

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

AUGUST 1968



Sponsors and administrators of the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund — Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 5, 1968



John Dolan, Rhode Island Country Club

Rhode Island Country Club is a Donald Ross course overlooking Narragansett Bay. It is well trapped and not too hilly. For years it has had the stature as one of the finest and most challenging golf courses in the East. The site of two National Women's Amateur Championships, 1924 and 1953.

It is a tough course but fair terrain depending on weather conditions. JoAnne Gunderson Carner who, a few weeks ago won the Women's Eastern Amateur at the club said, "When the wind blows at R.I.C.C. it's the toughest and trickiest golf course in the world today."

Many years ago this golf course was the home and hunting grounds of the Wampanoag Indians. At the time this 6th hole was rebuilt, in the large 6th fairway trap, skeletons were found in a sitting position, adorned with emblems. The only remaining landmark is on the east side of the 11th green, it is a spring of water with a granite stone marker engraved, Tom's Spring, dated 1653.

I have been with R. I. for the past six years and every season has presented a different and difficult challenge.

Directions: From Boston area, take route 128 to 95 through Providence, take all points East and Cape Cod exit to Route 195. Follow to Barrington exit Route 114, continue on to Barrington College, Primrose Hill Road exit. Take left at College on Middle Highway and continue to the end.

The club's beach is available for those who want to swim.

ROUGHS AND FRINGES

The Arthur E. Anderson Super-Press Tourney got off to an encouraging start giving the Greenmasters the opportunity to better acquaint the golf scribes with some of the nomenclature of turfgrass terms, with words ranging from arsenicals to wilt.

We observed Arthur Anderson and Phil Cassidy, both in a bouncy mood, giving the Twin Hills layout their stamp of approval. They nicknamed Roy Mackintosh's little dinghy, used for the maintenance of his ponds, the "U. S. S. Algae."

Everyone agreed that the golf course was in magnificent condition. The Penncross greens were micrometer true. The Merion Fescue fairways were good enough to use a brassie. Al Zikouris was the architect and builder of this work of art now going into its fourth year.

Golf writers and broadcasters from all points of Massachusetts competed for the Anderson Trophy.

Harry Tynan, in charge of turfgrass production at the Country Club of Pittsfield had a gracious lady writer, Mrs. Lee Leahy, representing the *Berkshire Eagle*.

John Espey, Sr., Superintendent at the Wolferts Roost in Loudonville, New York, had as his guest, Lou Torre associated with the Schenectady, New York paper. John is president of the Northeast GCSA. Espey must hold some sort of record for belonging to the most Superintendent Associations. He admits to being a class A member of the Connecticut, Hudson Valley, New England, Northeast and the GCSA of America.

Mike Oviaan, president of GCSA of Connecticut, honored us by his attendance with a young golf writer from the *Hartford Courant*. Mike is a credit to that fine Association.

(Cont'd. next page)



Bob Feeley, WMLO Radio Sports Director, Arthur Anderson, Matt Spokas, Supt. Middleton Golf Club

TWIN HILLS GOLF RESULTS

1st Low Net — Matt Spokas of Middleton Golf Club, Bob Feeley of WMLO Radio Station, Beverly, Mass.

Manny Francis of the Belmont C. C. Matched par at 71 with the best gross score.

Golf Course Superintendents Association

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS

It was the first venture of its kind — that memorable eighth day of last month when the super-press tournament moved off the drawing board and became a realistic adventure for those who lived the good life for those eventful hours at the Twin Hills Country Club.

Everyone agreed the undertaking went off without a hitch. The setting, the execution and the products of both staggered the expectations of those involved in the arrangements. It was a double-barreled success because satisfaction and enjoyment overflowed from both sides. The supers reveled in the results. The press boys are still singing its merits.

The memories of the day live on and are still vivid. Like: The button-popping short walk to the rostrum by the revered Arthur E. Anderson when he presented the trophy, named in his honor.

