



THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents

Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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

October 1992

November Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 1992
Whitinsville G.C., Whitinsville, MA

Host Superintendent
Richard Zepp, CGCS

Education Speakers
Charlie Passios, CGCS,
Hyannisport Club
and GCSAA Director
and
Richard Zepp, CGCS,
GCSANE Past President

Topic: GCSAA By-Law Changes

8:30 a.m.	Board Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Regular Meeting
10:15 a.m.	Education
11:15 a.m.	Lunch
12:00 p.m.	Golf

Reservations Required
Call by November 2
(617) 328-9479

You must pay by check—No Cash!!
Checks payable to GCSANE

Dick Zepp has been the superintendent at Whitinsville Golf Club since 1976. He graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1973 and Stockbridge Turf Management in 1975. Dick and his wife Gigi reside in Northbridge with their three daughters; Jennifer 19, Dayna 16, and Katie 12.

Directions to Whitinsville Golf Club:
From Rte. 495 - Take exit 21B, "W. Main St., Upton". Go 4.8 miles to lights at Rte. 140. Continue across Rte. 140 and go .7 miles to end of road. Turn right, go 2.4 miles, and turn right onto Church Street. Go 2.1 miles to fourth traffic light and turn left onto Douglas Road. Go 100 yards and turn left onto Fletcher Street. Club is .3 miles on left. From Rte. 146: Take "Main St., Whitinsville, Manchug" exit. Turn left off ramp from 146 South or turn right off ramp from 146 North. Go 2.3 miles to traffic light and turn right onto Douglas Road. Go 100 yards and turn left onto Fletcher Street. Club is .3 miles on left.

Bob Heeley's golf life began at 40 (almost)

Bob Heeley likes to think of himself as a late arrival. Which places his thought process right on target. Not only did he begin his career as a golf course superintendent when he was 39 years old, he hadn't even seen a golf course until he walked into Leon St. Pierre's Longmeadow Country Club maintenance office to begin his placement service.

That was in 1955. Twenty-seven years later, Bob has stopped to smell the roses—on the other side of the golf fence, having retired last month and, ironically, just about the time his mentor closed his Longmeadow office door for the last time.

Heeley had only one head superintendent job and became a fixture in the relatively short time he served the Quaboag Country Club in that capacity. If a round of golf at Quaboag was not an enjoyable one, it was not because of the course. It was always in sterling condition under Heeley's diligent care.

How Heeley became associated with golf is a story in itself.

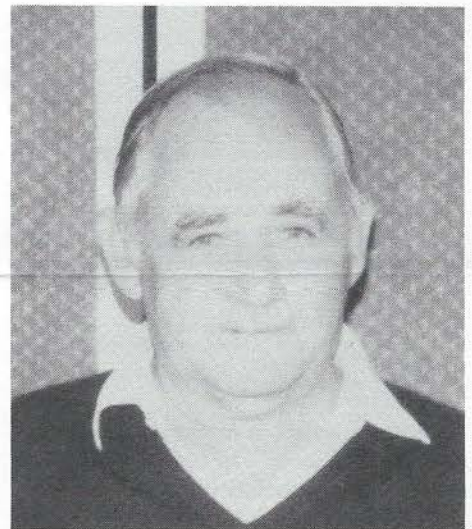
A native of Roxbury, Bob came out of the Navy looking for something to do, with golf farthest from the top of his list of possibilities.

"I was interested in electronics," Bob recalled. "It was that time when television was just starting to become popular, so I figured it would be a lasting if not lucrative field. I got a job in a factory that made picture tubes and it went pretty good."

In fact, along the way, Bob made friends with a couple of co-workers and they formed a partnership and business where they specialized in rebuilt picture tubes.

Life and business went on for Heeley for the next 18 years, as well as for his wife Janet and their three children. Except that at the time Bob was approaching 40, and he got caught up in a case of career blahs. He was still young, adventurous, and ready to tackle another vocational challenge.

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"Joe Troll convinced me that golf course maintenance was the place for me ... I still hadn't seen a course."

Bob Heeley

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That urge prompted him to renew his education at Stockbridge with the original intention of priming for a spot in the recreational business when Joe Troll (king of the turf management persuaders) took Heeley under his wing and turned his interest toward golf course maintenance.

