

NEWSLETTER



JUNE 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.

1-413
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JUNE MEETING

The June meeting was held at the Westover Airbase Golf Course. There were 22 Chairmen who participated in the tournament with their Superintendents. Not all players were able to finish because of severe thunderstorms in the afternoon, but then who could have beaten 62's anyway.

An evening meal followed at six with the Connecticut Association.

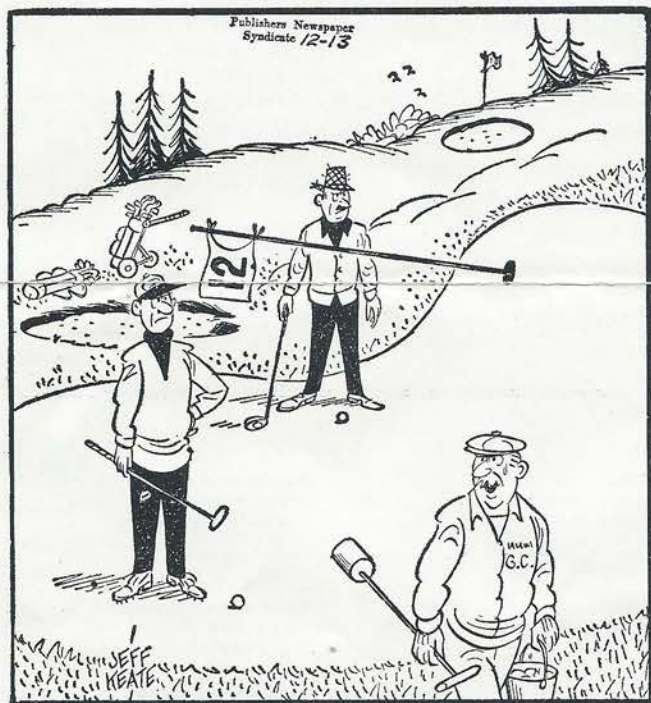
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held July 11th at the Lexington Golf Club, Lexington, Mass.

DIRECTIONS TO CLUB

From Route 128 take Route 4-225 (Exit 44) toward Lexington. Proceed one mile to a second set of blinking yellow lights, take right on Hill Street to Club.

TIME OUT!



"Oh, you golfers! Always complaining about pin placements!"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ERA OF RESEARCH

The population pressure is putting the squeeze on the grass plant and the golf course superintendent. It seems that we have been planning backwards. Man has developed highly complex turf maintenance machinery, chemicals and automatic irrigation systems for maintenance of turf grass areas.

Most equipment manufacturers and producers of chemicals have a Detroit philosophy. It is of paramount importance to come out with a new line of goods for the turf conference, held annually, in February. Many of these machines and chemicals are phenomenal, but, of course, many promising ones are absolute flops. Walk in any golf course maintenance building, and the testimony to this fact is before you.

Yes, we have been planning backwards. Let us start at the pulse of the operation, "the grass plant." We have paid too much attention to machinery and chemicals, but not enough to grasses that will stand golfers from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The onslaught of powered golf carts have compounded these problems.

Dr. Joseph Troll has sounded a call for support, many times, from the clubs and the superintendents for financial assistance to perform basic research on turf grasses. This call will be coming to you again soon. Support Dr. Troll and his staff, at the University of Massachusetts. They have a bona-fide program that will be of importance to the golfing world.

Leon V. St. Pierre
President

GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION

Unfortunately the problem of poor golf construction still prevails in many areas despite the many sources of communication

open. Too much disagreement and misunderstanding continue between club officials, architects, superintendents, and contractors. Ironically, everyone seems to be in agreement before the construction begins; however, during and after the actual building of the course many details are at variance. At this point animosity and ill feelings often prevail, leading to misunderstanding and lack of cooperation which finally results in an inferior job.

The question now arises: "What is the reason for this disagreement?" It can be assumed that there has been poor preliminary planning and a lack of coordination which has led to this apparent misinterpretation of contracts, vagueness in responsibility, and question of judgement. Better jobs would result if the responsibility were delegated to the best qualified individuals for the final judgement on questions pertaining to their own specialties. Their decisions must be made on fact, not assumption.

When dealing with Mother Nature it isn't always possible to solve all problems on paper. No one is so perfect that he can answer every problem without error, but he must strive for perfection through sound reasoning and methodical planning.

