

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, 1969



Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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

NEXT MEETING

Ladies' Day and Clam Bake, Aug. 11, 1969. Easton Country Club, 261 Purchase St., South Easton, Mass.

Golf starting time, 10:30 A.M. 18 hole Medal Play. Scotch Foursome — Ladies.



Sam Mitchell will welcome the Golf Course Superintendents of New England and their ladies to Easton Country Club and the second clam bake to be held there.

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vac, an outstanding PGA pro and noted golf teacher, this lease operation is now in its fourth year.

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There will be a meeting of the "Expense Committee" just prior to the Directors Meeting at 4 P.M. on Monday, August 11, 1969.

MEETINGS COMING UP

September 9 — Mt. Pleasant Country Club, Boylston, Mass., Dick Blake, Superintendent

September 29 — Manchester Country Club, Manchester, N. H., Lou Duval, Superintendent. Joint meeting with N. E. Club Managers.

October 27 — Brae Burn Country Club, Newton, Mass., Bob Grant, Superintendent. Pro-Superintendent tournament.

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"It is something to be able to paint a particular picture, or to carve a statue, and so to make a few objects beautiful; but it is far more glorious to carve and paint the very atmosphere and medium through which we look . . ."

NATIONAL RECOGNITION



Dick Blake (right) National Director presents a plaque to Phil Cassidy, Past National Director 1950-1951. The award is for Past National Directors who performed outstanding duties during their terms of office.

From 1924 to 1946 Phil was the Superintendent at the Needham Golf Club, and then in '46 took over the duties at the Weston Golf Club where he is still located.

It was very nice to see some of our northern supers at this N. E. and during the next ten years held the office of secretary off and on. Phil was elected president in 1948 to 1949 and at that time was instrumental in getting the National to come to Boston in 1950. He paid out of his own expenses for a trip to Detroit with Marshall E. Farnham who was president of the National 1946-1947, to make the final plans for this convention in Boston.

The committees were appointed by Phil with Homer Darling heading up the educational program and Frank Wilson directing the equipment show. It was at this time Phil was elected to the National as a director. He served from 1950 to 1951. Phil has always had his helping hands serving the G.C.S.A. of N. E. right up to the present day. All the members say "Thanks, Phil."

**GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
FIELD DAY
University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R. I.
AUGUST 21, 1969**

Golf Course Superintendents Association

SUPER-PRESS RESULTS



Ted Murphy, left, Super at the Lexington Golf Club, accepts trophy from Arthur Anderson while Kevin Walsh of the Globe looks on.

Results —

Ted Murphy, Lexington Golf Club and Kevin Walsh, Boston Globe	69
Leo Brown, Thompson Club and Fred Cole, Lawrence Tribune	70
Bob St. Thomas, Hyannisport Golf Club and Ernie Roberts, Boston Globe	70
Bob St. Thomas, Low Gross	77
Nary Sperandio, Low Net	74

ANOTHER SUPER DAY

Those six-foot misses, that haunted Ted Murphy and The *Boston Globe's* Kevin Walsh a year ago at Twin Hills, didn't capsize them the second time around on the occasion of the second annual Super-Press Tournament last month at the Concord Country Club.

"We'll be back", Ted announced a 12-month warning a year ago. And back they came with a sparkling 69 to lead a field of 20 teams through the paces of another super day.

NEGCSA president Anthony Caranci spearheaded the birdie hunt over the Concord grounds — presented in picture-perfect form by Narry Sperandio. "It was beautiful out there", Tony declared. "But I'm talking about the scenery. The golf? That was another story. But . . . like Ted Murphy and Douglas MacArthur . . . I shall return."

The tournament proved a success despite an unforeseen conflict with a couple of golf tournaments in the area which kept some of the Boston scribes chained to their typewriters.

One of the most pleasant aspects of the day was the truly magnificent layout strewn over the historic Concord countryside.

"It reminded me so much of the old Scottish courses", noted Twin Hills' Roy Mackintosh while he flailed away at another three-iron approach. "For a moment I thought we were playing the British Open. That's how impressive the place is."

The day was completed with the usual spread of rewards for the stomach, as well as the presentation of the Arthur Anderson Trophy to the winning team. Sir Arthur was there in all his orange-trousered splendor. "I wouldn't miss this one for world", he told. "I'd like to be around when we get to awarding the 10th and 25th trophy to the champs."

