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

December 1987

-NEXT MEETING-

Tuesday, January 5, 1988 Wellesley C.C.

9:00 Directors Meeting

10:45 Annual Meeting 12:00 Lunch

1:00 Educational

Directions to Club: 128 to route 9 westtake 2nd right on rte. 9-Cedar St. (Needham, Dover exit) go over rte.9 and follow double yellow line to club-about 2 miles from rte. 9.

> Host Superintendent -Tom Schofield CGCS

Reservations Required -(617) 235-2487

Divot Drift

The November meeting was held at Needham Golf Club. It was back to reality after playing The Country Club and Brae Burn C.C. a few weeks before. We had 57 players test their golfing skills on this gorgeous November day.

The tournament was an individual quota and the winners were-Mel O'Kelly, Marshfield C.C. plus 6. In at plus 4 for second place was Jim O'Kelly, Brae Burn C.C. Third spot was captured by Tony Caranci at plus 2, Ledgemont C.C. Fourth spot at plus 1 went to Mike Iacono, Metacomet C.C. In fifth position, at 0 (even quota) was Bob Mucciarone, Dedham Polo Club. Closest to the pin on #2 went to Mike Iacono, Metacomet C.C. Closest to the pin on #7 was awarded to Kevin

Continued on page 2

Smooth Sailing on Super Love Boat

What's this? Despite the possibility of facing up to the stress, strain, tribulations, even tragedies which might come with the job, the Newsletter has discovered that being married to a golf course superintendent "ain't" that bad, after all.

In fact, according to reactions within the New England ranks, there is only one word for it-"Super".

So says Cheryl Johnson whose husband, Doug, is there for the greening of the Pine Brook Country Club every golf

"Agree", chimes Carolyn Murphy who's been right there waiting at the front door with a cheery greeting for Larry Gannon Municipal's stellar superintendent, Steve, for the past 15 years.

"I wouldn't want it any other way," tells Blanche Mucciarone after raising nine children and never seeing her love boat rock while sailing through life with Woodland's staunch course groomer,

"Make it four on the positive side," adds Sally Miller who's been side-by-side Tedesco Country Club superintendent, Paul, since they began dating at Sandwich High School.

Therefore, it's unanimous. Wedded bliss runneth over where super and spouse are concerned.

The Millers are living testimonial to the typical rosy relationship that blooms on and off the golf course.

Sally, who has her own career as an art director for an advertising agency, gives the superintendent's profession high marks.

"It's wonderful," she explains, "I'm sure there are guys in business suits riding by the club who envy Paul and his work. I also know that he's well respected by the members at Tedesco. But it should be that way. It's not all that easy a job, although it's rewarding."

So rewarding, by the way, that Sally reports another Miller appears to be following in his father's footsteps. "Oh, our son, Jon," she discloses. "He's working on the course and thinks he wants to become a superintendent. Me? I'm all for it."

Blanche Mucciarone embraces a big plus from her life with Norm.

"Norm's job introduced me to playing golf," Blanche says. "It gave me the opportunity to be with my husband in an atmosphere where we share talking about what we do in our daily lifestyles. Sure, we have private conversations about his job and that's part of the whole picture.

"Of course, we're very happy with our style of life. We've been able to bring up our children in a favorable environment and seen its benefits. I'm just delighted Norm's doing something he likes. He's dedicated, you know. And I share his enthusiasm for his job."

Like the other superintendent wives, Carolyn Murphy admits that her only complaint centers on the seasonal aspects of her husband's profession-that summer vacations and social life that time of year is married life's forbidden fruit.

"But Steve and I work around little snags like that," explains Carolyn who is a teacher in the Swampscott school

Continued on page 2

25 Year Pin Award to be presented at annual meeting to Mauel Francis Jr. and Max Mierzwa

THE SUPER continued

"In the end, the condition of the course is the superintendent's responsibility. Therefore, if he has the manpower and expertise to assume that responsibility in his absence, there's no reason why he can't get away for a little while.