The following items should be studied by all concerned before any work is done on the new site:

1. Soils and Topography Map - showing elevations, soil profiles, quantity of the different soil types, and ledges.
2. Golf Course Layout - Complete design in detail.
3. Drainage overlay maps - seepage, water shed, springs, swamps, bogs, etc.
4. Woodland evaluation - lumber, pulp, or cord.
5. Water resources - irrigation use, possible hazards and drinking water.
6. Local contractors - Fees, operator reputation, types of equipment and condition of the equipment.

7. Golf course equipment - Quantity and condition of old, amount and cost of new equipment needed.

Most of these factors are taken into consideration, but the emphasis must be put on detail. Many golf courses have wasted time, labor, land resources, and money because these items were not studied enough in detail.

Who is responsible to see that all these detailed facts are presented to the club officials? If the club has a qualified superintendent he can greatly aid the architect. If not, then the architect should take it upon himself to give the owners a complete and honest appraisal of the problems involved.

New or small golf courses currently being constructed without a qualified superintendent on the job are certainly at a disadvantage. The superintendents are the individuals most able to supply the detailed facts which must be considered before construction. However, in lieu of a qualified construction superintendent, much of the valuable information may be obtained through the area soil conservation service at a minimal cost. Without this data and proper preliminary planning, many problems will arise and dissatisfaction will result.

It is easy to ridicule something after it is done; but if the problem is there now, the source was there before. Therefore, we must search for the source; perhaps a nuisance of minute details now, but in the end result the problems will be far less with the satisfaction of a job well-done.

One means to this end would be an affiliation of golf course superintendents and architects. We must strive toward better methods of communication between superintendents, architects, and club officials. Through understanding and mutual respect a great deal can be accomplished toward our goal - better golf course construction.

Robert Flanagan
Cochecho Country Club
Dover, New Hampshire

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID 1966 DUES
(AS OF 6-1-66)

Allen, Albert L.
Anderson, Arthur
Anderson, Burton
Aksten, Julius J.
Anderson, T. P.
Almonte, John
Ash, William
Asquino, Antonio
Auger, Albert R.
Barnes, Norman S.
Barrett, William J.
Barry, David
Black, Richard C.
Berg, Herbert E.
Blanchette, Albert
Blodget, Leonard L.
Braio, Simione
Braga, Manuel
Bruno, Nicholas
Butler, Joseph E.
Callahan, John P.
Cappozzi, Carmen D.
Cappozzi, Joseph
Commuso, Nicholas
Caranci, Anthony, Jr.
Cariglia, Frank
Carter, William S.
Cassidy, Philip T.
Clement, David A.
Collins, Daniel S.
Curran, Thomas G.
Dadeau, Douglas
Dandurand, Joseph R.
Daly, Clayton E.
Darlind, Homer C.
Dolan, John
Dooley, Eugene J.

Duval, Lucien E.
Espey, John, Sr.
Farrer, Herbert
Farrington, Thomas
Farrant, Howard
Flanagan, Robert P.
Francis, Manuel L.
Francis, Manuel, Jr.
Fanizia, Mario
Fuller, Elmer
Gardner, Charles J.
Genthner, Henry W.
Gorton, George E.
Grant, Robert
Hannon, Stephen
Hammond, Franklin
Homan, Henry, Jr.
Hudyka, John
Kealty, John J.
Kent, L. S.
Keohan, Bernard K.
Kirkman, Ronald W.
Kirwac, Peter
Latvis, John
Lawrence, Charles B.
Mauk, David W.
Mello, John
Mellon, Albin B.
Merchel, Frank J.
Mierzwa, Max
Mihatazcis, Frank J.
Mitchell, Richard C.
Mitchell, Samuel S.
Mucciarone, Norman
Mucciarone, Robert
Murphy, Edward J.
McCarthy, David L.

MacKintosh, Roy Allan
O'Connell, John M.
O'Connor, John
O'Grady, Michael J.
O'Lari, Charles F., Jr.
O'Leary, Paul J.
O'Leary George F.
O'Kelly, Melvin
Parker, Charles W.
Petraitis, John J.
Piantedosi, Cosimo
Phinney, Edward B.
Pullen, Charles
Powers, Harvey
Ripley, Wayne C.
Roberts, Ralph
Robertson, Dean
Reidy, James J.
Ruschioni, Dino S.
Ruby, Ernest
Sanborn, Harry E.
Sanders, Albert
Scannell, Thomas
Schultz, Meindert
Silk, Joseph F.
Spellos, Mathew
Smith, James A.
Smith, John, Jr.
Sperandio, John F.
Sperandio, Harry J.
St. Pierre, Leon V.
Swayze, Sam
Tedesco, Guy
Wendell, Malcolm
Wiget, Floyd N.
Wheeler, James
Wolfgang, Ernest



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