The gushy acceptance of same by a still-stupefied Matty Spokas of Middleton. "I still can't believe Bob Feeley and I won it", Matty pinched himself with his words. "I'm capable of shooting 100 on this course. This has to be one of my luckiest days, especially when I think of those 30-foot putts I made on the first two holes."

The competitive gusto of acting tournament chairman Ted Murphy of Lexington who knocked on the title door with *The Boston Globe's* Kevin Walsh. "Ah, those six-foot misses", Ted was heard to moan. "I thought we had it all wrapped up. But we'll be back. My partner was great. And how about the way our scores crossed? We both shot 80. What a team effort!"

The inimitable reaction of *The Boston Herald's* Joe Looney when he was the center of the interview section which dwelled on the sparkling even-par 71 of partner, Manny Francis, Jr. of Belmont. Looney accepted a rank similar to that of a movie director who had just guided a star to Academy Award status. His admiration of Manny was unusually convincing.

The wide-eyed reception Max Mierzwa of Chicopee gave the fine 63 he and the *Springfield Daily News's* Jim Regan toted to the scoreboard. "Mr. Regan was sensational out there", Max exclaimed. "Naturally, he needed help", Max

blushed. "Oh no, it can't be", Max drilled at an unsympathetic audience when it was learned Spokas and Feeley had beaten that count by a single stroke.

The faraway drives to faraway places by Leon St. Pierre of Longmeadow. "It's true", Leon explained. "I really don't know where the ball is going when I hit it. But I'm playing with a new set of clubs. I'll be used to them next year. Then . . . watch out!"

The look of relief on the face of Dean Robertson, the pessimistic overseer at Chestnut Hill. "This was a huge undertaking for us", Dean tossed out after he saw that the field had shot beyond the numbers needed to make the tournament worthwhile. "I can see that we took a big step in our program to become recognized. I hope this thing grows and grows."

The unforgettable performance by all the people at Twin Hills who handled the affair in ultra-professional manner. Pro Bob Bontempo lifted the image of the golf pro with an expert job of making everyone feel at home. Even a couple of Twin Hills owners were on hand to solidify the cooperation of the club.

The welcomed appearance of Lee Leahy of *The Berkshire Eagle* who became the first woman to crash the 19th hole at Twin Hills.

Finally, the lingering expressions of self-satisfaction by those who initiated the thought of such a venture, notably, that of host superintendent — Roy Mackintosh — who had his heart set on making this a day to remember. From him and the rest . . . a warm thank you and strong reason to dream of bigger things along this line in the future.

— Gerry Finn

Gerry Finn, contributing editor of the NEGCSA Newsletter, has received another writing award. One of his columns, appearing in *The Springfield Union*, is included in the publication *Best Sports Stories of 1967*. Finn's piece about an encounter with a Negro caddy at The Dunes Golf Club in Myrtle Beach, S. C., marks the second straight year his work has won a place in *Best Stories*.

ROUGHES AND FRINGES (Continued)



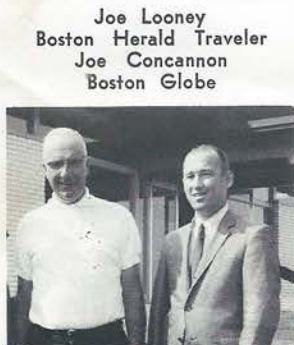
Paul Johnson, Worcester Telegram, Dick Blake, Mt. Pleasant C.C., Tony Kruckas, Tatnuck C.C., Roy Mumpton, Worcester Telegram & Gazette



Jim Regan, Springfield Daily News, Jack McCarthy, Boston Herald-Traveler, Gerry Finn, GCSA of N. E., Contributing Editor



Lee Record
USGA Agronomist



Joe Looney
Boston Herald Traveler
Joe Concannon
Boston Globe



Harry Tynan, Supt. C.C. of Pittsfield, Mrs. Lee Leahy, Sports Writer Berkshire Eagle, Lou Torre, Sports Writer Schenectady, N. Y. John Espey, Supt. Wolfert's Roost C.C., Loudonville, N.Y.



