



THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents

Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

—SEPTEMBER, 1986—

—DATES TO REMEMBER—

September 11-14

PGA Tour, Bank of Boston Classic
Pleasant Valley C.C., Sutton, Mass.

September 16

GCSANE Regular Meeting
Essex County C.C.
Manchester, Mass.

September 25

GCSANE/CCTMA
Member Guest Tournament
Cummaquid G.C.
Yarmouthport, Mass.

October 6

GCSANE Superintendent/
Club Official Tournament
Hatherly C.C.
Scituate, Mass.

October 20

Superintendent-Pro Tournament
Brae Burn C.C.
Newtonville, Mass.

November 3

GCSANE Regular Meeting
Presidents G.C.
Quincy, Mass.

December 6

GCSANE Christmas Party
Needham G.C.

December 11-12

GCSAA/RIGCSA Seminar
Golf Course Construction &
Project Management
Seekonk, Mass.

—NEXT MEETING—

Tuesday, September 16, 1986

**Essex Country Club
Manchester, Mass.**

10:00 Directors Meeting
11:00 Regular Meeting
11:45 Lunch
12:30 Golf - Shot Gun Start

Directions to Club: Rte. 128 North to
Exit 15 (School St.). Go Right at end of
ramp. Club is approximately ½ mile
on left.

Host Superintendent: Tom Broder

Reservations Required - 617-526-7311

LPGA TOUR

The LPGA Tour recently made its annual visit to Danvers, Topsfield, Mass. for the Boston Five Classic at Ferncroft C.C. An excellent field showed up for five gorgeous days on the links.

We can all appreciate the amount of preparation that must go into this event and Course Superintendent Paul Johnson was once again up to the task. The golf course was in tip-top condition and the pros had many comments to that effect. Paul could be seen riding around the course with his lovely wife, Joanne, who oversees all of his operations. Esthetically, the course continues to be beautified with an extraordinary array of flowers. Despite the record turnout this year, litter was a rare sight - what a clean-up job that must be!

Paul's job should get even more interesting next year as ESPN will move its television cameras and trucks in for 3 days of coverage.

We should extend our thanks to the Boston Five for its sponsorship. We seem to forget how much money goes to charity. Let's also not forget the Flatley Corporation. Thank you for continuing the tradition year after year.

Paul is really looking forward to next year already - especially the closing ceremonies where this year he received hugs from winner Jane Geddes and runner-up Bev Richard.

Despite giving credit for all of his accomplishments we hear he gets input from "Sasquatch" Cowan, CGCS, Eastward Ho! who was a starter on the first tee for one of the days and Capt. Kirk from the Pitch & Putt who caddied for his brother in the Pro-Am.

Thanks again to everyone who makes this wonderful event possible. The LPGA falls in love with New England about this time every year.

—RON KIRKMAN

GCSAA News Release—

—Golf Courses Hit Hard By Drought In The Southeast—

The drought in the Southeastern United States has had a great impact on golf courses - and their management - in that area. Water rationing and dry irrigation ponds have altered maintenance practices for many golf course superintendents. Less frequent mowing and fertilization have been common steps taken due to the lack of rainfall.

"We're about 14 inches below average for rainfall," says Dave Powell of Myers Park C.C., Charlotte, N.C. "We're under mandatory water restrictions. We normally were able to water from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m., but now we're only allowed to water from 12 a.m. until 6 a.m. on odd days. As a result, we're just barely keeping the grass alive and green. We've cut our water use back to a third of what we

normally use."

"We've had an inch of rain since June 7th," says Andy Brennan of Temple Hills G&CC, Nashville, Tenn. "We've had several days of record high temperatures. I normally have five lakes that I pump from, but I've already emptied a couple of them. We've also lowered our fertilization rates.

"I think we can 'make do' until Labor Day, but there's no assurance that it will rain by Labor Day. A couple of years ago," Brennan adds, "we had a drought and didn't get rain until October 14th."

