

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 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

The next meeting of the G.C.S.A. of N. E. will be at the Mt. Pleasant C. C. in Boylston, Mass. Dick Blake is the super and has been there for the past eight years. He has a long record of officers' jobs held in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island. At present he is the First Vice President of the New England and also a Director of the National. Sept. 9, 1969 should prove to be a rewarding day for all. If you do not plan to play in the Super Championship you can tour the course and inspect the newly installed "automatic irrigation system."



DIRECTIONS: Route 495, get off at the Northboro exit and go west on Route 20. In Northboro center take a right on Church St. and follow signs to the club.

Directors' Meeting	10:45 A. M.
Regular Meeting	11:15 A. M.
Buffet Luncheon	12:15 P. M.
Golf	1:15 P. M.

MEETINGS COMING UP

September 29, 1969, joint meeting with the New England Club Managers at the Manchester C. C. in Manchester, N. H. This will be the only notice before the meeting. Let's show our interest and be at the Manchester C. C. on September 29, 1969. Contact Lou Duval for more information.

October 27, 1969, Superintendent-Pro tournament at Brae Burn C. C.

LABOR PAINS

"The one thing I hate about all this emphasis on a college education is that it takes up so much of my valuable time."

The speaker was a labor-stripped golf course super who admits that the loneliest day of the holiday season is Labor Day. "Everyone deserts me", he moans.

Labor. It's an ough word, as far as the meaningful work schedule of the super is concerned. The effect on his finished product is too severe to mention. And it is one problem with which he dreads to live.

Solutions? There aren't too many. "What we need to drum into our club presidents and owners is the need for more permanent help", one superintendent let it all hang out. "We just have to sit down together and iron out this snag in the operation. A sudden dropoff in manpower in the height of the working season (September) just about undoes everything we have accomplished before that fatal hour."

It has been proposed that the club establish sort of a swing shift setup in matter of maintaining the golf course and clubhouse. "I'm all for shifting my help inside to the clubhouse for the winter", was one suggestion by a super laid bare by the collegian recall of his summer help. "If we could arrange a year-round system for six or eight of my men, it would do the trick. But I have to convince my members of this fact. It isn't easy."

There is an age-old fly in the ointment, buzzing the personnel program of the super. Country clubs still insist that help be paid scab wages and be forgotten when it comes time to dole fringe benefits. The general feeling is that part-time workers can be had at minimal rates during the popular summer golfing months.

"That's where they're wrong", the super counters. "I need a full complement of workers during September and October. This is the height of our growing season, not to mention the fact that it produces the ideal weather for the building of new tees, greens and launching of many other improvements. It just doesn't work with a skeleton crew."

This seems to be the biggest obstacle in the profession's perennial battle to swing management over to a sensible outlook on a practical conditioning program. Most club members have it in their uneducated heads that June, July and August are the peak months for maintenance.

Until the country club realizes this fallacy, the labor problem will present a definite drag on the progress of its course.

Truly, this is the time of year when the superintendent has labor pains. Let's hope he is delivered from this awkward and cumbersome feeling.

— Gerry Finn

Golf Course Superintendents Association



Pauline and Bobby Muciarone, winners of the Scotch tournament held at the Easton C. C.

Tournament results at Easton C. C.:

Low gross, tie at 87

Mr. and Mrs. William Carter of the Foxboro C. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kelliher of the Marlboro C. C.

Men's Tournament: Low gross, Mel Wendell at 76

Low net, Phil Cassidy at 72 after matching cards with two others

"Lawrence S. Dickinson Fund", Chairman Phil Cassidy reminds us that the money is coming in slowly for this noteworthy scholarship fund. More monies are coming in from other parts of the country rather than from our own section. I am sure that all dealers will want to contribute as well as the members of the G.C.S.A. of N. E. Let's all try to make out that check this week and mail it to treasurer Lucien Duval. His address can be found on the back of this publication.

MONKEY BUSINESS

It all happened recently in the workyard of the Longmeadow Country Club.

Donald Pipeczynski, a UMass turf student out on placement call for Longmeadow superintendent Leon St. Pierre, drove his sleek Corvette into the parking area one morning. Several minutes later the place was under attack.

The invasion consisted of one spider monkey, a four-month-old addition to the Pipeczynski family who somehow had lodged himself beneath the chassis of Donald's sports car.

