



NEWSLETTER

February, 1965



Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND



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Past President—

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Golf Course Superintendents Association

January Meeting

The January Meeting was held at the Waltham Field Station on Jan. 18th. A Director's meeting was held in the morning.

Business Meeting

An application for associate membership was received from: David Clements, Supt. Crystal Springs Golf Club, Haverhill, Mass.

New Committees Appointed

President St. Pierre appointed the new committees.

Membership Committee

Anthony Caranci, Chairman
Richard Blake
Floyd Wiget

Finance Committee

William Ash, Chairman
Arthur Cody
Phil Cassidy

Educational Committee

Thomas Curran, Chairman
Lou Duval
Manuel Francis, Jr.
Dave McCarthy

Golf Committee

Edward Murphy, Chairman
William Carter
Wayne Ripley

Newsletter Committee

Manuel Francis, Jr., Chairman
Richard Blake
Burton Anderson
Dean Robertson
Richard Mitchell
James Reidy

Welfare Committee

Nary Sperandio, Chairman
Norman Muccirone
Roger Hines
Charles Gardner
John Smith
Arthur Anderson

Employment Committee

William Barrett, Chairman

Publicity Committee

John Smith, Chairman
Lou Duval

Turf Research

Burton Anderson, Chairman
Manuel Francis, Sr.
Albert Allen
Phil Cassidy

Parliamentarian

Phil Cassidy

Richard Blake and Floyd Wiget will act as our liason team between the Mass. Golf Assoc. and the Golf Course Supt. Assoc. of New England.

Next Meeting

Waltham Field Station	March 1, 1965
Directors Meeting	10:30 A.M.
Business Meeting	11:30 A.M.
Lunch	12:30 P.M.
Education Program	1:30 P.M.

Speaker: Cliff Chatter - Head of Shade Tree Lab, Waltham Field Station

He will show slides and discuss Shade Tree Maintenance, sprays, fertilization, etc.

On March 8, 1965 Sawtelle will hold a maintenance clinic on repairs of: Cushman Golf Carts and Turf Trucksters.

Time: 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. Lunch will be served.

A Date to Remember

March 11 & 12 - Mass. Turf Conference at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass.

Notice on April 12th Meeting

Any Dealer that wants time to speak or show equipment at the April 12th Dealer's meeting - Please contact Tom Curran by the next meeting.

Inquiries or notices about Golf Course employment. Contact: Bill Barrett
97 Mill Rd.
No. Hampton, N.H.
Tel. 964-5372

President's Message

Over the last several years, at our meetings, we have had representatives from all the major insurance companies, in this area, giving their presentation on health and retirement group insurance, and how it may be applicable to the Golf Course Superintendent's Association.

It is the consensus of opinion that Associations, such as ours, will have difficulty getting a good working plan for health and retirement insurance, as a group.

Therefore, the problem lies in other areas. More specifically, it is the Employer's problem. A great majority of our Country Clubs, have not faced up to some of their obligations. It was a lot simpler to pass the hat when old "Joe" retired or became ill. Or, possibly the thinking was we will let the incoming "Board of Governors" worry about that problem.

Many of our Senior Members are nearing retirement age, and are in need of peace of mind which can be provided with a modest health and retirement plan, sponsored by the Clubs.

Today's new breed of college graduates, are seeking and taking only positions that offer the most fringe benefits and possibilities for advancement.

While we are not looking for a job 'Utopia', we are looking for improvements in the Country Club whose health and retirement funds, take care of their loyal and key employees.

Let us all sit down with our individual Chairman, and talk over this problem serious. TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

Leon V. St. Pierre
President

*"It is the doer of deeds
who actually counts in
the battle for life, and not
the man who looks on
and says how the fight
ought to be fought."*

—Theodore Roosevelt, 1894

What do you do during the winter?

The usual question asked at our club as winter draws near is, "What does the maintenance department of the golf course do in the winter when there is no grass to care for and everything is frozen and or snowbound." To answer some of these questions I submitted the following letter to the Board of Directors during the past year.

"During the winter months, which includes December, January, February, and part of March, the golf course maintenance goes on as usual with variations depending on the weather. The winter golf maintenance personnel are the Golf Course Superintendent and two men working under his supervision. These men are employed all year.

"During the winter your Superintendent attends educational meetings that are held by the Massachusetts Golf Course Superintendent's Association, The Massachusetts Lawn and Turf Grass Association, and the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America, all of which he is a member.

The greens are subject to very adverse weather conditions varying from 55° above 0° to 10° above 0° to 10°-20° below 0 with snow, ice, sleet, and rain with high winds which tend to dry out and kill the blades of grass. Ice forms suffocating the grass, this has to be broken up if possible. Rain needs to be drained off low greens and out of pockets that might form ice sheets.

"There are several species of turf disease which attack and kill the grass. This needs to be guarded against with several applications of fungicide if the snow isn't too deep. All these conditions are doubled on greens because of the very short height of cut.

"The equipment used for maintaining the course has to be steam cleaned, taken apart and all repairs made. The bedknives and reels need to be sharpened to a keen edge then lapped in. Every piece of equipment is greased, the oil changed and then a fresh coat of paint applied. This work is performed by the golf course maintenance personnel.

"On good days the woods are cleaned up with cutting and burning of all dead and diseased trees and thick brush on the side of the fairways. Cleaning out the woods in this manner gives the course a much neater appearance, gives the golfer a better chance of

finding a lost ball, and helps the air drainage on the course, very important to disease control.

"All the work listed above is only a small part of the work performed in the winter at our club. I hope I have answered any questions about the winter operation at the club."

Perhaps you have noticed as I have the lack of knowledge concerning our profession on the part of our members and the public at large. This can be corrected only if we take it upon ourselves to do some of the educating. I believe that by passing in periodic reports such as the above to be distributed to the membership that eventually the members will have a better understanding of my job. Thus making relations more pleasant. I think we should all give serious thought to how we might make the public more aware of our profession.

Richard C. Mitchell
Supt., Thorny Lea Golf Club
Brockton, Mass.

Anyone who has an interesting idea or article that he would like to have published in the NEWSLETTER, please send it to:

Manny Francis
387 Davis Rd.
Bedford, Mass.

Lucky Arthur

Brae Burn Country Club is rewarding Arthur Anderson with retirement compensation for his over 40 years of valuable service to the club. Arthur is to be retained as consultant during the transition. Those who can remember Brae Burn during its early years, can remark of the excellent job that has been done in the fine selection of Bent grasses. Congratulations Arthur and - enjoyment in your retirement years.

The Editor

Just a Thought

Why does man work? One answer is that he must in order to remain on speaking terms with the landlord and the grocer. But there is another reason. Man works in order to experience the thrill of creativity, in order to know that something of himself has gone out from him to make a difference in the world.

From this work man derives a richer satisfaction than that which comes to him by merely opening his pay envelope. The happiest people are the busiest.

Leo Bennet

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