Joseph Troll



New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association, Inc.

Editor — George Hauschel, Supt. Rockingham Country Club, Newmarket, N. H.



The July meeting of the New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents' Association was held at the Maplewood Golf Club in Bethlehem, N. H. Hosts of the day were (l. to r.) Ray Johnson, Supt.-Owner, and his family: David, age 13, Mrs. Johnson, and Robert, age 16; and pro Ralph K. Ebling.

The Johnsons bought the Maplewood Golf Club in the spring of 1963. The club had been built in 1895 by architect Donald Ross and has hosted five state amateur tournaments. At one time there was the large Maplewood Hotel, which burned in the winter of 1963, shortly before the Johnsons purchased the club.

Ray is the Superintendent, his wife, Ruth, takes care of the club snack bar, David does miscellaneous work around the club, and Robert mows the greens. Pro Ralph Ebling runs the pro shop and gives golf lessons.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 12

Rain or Shine

BIG DOINGS AT KINGSWOOD!

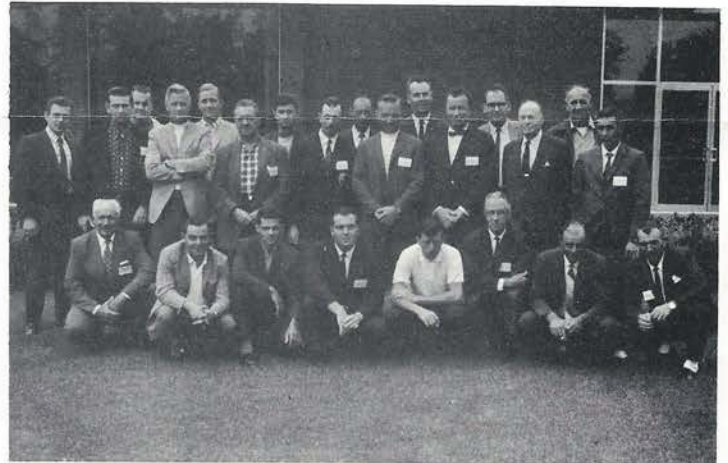
The August meeting of the NHGCSA will be held at Kingswood Country Club, Wolfeboro, N. H. on *Monday, August 12, 1968*. Host Supt. will be Robert Hale. Directors' meeting, 11 a. m. No regular meeting.

This is our annual Superintendents-and-Wives Day. Informal dress. Come and enjoy a day at Kingswood. There will be golf, card-playing, sightseeing, dancing, and a boat ride (the Mt. Washington leaves at 11 a. m. sharp and returns at 4:05 p. m.) There are also antique shops and the Libby Museum of antiques. Plenty of fun to keep everybody busy. A bar-b-que steak dinner at 6 p. m. will be followed by dancing; this year there will be a 4-piece orchestra for your enjoyment.

This is our big day for a great time — see you at **KINGSWOOD!**

NEW ENGLAND SUPERINTENDENTS VISIT O. M. SCOTT AND SONS, MARYSVILLE, OHIO

Pictured below are several New England superintendents who were recently guests of O. M. Scott and Sons. The trip consisted of a tour of Scott's fertilizer and seed plants, seed technology labs, and several experimental turf plots that are presently under Scott's turf research program.



L to r. kneeling: Cosimo Piantedosi, Oakley C.C., Watertown, Mass., Carl Roziki, Wacona C.C., Dalton, Mass., Roger Turcotte, Montaup C.C., Portsmouth, R. I., Roger Lowell, Dutch Elm G.C., Arundel, Me., Al Dinwoode, Woodland Golf & C.C., Wickford, R. I., Philip Cassidy, Weston C.C., Weston, Mass., Alfred Petrarca, Alpine C.C., Cranston, R. I., Gilbert Whitford, Silver Spring C.C., Ridgefield, Conn.