"Our main irrigation pond is so low that we're having to supplement it with water from another lake using a temporary pumping station," says Reed C. Hopke, Jr., Atlanta C.C.,

Drought cont. on pg. 3—

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—Shakespeare Major Makes Minor Adjustment—

Jeff Carlson says it was a minor adjustment.

"True," the self-assured Ocean Edge superintendent spouted. "I majored in English (Shakespeare studies at the top of his interest level) and then discovered the minor in back of my head was more important in plotting my future."

That's how Carlson took his direction, away from the egghead life of a potential college literature professor to the more adventurous life of a golf course superintendent.

And what more adventurous path is there than the one that landed him at Ocean Edge, the condominium-laced course in Brewster which is making fast tracks toward becoming one of the most interesting of the Cape Cod layouts?

Carlson's disjointed background is no joke. He graduated from Drew University in New Jersey and had all the intentions of taking his degree to the bank when he decided burying his head in books just wasn't his cup of tea.

Therefore, he put eight weeks of turf school at the University of Massachusetts on his list to do today and a new vocation was born - via earlier money-making stints as a golf course laborer in New Jersey and Connecticut.

Jeff didn't take any detours on his way to Ocean Edge, either.

"Oh, the golf course wasn't all that much then (1979)," he revealed. "It was the remnants of an old course in Brewster that had died and been resurrected several times before things started to get serious."

The serious side of the course, eventually turned over to the architectural talents of Geoff Cornish and Brian Silva (actually, Brian took on the project as his personal pride and joy), surfaced in 1983. That's when the present owners - Corcoran, Mullins & Jennison, Inc. - took it over with a lavish resort complex in mind.

That's also when Carlson became a viable member of the production team as the superintendent, cook and bottle-washer which means he was involved in the construction aspect of things from A to Z.

"It really became fun once we knew that we were after something above the ordinary," Jeff explained. "When I

first came to Brewster, it was nothing more than a matter of survival - for the course and myself. But once CMJ got into the picture, the heart of the course picked up its beat."

Today, Carlson beams when he relates the evolution of Ocean Edge from a rag tail to a flossy operation.

"We opened last May (that's just four months ago, friends) and we got rave notices from the first tee shot," Carlson flapped. "The designers, and Brian Silva was the main man for this one, really went into the deep well to come up with an interesting layout."

"Just to be different, Ocean Edge is not the standard, comfortable resort-type golf course. For one thing, our par-fives are not breathers. In fact, they take your breath away. Just think. They run: 601, 597 and 537 yards, respectively."

"That's big hitter's country. Yet, the 18 holes add up to 6,581 yards from the blue (championship) tees. That gives us room to come up with some finesse holes and they're there. I'm very confident we'll come along to the point where Ocean Edge coincides with the very best in golf on the Cape."

It's ironic that Carlson's course is just a few miles from another new Cape golfing gem - The Captains.

"Right," Jeff responded. "We're close in one respect (actual distance between the two courses) but far apart in another. They are totally different courses. We're a resort course which gives the layout a spider effect."

"There are condos going up and we have a convention center from which to base our group operations. Above all, though, is the patented design of the course with give ponds on the property but water in play on only two holes."

"Besides the par fives, all monsters, our next attraction is the par three 17th hole. It's a beauty. You're going to hear a lot about this one. It's an all-carry 200-yarder over a cranberry bog. Gives you kind of a beauty and the beast feeling."

While Carlson takes the conditioning whip to Ocean Edge, other notable contributors to its potential include construction aide John Ponko, general manager Robert Rubiano and golf director Jim Jones.

Together, they form the backbone of a promising golfing venture in, a

—Area Courses Honored—

Congratulations to Whitinsville Golf Club and Myopia Hunt Club. The 4th and 9th holes at Myopia and 9th hole at Whitinsville were recently honored when included in Golf Magazine's 100 GREATEST GOLF HOLES IN AMERICA. Congratulations also to The Country Club and Kittansett. The 3rd hole at both courses was also included in the top 100.

