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GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS
ASSOCIATION
OF NEW JERSEY

THE Greener Side

Vol. 6 No. 6

December 1983

The Greener Side Staff

would like to extend our

Best Wishes for a

Healthy, Happy and Prosperous

Holiday Season

To All Our Readers and Patrons

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 4, 1984
Willet Wilt Racquetball In-
vitational. Little Silver,
N.J. Contact Ken Kubik
for info

January 26-27, 1984
GCSAA Golf Championship,
McCormick Ranch Golf
Club and Phoenician Golf
and Racquet Club,
Phoenix, Arizona

January 28 -
February 3, 1984
55th GCSAA Convention, Las
Vegas, Nevada

January 10, 12, 19, 1984
Automatic Irrigation Systems
Seminar, Cook College,
New Brunswick, N.J.
Contact Dr. Ralph Engel
for further info

September 21, 1984
GCSANJ 7th Annual In-
vitational Championship,
Canoe Brook Country
Club, Skip Cameron, host
IN OUR NEXT ISSUE
GCSAA National Candidates
Respond to Questions
from the Greener Side

the GREENER SIDE

GCSANJ Newsletter is published six times a year by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, N.J. 08903.

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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

Cook College - Rutgers University
Box 231
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

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Vice President

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Wayne Ballinger, CGCS
Treasurer

Ed Nickelsen
Past President

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Joel Jacquemot
Director, District 4

?
Director, District 5

Charlie Cross
Director, District 6

John Boyer
Director, District 7

Dr. Henry Indyk
Executive Director

From the Editor's Desk



The year-ending Editor's Desk is always my favorite. I sit at my desk and randomly jot down thoughts about the year concluded, the people I've dealt with and the year to come. Now that I've explained what it is I'll write, here it is: Jim McLoughlin will be a hell of an asset to the right organization; Bob Osterman should take a long vacation and relax after this year; I don't think any golf course superintendent could have a better group of people to work with than I have at Ridgewood; I have never seen such a big improvement in newsletters throughout the country than I have this year; Louis Miller is even further off the wall than before; I wonder if Willet Wilt is related to Walter Will; nobody makes better golf machines than Dick Van Zandt; I saw Richie (Down Town) Browne slice two drives this year, a first; Peter is finally getting rid of the yips and it's libel to cost me; where is Al Wilson? Bear Bryant's wife has moved to New Brunswick, N.J. She said she wanted to get as far away from college football as possible (get the picture?); Ginny is becoming a sports family mother - at the kids' sporting events she yells at everyone; has Bert really slowed down his pace?; like him or not, Jack's a good guy to have on your side, nobody works harder when you need it most; John Boyer will be a big asset to the GCSANJ; Les Mickens looks real comfortable in Pa.; Boy, do we need an irrigation system at RCC; whatever happened to the Jets; Bill Adams is a real pleasure to work with; I hope I can concentrate more time on bunker work in '84; Bill Smart still does a great job with very little \$; I didn't think Mary and I could have a better relationship but she proved me wrong in '83 - I really love her; good luck Joe Kennedy, Joe Heroian, Jeff Drake, John Wantz and everyone starting a new position in '84; Mrs. McCanness, I promise I won't be with your husband on your birthday or anniversary in '84; we are all going to miss Jiggs; Wayne has done a great job at Rockaway; I never attended a better meeting than Rumson this year; Jim Gilligan, get involved again, we need you; want to have fun, play Winged Foot before or just after the Open; this association can really be strong if the young guys take a more active role; I really had a serious discussion with Carol Rhodes the other day; Skip had Canoe Brook in perfect condition for the Women's Amateur this year; Frank Hannigan will be a big asset to the Golf Course Superintendents as USGA Executive Director; best of the holidays to you all.

President's Message

Bob Dickison
CGCS



At the start of my second term I would like to thank all of the Board members and other members who helped and served on committees of the Association over the past year. Without you we could not have had the successful year that we did have in 1983.

I would also want to take this time to welcome the new Board members and Committee people who are going to serve the association over the next 12 months.