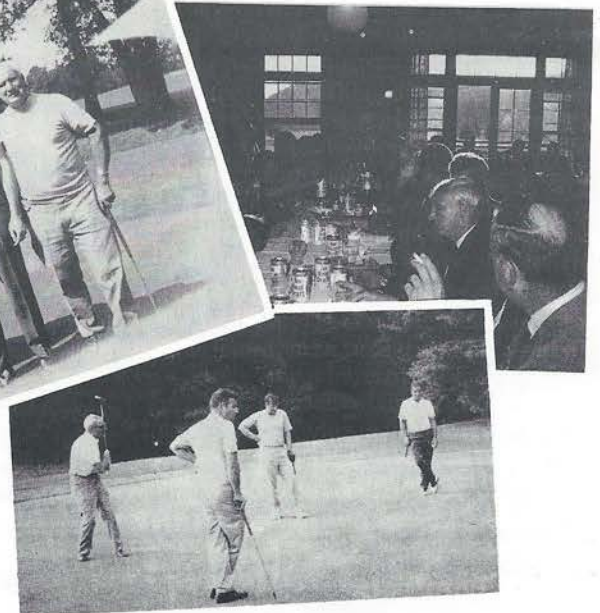
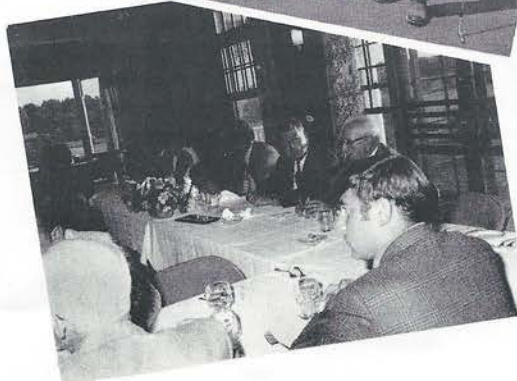
There were thoughts turned to the possibility of a new arrangement for next year's Super-Press.

A quick gathering of Association board members brought to the stage of discussion a shotgun start following a noon buffet for the 1970 affair.

"This might crank up the field a little", Caranci offered. "Some of the newspaper and television-radio people find it hard to get away for the entire day. Perhaps if we eliminated the nightwork of banquet, we would draw a larger field."

For the moment, though, most had to agree that the 1969 venture was an unforgettable experience. It was hosted by super people in anticipation of a super presentation. In short, it turned out a super day.

— Gerry Finn





New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association, Inc.

Editor — John J. Barry, Supt. Abenaki Country Club, Rye, N. H.

AUGUST MEETING

It's time again for our annual trek to Host Superintendent Bob Hale's Kingswood Country Club in Wolfeboro, N. H. For those who attended last year's meeting, I don't think I need to say any more about the hospitality extended to our association by Hosts Anita and Bob Hale.

In accordance with previous years the weather should be exceptional, the scenery gorgeous, and the affair marvelous. After the golf tournament and, or the shopping in the well-known antique shops, there will be a steak bar-b-que followed by an evening of dancing.

Schedule of Events:

Date:	Monday, August 4
Directors Meeting	11:00 A. M.
Regular Business Meeting	Sorry fellows, none scheduled
Golf and Excursions	Noon until 6:00 P. M.
Steak Bar-b-que	6:00 P. M.
Dancing	Following the Bar-b-que 'til ?

NEW MEMBERS TO BE VOTED ON

Donald Allaire, regional salesman for the Clapper Co. He is a resident of Millbury, Mass. Don has made application for an inactive membership.

JULY MEETING

Owner-Superintendent, Ford Leach, has done a magnificent job with his picturesque Par 37, 9-hole layout. The view from the third green is indescribably beautiful. Many of the superintendents from the southern part of the state drove up the day before the meeting and enjoyed a challenging game of golf and a relaxing evening in the great mountain air.

A PERSONAL LOSS

The N.H.G.C.S.A. was saddened recently when notice of the passing of Mike O'Grady of the New Bedford Country Club, was received. Mike had a great sense of humor that, coupled with his great store of knowledge, brought many an enlightening and educational hour to the people involved in the maintenance of golf courses.

Our profession has progressed only because of the pioneering spirit and the diligence to follow it up as demonstrated by superintendents like Mike.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee Chairman asked me to ask you for your cooperation in selling the raffle tickets. Perhaps a suggestion passed on to me by Bob will help you.

Ask your Pro to hold the tickets for you in the Pro Shop. When you approach a prospective buyer on the course, tell him he may pick up his ticket in the Pro Shop from the Pro. As most golfers do not carry money on the course with them, they may pay for them in the Pro Shop also. Perhaps if your club took a chance on the raffle, they could use the \$4,000 toward more fringe benefits for the Superintendent.

Sediment — Serious Water Pollutant

Soil washing or blowing from rural lands and suburban developments is costing the American people \$500 million a year. Sediment is America's number one pollutant.

