



Golf Course Superintendents Association
OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

February, 1981



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

Golden in More Ways Than One

It was the late Professor Lawrence Dickinson's baby, so to speak. Now, it's Dr. Joseph Troll's grandchild.

The object of both men's affection and dedication, of course, is the University of Massachusetts Turf Conference. And, would you believe?, it's moving into its 50th anniversary presentation this year.

The conference will be staged March 3-5 at the Springfield Civic Center. Dr. Troll will whip up the golden anniversary effort with another blockbuster of a show.

"We're trying to add a reunion touch for the big occasion," Dr. Troll reveals. "We'd like to have as many UMass grads or those who have taken turf-related courses there on hand. We're especially interested in inviting our pioneers, the first students to use the university program as a launching pad to the superintendent's profession."

The conference, whose profits are directed toward turf research and education, began in the late 1920's. Dr. Troll's not sure whether Professor Dickinson was a one-man director, one-man audience or not when he took the lid off his brilliant idea.

In those early years, the conference was held on the campus in Amherst. Students and turf people were in attendance and the agenda consisted solely of discussion and debate.

"I do know that there was one industrial show then," Dr. Troll discloses. "They took up the wooden floor at the old Curry Hicks Cage and used that. However, somewhere along the line that phase of the venture stopped. And it wasn't revived until we could go full tilt at the Springfield Civic Center five years ago."

Leon St. Pierre, the Longmeadow Country Club's able super, remembers some of the conferences when Professor Dickinson utilized the charm of surrounding locales to enhance the project.

"We'd have the conferences in Bowker Auditorium at Stockbridge Hall," he recalled. "Then, the windup banquet would move to either the Hotel Northampton or the

Lord Jeffery Inn. That was in the late 40's and early 50's. And, believe me, they are memorable moments for a lot of us."

Dr. Troll arrived on the UMass scene in 1957. By then Elliott Roberts had taken over directorship of the conference. When he left the University in 1959, Dr. Troll assumed command.

"Of course, Professor Dickinson and Elliott got the thing running and in good working order," Dr. Troll advises. "I just expanded it and conformed to the changing times. As the conference grew larger, we had to spread our wings and seek larger accommodations."

Eventually, the conference moved from the UMass campus to other sites. It was held at the White House Inn in Chicopee, the old High Point Motor Inn in the same city, Springfield's Marriott Hotel and finally to the Civic Center.

Attendance has soared, especially in the last several years.

"We had 180 at the Student Union at UMass in 1959, my first year directing," Dr. Troll discloses. "From there, the increase was amazing. And the dedication by participants was just as incredible."

Dr. Troll recalls a show at the High Point during three days of intense ice storms. "I couldn't believe my eyes when people started showing up," he remarks. "We had 500 over those three days. Even Canadian members came down. And some had to stay three extra days before they could get back home!"

Now, the conference takes an enormous amount of preparation and a full-scaled committee including members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England. Last year it attracted 1600.

Dr. Troll's wife, Lonnie, does a lion's share of the lead-up work. "She dives into a sea of papers in June and doesn't come up for air until we're ready to roll in March," he laughs. "But we get input from a lot of people. After all, this is a big project. There aren't too many of its size and stature at the regional level."

Over the years, Dr. Troll has attempted to bring to his audience some of the finest minds in the turf world, as well as some of the most entertaining speakers for the conference banquet. Among the seminar leaders have been such distinguished English golfing figures as course architect Fred Hawtree and former St. Andrews greenskeeper John Campbell.

We bring 'em in from anywhere and everywhere, just as long as they have something to say," Dr. Troll quips.

So, the UMass Conference celebrates its 50th this year. Fifty golden years it's been. Such an effort should be applauded. Let's hear it for Dr. Troll and his winning team.