"It's funny," Bob said. "Joe Troll convinced me that golf course maintenance was the place for me. Funny because I still hadn't seen a course, even while I was in school. But the next thing I knew Joe had me set to work under Leon at Longmeadow and, apparently, that change in careers was about to happen."

Heeley's placement year under St. Pierre at Longmeadow was well spent...well rewarding, too. He got to meet a lot of supers around western Massachusetts, all ready to help him get started. Of course, Leon was right there to light the fires for advancement.

That came fast. Heeley heard about an opening at Quaboag, went to the course for an interview, and landed the job. But for the next two years, it was a part-time venture, meaning he had to work winters to keep the off-season money rolling in.

"I did things like pump gas and deliver oil," Bob explained. "But it wasn't tough at all. I had found something I figured I'd be doing the rest of my life at Quaboag and fit right in just perfect."

A letter from GCSAA president

September 10, 1992

Dear Mr. Chiavaroli:

I truly appreciate the opportunity you will be giving Charlie Passios to speak to the GCSA of New England regarding the proposed By-Laws changes, which we will vote on at next January's Annual Meeting in Anaheim. As a member of the GCSAA Board of Directors and Chairman of our Organizational Study Committee, I feel these changes will ensure our successful growth as both a business and a profession for years to come. I look forward to sharing these ideas with your members.

As a "preview" of this discussion, I have written a synopsis of the issues, which will be appearing in the September issue of Golf Course Management magazine.

Thank you again for the opportunity. I am sure Charlie looks forward to seeing you and your members on November 5.

Sincerely,
William R. Roberts, CGCS
GCSAA President

Things even got brighter for Heeley a year later, when Monson industrialist Kenneth Sanderson bought Quaboag.

"The first thing he did was put me full time," Bob told. "That was a big boost and a good omen. It meant he thought a lot of me, and our relationship was top notch from that moment on. Working for him always was a treat. I always had a free hand. For the most part, he turned the golf course over to me and that situation got favorable results."

It wasn't the best of conditioning times for Quaboag when Bob arrived. The course was on the shabby side and needed a lot of refurbishing as well as some redesign work for which Sanderson brought in noted architect Geoff Cornish.

"When I first came to Quaboag, we had about 60 members and there wasn't much enthusiasm about how the course played," Bob said. "But, little by little, the improvements lured more golfers and their families to Quaboag. When I retired, we were at 300 members and holding. That's a sign that Mr. Sanderson had a lot of right things in mind when he bought the place 26 years ago."

Heeley admits he's a better watcher of golf than a golfer, although he loves the game. "Every time I picked up a club, the members would razz me," he laughed. "I didn't pick one up too often."

Janet, a former branch manager of the Ludlow Savings Bank, went to work for Bob the last few years where she became "the best sand trap raker I ever had," he flaps. But she's retiring also, so Quaboag has said goodbye to the whole Heeley clan.

"I was a late comer, all right," Bob concluded. "I can tell I did pretty well, too, because the years at Quaboag just flew by. My only regret is that I didn't get into the superintendent's profession earlier. But I'm satisfied. I hope everyone at Quaboag is satisfied with what I did, too."

No question there. Bob Heeley made his mark there...and in a hurry.

GERRY FINN

Calendar

Nov. 5	Whitinsville G.C. Whitinsville, Mass. Regular Meeting
Nov. 11-12	Warwick, R.I. Seminar: Public Relations & Public Speaking
Dec. 7	Franklin C.C. Franklin, Mass. Regular Meeting

The Super Speaks Out:

This month's question: What are your experiences with the maintenance of sand traps, how do your members react to traps in general, and where does this aspect of your maintenance program fall in line of priority and member interest?

Len Blodgett, The Kittansett Club:

"Big traps seem to be the way of the layout here, so there is no question as to how they must be maintained. By machine, of course. Otherwise, we'd be all day trying to keep them in shape."

"We have two machines doing the trap-maintenance job and, believe me, using them saves a lot of man hours. They do the job in about three to four hours, depending on the amount of edging needed, and they keep going at it three times a week."

"The consistency of the sand, the make-up of its weight and coarseness, are very important to the membership. So much so, that the members decided, by vote, what kind of sand they prefer in the traps."