2nd row: George Hauschel, Rockingham C.C., Newmarket, N. H., Austin Kelly, Bangor Municipal G.C., Bangor, Me., Harry Riley, Cambridge Park and Recreation, Cambridge, Mass., Donald Bye, Province Lake C.C., Wakefield, N. H., Peter Kirovac, Dennis Pines G.C., Dennis, Mass., Roland Casey, Stratton Mt. G.C., Stratton, Vt., Dr. Jesse DeFrance, Scott's Consultant, Narragansett, R. I., Phil Raymond, Stowe C.C., Stowe, Vt.

3rd row: Ken Menasian, Scott's Representative, Massachusetts, John Morse, Bass River C.C., Bass River, Mass., Louis Lombardi, Jr., Midville, C.C., West Warwick, R. I., Carey Wilson, Brunswick C.C., Brunswick, Me., Lloyd Ruby, Portland C.C., Portland, Me., Paul O'Leary, Equinox C.C., Manchester, Vt., James Chapman, Scott's Manager, National Accounts, Marysville, O., Frank Mikutajcis, Leo C. Martin Memorial G.C., Weston, Mass.

OUTDOOR LAVATORY

A golf course that needs a toilet on the course should consider a Glashouse Lavatory. They are clean looking and attractive with a choice of white, green, beige, and yellow colors. Glashouse is sanitary because fiberglass is easy to clean and will not retain odors. It is comfortable, complete with moulded seats, and bright as day inside due to a skylight. There is no need to paint exteriors. For further information write ChicSales Company, Box 373, Costa Mesa, California 92627.

Submitted by Roland G. Lachance, Superintendent of Maintenance, Recreation and Parks Department, Concord, New Hampshire 03301.



Golf Course Superintendents of Maine

Editor — Dr. Burton R. Anderson, Route 5, Augusta, Maine

NEXT MEETING

The Association will meet at the Thorndike Hotel in Rockland at 5 P.M. on Tuesday, August 6. Dick Blake, Superintendent of Mount Pleasant Country Club, Boylston, Mass., and a Director of GCSA will be the featured speaker. Golf will be available during the day at Rockland Country Club, and dinner will follow the meeting.

* * * * *

Summer "began" on June 30 with a bright, hot, windy day following a spell of cool rainy weather. Grass was lush and subject to wilt during the next week. Despite hand watering some aprons of annual bluegrass lost turf due to the extraordinary change in weather. Disease has been a minor factor despite the rainy spell, and the tourist season finds Maine's courses in rather good condition considering the large amount of winter injury experienced.

* * * * *

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND Agricultural Experiment Station

Department of Agronomy and Mechanized Agriculture,
Kingston, R. I. 02881

The 37th annual Rhode Island turfgrass field days will be held at the University turf research area on Wed. and Thurs., August 21 and 22, 1968. The area is located off Plains Road, one mile west of the main campus.

The session on August 21 is designated as "Golf Course Superintendents Field Day" and on the following day as "Lawn and Utility Turf Field Day."

As in past years dealers in turf products and equipment are welcome to participate by showing and demonstrating turf products and equipment. Overnight storage can be arranged for those dealers wishing to be on hand for both days.

All those interested in turfgrass production are cordially invited to spend one or both days with us. The schedule for Wed., August 21 is:

- 9:00 - 12:00 A. M. Registration. Coffee and Danish available
Exhibits and demonstrations of equipment and products
Research plots open for casual observation
- 12:00 - 1:00 P. M. Charcoal broiled steak dinner
- 1:00 - 1:15 P. M. Welcome and introductions
- 1:15 - 4:30 P. M. Tour of Turfgrass Research Plots

The schedule for Thurs., August 22, Lawn and Utility turf field day is:

- 9:00 - 10:30 A. M. Registration and casual tours of research plots
- 10:30 - 12:00 A. M. Guided tour of Research Plots
- 12:00 - 1:30 P. M. Lunch available in campus dining hall
- 1:30 - 4:30 P. M. Tour of Research Plots
Demonstration of turf establishment
Demonstration of turf renovation
Questions answered on lawn problems

Plot maps and copies of the complete program will be available at the registration desk.