Gerry Finn

NEXT MEETING

Feb. 5, 1981

**Holiday Inn - Dedham
Jct. Rts. 1 & 128**

9:30 Directors Meeting

10:30 Regular Meeting

12:00 Lunch

Educational Session after lunch

Golf Course Superintendents Association

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Julius Aksten on December 26, 1980. "Jule" was a friend to all who knew him, and enjoyed life to the hilt for nearly 70 years. He was an avid golfer, whose handicap never seemed to be high enough; but yet always managed to win something in our monthly tournaments. Jule served as superintendent at St. Mark's Golf Course for nearly 20 years and was recently employed at the Framingham C.C. His passing has left a great void and he will be missed by his many friends.

Some dates you may want to keep in mind:

Feb. 5, 1981 - N.E.G.C.S.A. meeting.

Feb. 17, 1981 - U.S.G.A. Greens Section Conference, Wellesley, C.C., Wellesley, Mass.

Feb. 19, 1981 - U.S.G.A. Greens Section Conference, Westchester C.C. Rye, N.Y.

Mar. 3-5 - 50th Massachusetts Turf Conference, Springfield, Mass.

Mar. 7, 1981 - Mass. Golf Association Spring Conference.



"Tribute to Joe"

They're going to do it up grand for Joe Troll.

Joe Troll, the man who makes the UMass Turf Conference speed ahead while its wheels never leave the ground, is in formal introduction, Dr. Joseph Troll.

However, on Tuesday, March 3 he'll be just plain "Joe" as guest of honor at a testimonial in Springfield's Oaks Inn.

The well-deserved "tribute to Joe" is a brainchild of a group of Western Massachusetts golf course superintendents. Longmeadow's Leon St. Pierre is serving as general chairman. Bob Johnston of Hampden and Professor John Zak of the UMass plants and soil science department are the co-chairmen.

"We're honoring Joe in the middle of the conference he's helped put on the map," St. Pierre said. "And we'd really like to see a big turnout for a man who has done so much for our profession, as well as the whole turf and plants field."

St. Pierre and his committee have planned an attractive program which gets underway at 8 p.m. "We're going to have a lot of surprises for everyone," he told. "It's just one big party for one grand guy. There'll be music, speeches (short but humorous) and plenty of time to allow all of us to enjoy Joe and one another."

Tickets for the gala event are \$15. St. Pierre announces that they will be available at all golf course superintendents regional and local chapters through their presidents. They also can be obtained by contacting either St. Pierre or Johnston.

The Oaks Inn is within walking distance of the turf conference site (Civic Center) and Downtown Springfield. The committee has even provided a map of the immediate area on the back of testimonial tickets to help start the parade of Joe Troll well-wishers to the Oaks.

Gerry Finn

Our thanks to Kevin Lyons, Ed Wiacek, R.F. Morse, Sawtelle Bros., The Clapper Company, Larchmont Irrigation, Richey & Clapper, Turf Products Corporation, and Tom Irwin Inc. for their support and help with our Christmas party. Also, a special well done and thanks to Ron Kirkman and the entire staff at Needham C.C. The Christmas party was a terrific time and immensely enjoyed by all who attended.

Congratulations and welcome to William Berger and Thomas Flaherty, both voted in at the last meeting.

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TURF CONFERENCE and INDUSTRIAL SHOW

"Better Turf Through Research and Education"

Fiftieth Annual Turf Conference

and

Fifth Industrial Show

March 3, 4, and 5, 1981

Civic Center

Springfield, Massachusetts

(I-91, Exit 6 from South

Columbus Avenue Exit from North)

Sponsored by

Department of Plant and Soil Sciences,

University of Massachusetts/Amherst

Massachusetts Turf and Lawn Grass Council

**Golf Course Superintendents Association
of New England**

REGISTRATION

Lobby — Plaza Entrance

8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 3

8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Wednesday, March 4

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1981

— Morning —

9:00 A.M.-12:45 P.M. Industrial Show Open
Exhibition Hall
Snack Bar Available

— Afternoon —

GENERAL SESSION

Banquet Room

Chairman: Dr. Joseph Troll

University of Massachusetts

1:00- 1:15 WELCOME — Dean William D. Tunis
University of Massachusetts

**1:15- 2:15 ENVIRONMENTALISTS, PESTICIDES
AND INCREDIBLE NONSENSE**
Mr. Walter Weber,
Registered Professional Entomologist
Indianapolis, IN