"The sand, then, is a local product, a variety of mason sand that falls in between being coarse and fine. In other words, the golfers here don't have to adjust their approach to escaping bunkers because of a difference in sand. What they find in one trap is what they'll find in every one of the 64 we have on the course."

"As for the members retracing their tracks or raking over the damage they do in the traps, I'd say our response is average. With probably the best kind of rakes at their ready, our membership runs 40 to 60 percent in covering their tracks. Forty percent rake their footprints or whatever, and 60 percent leave the raking to someone else."



"Overall, sand trap maintenance is not one of my bigger headaches. It falls in the everyday type of chore and is something I can live with since our members seem to be satisfied with the overall product."

Mike Legere, The New England Country Club: "There are 54 traps on the course and, as far as

I can see, most of them are strategically placed to lend both an aesthetic and practical addition to the game's challenge."

"We use machines for maintenance for most of the bunker areas, but hand-rake the edges. This works out to a manpower outlay of two hours a day, five times a week. That's not too bad, considering we are a public course and many of our players aren't concerned with what the trap looks like after they have taken shots from it."

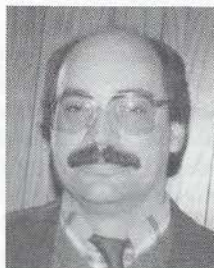
"I've always believed that keeping the sand consistent is one of the keys to effective trap maintenance. Therefore, we use a local sand that might be a bit too fluffy, yet players get used to its reaction to a shot even though it tends to trigger a lot of fried egg lies."

"There are rakes available to players to smooth out what they have managed to disturb in the traps; however, we don't rely on them to keep our bunkers presentable and playable. That's our job and I accept it."

Tom Platt, Colonial Country Club: "I've had a well-rounded experience with traps at Colonial ever since I came here four years ago."

"For one thing, I've learned not to rely on the golfers to keep the traps smooth, even though we have a pretty fair percentage of them who go to the trouble of raking over the marks they leave in the sand."

"Another interesting result of trap maintenance has been a switch in the type of sand. Originally, we had a lighter, loose



strain of sand that seemed to disappear every time we had a little wind. So, we went for a coarser, heavier type that has reduced the expense of replacing sand whenever the winds act up a little."

"We have 40 traps at Colonial and they're trimmed to the extent that most of them are in play. In the process, we've eliminated some fairway bunkers and made others smaller."

"Maintenance is by machine except for edging—we do that by hand. Anyway, the average manpower outlay is three hours a day during the heavy play part of the season. The rest of the time it's two or three times a week."

"Trap maintenance is not that big a deal, compared to some of the other parts of my overall program. But it gets my attention since bunkers serve the dual purpose of adding a cosmetic touch to the course and determining a certain degree of its difficulty."

Ron Kirkman, Needham Golf Club:

"Trap maintenance used to be one of the lowest points on the superintendent's priority list, but it's not that way today."

"Since we're a nine-hole course, we have only 26 bunkers; however, I've set up a regular maintenance program that requires three crew members to put two hours into bunker upkeep on a daily basis."

"Everything is done by hand here and the membership seems to be satisfied with the overall results. We're fine-tuned to the point where we use two types of sand (regular for greens-guarded traps, and concrete for fairway traps). The latter is important because fairway traps should offer the player a chance to hit a long iron or even a high-numbered wood to plan his escape."

"As for members raking the traps, they do a pretty good job. Regardless, there's a knack to doing that right, too. Whatever, we try to make it right by giving trap maintenance more than passing attention. It's become a top priority item and we treat it that way."

GERRY FINN



"For one thing, I've learned not to rely on the golfers to keep the traps smooth."

Tom Platt

"We use machines for the maintenance of bunker areas, but we hand rake the edges."

Mike Legere

A message from the President

As our growing season begins to wind down and we all begin to prepare courses for winter, I would like to take time to thank members of the Winchester C. C., Rockland G. C., and Orchards G. C. for hospitality extended to members for the Association's July, August, and September meetings. The playing conditions afforded by Dan Higgins, Eric Newell, and Paul Jamrog were excellent.

I am pleased to announce that response to our request to donate to the Robert & Brian Johnston Educational Fund was tremendous. Thousands of dollars have been donated to the fund by northeastern chapters of GCSAA, such as GCSANE and



Cape Cod TMA, and by individuals like you. Our deceased member, Bob Johnston, would be proud of what friends and colleagues have done for his family.

