirone	

### Business Meeting

An application for Associate Membership was received from: James J. Reidy, Supt. Tatnuck C. C., 100 Airport Dr., Worcester, Mass.

Dr. Burton Anderson, Supt. Augusta C. C., Augusta, Maine was recently voted President of the newly formed Maine G. C. S. A. President Joe Butler NEGCSA presented Dr. Anderson a gavel and conveyed the best wishes of all Dr. Burt's friends from NEGCSA. Orville Clapper, President, The Clapper Co., was the key note speaker.

Congratulations are in order for Mr. & Mrs. Ted Murphy on the recent birth of a baby daughter.

## Next Meeting

Pro - Supt. Golf Tournament, October 19, 1964, Bra Burn C. C., Newton, Mass. Starting time for golf after 9:30 - One member of team, either Pro or Supt., must be a member of PGA or GCSA of New England. Business meeting at 10:30 A. M.

Last outdoor meeting of the season:  
Nov. 2, Blue Rock C. C.  
Host Supt. Charlie Gardner  
Business Meeting 11:00  
Sandwiches available for lunch

Directions: Mid Cape Highway to exit 8 towards So. Yarmouth, take first left after the Regional H. S., straight and follow signs.

Your attendance at the business meetings would be appreciated. Please complete survey form at your earliest convenience.



## Superintendents Create Country Club for

A year ago this month, Leon V. St. Pierre was contacted by Mr. Charles Godin, President of Adams Nursery, in Westfield, Massachusetts, and a member of the Board of Trustees at the Exposition, in regards to having a Golf Course Exhibit, in the Massachusetts Building.

Mr. Charles McNamara, the Commissioner of Agriculture, had expressed a desire to have such an exhibit. At this point the Superintendents were on the spot to accept this tremendous challenge or forever hold their peace.

The challenge was taken up by the Golf Course Superintendents of New England, Board of Directors, and Leon V. St. Pierre was appointed Chairman of the Exhibit Committee. Mr. St. Pierre in turn appointed the following men to serve on his committee: Herb Berg, Dick Blake, Tom Curran, and Lou Duval.

These men generously gave one work week of their time, during the height of their golf season.

The exhibit represented a typical New England golf course with a 35 foot mural in the background, and a 15 foot mural on the right corner wall. In the foreground, a short hole was represented, with an artificial tee, using a nylon brush on a rubber mat for the golfers to tee off from; a Merion Bluegrass fairway, running brook, and sand trap directly in front of the green. Kernwood Velvet bent was used for the green. It all worked out better than our fondest expectations.

A special private showing was held on Sunday, September 20, for all the New Eng-



## te the Springmeadow r the Exposition

land Governors. Four out of the six Governors present, took part in the show by hitting several balls up onto the green.

The Commissioner of Agriculture from New Hampshire got a hole-in-one.

A total of 25 Superintendents came down to West Springfield to man the exhibit and act as public relation "Ambassadors" for the Association. When they were not hitting balls on the green, they were busy answering questions.

The majority of the public thought that the Kernwood Velvet bent on the green was artificial, and even after they had touched it, they left with a trace of doubt in their minds.

Many people were puzzled on the functions of a Golf Course Superintendent and how he manages on a course. This is a principle reason why it is so very important for us to get before the public eye and get the message across to them.

The Exhibit was classified a success by the Director of Exhibits, Mr. Steve Hamilton, and we were informally invited to return next year, using a different format.

Approximately 500,000 persons attended the Exposition during the 9 day period, and a great many of these thousands visited the Massachusetts Building, and our Exhibit.

Our sincere thanks to an aggressive committee and all the members of our Association, who believe that we can do a worthwhile project, by giving of their time to carry out an important assignment.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon V. St. Pierre

## A Solution to a Problem?

The following is a report that I sent to my Chairman explaining the situation that exists on the fairways. I found this type of report to be accepted easier than sending a letter explaining the problem. In many conditions I believe it easier to state a question and then follow it with answers. Most of the statements are simplified and are easier for the average member to understand.