**2:15- 3:00 HYPERODES AND OTHER
TURFGRASS INSECTS**
Dr. Patricia Vittum
Waltham Experiment Station
Waltham, MA

3:00 -3:15 BREAK

3:15- 3:45 TURF MANAGEMENT FOR GOLF
Mr. Alexander Radko,
National Director
USGA Green Section
Far Hills, NJ

**3:45- 4:30 SOIL TESTINGS:
INTERPRETING THE RESULTS**
Dr. William Dest
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT

4:30-6:30 Industrial Show Open
Exhibition Hall

6:30- 7:30 50th Conference Cocktail Party
Lounge, Civic Center

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1981

GOLF COURSE SESSION

Morning — Banquet Room

Chairman: Dr. Kirk A. Hurto

**9:00- 9:45 DOES GOOD MANAGEMENT
APPLY TO CLUBS?**
Dr. George Odiorne
University of Massachusetts

**9:45-10:30 MANAGEMENT OF HIGH TRAFFIC
AREAS**
Dr. Robert N. Carrow
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

10:30-11:00 UNUSUAL TURFGRASS SITUATIONS
Dr. John C. Harper II
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA

11:00-2:00 Industrial Show Open
Exhibition Hall

— Afternoon —

2:00- 2:45 TURFGRASS DISEASES
Dr. Noel Jackson
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI

**2:45- 3:15 MAINTENANCE OF A REGULATION
PAR-3**
Mr. John O'Connell
Blue Rock Golf Course
South Yarmouth, MA

**3:15- 3:45 MAINTENANCE AT MYRTLE BEACH
NATIONAL GOLF COURSE**
Mr. Fred Meda
Myrtle Beach, SC

**3:45- 4:30 DEVELOPING AN IRRIGATION
PROGRAM**
Dr. Robert N. Carrow
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

4:30-7:00 Industrial Show Open
Exhibition Hall

— Evening —

**8:00- BANQUET AND WINTER SCHOOL
CEREMONY**
Dr. John Denison, M.C.
University of Massachusetts
NATIONAL BUSINESS HUMOR TEST
Bill Alexander

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1981

ALTERNATE SESSION

Morning — College Room

Chairman: Mr. Charles Mruk,
Boots Hercules Agrochemicals Corp.

9:00- 9:45 GROWTH REGULATORS
Mr. John Jagschitz
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI

**9:45-10:30 PROPAGATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF TREES**
Mr. Harold Crane
Princeton Nurseries
Princeton, NJ

**10:30-11:00 FERTILIZATION PRACTICES FOR
SEED AND SOD ESTABLISHMENT**
Dr. Robert C. Shearman
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NB

11:00-2:00 Industrial Show Open
Exhibition Hall

— Afternoon —

2:00- 2:45 THE LAWN CARE INDUSTRY
Mr. James Kelley
Lansdale, PA

**2:45- 3:30 NATURAL GRASS ATHLETIC FIELDS
— A REALITY**
Dr. Henry W. Indyk
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ

**3:30- 4:15 MAINTENANCE OF THE ORANGE
BOWL**
Mr. Dale Sandin
Miami, FL

4:30-7:30 Industrial Show Open
Exhibition Hall

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1981

GOLF COURSE SESSION

Morning — Banquet Room

Chairman: Prof. John M. Zak

University of Massachusetts

10:00-10:30 WATER PRIORITIES
Mr. Sherwood A. Moore
Winged Foot Golf Club
Mamaroneck, NY

**10:30-11:00 TURFGRASS RESEARCH AT
BELTSVILLE**
Dr. Jack Murray
Field Crops Laboratory
Beltsville, MD

**11:00-11:45 EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT
THROUGH THE SYSTEMS
APPROACH**
Dr. Robert C. Shearman
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NB

**11:45-12:30 GREENS MAINTENANCE —
YOUR COFFEE OR COFFIN**
Dr. A. J. Powell
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY

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NEWSLETTER

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