

# NEWSLETTER



MARCH, 1971



## 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.

### 1971 TURF CONFERENCE

"Better Turf through Research and Education"

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

— Morning —

11:00 Registration — Lobby

— Afternoon —

#### GENERAL SESSION

Hall of Fame

Chairman: John O'Connell, Superintendent  
Blue Rock Golf Club

1:00 Welcome

— Dr. William J. Mellen  
Associate Dean and Associate Director  
Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment  
Station

1:15 Importance of Water Management

— Dr. Fred Grau  
Turf Specialist

2:00 Irrigation Integrated with Pumping Systems

— Michael Mattwell  
Irrigation Engineer

2:45 Break

3:00 Installation of a Complete Water Source  
and Automatic System

— Richard C. Blake, Superintendent  
Mt. Pleasant Country Club

3:45 How SCS Can Help Golf Course Management

— Christopher Moustakis  
State Resource Conservationist

4:30 Massachusetts Turf and Lawn Grass Council

— Membership Meeting

— Evening —

Free — A good time to look up old friends.

#### MARCH 3, 4, 5, 1971

HIGHPOINT MOTOR INN  
CHICOPEE FALLS, MASS.  
(Exit 5 — Mass. Turnpike)

Sponsored by  
Massachusetts Cooperative Extension Service  
Massachusetts Turf and Lawn Grass Council  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 4

— Morning —

#### GOLF COURSE SESSION Hall of Fame

Chairman: Lucien Duval, Superintendent  
Manchester, New Hampshire Country Club

#### POLLUTION

9:30 The Shrinking Environment

— Dr. Haim B. Gunner  
University of Massachusetts

10:15 The Pesticides Dilemma — Emotion vs.  
Science

— Allen H. Morgan  
Massachusetts Audubon Society

11:00 Effects of Turf Grasses and Trees in  
Neutralizing Waste Water

— Dr. William E. Sopper  
Pennsylvania State University

11:45 Lunch

— Afternoon —

#### GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT

1:30 Present Unsolved and New Problems  
Developing in the Field

— Alexander M. Radko, Director  
USGA Green Section, Eastern Region

2:15 The Coming of the Conglomerate Director  
of Golf Courses

— Edmund B. Ault, Golf Course Architect

3:00 Break

3:15 Aquatic Weed Control

— John Gallagher  
Amchem Products, Inc.

4:00 Building a Rapport between the Superintendent  
and the Professional

— William Smith, Pro  
Concordville Golf Club

— Evening —

Room ABC

7:00 Banquet

ESP in Action  
— Russ Burgess

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 5

— Morning —

#### GOLF COURSE SESSION

Hall of Fame

Chairman: Robert Grant, Superintendent  
Brae Burn Country Club

Panel:

Maintenance of Golf Course Equipment

9:30 F. William Hazle

— Jacobsen Manufacturing Company

10:00 Charles Curry

— Ryan Equipment Company

10:30 James R. Maloney

— Toro Manufacturing Corporation

11:00 Ray Christopherson

— West Point Products by Hahn

11:30 Question Period

Adjourn





# Golf Course Superintendents Association

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the GCSA of NE will be April 5, 1971 at the Holiday Inn, Newton, Massachusetts. The speaker will be Paul Hogencamp of Dupont and his topic will be "What's Ahead." This should be a very interesting talk and all should plan to attend.



## 1971 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Membership — Robert Grant (Chairman), Thomas Curran, Wayne Zoppo.

Finance — Nary Sperandio (Chairman), Lucien Duval, Tom Schofield.

Educational — Albert Auger (Chairman), Donald Hearne, John O'Connell, David Barber, John Dolan.

Golf Committee — Julius Aksten (Chairman). Committee to be picked by chairman.

Newsletter — Dean Robertson (Chairman), Leon St. Pierre, Business Manager, Gerry Finn, Contributing Editor.

Welfare — Arthur Anderson (Chairman), Charles Gardner, John Hudyka, Joseph Rybka, Tony Kruchus, Gene Dooley, Merndert "Red" Shultz.

Employment — Norman Mucciarone (Chairman), Ron Kirkman, Brian Cowan, Al Martin.