Of the 50 best holes open to the public, the 11th hole at The Captains Golf Course was included.

Dick Haskell, Mel Lucas, Geoffrey Cornish and Brian Silva were among the more than 70 panelists asked to select the HONORED 100 from the over 1,000 nominated golf holes.

The September, 1986 issue of Golf Magazine carries "THE 100 GREATEST HOLES IN AMERICA" written by Tom Doak and includes pictures from Myopia and Whitinsville.

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—Drought cont. from pg. 1

Atlanta. "The system isn't pumping out. We're pumping approximately 1,200,000 gallons less per week that we were before the drought."

"My fairways are really brown and off-color," says Randy Nichols of Cherokee Town and C.C. Dunwoody, Ga. "We have lost some bermudagrass on the fairway, and bermudagrass is hard to kill. There is such stress on the grass that we haven't mowed any fairways, roughs or tees in the last three-and-a-half weeks."

"We're around 17 or 18 inches behind normal for rainfall," he continues. "We've cut our fertilization rates back to one-half their normal amounts. We're also not allowing anyone off the cart paths."

"I've seen the membership get 'on edge' because of the 100-degree temperatures and because they have to stay on the cart paths," adds Nichols. "There's been a lot of unrest in the club as a result of the worst drought in our area on record."

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—GERRY FINN

Golf Course Superintendents Association

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NEWSLETTER, SEPT.—1986

— THE SUPER SPEAKS OUT —

(Welcome to The Super Speaks Out - a monthly feature which offers the golf course superintendent a forum to express his views on topics and issues relating to his profession.)

This month's question: *One of the hottest items in the profession of the golf course superintendent is the certification program. Some say it's one of the most worthwhile ventures in the history of the profession while others beg to differ with that assessment. What do you think?*

Brian Cowan, Eastward Ho: "I'm ceretified and make no bones about it. I wouldn't want it any other way.

"There are two priorities in my thinking about the value and effect of the certification program.

"No. 1. It's a definite asset in the future of the golf course superintendent's position. What I mean, is that certification will go a long way in a superintendent climbing the ladder of his profession.

"No. 2. It's a prestigious tool. Those letters - CGCS (Certified Golf Course Superintendent) are just like the MD after a doctor's name. They mean you care enough to keep abreast of the changing advancements in the profession and are willing to work to stay there.

"As for recognition by members, I feel that most of them appreciate what I've put into becoming certified. Maybe a few think it's not all that important but they're definitely in the minority.

"There are so many spin-offs from the program that add to the overall education and knowledge of the superintendent. For example, the program offers a CPR course. I took it, my members are aware of it and it works to everyone's peace of mind.

"Re-certification is also a positive step for the profession and the individual superintendent. Frankly, I can't think of one reason why someone would not be certified. It's here to stay and it's for the good of one and all."

Arthur Washburn, Cohasset Golf Club: "I'm kind of in the middle of this issue because I'm a superintendent who was certified, tried for re-certification and missed by one point and have developed an indifferent attitude about the whole thing ever since.

"Actually, certification is a good idea for the younger people getting into the business. And, according to

all reports, down the road it will probably have more meaning than it does now.

"However, I've found that being certified hasn't made one bit of difference for me as far as my membership is concerned. I really don't know if they even realize certification exists. At least, none has said anything to me about it.

"Some of the plans for the program down the road are really out of line, on the wrong tee. I think that having to complete four years of college before being able to become certified is ridiculous.

"I'm not against the white collar movement in our profession but trying to make it lily-white? Who are we trying to kid?

"Overall, I'd say a superintendent in my experience bracket (23 years) shouldn't be concerned about certification unless he plans to look for another job. I'm content without it. It's as simple as that."

Paul Johnson, Tara-Ferncroft: "I'm one of those guys who's never been certified and managed to survive to the point where I have one of the better jobs in the section.

"Those of you, who know me, know this is not blowing my horn. You asked and I answered what certification means to me. It's just an honest reaction.