The monkey was spotted on the rear fender of the vehicle by another LCC worker. "Evidently, the little rascal thought my car would be a good hiding place", Pipeczynski revealed. "I can't imagine how he held on when I drove to work. It's more than 30 miles from my home in Hadley to Longmeadow. And I don't drag my feet when I hit the freeways."

Anyway, the monk survived the ride and became the hunted in an all-out search by Longmeadow workers who finally trapped him in a golf car storage building.

"I got ahold of a jungle hat and used a banana to lure him down from the rafters", Pipeczynski revealed. "He got away with a couple of bites before we finally collared him. Then I stuffed him in that jungle hat and drove him home."

St. Pierre welcomed the incident as a bit of comic relief. "At least it got our minds off the wet wilt for a few hours," he quipped. "That rascal made monkeys out of a lot of people."

— Gerry Finn

WATER WATER EVERYWHERE

The curse has completed its cycle. Winter — she was a devil in angel-white clothing. Spring — it never released its predecessor's grasp on the grass. And summer — he just swelled up into one giant rain cloud and showered us into saturation.

Thus, has the weather whistled a graveyard tune for golf course superintendents. It has been one unceremonious blast after another as far as the elements are concerned. Certainly the turn of the atmospheric hands has done nothing to deter the suicidal rate among us.

The latest sucker punch is translated into wet wilt, a gathering of the rains which produces a strangulation of the plant once the sun gets to popping its rays in the ill-fated direction.

Fortunately, for the most part, golfers have learned to understand the uncertainties of the weather and what they can do to the well-thought plans of the superintendent. At last report, club members were taking the young floods in stride. At last they agreed the super was blameless.

What the deluge did do, though, was point up a vital function of the man in charge of the course . . . that of taking a just stand in matter of allowing the layout to remain open. More than one club had to throw in the sponge along the way of a wave of storms which reached the exaggeration stage of producing rain on one course for 24 consecutive days.

Under such adverse conditions it remained for the super to make the big decision. And most of them acted wisely. At an average, courses were closed for one-two days a week depending on the individual spillover of excess moisture.

The dark days of July — when the storms came in clusters — proved the culmination of an exasperating year.

Few, if any courses, had escaped the ravages of the snow months when winter kill wrought more damage in New England than it had in many a revolution of the season.

"What gets me", snapped one prominent super, "was the fact that we were just getting the upper hand on the winter wreckage when the rains came on in full force. This has been my most testing year in the profession. If I can survive this one, I can face the future without a fear in the world."

The occasion of the pooling of rain water proved once and for all that the superintendent was faced with one of the greatest setback years in golf history. But in the long run, it appeared his patience and knowhow would prevail. At press time most courses were turning the problem corner and heading back to lush times.

Winter kill and wet wilt . . . There was nothing except improvement in the periscope of the super as he set his sights on fall.

— Gerry Finn



Steve Butler, Leo Brown, Dave Clements and Max Mierwza at Easton C. C.



Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

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

SEPTEMBER MEETING

On September 9th we will travel to Biddeford Pool to visit with host superintendent Jack Small at the Abenaki Golf Club. Jack has been at the Abenaki club for eleven years and is one of the few superintendents who doesn't have members after him every spring to open the course. Abenaki is a nine hole private resort course, in good condition, that sits next to the ocean. Members don't usually start arriving before Memorial Day and most are gone shortly after Labor Day.

This meeting is the annual equipment field day. We believe, from talking to the salesmen, there will be many pieces of equipment for you to see and talk about. Jack Small has arranged for a clam and lobster feed to take place on the rocks. Mark September 9 on the calendar and let's have a big turnout.

Directions to Abenaki: From Route 1 in Biddeford take Route 9 to Route 208. Take 208 to Biddeford Pool and turn left at the fire station.

* * * * *

MEETING SCHEDULE

11:00 - 12:00	Business Meeting
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00	Equipment Display
Golf for those who want to play	

* * * * *

AUGUST MEETING

On one of our frequent wet days at the beginning of August the Maine superintendents met at Purpoodock Club in Cape Elizabeth. The back nine that day was under water and closed although some walked a couple of holes that were on high ground. Many left their clubs home due to the weather, so there was no golf tournament.

The educational part of the meeting was very enlightening. Sam Clapper gave a very good talk on irrigation and showed us some new sprinkler heads. Come see us again, Sam.

We can use more speakers of that caliber, Harold.

COMING EVENTS

October 7. Natinas Golf Club, Vassalboro, Paul Browne, host superintendent.

October 10. Brunswick Golf Club, Superintendent-Pro Tournament.

