



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.

EVERYONE A WINNER

The scoreboard said there were two winners in the fifth annual Super-Press Tournament, but from the reaction by all assembled at the Ledgemont Country Club no one could tell the winners from the losers. It was that kind of show. That kind of setting. That kind of venture of which the New England superintendent should be proud.

This is not to say that the survivors of the statistical pull with the scorecard did not distinguish themselves. On the contrary, Guy Tedesco of New Seabury and Kevin Walsh of *The Boston Globe* had to be on their toes — as well as their tee shots — to stay with the team of Belmont's Manny Francis and veteran scribe Joe Looney. They tied at net 66 and at last hearing were on the brink of settling the thing with pistols or swords . . . if need be.

Host superintendent Tony Caranci was crying about his score when the cheese and crackers were being served with the medicinal-purposed refreshments. "Can you imagine?", Tony pleaded. "I've got all this course knowledge, all this know how . . . and I shoot a 102? Why, I should go out and shoot myself!"

Tony's teammate, Ed Duckworth of the *Providence Journal*, was almost as discouraged with his 84, but no one could understand why. Then it dawned on the populace. Duckworth is a low handicapper and he summed up his disappointment with the general feeling of the field. "How can you shoot higher than your regular game on this course?" he wondered. "It's in perfect condition. Everything is . . . pardon the expression . . . super!"

And that it was. Brother Caranci had Ledgemont looking as immaculate as a Breck shampoo ad. Everything was manicured and pampered to the point of near-perfection. "I had a little

trouble with a few of the greens", Caranci revealed. "But they came back in pretty good shape. That's why my 102 looks so bad."

So, Tony didn't pitch a perfect game. He was consoled by many another superintendent. Roy Mackintosh, who hosted the first Super Press at his well-groomed Twin Hills Country Club five years ago, gave Caranci the old "work and play don't mix" treatment. "Don't worry about your score", Roy beamed. "When I was the host super, I couldn't even tee it up, let alone hit the ball. You made your score by giving us a good course to play on. It was really a pleasure playing here."

A pleasure, too, was the aftermath of the tournament. The 30 or so teams worked the bad shots out of their systems during a cocktail hour in the Ledgemont's well-appointed 19th hole. Then, it was upstairs to the dining room for more socializing before a windup roast beef dinner.

An added attraction was a visit from Nick Geannopoulos, editor of *The Golf Superintendent*, national magazine for the group. Nick told the gathering of the national's enthusiasm over the upcoming Boston stop on the International Turf Conference schedule. "We can happily report to you that our figures point to record numbers in all phases of the show", Nick disclosed. "I think we have one of the most natural settings in the world right here in Boston for a conference of this type. And you New England supers should be congratulated for the fine program you've arranged for visitors."

So, the Super Press Tournament had a touch of everything. A good time was had by all and participants left Ledgemont still commenting about the successful venture. It was a day to be remembered and savored. And if you weren't there, you were the only loser. Everyone else was a winner.

— Gerry Finn

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the G.C.S.A. of N.E. will be November 6, 1972 at the Highland Country Club in Attleboro, Massachusetts. This will be the last outdoor meeting of the season so those of the members who couldn't make the summer meetings should attend. Mark Azza is the super in charge of this fine layout and he has been there for the past eleven years. Prior to that he was at a large estate in R. I. and at the Rhode Island Country Club. Golf will be anytime you get there and a noon luncheon will be served.

Directions: Route 128 south to 95, south to the North Attleboro exit (rt. 152). Go south on 152 to the court house and take a right on Mechanic Street to the club.

Kevin Walsh and Guy Tedesco took the title away from Joe Looney and Manny Francis in a playoff at the Brae Burn C. C. for the Arthur Anderson Trophy with a net 65. The two teams tied with a net 69 at Ledgemont last month.



(L to r) Kevin Walsh, Boston Globe, Guy Tedesco, C. C. of New Seabury, Arthur Anderson, retired superintendent Brae Burn C. C., Manny Francis, Jr., Belmont C. C., and Joe Looney, sports writer.

Golf Course Superintendents Association

LADIES DAY IS EVERY DAY

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England — hosting the International Conference in January — is touching all bases in an attempt to make the undertaking a typical sectional success.

NEGCSA President Bob Grant, together with several members of the working committees, has arranged for a pep rally to be held Saturday evening, Nov. 18 at the Maridor in Framingham.