It has been a long season; one full of event after event at each one of our clubs. It seems to get busier every year, and speaking for myself, it will be nice to get a break from all the hectic schedules we all experience from April through October.

I would like to step back in time to early summer to recognize the efforts of two members of GCSANE. One of our newest members, Peter Lund, was host superintendent at the Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown for the MGA sponsored Mass. Open. The course was beautiful and the conditions perfect for the championship on June 22-24. Then the Mass. Amateur Championship was played at Longmeadow Country Club on July 13-17, where Leon St. Pierre has been superintendent for the past 37 years. The Open and the Amateur are the two major events conducted by the Mass. Golf Association each year as it conducts a total of thirteen championships. Giving credit where credit is due, members of the MGA Executive Committee, and the officials and volunteers who conduct these events, are to be congratulated. These men and women put in a lot of time and hard work.

I would take another minute to congratulate the following for a superb effort in preparation for their big events this season: Dave Barber, LPGA event at Blue Hill C.C.; Paul Miller, Seniors PGA Tour event at Nashawtuc C.C.; Randy Kehres, PGA Tour event at Pleasant Valley C.C.; and Dave Dwinell, USGA Junior Championship at Wollaston Golf Club.

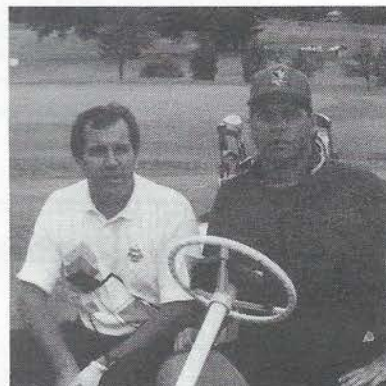
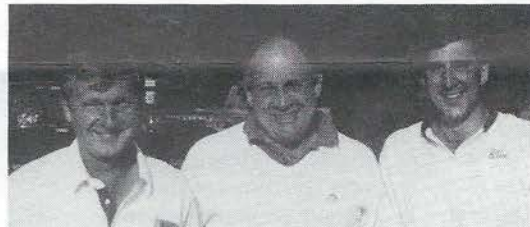
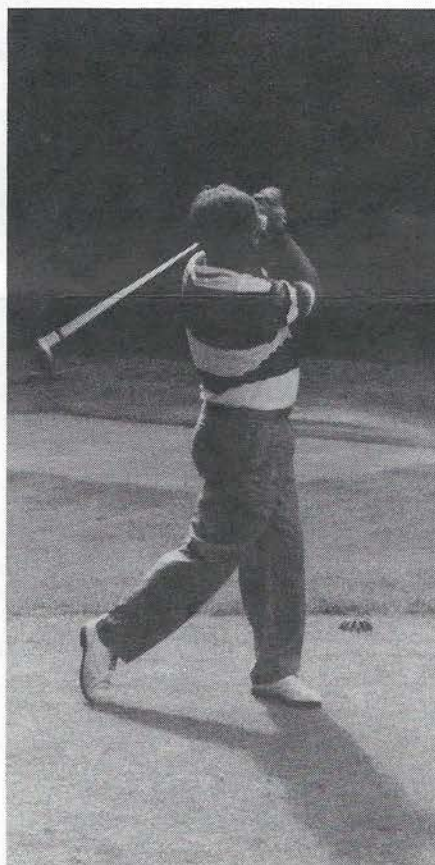
I will end by saying that two more well-known golf course superintendents are retiring. Many attended a reception for Robert Heeley and Leon St. Pierre August 20 at Twin Hills Country Club. Congratulations and good luck to Bob and Leon.

I had the honor of attending a reception at Longmeadow Country Club on September 26. The event was to honor of Leon St. Pierre and his 37 years of service to the club. The respect and love demonstrated by those present towards Leon was rather overwhelming to me. For those who may not know Leon, he was president of GCSANE for three years (1965-67). Earlier he was instrumental in promoting the name change of greenskeeper to golf course superintendent in 1954-55, and in promoting the superintendent's status and professional image during his early career. I am sure we will see Leon at our meetings once in a while. Again, good luck.