SUPERINTENDENT-PRO TOURNAMENT

On October 10, the Superintendent-Pro Tournament will be held at the Brunswick Golf Club. The tournament is listed in most pro shops. Once again the tournament will be a selected drive alternate shot affair.

At the August superintendents meeting it was decided that pros must play with members of the superintendents association. A person who is a pro-super must play as a pro and can play only with a member of the superintendents association.

MURPHY'S LAWS (from the HSAF Newsletter)

1. In any field of endeavor, anything that can go wrong, will go wrong.
2. Left to themselves, things always go from bad to worse.
3. If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will go wrong is the one that will do the most damage.
4. If you have several jobs to do in the day and you save the easiest for last, it will give you the most trouble.
5. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something

GOLF OF THE FUTURE (R. Armor in Mid-Atlantic Newsletter)

Once golfers trudged around the course,
But now they ride in carts.
A first step, but this is how
All human progress starts.
Someday machines will swing the clubs,
And tour the course in par.
And golfers then will have no need
To leave the clubhouse bar.



Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

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

SEPTEMBER MEETING

On September 9th we will travel to Biddeford Pool to visit with host superintendent Jack Small at the Abenaki Golf Club. Jack has been at the Abenaki club for eleven years and is one of the few superintendents who doesn't have members after him every spring to open the course. Abenaki is a nine hole private resort course, in good condition, that sits next to the ocean. Members don't usually start arriving before Memorial Day and most are gone shortly after Labor Day.

This meeting is the annual equipment field day. We believe, from talking to the salesmen, there will be many pieces of equipment for you to see and talk about. Jack Small has arranged for a clam and lobster feed to take place on the rocks. Mark September 9 on the calendar and let's have a big turnout.

Directions to Abenaki: From Route 1 in Biddeford take Route 9 to Route 208. Take 208 to Biddeford Pool and turn left at the fire station.

* * * *

MEETING SCHEDULE

11:00 - 12:00	Business Meeting
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00	Equipment Display
Golf for those who want to play	

* * * *

AUGUST MEETING

On one of our frequent wet days at the beginning of August the Maine superintendents met at Purpoodock Club in Cape Elizabeth. The back nine that day was under water and closed although some walked a couple of holes that were on high ground. Many left their clubs home due to the weather, so there was no golf tournament.

The educational part of the meeting was very enlightening. Sam Clapper gave a very good talk on irrigation and showed us some new sprinkler heads. Come see us again, Sam.

We can use more speakers of that caliber, Harold.

COMING EVENTS

October 7. Natinas Golf Club, Vassalboro, Paul Browne, host superintendent.

October 10. Brunswick Golf Club, Superintendent-Pro Tournament.

SUPERINTENDENT-PRO TOURNAMENT

On October 10, the Superintendent-Pro Tournament will be held at the Brunswick Golf Club. The tournament is listed in most pro shops. Once again the tournament will be a selected drive alternate shot affair.

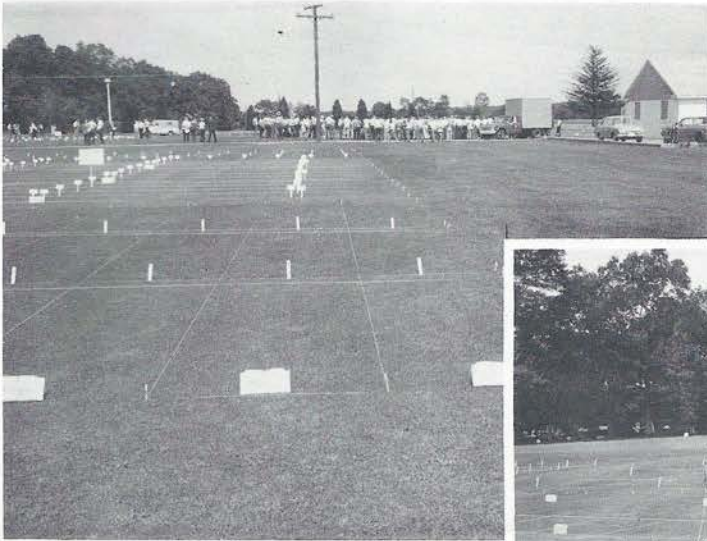
At the August superintendents meeting it was decided that pros must play with members of the superintendents association. A person who is a pro-super must play as a pro and can play only with a member of the superintendents association.