As most of you already know, at our annual meeting on November 15th, a blue ribbon committee was formed to examine our district set up. They are to report back to the membership on or before our first regular meeting in April. We now have eight districts of which two are operating reasonably well, one fairly well, four poorly, and one has been disbanded. It is obvious to the executive board and active membership that a study of our district set up and an evaluation of our needs are very much in order. I don't know what recommendations the district study committee will have, but one thing is for certain, over the next year some things will have to change if we are going to stay a viable organization in the future.

Not only will the district set up change, but there will have to be more people involved with the operation of the association. The membership, in general, has begun to get complacent over the last two to three years.

Everyone's help is needed to keep this a strong organization.

Thanks Ken

For the past six years, Ken Kubik has served our Association as Newsletter Advertising Manager. During Ken's tenure this publication has grown to a point where it is nationally recognized. Ken's dedication and conscientiousness are without a doubt one of the main reasons for this recognition. Ken has been, on occasion, my whipping post, my crying towel, and is a person I am truly proud to call a very good friend. Thanks for being there when I needed you, which was often.

Ken is resigning his position as of the first of the year. It has become an awkward position at best for him. In his attempts to encourage increases in our advertising patrons, he has often increased his own competition. I am certain Wharton School of Business would not encourage such a practice. Ken will continue his involvement with the Greener Side. He will still write the "Willet Wilt" column, help with "Chip Shots" and assist our new Advertising Manager, Mary Walsh, until she learns the ropes.

We all owe Ken a great debt of thanks for his work.

U.S.G.A. Links

During the recent past there has been concern that the Golf Course Superintendents who have hosted U.S.G.A. events have not been adequately recognized by the U.S.G.A. for their efforts in preparing and maintaining their course for the specific event. Is this a justified concern or not?

Having talked with a number of Golf Course Superintendents who have hosted U.S.G.A. events the majority felt they have received very good recognition from the U.S.G.A. The recognition came by being included in the closing ceremonies, having the superintendent and staff acknowledged verbally at the closing ceremonies, and in one instance having the superintendent speak at the closing ceremonies.

The host superintendents mentioned that their working relationships with the tournament director were excellent and that they were given more than adequate support in seeing that the tournament ran smooth as possible. Receiving follow up letters thanking the host club and entire staff was also mentioned.

One host superintendent feels that the public at large should be made more aware of what it takes to run a tournament. After all, the golf course, clubhouse facilities, and numerous committees just don't become finely honed overnight. Many hours of planning and preparation are involved in running a quality golf tournament.

How can the public be made more aware of what goes on behind the scenes? That's a good question. You people reading this could give some thought to that question. Ideas are always welcome.

All in all the host superintendents of U.S.G.A. events expressed very positive feelings from working with the U.S.G.A. at tournament time.

The U.S.G.A. is a good organization even though some do not feel so. They strive to make the game of golf enjoyable for every golfer. Setting standards on golf equipment, constantly reviewing rules, working with improved varieties of turfgrasses, working with handicapping systems, running some of the finest golf tournaments the world has to offer, the list goes on and on.

When we as Golf Course Superintendents have the chance to work with the U.S.G.A. we should make every effort possible to be at our professional best.

The game of golf without the U.S.G.A.—I wouldn't even want to think about it. C.C.

Profanity Makes Ignorance Audible

The bride was a rather untidy housekeeper and knew it. At last, she mustered the energy to give things a thorough cleaning one day.

That evening her husband shouted from the hall, in great dismay. "Honey where's the dust on this table. I had a phone number written in it."

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Looks good to me Ken, you win and I sit and drink.

Chip Shots

The District 4 November meeting was held at the Harkers Hollow C.C. where Ralph McNeel was the host. Approximately half the attendees were able to play golf. Joel Jacquemot was elected District 4 Director with Bob Phoebus and John Fenwick assisting.

Drew Kiszonak has been busy all year with the installation of an improved restaurant facility at Apple Mountain. He hopes to have it ready for the spring season.

We could fill a whole Greener Side page with the list of renovations Dave McGhee has undertaken at Fiddlers Elbow. Dave still finds time to keep his golf game about as good as Nat Binn's.