Publicity — Roy MacIntosh, David Vibber, Max Mierzua, John Hudyka, Robert Sill.

Turf Research — Charles Gardner (Chairman), Ken Turner, Dr. Joseph Troll, Larry Bann, Bert Fredericks.

Scholarship — Leon St. Pierre (Chairman), Anthony Caranci, Jr., Dr. Joseph Troll, Robert Grant, Richard Blake and Lucien Duval, Treasurer.

Parliamentarian — Anthony Caranci, Jr.

By Laws Committee — Robert Grant (Chairman), Sam Mitchell, Phil Cassidy, Dean Robertson, Manny Francis, Jr., Wayne Zoppo.

Host Committee GCSAA — (Pre-Planning) Thomas Curran (Chairman), John O'Connell, Robert Grant, Leon St. Pierre.

## "Good Show, Joe"

Each year Joe Troll, the mastermind behind the University of Massachusetts Fine Turf Conference, gets a mind to presenting something different. "You gotta have a gimmick", Joe advises as he steps off his plan to attract record throngs to the Highpoint Motor Inn in Chicopee. And usually that gimmick drives the crowds wild.

"We have a sweetheart", Troll talks about the 1971 version of his popular event which starts a three-day run Mar. 3. "Someone once told me you have to get controversial, so this year we are."

What Joe is highlighting as the lure to the golf course super is the appearance of a golf architect. That in itself wouldn't cut much ice with the congregation. However, Edmund B. Ault — the man in question — is bringing along with him a pesky subject, one which he entitles "Coming of the Conglomerate Director of Golf Courses."

The meat is there then. It focuses on the feasibility of having an overall director of the country club, a man who calls the shot from the dining room, pro shop and fairway. Superintendents have cringed at such a suggestion for years. Now they'll be able to see what it's all about when Ault makes his presentation on Mar. 4.

"That's not all we have", Troll offers. "The program is spiced with a number of different and timely topics. We think, as always, that the 1971 conference will be the best ever."

The show starts Mar. 3 with a full afternoon of discussion and roundup of water management, perhaps the most bandied about subject on the golf course today. Dr. Fred Grau, former Penn State and USGA Green Section star, will handle the microphone and will pipe out such verse as to cover sources of water, its part in soil conservation and usage. This should draw every superintendent who has been confronted with the do's and don't of irrigation.

The second day will center on pollution. Some of the speakers include Dr. Haim Gunner of UMass who will spin some gems on "our shrinking environment", as well as Alan H. Morgan, Dr. William Sopper, Al Radko, John Gallagher and Mr. Ault.

In addition to these masters of the spoken word another approach to an old but worthy subject — the rapport between the superintendent and the golf professional — will be given by William Smith who just happens to be a golf pro.

On the other side of the fence . . . or away-from-golf picture of the conference . . . there will be presented pros, cons and other tidbits concerning care of grass tennis courts, an update on the use of pesticides, a review of the job of working over the grounds at the nation's capital and a broad aspect of maintenance.

Another first will be on Friday's agenda. Troll has lined up four manufacturers' representatives to direct a thorough airing of "the maintenance of golf course equipment."

Before that interesting segment the social part of the show will flourish with the conference banquet on Mar. 4. Once again Troll thinks he has appeal in his banquet speaker. He is Russ Burgess who will give the group something to think about in his "ESP in Action" theme.

From top to bottom, then, the Fine Turf Conference figures to be another blockbuster. "It is truly good show", Troll exclaims. From the sounds of the program, it couldn't be anything less.