MURPHY'S LAWS (from the HSAF Newsletter)

1. In any field of endeavor, anything that can go wrong, will go wrong.
2. Left to themselves, things always go from bad to worse.
3. If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will go wrong is the one that will do the most damage.
4. If you have several jobs to do in the day and you save the easiest for last, it will give you the most trouble.
5. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something

GOLF OF THE FUTURE (R. Armor in Mid-Atlantic Newsletter)

Once golfers trudged around the course,
But now they ride in carts.
A first step, but this is how
All human progress starts.
Someday machines will swing the clubs,
And tour the course in par.
And golfers then will have no need
To leave the clubhouse bar.



Dr. C. R. Skogley describing "Turf Plots" at the University of Rhode Island, at the recent Field Day on August 19.

Golf Course Superintendents, landscape men and other fine turf managers from all over New England attended.

WE GET IDEAS

It all started here, right here in the incubator of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England. So, don't let anyone tell you different. We get ideas. And it just might be that we set the pace.

For instance, did you know that John Campbell, the man who makes the green grass grow all around-round-round at St. Andrews, will be the big-splash speaker when the National gets to convening the annual conference of supers next year in Houston?

If you're from and of New England, you know that Mr. Campbell got his U. S. lecturing baptism on this side of the Atlantic right here at the University of Massachusetts Fine Turf Conference last March. And it was at the lead of the New England Association that communication was initiated to bring the sodding Scot here.

There is also being bandied about the national scene the proposal that an award be set up to honor the Golf Course Superintendent of the Year. Here, too, there is strong recall of initial proposal. We started barking for such formation of that title long ago.

Now there comes to light the fact that the national is mowing close to the brink of entertaining another New England-fostered idea . . . that of taking the annual conference to the holy land of golf — St. Andrews.

Two of our leaders . . . national president John Spodnik and our own Dick Blake, who serves as a director of the parent group . . . are preparing for an inspectional tour of the St. Andrews area. The hope is that the two will pick up enough favorable information to set the powers in motion for an international conclave in 1972 or 1973.

All of these 100-watt ideas were strewn across the testing grounds of the New England Association. And all of them have developed into proportions that merit strong national consideration, plus adoption.

So, when you're out on your own in pursuit of something to crow about, remember you are among the thinking man's chapter of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Like most sections, we have an idea. But like the Ford Motor Company, we have better ideas. You'd better believe it.

— Gerry Finn



"POWDERED" WATER

The classic concept of water as a substance occurring in three forms — liquid, ice or steam — must be modified to accommodate the invention of "powdered" water according to the *Journal of the American Water Works Association*. Scientists have succeeded in combining a new water repellent silicon dioxide (Aerosil R- 972) with water to form a fine, dry white powder.

Each tiny water droplet is surrounded by a layer of Aerosil R-972, which prevents it from running together with other droplets to form a liquid. The powder, not a compound, can be liquefied by mechanical pressure, distillation or a wetting agent. *The Journal* suggested these possibilities for water utilities; Stock piles of water for the dry years, bags, rather than bottles, of samples, thirst pills, packaged water for use with instant foods, even dry lawn sprinkling.

The Conservationist

Please patronize **FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

President —

Anthony Caranci, Jr.
22 Hillview Drive
No. Providence, R. I. 02900
Phone 723-1688
Club Affiliation
Ledge-mont Country Club

First Vice-President —

RICHARD C. BLAKE
211 Sewall Street
Boylston, Mass. 01505
Phone 869-2737
Club Affiliation
Mt. Pleasant Country Club

Secretary —

THOMAS CURRAN
153 Fisher Street
Walpole, Mass. 02081
Phone 668-7221
Club Affiliation
The Country Club

Second Vice-President —

ROBERT GRANT
22 Patricia Road
Sudbury, Mass. 01776
Phone 443-2671
Club Affiliation
Brae Burn Country Club

Treasurer —

LUCIEN DUVAL
R.F.D. No. 5, Gault Rd.
Bedford, N. H. 03105
Phone 472-3454
Club Affiliation
Manchester Country Club

Trustee —

NORMAN MUCCIARONE
101 Alban Road
Waban, Mass. 02168
Phone 332-3056
Club Affiliation
Woodland Country Club

Educational Committee —

EDWARD J. MURPHY
194 Osbow Road
Wayland, Mass. 01778
Phone 358-7410
Club Affiliation
Lexington Country Club