"I think it's therapy to be able to take a break in the middle of the season. After all, this is a dawn-to-dusk, day-in and dayout job and a change in that program just may be what the superintendent needs to do the job to the best of his ability.

Chip Brearley, Brockton Country Club: "Oh, boy. This is really one you can chew on and never really come up with the right answer.

"Personally, I think that taking a full week's vacation in the middle of summer is stretching the limit. I know, a lot of guys may not agree with my thinking, but summer is the peak time of our business and that time of year when the course needs the superintendent's attention most.

"Not that I'm against getting away from it all.

"So, yes, I believe the superintendent needs a break when the season is in high gear. But I don't think he should be able to push the break to a full week.

"If you want to pin me down to specifics, I'd say three days at a time are enough. To tell the truth, I get bored when I'm away for more than that amount of time.

"Naturally, all the discussion about summer vacations, how long they should be and what not has to depend on the individual situation, meaning that no one can leave the course for any extended time unless they can leave it in good hands.

"Right now, with the labor shortage conditions, unless I have an excellent crew and someone to direct them when I'm not here, I don't think I'm going anywhere.

"I'm still stuck on that week business, too. I know I'd feel guilty asking for anything more than three days at the peak of the season. But this is just one man's opinion."

Bob Heeley, Quaboag Country Club: "Situation. That's the key.

"I think most green chairmen respect the needs of the superintendent and one of those needs is to get away from the course for a while.

"Here at Quaboag, I deal with the owner, In fact, just last August I went to him and told him I needed some time off. The reason was that I thought I was going stale.

"He let me call the shots. So, I took three days off, went to the Cape with my wife and returned feeling a lot better.

"That break re-charged my batteries. When I got back to the course, I was really full of anticipation and drive. As a matter of fact, I couldn't wait to tackle my fall work.

-POSITION OPENINGS-

18 Holes, Poquoy Brook G.C.

Leonard Street, Lakeville, MA 02347 Contact: Ray Maroos

18 Holes, Tedesco C.C.

Send resumes to: Green Chairman Mr. James Feran, 154 Tedesco Street Marblehead, MA 01945

Ellinwood C.C.

Send resumes to: Green Chairman Mr. Thomas L. Day, 251 Marshall Street Athol, MA 01331, (617) 249-8983

Assistant Supt., Foxboro C.C.

Send resumes to: Bill Rolland-Supt. Roxboro C.C., Walnut Street Foxboro, MA 02035 "I also can see where some superintendents might need a full week to get revived, so to speak. You know, this was a tough year for some of us—the early ice damage, then the dry spell. I know it made for a lot of mental fatigue in the profession.

"Under that situation, I'd be all for a superintendent taking a week's vacation in the middle of the summer. It would be beneficial, freshen him up pretty good.

"Regardless of the length of time, though, I think a break is a very good idea. Speaking for myself, I've always found my time-off to be rewarding—for me and the job."

GERRY FINN

GCSAA News

Gene Sarazen to receive old Tom Morris Award

Legendary golfer Gene Sarazen has been selected to receive the old Tom Morris Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). Sarazen is the sixth recipient of the award, one of golf's most prestigious.

The award will be presented to Sarazen on February 8, 1988, at the banquet closing GCSAA's 59th International Golf Course Conference and Show, which begins February 1 in Houston.

The announcement was made October 9 during the GCSAA Board of Directors fall meeting in Houston.

Sarazen joins Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, Gerald Ford, Patty Berg and Robert Trent Jones, Sr. as recipients of the coveted honor.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Albert Allen who passed away last month. Mr. Allen was president of our association in 1959-1960. He was superintendent of Kernwood C.C. until his retirement in 1977.

25 Year Pin Award to be presented at annual meeting to Mauel Francis Jr. and Max Mierzwa

THE SUPER continued

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