— Gerry Finn

<p>President — RICHARD C. BLAKE 211 Sewall Street Boylston, Mass. 01505 Phone 865-2737 Club Affiliation Mt. Pleasant Country Club</p>	<p>First Vice President — ROBERT GRANT 22 Patricia Road Sudbury, Mass. 01776 Phone 443-2671 Club Affiliation Broe Barn Country Club</p>	<p>Second Vice President — THOMAS CURRAN 153 Fisher Street Walpole, Mass. 02061 Phone 668-7221 Club Affiliation The Country Club</p>	<p>Secretary — WAYNE ZOPPO 48 Barberry Drive Seekonk, Mass. Phone 399-7141 Club Affiliation Agawam Hunt Club</p>	<p>Treasurer — LUCIEN DUVAL R.F. No. 5 Gault Road Bedford, N. H. 03105 Phone 472-3454 Club Affiliation Manchester Country Club</p>	<p>Trustee — RONALD KIRKMAN 25 Green Street Needham, Mass. 02192 Phone 444-8412 Club Affiliation Needham Golf Club</p>	<p>Trustee — ROBERT MUCCIARONE 465 Summer Street Westwood, Mass. 02090 Phone 329-9682 Club Affiliation Dedham Country and Polo Club</p>	<p>Trustee — NORMAN MUCCIARONE 101 Alban Road Waban, Mass. 02168 Phone 322-3058 Club Affiliation Woodland Country Club</p>	<p>Finance Chairman — NARY SPERANDIO Concord, Mass. 01742 Phone 369-4723 Club Affiliation Concord Country Club</p>
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# Golf Course Superintendents Association





# Golf Course Superintendents Association

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

All committee chairmen, listed elsewhere in Newsletter, should be prepared to make a factual progress report of their committee functions on 30 days advance notice from the President. A written report should be presented at the annual meeting.

Some years ago, one of the top organizational men in the U. S. said, in addressing a national conference of business men and professional men, that his success in association work could be attributed to "A good busy man for a job."

In elaborating on the subject, he said that in his service work and his church too much responsibility had gravitated into the hands of too few people. "The old timers" had unwittingly taken over and the new members were not being given opportunity to serve.

As president my duty is to motivate — to guide and encourage participation in our professional association — to provide leadership.

You will notice "old timers" on committees and new members. We give the new man a chance and a responsible job right away. Please don't let me down.

All committees should check their job assignments. If you have a question, ask.

If you know someone who wants to serve on a special committee, have a meeting at his course. Let's hear about it — in advance.

This is YOUR ASSOCIATION. Let's all get in the act where the action is for 1971.

Dick Blake



GCSAA President Dick Blake and his wife Elaine at the reception given in his honor at the Brown Palace in Denver, Colorado during the National Convention.

## "TROLLING WITH JOE"

Our 1970-71 winter temperatures have been extremely low. Will the *Poa annua* in our golf greens be killed by prolonged low temperatures?

*Poa annua* can be severely damaged by low temperatures especially if sub surface and/or surface drainage in your green is poor. However, injury most often occurs in March during alternating periods of thawing and freezing. *Poa annua* is again susceptible to this type of injury when spring thaw occurs usually in April.

Mercury fungicides are used to control turfgrass diseases. Have they banned their use in Massachusetts?

Not as yet, but mercury and its possible effect on the Massachusetts environment is being investigated. Research findings show samples taken from shellfish beds and underlying ocean sediment show no high levels of mercury. Mercury content found was not above the considered safe level of 0.5 ppm in either the fish or sediment. These samples were taken from areas adjacent to golf courses which have been applying mercury fungicides to the turf.

Because of the economy slowdown my budget has been effected. What can I do to offset this?

This is truly an unfortunate situation and we certainly don't want to take anything from the golf course that affects the game of golf or the beauty that can be found on the course.

The most costly maintenance item is labor and much of it can be saved if one wants to carry out the minimum essentials on a golf course. Labor can be cut if you reduce the grooming requirements. Cut down on raking sand traps; forget trimming around trees and along roadways; don't prune trees; mow roughs less and don't define them too well and cut out the use of flowers. The above jobs are time consuming and costly and do not appear in the budget anyway. Certainly grooming is necessary but what can you do on a limited budget!

Dr. Joseph Troll  
Professor of Agrostology  
University of Massachusetts

## SOUND OFF (cont'd)

"Maybe this falls under the heading of telling tales out of school, but I am upset about a certain form of gossip which seems to be popping up in more than one maintenance building.

"My pet peeve in this case is the mouthy salesman who takes it upon himself to court my help whenever he calls on my course and I'm not around.

"What happens in this case is a pure case of character assassination. Salesmen, probably with nothing else to do, usually get on the subject of benefits, salaries, etc. with the help and in the end bring about a comparison of same with other courses they've visited.

