

NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 1966

Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND



FORTY-TWO YEARS OLD — and young enough
to reach for higher achievements in turf grass
management and professional stature.

President—

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

First Vice-President—

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

Second Vice-President—

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

Secretary—

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

Treasurer—

LUCIEN DUVAL
Chestnut Hill Country Club
9 Rose Lane
Framingham Center, Mass.
Phone 872-0006

Trustee—

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

Trustee—

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

Trustee—

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

Finance Committee Chairman—

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

Educational Committee Chairman—

ROBERT GRANT
Brae Burn Country Club
22 Patricia Road
Sudbury, Mass.
Phone 443-2671

Golf Committee Chairman—

EDWARD J. MURPHY
Lexington Country Club
194 Oxbow Road
Wayland, Mass.
Phone 358-7410

Newsletter Committee Chairman—

MANUEL N. FRANCIS
Belmont Country Club
387 Davis Road
Bedford, Mass.
Phone 275-8830

Golf Course Superintendents Association

AUGUST MEETING

The August Meeting was held at the Allendale Country Club, New Bedford, Mass. Notice was sent from Dr. Troll that more effort was needed from the Superintendent in acquiring State support for the University of Massachusetts in turf research. It is now thought that the effort will have to be strengthened with the help of the M.G.A. Support was given to the Committee to find the best way to acquire funds.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Association Champ
Buster Brown 77

Association Senior Champ
Phil Cassidy 86-69

Second Low Net
Bill Ash 96-71

Third Low Net
Anthony Carranci 92-74

★ ★ ★

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held September 12th at the Lake Sunapee Golf Club, New London, New Hampshire.

Let's all get out and support our association. The last few meetings have had real poor attendance. This is the time of year when the days are shorter, the nights are cooler and we should have less problems. No excuse now! Make the next meeting at Lake Sunapee.

★ ★ ★

PRO-SUPT. TOURNAMENT

The annual Pro - Supt. Tournament will be at the Brae Burn Country Club, October 14. Remember, at least one of you has to be a member of G.C.S.A.N.E. or the P.G.A. to compete in the tournament.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TIME FOR A CHANGE

The labor situation on the golf course front has been anything but love and kisses this year. Our most loyal workers have retired or gone off to greener pastures. Consequently, we have relied on moonlighting firemen, policemen, college students, drifters and just plain retirees.

Being a golf course laborer is not the most desirable employment a family man can look for. Usually, the wages are sub-standard and the best a man can hope for is eight months a year of employment.

This old line of thinking must change, if a Superintendent is going to operate a golf course in an efficient manner. A basic crew of four men year round on an eighteen hole golf course is essential. They should be paid a living wage that is competitive with industries in the club area, for the same job classifications. Blue Cross & Blue Shield benefits, a modest retirement plan, and paid holidays.

Golf courses have become too large an investment to be left operated by chance.

We must operate on sound business principals and no longer by the seat of our pants.

Leon V. St. Pierre
President

★ ★ ★

A SUPERINTENDENT

A superintendent is obligated not only to his club and himself, but to the profession he has chosen. Up until fifteen or twenty years ago, no one had ever heard of the superintendent and this is still true on a few courses today. The club itself was credited with the condition of the course. The superintendent needed to know how to cut the grass, fertilize it, water it, and to aerify and topdress occasionally and not much more to step into the field and maintain a golf course. The asso-

ciations were struggling because no one felt the need for them and the pay was about the same as the average laborer of that time.

With the modern advances of our day the superintendent now must receive some education in turf management. Many courses are available, and the majority of the superintendents today have either a two or four year degree in turf management. With the advancements in chemicals, watering, fertilizing, machinery, and construction, a superintendent could not manage a course efficiently unless he was aware of these changes and how they can affect the turf with which he works. In recent years the superintendent has become recognized as a professional man and is being given the credit for the condition of the course on which he works. This has been accomplished greatly through the Superintendent Association to which the superintendents from more than 50% of the clubs in Massachusetts belong. Without this association the superintendent would not be able to find out how the various new methods work on other courses so that he can better apply them to his course. It also brings him in contact with other clubs so that he might see how the superintendent works there. Often times, he can pick up some maintenance pointer which he can use on his course or give a pointer to the superintendent there to better help him. By working together the superintendents can make their profession successful, respectful and profitable.