A recent conversation with Life member Alex Edgar reveals that he has become a one man caravan traveling throughout the East in his R.V.

The District 8 November meeting was held at the Riverton C.C. with Bernie Stuck host superintendent. Bernie gave a fine tour of his golf course. District 8 will meet in January at Ramblewood C.C. with Pete Jones hosting.

John Wantz is the new superintendent at North Jersey C.C. Best of luck, John.

Bob Dickison's Cocus Plumosa is spending a warm winter in a central New Jersey greenhouse.

John Ward is the new District 2 Director.

Charlie Cross is the new District 7 Director with Dave Pease Associate Director. Bruce Peeples was elected District 7 Secretary and Bruce Cadenelli has volunteered to continue his work with the writing, printing, and mailing of the District 7 News Sheet. Bruce does an excellent job with the News Sheet and District 7 appreciates his efforts. All this took place at the District 7 November meeting held on November 29 at the Hollywood Golf Club. A possible tour of the Meadowlands Sports Complex for sometime in January was discussed. Jeff Allen is working out the details.

On one leg of his recent golfing tour Frank Bevelaqua shot a blazing 119 at the Howell Park Golf Course. Steve Finamore was there to witness the occasion. It must have been the weather, right, Frank.

Dr. Henry Indyk has mentioned that he would like to attend some District meetings. So, all you District Directors try to make Dr. Indyk aware of the time and place of your future meetings.

Commercial Clippings

Mike Oleykowski has joined Lakeshore Equipment and Supply Co. and will operate the Lesco Truck in the New Jersey, New York and Connecticut area. Mike is 26 years old and a graduate of Penn State University. Mike and his wife, Chris, along with their 10 month old daughter, Lauren, reside in Bergenfield, New Jersey.

Les Guedel has become regional manager and will also be in charge of Lakeshore's new plant and warehouse, which will be constructed near Hightstown, New Jersey.

"IF"

Many unique words have captured the imaginations of various peoples over the years, but no word in the English language can quite compare to the Power - Mystery - Confusion - or downright "Impossible Dream" promise that can be everyone's fantasy when they believe in that lousy two-letter word — "IF" — Can you imagine —

- WHAT IF . . . an IZOD was really a Duck!
- " . . . a juniper was a Julyiper!
 - " . . . Skip never knew Jack!
 - " . . . Jack never knew Skip!
 - " . . . Supers bought for salesmen!
 - " . . . "Jesus Saves" bumper stickers really said "Jesus Saves POA"!
 - " . . . they named Oftanol - Lessthanall!?
 - " . . . Bluegrass was true to its color!
 - " . . . TORO was spelled with a "B" instead of a "T"!
 - " . . . LSR stood for Late Summer Rots!
 - " . . . SP stood for "Surprise . . . Pythium!!!!"
 - " . . . DeSanctis, Kubik, Gallion knew what a head of hair was!
 - " . . . a Stiff Shaft was censored!
 - " . . . the Stimp Meter never existed!
 - " . . . A Hole-in-One was street language!
 - " . . . Flowables didn't Flow (call Dr. Paul . . . again!!!)
 - " . . . a Boom sprayer went "BOOM"!
 - " . . . a Cushman had to be a Cushperson!
 - " . . . Fungus were never Among-us!
 - " . . . "8" slices per round of golf was called a Pizza!
 - " . . . a Caddy really "knew" the Golf Course
 - " . . . we all didn't maintain a sense of HUMOR!

And what "IF" Ed Walsh does not publish this . . . just what if? What "IF" I signed my name to this . . . No Way . . . I value my reputation too much to do that . . . but, just what "IF"!

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BOARD NOTES

On October 27, 1983, the Board of Directors held a meeting at the Montclair G.C. At this meeting President Bob Dickison announced that John Boyer would serve as voting delegate to the National Convention.

Nomination Committee Chairman Ed Nickelsen submitted his committee recommendations for officers in 1984 to be presented to the membership at the annual meeting. They are: President, Robert Dickison; Vice-President, Robert Ribbans; Secretary, Wayne Foster; Treasurer, Wayne Ballinger.