"I hear about propositions, set by the National, suggesting that certification is the launching pad to ultimate success in our profession. That's a good pitch, but not necessarily the truth.

"For one thing, I don't think a superintendent has to be certified in order to keep up with technological improvements and the like. I just take it upon myself to make myself aware of them and that's that.

"I know people who have been certified but don't bother to get re-certified. What's the reason for that? You'd have to ask them but I suspect they don't think they got that much out of being certified in the first place.

"I also know of certified superintendents who have lost their jobs but I've never seen or heard of a job opening offer which specified, 'only certified superintendents may apply'.

"And, just for the record, Tara-Ferncroft recently initiated a contest for department heads, best of the

—CHIP SHOTS—

As of July 1, 1986 the Federal minimum wage is \$3.55/hr . . . Karl Olson, former Northeast USGA Agronomist is now the Golf Course Superintendent at National Golf Links of America on Long Island . . . Congratulations to Doug Johnson who got a Hole-in-One on his new 16th hole at Pine Brook. Playing with DJ was John (I'll be there tomorrow) Lenhart, Bob (Chopper) Brown, and Bob's brother. Seems Lenhart and Brown are playing a LOT of golf lately . . . one might think that their games would improve. I'll wager they tell their wives that they are working hard all the time, I'll also wager that Nancy and Karen don't believe them! . . . Congratulations also are in order for the Mike Legere (Holden Hills C.C.) family on the birth of their 2nd child, May 29, 1986, a beautiful daughter Monica Jordan Legere! . . . I wonder if Dennis Friel thought that he would be trying out for left tackle at the Heritage Hill meeting? I have a sneaking suspicion that the person that administered the blow had better be on his toes come ice season!

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Little Known Facts About Golf Courses

Ecologically, the golf course provides some pretty fantastic help to mankind, in addition to just giving him a place to exercise and enjoy life, for example:

An average 18-hole golf course, approximately 150 acres, can produce enough pure oxygen through photosynthesis for at least 100,000 people for the entire year. On a smaller scale, that means a well maintained lawn 50 by 50 feet liberates enough oxygen to meet the needs of a family of four, day after day.

The same average golf course of 150 acres can effortlessly absorb 12 million gallons of water during a three-

Little Known cont. on pg. 5—

group. The first winner just happened to be me.

"Maybe it's no big deal but I mention it to substantiate my point - that certification's not for me. When someone proves otherwise, I'll consider becoming certified."

—GERRY FINN

—Friends Forever More—

This is fast becoming the wide world of golf course superintendents. It obviously takes no great mind to vision days ahead when airborne vehicles shall be busy establishing shuttling service between countries and continents. We might even go island hopping for our monthly New England Association meetings. It is, indeed, a small world.

With this evidence before us, it is only natural that golf course superintendents get together in a display of mutual respect and recognition. This is how the Friendship Shield came about.

The Shield is just that, an official-lettered championship-carved wooden headstone which has been presented to the Scottish Greenskeepers Association from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England. It shall wing its way back to safe keeping with John Campbell, links supervisor at St. Andrews.

The act of friendship wasn't just one-way. In return Campbell gave to the New England boys a very famous piece of golf history. It is an original club head, made by the equally revered Tom Morris and is over one hundred years old.

Leon St. Pierre, our man of a thousand and one ideas, lit the lamp under this one. Leon proposed the exchange of gifts and it grew into this particular condition which will make the moment a treasure for both sides of the profession.

The club head shall be mounted on a shield and plans are to enter it in a golfing competition of the New

England group. Tournament chairman Wayne Ripley is in discussion with several members as to what particular event will set aside this Friendship Shield for its champion. There is some thought that it might be presented for one-year's display to the individual titlist of the association.

In turn, the Scots shall contest for their shield in some form of tournament. Thus, the two worlds of the U.S. and Scottish supers are brought closer together. The idea was super, Leon.

