



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 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.

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387 Davis Road
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Golf Course Superintendents Association

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting was held at the Waltham Field Station. President Leon St. Pierre related how outstanding the N.E. members were in their actions and appearances at the National. Of special importance was the election of Dick Blake as Director to the National. It was the first time in the history of the National that a nomination was made from the floor with the subsequent success of a member being elected. Congratulations Dick!

It was announced that Associate Members would be notified when they became regular Members with the right to vote. This was done to avoid the confusion that has occurred in the past - whether a member was eligible to vote.

The N. E. G. C. S. A. joined the Mass. Roadside Council.

HONORARY MEMBER

Dr. Joseph Troll was given an honorary membership to the G.C.S.A.N.E. Professor Troll has served at the University of Massachusetts since 1957. While at the University he has been an advisor, teacher and student, earning his Ph.D. in 1965 in Nematology.

VOTED IN AS MEMBERS

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Regular | John Espey, Sr. Wolferts Roost Country Club Albany, New York |
| Associate | Allan Roy Mackintosh Twin Hills Country Club Longmeadow, Massachusetts |
| Associate | Bernard K. Keohane Framingham Country Club Framingham, Massachusetts |
| Assistant | John M. O'Connell Blue Rock Golf Club South Yarmouth, Massachusetts |
| Associate | Mathew P. Spekas Middleton Golf Club Middleton, Massachusetts |

MEMBERSHIP DUES

All G.C.S.A.N.E. Membership dues are to be paid by check. Send to Lucien Duval, 9 Rose Lane, Framingham Center, Mass.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held April 4th at the Waltham Field Station.

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| Schedule: | Directors Meeting | - 10:30 A.M. |
| | Business Meeting | - 11:30 A.M. |
| | Lunch | - 12:30 P.M. |
| | Speaker | - 1:30 P.M. |

There will be two speakers for the afternoon program. Jack Maher from the D. L. Maher Company will speak on the establishment of wells. The second speaker will be a member from the Water Resources Commission.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND SEMINAR

A Turfgrass Growers Seminar will be held at the University of Rhode Island Wednesday, March 23, 1966. The meeting will be held at the Memorial Union on the campus. A fine program is planned with herbicides being the main subject.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What makes a golf course better?

PERSONALITY!

Personality. It makes people remember a golf course. And, a big part of your golf course personality can be you, the Superintendent. Golf Course Superintendents Associations are also made better through personality.

The New England Association has just successfully completed a political campaign to get Richard Blake elected to the Board of Directors of the GCSA of America.

In order to do this, it was necessary to gain the attention of the voting delegates, so that our candidate could express his personality. The New England Association was fortunate in having Richard Blake, a hard-hitting Massachusetts Yankee, as their nominee. With this in mind, your delegates and members saddled up for the Kansas City Conference. There, they deployed their forces to prepare the way for our candidate's election to the Board of Directors of the GCSA of America.

Our congratulations, Dick!

Gentlemen, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England is

PERSONALITY!

Leon V. St. Pierre

WINTER PLAY - AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN WINTER INJURY AND DISEASE

Once the turfgrasses cease growth in the autumn then continued play creates a wear problem, since no replacement leaf tissue is being produced. Though the wear can be distributed over greens and tees by frequent movement of tee markers and cups, with the commencement of hard frosts this becomes impossible and wear and injury are concentrated on particular areas.

"Winter burn" due to rupture of leaf cells or desiccation of leaf tissues by frost is common, but seldom fatal to grass plants. However, the bruising action of traffic over frozen grass causes severe injury to the aerial parts and subsequent thinning out of the turf. Though frost may injure the underground plant parts by a heaving of the soil, much more serious root injury results from traffic over partially thawed turf. In such conditions walking on the turf causes a shearing action as the soft, unfrozen surface moves across the frozen subsurface. At the same time soil structure of the playing areas may be impaired by compaction and actual puddling, resulting in poor aeration and drainage.

Snow cover will help to protect grass plants from further frost injury, but plants previously injured or subjected to unfavorable soil conditions are less able to withstand the new hazards associated with prolonged snow cover; namely, fungal disease and suffocation. Injured aerial tissues provide ideal infection sites for the "snow molds" which may kill completely plants already weakened. Under packed snow or ice sheets compacted or puddled areas with poor aeration and drainage become deficient in oxygen resulting in asphyxiation of the grass plants.