New members accepted: Richard T. Broome, "A", Little Mill C.C. and Paul Kuehner, "B", Rock Spring Club.

The G.C.S.A.N.J. held their annual meeting on November 15, 1983 at the Battleground C.C. The Annual Financial Report was given along with the Annual Reports of Standing Committees.

The main topic on the agenda was the District concept. President Dickison informed the membership about problems being experienced by the Board with the District concept, and asked for the members feelings and thoughts on this matter. Following this discussion a committee consisting of John Boyer, Chairman; Jeff Wetterling, John Fenwick, Mike Dale, Ed Nickelsen, Charles Edgar and Ed Walsh were selected to look into these problems and recommended some possible solutions.

Election Chairman Skip Cameron presented the Nomination Committee's recommendations for Officers for 1984 to the membership, and asked if there were any nominations from the floor - none were presented - and the following were elected unanimously:

President, Robert Dickison
Vice-President, Robert Ribbans
Secretary, Wayne Foster
Treasurer, Wayne Ballinger

Tony Grasso and Lou Vay were presented with 25 year plaques.

Our 19th Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day proved to be another successful effort. From the standpoint of the number of participating exhibitors and booth space, it set a new record. Attendance, although not a record setter, was substantially higher than 1982 and ranked near the top of the attendance list of previous Field Days. Some of the statistics which might be of interest to you-

Number of Exhibitors 50
Number of Booths 65
Number of Demonstrations 38
Registered Attendance 510
Non-registered Attendance ?

The Field Day in 1984 will be a special event - our 20th. Your thoughts and ideas for its observance as a special event would be appreciated.

Nothing is quite so annoying as to have someone go right on talking when you're interrupting.

Ask: Willet Wilt



Willet Wilt has taken a sabbatical as Professor of Agronomy at Ace School of Diesel Mechanics to answer member questions from Greener Side's loyal readers.

Q: I was disappointed to find your lecture at the N.J. Turfgrass Expo was cancelled. Why was this?
P.D.Q., Foul Rift, N.J.

A: I was scheduled to give a speech on humorous golf course happenings during this past summer, but there was nothing funny about the summer of '83. W.W.

Q: How do I keep goose grass off my tees? T.G.F., Yardville, N.J.

A: Use styrofoam swans as tee markers. W.W.

Q: Do you have any suggestions for winter greens? P.S.I., Millbrook, N.J.

A: My wife keeps them in her purse to give to the kids in church. W.W.

Q: The U.S.G.A. has tested various shoes for the amount of damage they do to the golf green. Have there been any other shoe-damage tests done to greens? X.Y.Z., Grassy Sound, N.J.

A: Yes, extensive tests done at Millbrook G.C. have shown that the most damaging shoe is baseball spikes, especially if the golfer slides into the green. This was closely followed by football cleats' damage shown when doing an end-run around the pin placement. W.W.



Willet will lead a seminar at the G.C.S.A.A. Convention in Las Vegas on 101 Illegal Pin Placements. Please plan to bring your own hole cutter for

the laboratory. Reserve your place by contacting Ken Kubik at P.O. Box 336, Mt. Freedom, N.J.



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MEET OUR PATRONS



Jim Davenport

Jim is the President of Davenport Tree Service located in Wyckoff, New Jersey. He has owned his present company for 12 years. Before D.T.S., Jim worked for many years in the tree maintenance business.

Jim graduated from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Forestry in 1964. While attending college he worked as a lumberjack for a large paper company putting his educational efforts into good practical experience. He is a New Jersey-certified tree expert and approved arborist. Jim uses his business experience to help in civic duties as he is the chairman of the Wyckoff Shade Commission.

Jim centers his business around golf course and estate tree maintenance. His company has been serving North Jersey and Long Island golf courses for the past five years.

John Schaus, Jim's brother-in-law, has been an active part of Davenport Tree Service for the past ten years. John came to D.T.S. after 23 years of self-ownership of his own tree care company.