C. R. Skogley,
Associate Professor of Agronomy

NOTES ON PESTICIDE STUDIES

While visiting friends in Denver on the return from San Francisco, the editor learned of a Federally-funded pesticide study program that has been underway for several years in 18 locations. The main work of this program is to gather information about the effects of pesticides on people and animals, the buildup of pesticide residues in our environment, and to form guidelines for future research and regulation and control of pesticide use. The centers are doing rather sophisticated research, even analysing vacuum cleaner dust from private residences to document the relentless increase of DDT in our surroundings.

What a great change has taken place in our attitude toward pesticides and other chemicals and toward the entire problem of pollution of our environment since Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* was published. Hardly a day goes by without notice of concern about pollution — all the way from nuclear bomb fallout to backyard charcoal grille smoke.

In Maine there is deep concern about pollution even though our environment is much less contaminated than that of most all eastern states. The prevailing attitude seems not to be that of boasting about our clean countryside but one of optimism since our problem is more finite, and we can clean up our major rivers and reduce other forms of pollution more effectively and much less expensively than other areas can. Action is already underway on our rivers and pollution sources affecting clam beds.

A serious lapse in control of river pollution has just blown up in the faces of its perpetrators with the arbitrary damming of the Prestile Stream in northern Maine by Canadians who no longer wished such bad water to flow in from America. Favorable action has begun to reduce pollution of this stream, as it dawns upon all concerned that a clean environment comes ahead of industrial development.

Documentation by our Fish and Game Department that DDT had polluted Sebago Lake and greatly reduced its salmon population led to control of DDT usage in the watershed and now, several years later, to a spectacular comeback of salmon.

Last year in the northern forest an area badly infested with spruce budworm was sprayed with DDT, and its effects were studied. This year another area has been sprayed with "Sumithion" for comparative studies with the area covered with DDT. Although much more costly "Sumithion" has a lower toxicity in fish and will break down chemically after a time. This is an example in efforts to replace DDT and other pesticides that are chemically stable and potentially dangerous through buildup by other materials that will not leave future residues to cause unknown problems.

40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS

Maybe it wasn't as severe as the biblical version of 40 days and 40 nights of pitter-patter. But the extended rain season of early summer here in the East wrought comparable damage, if your inclinations fall in the realm of the golf course superintendent.

Lee Record, he being the Northeast agronomist for the United States Golf Association, found the ravages of the rains to be headachish to virtually every super he encountered during a recent survey of the splashed area.

"Incidence of wet wilt exceeded our estimation", Lee tells. "In most cases there wasn't any solution, other than to pray for periods of dry weather. Then, it would be up to nature to heal its own wounds."

Thus, wet wilt qualifies as the disease of the year, as far as the Eastern Seaboard is concerned. It is a more tragic circumstance than such setbacks as snow mold and winter kill, the two killers which show off their victims in the spring.

"Wet wilt seems more disturbing", Record reveals. "Those other things, the mold and winter kill, we more or less expect. True, there are remedies which when applied properly prevent some mold. But it has become an annual assumption . . . that the two shall hit us somewhere."

It is the improbability of wet wilt which gives it a dirtier name. "In the East we haven't had too much occasion to bother about wet wilt", Lee says. "In recent years the cycle has been centering on dry seasons. Maybe three or four years ago we might have welcomed such a thing as wet wilt because our fairways were so scorched. However, with a return to provisions for adequate administering of moisture, wet wilt or scald — as it is sometimes called — is just about the most unwelcome visitor to a golf course."

The solving of this problem is something else. "Of course, there is only one way to avoid wet wilt", Lee explains. "That is to install a foolproof drainage system where there is no accumulation of water. This method, by its own invention, is virtually free from attack of wet wilt. But there's one hitch. In order to have a situation where all waters are prevented from collecting, the drainage cost is staggering. In fact, you

ROUGHS AND FRINGES (Continued)

Gerry Finn, the GCSA of NE contributing editor, and Leon St. Pierre launched the event off the first tee at 10 A.M. after being driven from the parking lot to the pro shop, in an electric cart chauffeured by nattily green-vested boys from the Twin Hills staff.