Trustee —

ROBERT MUCCIARONE
465 Summer Street
Westwood, Massachusetts 02090,
Phone 329-9682
Club Affiliation
Dedham Country and Polo Club

Golf Committee Chairman —

WAYNE RIPLEY
216 South Street
Wrentham, Mass.
Phone 384-3142
Club Affiliation
Walpole Country Club

Trustee —

PHILIP CASSIDY
45 Grosvenor Road
Needham, Mass. 02192
Phone 444-4127
Club Affiliation
Weston Golf Club

Newsletter Committee Chairman —

DEAN ROBERTSON
24 Riverview Drive
Newbury, Mass. 01950
Phone 462-4540
Club Affiliation
Chestnut Hill Country Club

Finance Committee Chairman —

JULIUS AKSTEN
6 Main Street
Southboro, Mass. 01772
Phone 485-8885
Club Affiliation
St. Mark's Golf Club

Past President —

LEON V. ST. PIERRE
51 Fenwood Road
Longmeadow, Mass. 01106
Phone 567-5562
Club Affiliation
Longmeadow Country Club

Alfco Rokeby Co., Inc.
Fertilizers and Chemical Specialties
P. O. Box 267, Marietta, Ohio

Astroturf Recreational Surfaces
Monsanto Co., R. Spencer Thompson
P. O. Box 2130, Springfield, Mass.

Baker Tractor Corp., Ford Tractors
Harley Davidson Golf Cars
Swansea, Mass.

Philip C. Beal, Consulting Engineers
Irrigation and Recreation Facilities
P. O. Box 102, Hanover, Mass. 02339

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.
Wethersfield, Conn.

The Clapper Co.
1121 Washington St.
West Newton, Mass.

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

George E. Cull
Terra-Green Soil Conditioner
112 Green St., Abington, Mass.

C. S. Curran
T. R. C. Products, Oils and Greases
7 Linden St., Framingham, Mass.

Fairway Equipment, Inc.
Sales — Service — Rentals
35 Walnut St., Reading, Mass.

Farm Bureau Association
158 Lexington St., Waltham, Mass. 02154
Fred Heyliger, Representative

Fisk, Alden Ford, Tractor Sales, Inc.
Rear 900 Providence Highway
Dedham, Mass. 02026

Manuel Francis and Son, Inc.
Turf Nurseries
624 Webster St., Marshfield, Mass.

Gold Star Sod Farms, Inc.
181 South Ave., Weston, Mass. 02197

Grounds Equipment Co., Inc.
383 Boylston St., Newton Cen., Mass.

Tom Irwin Co.
Bennett Hill Road
Rowley, Mass.

Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
150 Causeway St., Boston, Mass.

Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc.
Sam Mitchell, Sales Representative
18 Old Randolph St., Canton, Mass.

The Kenneth Barrie Company
Irrigation
375 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp.
380 Union St.
West Springfield, Mass. 01089

Larchmont Irrigation Co.
Larchmont Ln., Lexington, Mass.

Bob Lippman, Tuco Products Co.
Division of the Upjohn Company
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Magovern Company, Inc.
Lawn Acre Road
Windsor Lock, Conn.

D. L. Maher Co.
Water Supply Contractors
P. O. Box 274, Woburn, Mass.

Ken Minasian — Scotts
Golf Course Division
312 Marlborough St., Boston, Mass. 02116

Sil Paulini, Inc.
6 Manor Avenue
Natick, Mass. 01760

Sawtelle Brothers
Jct. Routes 128 and 62
Danvers, Mass.

Shepard Sod Company
Merion Blue Grass and Pencross Bent
200 Sullivan Ave., So. Windsor, Conn.

Stur-Dee Rake Co.
P. O. Box 1087, Woonsocket, R. I. 02895

USS Agri-Chemicals, Inc., A. P. Bonnell
Seaboard Distributing Co., Inc.
Yarmouth Port, Mass. 02675

Philip A. Wogan
Golf Course Architect
21 Budleigh Ave., Beverly, Mass.

Wyandotte Chemical Co.
709 Salada Bldg., Boston, Mass.

Yerxa's, Inc.
Golf Course Equipment
740 Broadway, S. Portland, Me.

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.



GERRY FINN
Contributing Editor

LEON V. ST. PIERRE
Business Manager

DEAN ROBERTSON
Newsletter Committee Chairman
24 Riverview Drive
Newbury, Massachusetts 01950
Phone 462-4540
Club Affiliation
Chestnut Hill Country Club



FIRST CLASS