Jim, wife Kathryn and daughter Jennifer (17 months) live in Wyckoff. The Davenports are expecting their second child in January.

Jim lists hiking, hunting and tennis as his hobbies. He also suggests golf will be attempted soon. Jim and Davenport Tree Service have been faithful supporters of the Greener Side for the past three years.

Golf Cart Maintenance — The Key to Success

Do you shut the door on your golf carts during the most important part of the season - the off season? Winter is here and snow covers the ground. But, in three months, warmth and sunshine will welcome back the return of the golf season. Will your golf carts be ready? If you close the door on them after the season has ended, expecting them to be ready in the spring, you might be surprised.

Golf carts require a lot of looking after in order to perform up to par season after season. Many golf clubs derive a great income from their golf carts, but never seem to put much back into the cart operation. Some kind of preventive maintenance program, whether it be done by the club or an outside golf cart repair contractor is necessary.

Here is a look at the preventive maintenance program at Ridgewood Country Club which consists of three parts: batteries, battery chargers and the golf cart.

Batteries are probably the most important aspect of the preventive maintenance program, since they are your power source. If they are not checked and tested, come the height of the season you will find your carts having a hard time making 18 holes. We test and discharge all our batteries. We then determine the defective ones and either replace them or simply mix and match them to make a good set. By doing this, we have less of a chance of starting the season with weak batteries.

Charging batteries in the winter is very important. Batteries should be charged at least once every four weeks, then stored in an unheated area, because heat will increase the amount of self-discharge in the batteries. The batteries should always be kept clean, especially on the tops, also reducing self-discharge. The water level should be checked at the end of the season and then again before the start of the season.

Battery chargers are frequently neglected by many golf clubs. They should be kept clean and checked for any damage sustained during the season, i.e. broken and frayed wires, cracked DC charging plugs, and dented outer coverings. Charger plug blades should be steel woolled to insure a

good current flow. The receptacle in the cart should be checked to see if receptacle clips are tight enough to hold charger plug blades.

Golf carts are the remaining part of the preventive maintenance program. All of our carts are serviced once a year in addition to any necessary repairs. Before any work is done, they are steam cleaned to remove all deposits accumulated during the year. Servicing begins at the front end: aligning it, making sure it is tight, repacking wheel bearings and greasing all fittings. We then check steering and brakes for safety, making all adjustments needed and replacing any defective parts. All wiring is checked for bad wires or any indication of a problem in the electrical system. The motor is checked and aired out to remove all deposits from the motor's brushes. The brushes are also checked for cracks and wear. We then check fluid in the rear-end and go over the entire cart frame for any cracks or breaks. Check all tires, tightening all nuts and bolts to eliminate squeaks and rattles. Also, make sure there is enough rubber and all pedals and floor mats are safe. As a final step, we test drive the cart, then compound and wax it.



An effective maintenance operation produces satisfied members.

After you have gathered all of this important information, you must sort it and develop some kind of records. These records can help you keep track of repairs made as well as any recurring problems. Also, when it comes time to sell the carts, your resale value will be higher if you have records documenting all work done to the cart. At Ridgewood, every cart has a file for all service and repairs. A record of all battery tests and replacements is also kept on file. Your records may also become important should any injuries occur resulting in a lawsuit being filed.

In conclusion, I would like to again emphasize the importance of a sound preventive maintenance program. Ed Walsh, Superintendent at Ridgewood, and I agree that even though we have increased our budget for carts, we have also decreased breakdowns, saving us three times the money in the long run. It is good to know your carts are in the best possible shape to withstand thirty-six holes a day, seven days a week. You and your golfers can relax without worrying about carts breaking down.

John Wesolowski
Golf Cart Operations, Ridgewood C.C.

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The History of Golf

PART IV

During the early part of this century the Europeans, and particularly the British, considered themselves the best golfers in the world.