—GERRY FINN

The Newsletter, April-1969

***NOTE:** GCSANE Secretary Paul Miller would like to know if anyone in the Association knows what became of this club head. There seems to be no record of its whereabouts. If you can enlighten us on this subject please call Paul at work (617) 595-3107 or home (617) 631-7910. □ □ □

—Little Known cont. from pg. 4

inch rainfall.

Grass also provides a cooling effect. A 2000 square foot plot releases as much as 120 gallons of water through a method called evapotranspiration. This release of water reduces the heat factor. Grass absorbs only 50-60 percent of the incoming solar radiation while building and pavement absorb 90 percent.

Grass and tree leaves also help cleanse the atmosphere because of their ability to trap dust particles through static electricity of dense foliage. Rain then washes the particles into the soil,

—LAST MEETING—

August 11, 1986
Heritage Hill G.C.

Despite heavy rains the night before host Charlie Dickow and his staff had the course in immaculate condition. Our appreciation is also extended to Charlie's wife Sue, and the clubhouse staff for the steak cookout that was the best I've had all summer. *Thank you, very much . . .*

Golf Results-

Super-Super Championship

-1st Gross

Dennis Friel (Irwin Co.)
Dick Duggan (Concord C.C.)

1st Net

Ron Kirkman (Needham G.C.)
Bob Mucciarone (Dedham C.C.)

2nd Net

Doug Johnson (Pine Brook C.C.)
Paul Miller (Tedesco C.C.)

3rd Net

Rick Arzillo (Unicorn G.C.)
Don LaVangie (Norfolk G.C.)

Commercial Division

1st Gross

Steve Butler (Larchmont)
Larry Bunn (Sawtelle)

1st Net

Ed Wiacek (Scotts)
Ron Tumiski (Lesco)

Closest to Pin

5'2"

John Lenhart (Sawtelle)
Ed Wiacek (Scotts)

This information is provided by the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America, with a lot of help from all its friends everywhere.

GARFIELD by Jim Davis



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Weston Golf Club

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(617) 295-2362

International Golf Const. Co.
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Golf Course Construction
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Dennis Friel Phone # 617-938-1751
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617-862-2550

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Mike Donahue, Rep.
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Victoria Wallace, Rep.

The Magovern Co., Inc
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Windsor Locks, Conn. 06096
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1-203-623-2508

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Tennis Court Const. & Maint.
Sealcoating Hingham Inc. Center
Hingham, Mass. 749-6800

Nor-Am Chemical Co.
Wilmington, Delaware
David Sylvester, Rep.
203-828-8905

Norfolk Power Equip., Inc.
194 Main St.
Norfolk, Mass. 02056
Tel. 617-528-3120
Don Reynolds, Rep.

Old Fox Chemical Inc.
Fertilizers-Seeds-
Turf-Chemicals
66 Valley St.
E. Providence, R.I. 02914

Richey & Clapper, Inc.
28 Rutledge Rd.
Natick, Mass. 01760

***Sawtelle Bros**
565 Humphrey St.
Swampscott, Mass. 01907
617-599-4856

Scott Associates, Inc.
60 Water St., Clinton, Mass.
617-365-6341
Pumps-Sales, Service
Installation-Vertical
Turbine Pumps Specialists

Scotts Pro-Turf Div.
Rep. Ed Wiecek 1-401-253-4284
Rep. Dave Schermerhorn 617-347-5211

Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.
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1-800-556-6985
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Alan Anderson.

***Turf Products Corp**
36 Sword St.
Auburn, Mass. 01501
617-791-2091

***Turf Specialty Inc.**
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Hooksett, N.H. 03106
Turf & Ornamental Supplies
603-485-7866 (Collect)
Ken Turner-Kevin Lyons-Bob Lake

White Turf Engineering
P.O. Box 1116
Portsmouth, N.H. 03801
603-431-4147
Golf Course Irrigation Consultants
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Philip Wogan
Golf Course Architect
21 Budleigh Ave.
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