Twenty-six official teams took a crack at the Arthur E. Anderson Trophy in temperatures and humidity fit only for "boiler tenders."

Dick Blake handled the M.C. duties at the banquet like a real trooper.

As we left the massive Twin Hills club house and called it a day, we met Dr. Joe Troll and Lee Record in the parking lot area. A question was posed to the two turf experts on their preference for light summer feeding of nitrogen on poa-bent greens. Joe favored light applications of Urea 45, something like 1/16 to 1/8 lb. of Nitrogen to 1,000 sq. ft. Lee favored an application of sulphate of ammonia 1 to 2 lbs. of material to a green every 7 to 10 days.

Lee Record, the USGA agronomist suggested that fairway renovation should not start until August 1st.

The next big event will take place at Stratton Mountain, Vermont. Casey Rowley and the Northeast GCSA have invited the New England Association and their wives for an all day outing — golf, tennis, swimming and antique shopping.

Casey promises the city boys some cool air and good cheer. After all the adverse weather conditions of May, June and July, I think we will take him up on his invitation.

— Leon V. St. Pierre

would have to travel far to find a course blessed with a complete drainage defense."

For the most part Record believes wet wilt must be handled as an unwanted but all-powerful malady. "Actually, when wet wilt occurs most of us agree that we must learn to live with it", Record notes. "There is a way of fighting it, other than drainage . . . but it is very risky."

Record's experiences show that wet wilt, or the effects of it, can be reduced by a rather improbable weapon. "It's water", Lee laughed. "Under certain conditions water on water can release enough oxygen to save the plant and encourage speedy healing. But the application of the water must be perfect in matter of quantity and timing. It is extremely dangerous because too much water will work in reverse, extending the damage of the original batch of wet wilt."

The USGA representative is strong in his conviction that water — when applied without discipline — is an explosive in the hands of uneducated superintendents. "Irrigation systems have proven that proper control is mandatory", Record warned. "I have seen abuse of artificial watering and ensuing drastic results. It is almost too horrible to vision the helter-skelter use of water. We (the USGA Greens Section) may have to do considerable research on this new problem in order to stifle it."

Wet wilt, then, appears to be the present scourge of the population of golf courses. What concerns Record most is when wet wilt is man-made. He contends the natural form of it must be tolerated. Its more flagrant form, when it is caused by ill-managed artificial means, he treats as one of the cardinal sins of turf management.

— Gerry Finn

LADIES' DAY — AUGUST 20

To All Members of the New England Golf Course Superintendents Association of America:

Plan now on our joint meeting with the Northeast Golf Course Superintendents Tuesday, August 20, 1968 at Stratton Mountain, Casey Rowley is the Super. This is a special ladies' day.

Here is a wonderful opportunity to see and play the new course at Stratton Mountain. Besides golf, tennis and swimming in the Inn's heated pool are available, and special tours have been arranged for those interested in seeing the area.

You can tee off any time after 9:00 A.M. On the other hand if you are not playing golf, the tours and chair lift rides to the top of Stratton Mountain will be available between 11:30 and 4:30. Cocktail hour will be at Stratton Mountain Inn from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M., with a buffet immediately following. Geoffrey Cornish, Golf Course Architect (and designer of the Stratton Course), will be our guest speaker.

For those of you who wish to stay at the Stratton Mountain Inn, reservations should be made by calling 802-824-5571. The rates will be Modified American, \$20 a single room, \$17 per person for two in a room. This includes dinner and breakfast (not lunch). For those who do stay, the banquet ticket is included in this figure. Otherwise, the banquet ticket will be \$6.50.

The only registration desk will be at the Stratton Mountain Inn. It is important that you register upon arrival. Lunch is available at the Inn from 10:30 to 2:30.

Hope to see you August 20th!!

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NEWSLETTER

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