By general consensus on both sides of the Atlantic the finest player in the world was an Englishman, Harry Vardon. In 1913 Vardon and another fine English golfer, Ted Ray, made an extended tour of the U.S. They played exhibitions and drew great crowds of enthusiastic American golfers. The one interruption in the tour was their stop to participate in the National Open, at The Country Club in Brookline. The two Englishmen were joined by fellow countryman Wilfrid Reid and the great French player of the day, Louis Tellier. These four represented the class of the field and it was felt that the prize would go to one of the four. The press believed American golf still a few years behind the golf of the continent. The stars on the American side were defending champion Johnny McDermott, and two very young golfers, Francis Ouimet and Walter Hagen.

At the halfway point of the tournament everything was as expected. Reid and Vardon were tied at 147, two better than Ray, and four ahead of Hagen and Ouimet. During the next day as more and more golfers fell back Ouimet fired a 74 to tie Vardon. Ray also tied with a 72. Observers doubted that the inexperienced

AMERICAN amateur had much chance against the Britishers. Ray finished the fourth round over a rain drenched course with a 79 and stood in the clubhouse at 304.

As the scores came in and all were very high it appeared for the first time that 304 might be good enough. One by one the competitors fell to the deteriorating conditions. Vardon, putting terribly, managed to struggle home with a 79 to tie. The only player left on the course with a chance, although slim, was Francis Ouimet. Ouimet had made the turn with a 43 and had to fire a 36 on the back to tie. When Ouimet took a five on the short tenth, most felt he had destroyed all hope of winning. Francis birdied the 13th, parred 14, 15, 16 and sunk a 23 ft. putt on 17 for another birdie. He needed a par on 18 to tie and another bird would give him a great golf upset. On 18 however, he mishit his approach and was faced with a six ft. putt to tie. Calmly he stroked the ball, it hit the back of the cup and stayed in.

The next day players stayed even through the front, but on the back nine, Francis Ouimet took over, defeating Vardon by 5 and Ray by 6. The accomplishment signalled to the world that the American golfer was ready for anyone, and was a major moment in the history of American golf.

GOODBYE JIGGS We Will All Miss You



James "Jiggs" Remo
1924 - 1983

Jiggs began working on the greens crew at the Houvenkoph Country Club before WWII. The name of the club was later changed to the Out Of Bounds C.C. This course was located where the Mahwah Ford Plant is now. He was asked to take over as superintendent after the present super retired. He then went into the Navy and, after he served, opened a dry cleaning delivery service. Unfortunately his truck was destroyed in a garage fire and soon after, he took over as superintendent of Riverdale Country Club in or around 1949. He remained there for 10 years and then resigned to take over as super of Spring Rock Country Club in Spring Valley, N.Y. I might add that during his time at Riverdale and Spring Rock, he worked nights as watchman of a railroad yard in Spring Valley, N.Y. He left Spring Rock in 1962 to be the super at The Pines C.C. (Emerson C.C.) and stayed only one year. He then operated a service station in Waldwick until 1964, when he became super of Purchase and High Ridge Country Clubs in New York and Connecticut. In 1967 he began as super of North Jersey Country Club, where he was until his death in October.

Jiggs attended Ramsey High School and hailed from Mahwah. He excelled in the sport of football, but played basketball and baseball also. He was offered a shot at professional football, but his stint in the Navy destroyed that. He was head coach of the Wyckoff Recreation Football Team for 23 years.

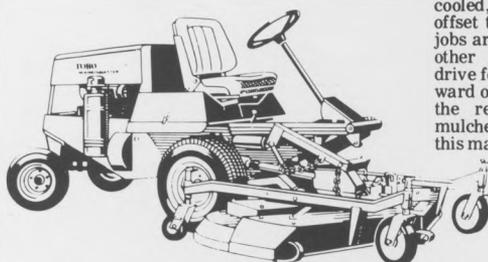
Most of all, he was my father and best friend. I will miss him. Wayne Remo.

To Our Friends in the GCSANJ

Just wanted to thank you for your thoughts and prayers in the passing of my father. Your thoughtfulness has made me even prouder to be a member of this Association. I just hope that wherever he is he can keep his handicap, and that there is no poa annua!

Thanks again.
Wayne P. Remo

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