Some 4 billion tons of sediment are washed into waterways and reservoirs each year, an amount equivalent to about 4 million acres of topsoil. An increasing amount of this sediment comes from suburban construction, where land is often stripped of its natural cover and allowed to remain bare for prolonged periods, permitting soil to wash or blow away.

An impressive array of principles and techniques for dealing with soil erosion problems have been developed and these are applicable anywhere, in suburban housing developments as well as on the farm. Scientists and technicians have helped to establish sound conservation systems on millions of acres of agricultural land and are now working with more and more community planners, land developers, builders, and engineers to help assure a stable soil during and following urban development, but co-ordination of planning and action is essential.

— *The Conservationist, July 1969*

POINTS TO PONDER

What happens when —

instructions are not properly followed?

instructions are not properly given?

the right chemical is put in the wrong place?

labels are misinterpreted?

mowers are not sharp?

mowers are not properly adjusted?

cups are changed once a week?

you forget the groceries your wife told you to bring home?



Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

Editor — Norman Pease, Purpoodock Club, Cape Elizabeth, Maine

AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting will be held at the Purpoodock Club in Cape Elizabeth on August 5. The host superintendent is Norman Pease. The educational program for this month should be very interesting as Sam Clapper, Vice President and General Manager of the Clapper Co. of West Newton, Mass., will be our guest speaker. His subject will be automation and irrigation, which should be of interest to many. Let's have a good turnout. Our speaker has farther to travel than we do and the golf course will still be there the next day.

Directions to Club: From Rt. 1 in South Portland take Rt. 77 to Spurwink Ave. in Cape Elizabeth. Take right on Spurwink Ave. Club is about one mile on left.

MEETING SCHEDULE

10:00 — 11:00	Business Meeting
11:00 — 12:00	Education
12:00 — 1:00	Lunch
1:00	Golf

Please note: The above times are not typographical errors. The meeting this month will start at 10:00 A. M. Try to be there on time as we have much to discuss.

JULY MEETING

On a beautiful summer day the Maine Superintendents traveled to Rockland for their monthly meeting. The hospitality of the club was great and host superintendent Harvey LaMontagne is to be congratulated on the fine job he did on the arrangements he made for the meeting.

It was very nice to see some of our northern supers at this meeting. Hope they can make many more.

A general discussion on winter kill and weed control by the members was very informative. Superintendents that are still feeling the effects of last winter could at least go back to their respective clubs with the feeling that they weren't alone with their problems. Many clubs in the state are still hurting.

There was a demonstration of a moisture indicator that was very interesting even if the tip was broken in the demonstration.

Ernie Hawkes was not present at the July meeting. This is believed to be the first meeting that Ernie has missed in quite a few years. He is still having trouble with a leg that he broke this past winter. Just goes to show that greens aren't the only things that heal slowly.

The winners of the golf tournament were:

Low Gross: Harvey LaMontagne, Rockland Golf Club

Low Net: John Davis, Riverside Municipal, Portland

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

After reading last month's newsletter you are all aware that the New Hampshire Association is attempting to set up a scholarship fund that will become a trust fund. They are doing this by having a raffle, with a new Buick or \$4,000 as first prize. The price of the tickets is \$10 and limited to 1,000 tickets. Any Superintendent wishing to buy a ticket or would like to help the New Hampshire Association by selling some tickets can do so by seeing me at the next meeting or calling 799-7662.



THE WOODS WERE NOT FAR

Wesley G. LeFavre

When I was young in January,
I thought of sledding swiftly down
a hill of newly-fallen snow,
to stop, at last, with reddened cheeks,
at blue-tinged, frozen ponds below for
the woods were not far.

In early May, when just a boy,
I thought of taking off my shoes
and wading in some ice-cold brook;
of turtles, tadpoles, dragonflies . . .
and how a hidden bull-frog croaks for
the woods were not far.

As a lad in mid-July,
I thought of hiking miles-on-end
to reach some undetermined goal;
and cheating well the summer's sun
while resting on some shaded knoll for
the woods were not far.

On October mornings in my youth,
I thought of damp and sullen caves —
reached only by an hour's climb;
and foot-paths covered with the leaves
of countless autumns — endless time for
the woods were not far.

How far, indeed, the woods seem now.
How far, indeed, are they.
How distant are the sullen caves;
the brooks and foot-paths lay
beneath a cold and concrete cloak;
the ponds of yesterday . . .
polluted far beyond reclaim.

And children cannot play
in woods that are no longer there . . .
in woods too far away.

EBB OF THE GREEN WAVE

It seems unfathomable that Mike O'Grady no longer rants and raves among us.

The raucous salt of the earth passed away on July 5th at what was for him a tender age. Mike was 65. And 50 of those eventful years he had given to the profession of the golf course superintendent.