"I guess we're kind of selfish in this one", Grant muses. We're calling it a combination pre-Christmas social, but we've something in the back of our minds."

In plain household talk, the association hopes to butter up the girls — or more specifically wives of host superintendents who are being asked to serve as hostesses during the attractive ladies hospitality program for women attending the conference.

"We'd like to line up around 50 hostesses", says Leon St. Pierre who has been a human buzz-saw making arrangements for the ladies' part in the conference. "The things we have set up will require a lot of assistance from the gals. I hope they'll sign up."

Despite the makings of a trap for the ladies, a large turnout is anticipated for the Maridor evening of dining and dancing. During the festivities the ladies will be introduced to the energetic program arranged for them and others who make the Boston scene in January.

The first day of the conference will be a get acquainted session for ladies registered as official guests. They will see slides of everything from Early Boston to Contemporary Boston, be offered an optional Freedom Trail tour and then be part of the big Get Acquainted Party in the evening where dancing will be to the outstanding and unique Minutemen group.

Second day activities are a highlight of the week. They include a Sturbridge Village Tour, starting at 8:30. Lunch will be served at the tavern on the green and period-type drinks will be available on a Dutch Treat basis.

The third day will feature the Massachusetts Audubon Society with a demonstration of Designs of National Craft. That will take up most of the morning with the afternoon left for shopping or another attractive option — a tour of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts topped off by tea and cakes.

The next option that same night (with a 300 limit) is an Evening at the Museum. This starts with a Dutch Treat cocktail hour, followed by a catered dinner in the beautiful Skyline Room . . . overlooking the beautiful Charles River.

Following dinner we will go to the Hayden Planetarium for a show in Astronomy and after that the entire museum will be open to our own group for a private showing.

A cosmetic show will get the fourth day going for the ladies with another Dutch Treat luncheon breaking the day before a style show, conducted by Bea Rudiman.

"With all that activity there is a definite need for hostesses", St. Pierre declares. "We're not asking the gals to be nursemaids or anything like that. We'll just need help getting these various things organized and this is where they come in. We're hoping they keep some of those holiday smiles and carry them over to the conference."

That, then, is what the pep rally is all about. It will be one of the most important functions of the New England Association in many a time. "We're going to need cooperation from everyone", president Grant advises. "After all, we're responsible for most of things conference-goers and their wives remember most. And we want their memories to be the most pleasant they've had going to this type of thing. Our New England super gals can help that cause greatly."

— Gerry Finn

House Plants For the Home

Most homes, especially crowded apartments, are not designed like greenhouses so the job of growing plants indoors is a challenge.

But any apartment dweller can become a successful gardener if he chooses plants wisely.

The most limiting factor for plant growth in an apartment situation is light. Temperature, too, is a limiting factor, so the plants chosen must tolerate the generally high level of heat and low humidity.

Thus the trick is to select plants that require low light and little care, yet will thrive as long as the roots are kept moist.

Here are several foliage plants that should prosper in most apartment situations.

Chinese water evergreen (*Aglaonema simplex*). This will grow in water only, as single or branched stem in upright position.

Cast iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*). It grows as an expanding clump, about 18 inches tall.

Kangaroo vine and grape ivy (*Cissus antartica* and *Cissus rhombifolia*). These are vining plants for living wall coverings requiring some natural light.

Dieffenbachia amoena and *Diffentachia picta*, large, upright plants commonly known as dumb cane. Leaves can grow as large as two feet long, eight inches wide. They will reach six feet in height and can be grown in sphagnum moss with bi-weekly nutrient feedings.

Philodendron ovycardium, the common heartleaf philodendron, is excellent as a vining plant. It can be grown as a wall cover or on a totem, or up an upright pole light fixture.

Dracaena fragrans 'Massangena', commonly known as the corn plant, is a tall growing tropical plant with narrow corn-like leaves. *Dracaena deremensis 'Warneckii'* is the striped version.

Pittosporum tobira, the common pittosporum, is a native of Japan; it grows very well in low-light apartments in the North. The leaves are about one-quarter inch wide and three inches long. The dark green foliage is excellent.

Podocarpus macrophylla var. *maki*, or sea-teak, also from Japan, is another small shrublike plant that takes little light.

Sansevieria 'Hahnii' is known as birdnest hemp with a rosette of fleshy leaves. The taller growing *Sansevieria* is known as bowstring hemp, snake plant, and mother-in-law's tongue.