"Obviously, I resent this situation and assume that every other super in the same boat would like to see this cease. So, whoever you are, take notice. Keep your information to yourself. Your job is to sell your product, not the job situation of the course down the road!"

CHARLIE THIEKOS  
Hazardville, Conn.

You have a legitimate gripe, Charlie. Why don't you cut off that culprit with the big mouth?

\* \* \* \*

*(So ends another version of the reader rights everything in golf. Don't stop now, you're going strong. Just keep your cards and letters coming. All are welcome.)*



**SOUND OFF!!!!**

*(It's time for readers to take over with their ideas on golf and maybe their likes and dislikes about certain aspects of the game. Whatever the subject, Sound Off always has its ears open for suggestions and complaints. So, let us hear from you on any phase of golf. Just put your thoughts down on a piece of paper, slap it into an envelope and send everything along to Mail Box, 24 Riverview Drive, Newbury, Mass. 01950. The Newsletter reserves the right to comment on all letters published.)*

\* \* \* \*

"This is in the form of a congratulatory note to whoever is responsible for changing the MGA Day from the Harvard Club to the much more practical Mariott in Newton.

"While I always appreciated the King Arthur atmosphere of the Harvard Club, I really couldn't make much sense out of whatever was being presented. To be truthful, the acoustics were awful.

"What's more, I feel it is much more convenient to get away from the big parking problem of Boston and allow people to take in MGA Day without having their cars towed away. There also is the central location of the Mariott.

"All in all, it is a very good move. Again, thanks to the Harvard Club, but the Mariott's a much better place to be on MGA Day."

**PETE CERUTI**  
Ludlow, Mass.

Do you think the Patriots think the same way about leaving Harvard Stadium, Pete?

\* \* \* \*

"I would like to drop in my oar in pushing the foresight of the golf superintendent.

"Nowadays it seems to be the 'in' thing to get on the side of the ecology and environmental push. And the funny thing about this is the fact that the golf superintendent has been doing it long before it became part of the mainstream.

"The superintendent always has fought for the so-called balance of nature. And along the way he has encountered much opposition in the form of green chairmen, politicians and the like who were unaware at the time of the harmful effects of wanton destruction of mother nature.

"It seems to me that the superintendent be praised for such a stand and that the rest of the world follow his lead. This awareness of pollution and other environmental setbacks is not an overnight thing with the superintendent. It would seem that he has been in vogue all the time rather than succumbing to what is considered to be in vogue.

"So, three cheers for the super. And three cheers for my husband who happens to be a superintendent."

**MRS. ARTHUR FELLOWS**  
Littleton, Vermont

We'll drink to that one, Mrs. Fellows. Now, just make sure Arthur uses no-lead gas in his equipment and we'll make it unanimous.

\* \* \* \*

("Sound Off" continued on insert)



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Doherty and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Clapper of the Clapper Co., Newton, Mass.

**MGA DAY ON THE MOVE**

The annual Massachusetts Golf Association's "MGA Day" will be coming at the golfing populace Mar. 6, and will be presented at a new site — the Mariott in Auburndale, Mass.

Chairman Richard Crosby — with the help of NEGCSA representative Bob Grant — has an interesting program lined up for the Green Section of the affair.

The one-hour session will open with NEGCSA president Dick Blake speaking on the benefits of superintendent associations to the country club.

Blake will be followed by the knowledgeable Al Radko of the USGA who will present a timely topic — ecology and the golf course.

Rounding out the trio is Eberhard Steiniger, the popular super at world famous Pine Valley golf course. Appropriately enough, the subject here will be turf management at Pine Valley.

The new location for MGA Day is ideal for everyone involved. Centrally located at the intersection of the Massachusetts Turnpike and Route 128, the Mariott is designed to draw much larger audiences than those who frequented the old site — the Harvard Club. Right now it looks like an outpouring of some 400 will make it to MGA Day.

— Gerry Finn



Mr. Frank K. Marean, Chet Sawtelle, Jr., and Joel Mc-Koan of Sawtelle Brothers, Danvers, Mass.

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\* Contributors to the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund

# NEWSLETTER

*Golf Course Superintendents Association*  
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.



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**FIRST CLASS**