Many clubs do not realize what a superintendent goes through on a golf course during the year. During December, January, February, and March he must watch for ice damage or suffocation, wind damage or desecation, play on frozen turf which thaws during the warm days, etc.; April, May, and June play first begins on the thawing turf, the cool weather diseases, the struggle to bring back diseased or dead grass from the winter, etc.; July, August, and September the weather is hot, disease is everywhere, rain is scarce, poa annua starts to go out, etc.; October and November you try to ready your course for the winter, repair what was lost during the summer, and any construction that would improve your course. Too few clubs are aware of even half of the things that go on on a

golf course, because most of the time the course is running smoothly. Each superintendent should make his club aware of what is going on (any construction or improvement that would be of interest to the club). These things could be posted weekly on the bulletin board. Then when you applied for a raise you could submit a report on what was accomplished throughout the year. Reporting on improvements in chemicals, machinery, seed, and general maintenance practices which accomplish a job more efficiently. Don't be afraid to point out to your club what the superintendent was getting there fifteen, ten, and even five years ago and use the better paying clubs to get your raise. Only by doing this can you assure them of a raise and assure yourself of a raise in the future.

It is very easy for someone to tell you ways of obtaining a raise, but only you, the superintendent, can sell the idea to your club. Each club is different and has different ideas on doing things, but most clubs won't want to lose a good man if they can help it, and most of them can afford to pay you much more than you're getting now. I have been asked how much can you expect to get as a maximum pay. To this there is no answer, only each superintendent working together with the whole association can answer this. There shouldn't be a limit as long as our economy holds the climb which it is on, we should try to keep up with it.

In closing I would like to add something which has a lot to do with all of this. We have about 130 members in our New England Association and only about 50 - 75 ever go to the meetings. Without the support of all the members our association can never be very powerful or meaningful to our clubs. There is no reason why each superintendent can't take one day off a month to better our profession through our association.

REMEMBER! THIS PROFESSION DID NOT CHOOSE YOU, YOU CHOSE IT, SO LET'S MAKE IT RESPECTFUL, SUCCESSFUL, AND PROFITABLE.

George E. Gorton, Jr.
Superintendent
Furnace Brook Golf Club
Quincy, Massachusetts

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR FRIENDS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Abbott Spray and Farm Equipment Co.
Waltham Street
Lexington, Massachusetts | Larchmont Irrigation Co.
Larchmont Lane
Lexington, Massachusetts |
| The Clapper Co.
1121 Washington Street
West Newton, Massachusetts | J. F. Aveni
Lu Soil-Soil Conditioner
Minerals & Chemicals Philipp Corp.
25 Concord Avenue
Belmont, Massachusetts |
| Geoffrey S. Cornish
Golf Course Architect
Fiddler's Green
Amherst, Massachusetts | New England Engine & Parts Co. Inc.
The Pacer Distributor
884 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215 |
| Fuel Activator Chemical Corp.
C. F. Barbour - Regional Director
4300 Prudential Tower
Boston, Massachusetts | Sawtelle Brothers
Jet. Routes 128 and 62
Danvers, Massachusetts |
| Grounds Equipment Co., Inc.
383 Boylston Street
Newton Centre, Massachusetts | Mr. F. J. Lukasik
Stauffer Chemical Co.
380 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017 |
| The Hubbard Hall Chemical Co.
P. O. Box 790
Waterbury, Connecticut | Stanley S. Philipkoski
Sales Representative
Stauffer Chemical Co.
380 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017 |
| The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.
Wethersfield, Connecticut | Turf Equipment Co.
28 Rutledge Road
Natick, Massachusetts |
| Irrigation Consultants Inc.
251 Harvard Street
Brookline, Massachusetts | Philip A. Wogan
Golf Course Architect
21 Budleigh Avenue
Beverly, Massachusetts |
| Tom Irwin Co.
Bennet Hill Road
Rowley, Massachusetts | Wyandotte Chemical Corp.
709 Salada Building
Boston, Massachusetts |
| Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
150 Causeway Street
Boston, Massachusetts | |
| Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc.
Sam Mitchell, Sales Representative
18 Old Randolph Street
Canton, Massachusetts | |



MANUEL N. FRANCIS
Belmont Country Club
387 Davis Road
Bedford, Mass.
Phone 275-8830