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SOUND OFF!!!!

(Here it is, that time when the reader comes to the aid of his particular cause armed with the mightiest weapon of them all — the pen. This is Sound Off and it means that you are given the opportunity to express your opinion on any subject or issue you desire. We ask that you include your name and address but we'll withhold each or both of same if you so desire. Oh, yes. The Newsletter reserves the right to comment on all letters published. So, get in on the action. Send your views to Newsletter Mail Box, 24 Riverview Drive, Newbury, Mass. 01950)

* * * *

"Your article about the golf superintendent running scared certainly deserves strong rebuttal.

"In the first place, I think you took an isolated case and expanded it into a general feeling, that it expressed the position and ethics of all the superintendents. This is, indeed, unfair.

"Furthermore, the article got somewhat ridiculous, meaning that you must have been pulling numbers out of a hat when you stated that 50 superintendents go running for applications everytime they hear that a job is open.

"Your article is simply an exaggeration of the facts. I must admit our profession is not all that perfect when it comes down to relations with our employers and club members. But it is not as bad as you have pictured it. I think that you are "running wild" with words instead of us running scared at our jobs."

ROBERT GRANT
President, NEGCSA

Geez, Bob, you're my boss. After receiving this letter you can bet your last arbor vitae I'm running scared.

* * * *

"In our section there is always a lot of noise about attending meetings. This is good and I think that all sections should have some kind of fine or penalty for those who don't make a certain percentage of our monthly meetings.

"On the other hand, there are members attending meetings faithfully but in attendance in name only. They are the ones who make the big complaint about others missing meetings but they do not contribute one single bit to discussion periods or other important items that come up during our get togethers.

"This sniping on their part is ironic, as far as I'm concerned. There are members, who make maybe half the meetings, but contribute 100 percent to our cause when they're there. I'm more apt to go along with their attendance records than the perfect ones."

BERT THALLINGS
Quoque, L. I.

Silence is never golden at a super's meeting. What we need is more loudmouths . . . right, Bert?

Winter Meetings are scheduled as follows at the Holiday Inn, Newton, Massachusetts:

December 7, 1972

February 7, 1973

April 4, 1973

January 7-12, 1973 National Convention, Boston, Mass.

"Your little story about the time for superintendents to get organized more strongly into unions and the accompanying implications that the superintendent is running scared has caused a lot of comment from certain people connected with golf.

"I am a golfer, myself, but not a member of any one course. What you implied in the article might be a little overstated, but you have several good points . . . the one I got a kick out of most being the one concerning the member-superintendent relationship.

"I have several friends who belong to a nearby country club and I decided to test them after reading your story. I asked five of them if they could name the golf course superintendent at their club. And the responses were really something.

"One of them didn't even know that such an animal existed. He thought the pro ran the golf course in addition to the pro shop. One other answer also amused me. 'Oh, you mean the greenskeeper. I think his name is Frank', was that reply. Only one of the five actually knew the name of the superintendent. Whether that adds fuel to your article or not I don't know. But I thought I'd tell you about my experiment here. It is interesting, isn't it?"

GORDON SPENCER
Newburgh, N. Y.

I'd say that those superintendents in your area should be doing a little more P. R. work for themselves.

* * * *

"I played in the Super Press Tournament at Ledge-mont last month and like all of the other players I thought it was one of the best I ever played in.

"However, I think that all of us in the organization should make an extra special effort to double the number of entrees when we play the Super Press next year. We didn't have nearly an appreciable representation which is a reflection of not only ourselves but our New England organization.

"Another thing, too, and this is why I have asked you to withhold my name and club. I noticed that during the tournament there were quite a number of supers playing without guests. I don't think it is right and something should be done about it.

"I realize that in some cases the reason for not playing with a member of the news media was valid. But for those who deliberately came out to play without trying to get a partner, the accusation stands."

NAME WITHHELD
Club Withheld

It's your organization and you set the rules for participation. All we can do is agree with you on your point.

* * * *

(That puts the closing note on today's concerto by our readers. The letters were interesting. Keep them coming.)

Pre-Season Holiday Party

Pre-season Holiday Party. Don't forget to sign up for the party at the Maridor in Framingham on November 18, 1972. Contact Dick Blake (617-869-2737) or Lou Duval (603-472-3454) to make your reservations. We will only be able to accept the first 90 people.

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NEWSLETTER

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FIRST CLASS