To the ranks of the New England supers, Mike was known as the Green Wave. His Irish tongue roared on like an endless tide, always above the crowd, forever in pursuit of what he thought was right and beneficial for the group.



Short, stocky with the devil in his Killarney-blue eyes, Mike was a man unto himself. "I'm no angel," he used to wag while fortifying his constitution with a brush of bourbon. "Oh, I'm a God-fearing Christian . . . church-going, too. But I'd only be lyin' if I said there wasn't a touch of the scallywag in me."

Mike's love of the soil and the superintendent's lot was built-in. He started in the business in 1919 shortly after coming to this country from County Mayo, Ireland.

His first boss was his last, an uncle. Mike worked for Tom Galvin at the Rhode Island Country Club before moving over to the Country Club of New Bedford. There he was to remain until his death, each year growing more memorable than the last.

Mike had a way with the New Bedford members. "I have a simple formula for getting along with the membership", he'd heave a sigh and toss out a wink. "I simply make them believe I'm doin' just as they want me to do. In the end, I'd wind up doin' things the way I think they should be done. But what's the difference, just as long as the course didn't suffer?"

Everything that is anything at New Bedford today is the product of Mike's tireless dedication to his position. He was part of every significant improvement there. He directed the operation. He made everything tick . . . and grow.

A pillar of organization, Mike was one of the founders of the New England Superintendents Association. The year was 1924, the same year Mike put in his oar to get the Rhode Island group in the water.

Down the national avenue he strode, with an impish grin signaling the start of every contribution to that organization's stature. He became so strong a voice in it he was voted as a charter member.

"I'm still active out there with the big boys, too", he would boast in a pleasing manner. "It doesn't make any difference where I am. I've gotten up and given them hell at the national meetings. I don't play any favorites."

But a favorite he was in his own right. Beloved by all of his associates . . . and by many of those whom he battled chin to chin, Mike will go down in the golf course superintendents profession as a legend.

His survivors include his wife, Mrs. Rita (Dolan) O'Grady and four sons: Michael J. Jr., John D. (superintendent at Petersham C. C.), Robert E. and Brian who is the Rev. Columbkille, C.P. of St. Michael's Seminary, Union, N. J.

The Green Wave has ebbed . . . and the green dreams of all of us have retreated somewhat because of it.

— Gerry Finn

1969 AVCO CLASSIC

August 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

Pleasant Valley Country Club, Sutton, Massachusetts

James M. Morrison, M.D., President

Dear GCSA of NE Member:

The 1969 Avco Classic Tournament Committee will be glad to grant members of your section a complimentary daily ticket during tournament week.

If you would be kind enough to notify your members of this in your next mailing, upon request from them, we will be happy to send them a ticket for the day they would like to attend.

Sincerely,
Edward J. Farrell

CHECKING THE CHINCH BUG

You've probably heard of the chinch bug but passed over the pest lightly because of its heretofore restricted area of destruction . . . specifically the Mississippi Valley.

This is all well and good. But apparently the chinch bug refuses to stay put. In recent years it has migrated northward disguising its damage as dry-weather injury.

The most notable local discovery of this juice-draining devil came at the Wee Burn Country Club in Darien, Connecticut. A close relative in the hyperode family scoured the fairways in 1967, to the extent that several large areas were badly damaged with many patches of grass found dead and others in the dying stage.

The type of chinch bug, which decided to roam from the southern climates, unfortunately is the most deadly. It is called the "hairy chinch bug" (*Blissus leucopterus*), a very highly multitudinous wretch which reaches epidemic status by the middle of summer or whenever that season is the driest.

Its size is another form of its defense mechanism. Never reaching anything larger than one-quarter inch, the chinch bug must be tracked down in a microscopic search. The average life cycle is 50 days and there may be from two to five broods depending on the length of dry-conditioned seasons.

The enormous numbers of the chinch bug make up for their lack of size, giving credence to the fact they can cause widespread destruction of grasses . . . especially those that don't receive adequate irrigation.

It was once thought that the chinch bug thrived only on high, dry stretches of turf . . . leaving the impression it wasn't a problem on greens and other closely clipped and pampered areas.

This theory became a washout in Western Massachusetts where an attack completely wiped out a nursery of finely-tailored grasses. In other words, the chinch bug knows no boundaries of destruction.

Periodic checks for the pest, plus application of newer pesticides . . . during the extremely dry weather . . . are the best remedy for ridding courses of chinch bugs. The suggested brand names include Trithion, Banol, Baygon, Akton, Gardona and Dylox.

The chinch bug, then, is a new enemy to be confronted by the course superintendent, especially this time of season. The well-informed super would be wise to be the well-prepared super. So, check for those chinch bugs. They are deadly.

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