The late autumn and winter months present the golf course superintendent with a critical period during which he must keep turf injury to a minimum or suffer the consequences of slow and irregular growth recovery on the course the following spring. Prevention of winter injury depends on the adroitness of the superintendent, but also largely on the cooperation of the members in recognizing that severe damage may be the result of playing the course under unfavorable ground conditions.

Dr. Noel Jackson
Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology
University of Rhode Island

FRANK H. WILSON, JR.

The passing of Frank Wilson on February 4th just about closes the chapter of the original Greenkeepers - now known as Superintendents, of this area.

Frank was a dedicated man. He was on the job long after night fell, if only setting out sprinklers, and on the job Sundays, too.

He was the source of information for his fellow grass men. Youngsters new on jobs and as learners on other jobs, sought him out for information. He was not only a fine grass man, an agronomist, but also a horticulturist. Plants of all kinds seemed to thrive under the control of his green thumb.

He was father confessor - if I may borrow the term - to many youngsters on their first jobs and countless times he visited and helped them grow into maturity.

He was a pioneer in setting up his own club service shop equipped and manned to do all service on the property. This allowed him to retain several key men all year round. When the weather was right even these men would be found in the woods cleaning up trees and paths.

He was one of the enthusiastic founders and an early president of the first Association of Golf Course Greenkeepers (now Superintendents) in the U S A.

He was selected by the Army Engineers as their Northeast agronomist on the soils and construction of the airports in this area. His club granted him a leave of absence and held his job open for his return.

He was one of the first Superintendents to have his club vote him and his family a non-dues paying member of the club and with all privileges and tournaments.

He was technical advisor to the late Eddie Collins at the Red Sox Field and brought that field into national reputation as the best in the American League.

Time passes on, as they say, and none of us can dodge the grim reaper when our time is up. If we can leave a heritage of humanity in all our dealings and be ever known as a gentleman in conduct and a dedicated man to our chosen profession, then we can join Frank.

If I were to choose an epitaph I would borrow from a tombstone in Maine and paraphrase it to read "He averaged highest for this area".

We are all of us better for having known such a wonderful man, and we can truthfully say - "He was my friend".

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR FRIENDS

Grounds Equipment Co., Inc.
383 Boylston Street
Newton Centre, Massachusetts

Abbott Spray and Farm Equipment Co.
Waltham Street
Lexington, Massachusetts

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.
Wethersfield, Connecticut

The Clapper Co.
1121 Washington Street
West Newton, Massachusetts

Sil Paulini Inc.
Loam Specialists
Hopkinton - 435-4370

Geoffrey S. Cornish
Golf Course Architect
Fiddler's Green
Amherst, Massachusetts

Larchmont Irrigation Co.
Larchmont Lane
Lexington, Massachusetts

Wyandotte Chemical Corp.
709 Salada Building
Boston, Massachusetts

Lee Patten Seed Co.
20 Beck Road
Arlington, Massachusetts

Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc.
Sam Mitchell, Sales Representative
18 Old Randolph Street
Canton, Massachusetts

Mr. F. J. Lukasik
Stauffer Chemical Co.
380 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Turf Equipment Co.
28 Rutledge Road
Natick, Massachusetts

The Hubbard Hall Chemical Co.
P. O. Box 790
Waterbury, Connecticut

Singleton Irrigations Systems, Inc.
Manchester-By-The-Sea, Mass.

Tom Irwin Co.
Bennet Hill Road
Rowley, Massachusetts

Johns Manville Sales Corp.
150 Causeway Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Philip A. Wogan
Golf Course Architect
21 Budleigh Avenue
Beverly, Massachusetts

Sawtelle Brothers
Jct. Routes 128 and 62
Danvers, Massachusetts

The Kenneth Barrie Co.
4140 and 4140A Washington Street
Roslindale, Massachusetts

J. F. Aveni
Lu Soil-Soil Conditioner
Minerals & Chemicals Philipp Corp.
25 Concord Avenue
Belmont, Massachusetts

Stanley S. Philipkoski
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