They have agreed to start a program of fairway renovation and I am hopeful that in the future I will have better fairways at the Club. This is the text of the report:

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The condition that exists on the fairways is caused by a combination of factors that have affected the Annual Bluegrass (*Poa Annual*). Annual Bluegrass is an undesired variety of grass if fine turf grass conditions are required. Several of the older clubs throughout the area have undergone or will have to undergo programs of fairway renovation. It is not an easy problem to correct but with the proper method of renovation followed by competent cultural practices a corrective solution can be reached.

Now I will list those factors that will have to be considered.

### I. Why is Annual Bluegrass undesirable?

1. It has a low tolerance to high heat and humidity because of its shallow root growth and cool weather growth characteristics.
2. It is very susceptible to disease such as *Fusarium* which is mainly the cause for it dying out this year. *Fusarium* is becoming more prevalent each year and as of yet there isn't a chemical to retard it properly.
3. Because of its low tolerance it acts as a host to fungus which often results in afflicting the finer Bent grasses with disease.
4. If it is subjected to extreme cold and ice conditions it desicates as was the condition at Belmont in many fairway areas after the winter of 1962-63.

### II. Why the abundance of Annual Bluegrass on older courses?

1. Before the introduction of fairway watering systems there was a predominance of drought resisting grasses such as Fescues and Kentucky Blues. With the use of a fairway system the Fescues and Kentucky Bluegrasses died off and were replaced by Annual Bluegrass. In those areas where the Bent grasses were sufficient a fine

turf condition was developed but as in most of the fairways areas there was insufficient varieties of Bent grasses to be developed.

2. Maintenance practices such as fertilization and watering programs affect Annual Bluegrass's rate of growth.

3. Conditions incurred by todays increase in golf (compaction) and also the low clipping height of turf required by golf today also encourages Poa.

III. How can the fairways be improved?

1. Those areas that have a predominance of Bent grasses can be treated with chemicals that will alleviate the Poa and encourage the Bent grasses to fill in. I have done this in areas where there has been conditions to warrant it and have had good results.

2. Those areas that are totally all Annual Bluegrass will have to be:

- a. Killed with a chemical.
- b. The dead turf that is left will have to be sliced with a vertical cultivator and then reseeded.
- c. A continued program of chemical treatment will have to be followed to prevent the resurgence of Annual Bluegrass.

IV. What does this mean to the golfer?

1. Those areas that are reseeded will have to be played free lift and preferred lies. It generally takes 5 months of growing weather to produce sufficient turf to be played without preferred lies.

2. There might be an occasional area that might have to be reseeded.

V. What if the fairways are left as they are?

1. Because of Annual Bluegrasses ability to seed heavily it will generally fill itself in during the fall and spring.

2. Barring summers with detrimental growth for Poa the fairways will return to their average condition. If subsequent years persist as this year a poor turf condition will again occur.

VI. What equipment and material will be needed to do the job?

- 1. Materials:
  - Scorching Chemicals
  - Seed
  - Fertilizer
  - Pre-emergent chemicals

2. Equipment:  
It will be necessary to buy a tractor with a 3-point hitch and power take-off to run the machinery necessary for vertical slicing of the turf. The operation would take approximately 4 - 5 weeks to complete and the tractor would be used for follow-up operations of reseeding. It also would provide us with a grading tractor for construction work on the course.

- Tractor
- Rogers Slicing Machine
- 2 sets of Blades
- Equipment
- Material

The above mentioned equipment and material would be necessary to do the renovation of the fairways.

Manny Francis Jr.  
Supt. Belmont C. C.

Golf Course Superintendents  
Association  
OF NEW ENGLAND



RICHARD C. BLAKE  
Mt. Pleasant Country Club  
Phone 869-2737  
211 Sewall Street  
Boylston, Mass.



B-3