STEPHEN CHIAVAROLI, GCSA President

September at The Orchards G.C.

At left, host superintendent Paul Jamrog looks on with concern after a drive. At right are Len Blodgett (l.) and guest speaker Dr. Richard Cooper (r.) of U. of Mass. In photos below are (clockwise from top left) brothers Steve (l.) and John (r.) Murphy; the Golf Committee (excellent job this year!), (l. to r.) Larry Anshewitz, Jim Fitzroy, and Rich Tworig; Paul Miller (l.) and Doug Johnson (r.) discussing their next shots; and three members of "The Respected Older Generation". (Photos by Kip Tyler)



Studies to examine effects of pesticide exposure on golf course workers, players, and neighbors

(Editor's Note: This is a continuing series on how our GCSANE research money is being spent. Our research committee has allocated \$2000 for each year 1992, 1993, and 1994 for the following project.)

Case Statement

Americans are increasingly concerned about how man-made environmental factors affect their health. Asbestos, lead, and carbon dioxide are just a few of the factors that have commanded headlines and prompted government action in recent years.

Since the mid-1980s, pesticides have also been the subject of much public debate. Despite substantial scientific evidence suggesting the actual risks are insignificant, speculation about the health effects of long-term pesticide exposure has grown. The "Alar Scare" of 1989 is a classic example of what can happen when speculation and fear overwhelm fact.

The game of golf has also come under fire over the issue of pesticide usage. Some of these concerns center on the potential for environmental pollution. However, questions about possible human health effects of long-term pesticide exposure present an even more serious challenge to the game's integrity.

The problem is illustrated best by the recent media reports that have attempted to link breast cancer to golf course pesticides. Despite the fact that the incidence of breast cancer among LPGA Tour players is less than one-sixth of the national average, newspaper and TV reports have suggested that golf course pesticides have caused the illness.

The golf community, led by GCSAA, has maintained an open and positive approach to ecological and health concerns, stressing professional education for superintendents and applicators, cooperation with regulatory agencies, and increased scientific research.

To that end, GCSAA and GCSAA Scholarship and Research propose to undertake a series of studies designed to examine the issue of chronic pesticide exposure and its effects on superintendents, course workers, players, and neighbors around the course. The first study will consist of a "literature search", or inventory of existing studies. The second study will examine mortality records of superin-

tendents over the past two decades in order to detect any trends that exist within this group. Additional studies will examine questions specific to chemical applicators, "core" golfers, and homeowners who live adjacent to golf courses.

These studies will serve a number of important purposes. First and foremost, they will provide the first independent evidence on the question of golf/pesticide exposure. Second, if no problems are indicated, the studies will provide peace of mind for superintendents, players, and workers. Third, if any problems are identified, the studies will serve as a guideline for additional research, modification of application practices, and implementation of new safety procedures.

Goals

1. Collect and organize all existing studies pertaining to the health effects of chemicals used on golf courses.
2. Through a competitive proposal process, identify the most appropriate research investigator or research organization to undertake initial studies.
3. Complete a statistical analysis of GCSAA mortality records to determine if any cancer or illness trends exist.
4. Compile a report of the findings for use by the golf industry, additional researchers, and the government.
5. Perform follow-up studies as dictated by those findings.

Key Points About This Project

1. No independent group has ever sponsored a comprehensive study such as this. We are willing to accept an independent evaluation.

2. Our main concern is for the health of members and employees who have primary exposure to undiluted pesticides. This study of primary exposure should alleviate many concerns about golfers' health. The superintendent is the "canary in the coal mine" who would be affected before the golfer or neighbor.

3. There are two opposing "caveats" to this type of study. First, we cannot claim that research on superintendents represents the maximum exposure received by full-time applicators. On the other hand, the mortality group being studied are primarily superintendents who worked in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s, before personal protection and careful handling were commonplace and safer products became available. Therefore, the research does represent a "worst-case scenario" when compared to the practices and products used today.

4. This study is a starting point for GCSAA S&R-sponsored studies of other specific questions (e.g., breast cancer among female golfers, cancer trends among PGA pros, and illnesses among golf course chemical applicators). It is a baseline study that will guide future efforts.

5. U.S. EPA is very interested in the study and supportive of GCSAA for undertaking the project.

6. USGA is also supportive of the project and believes it will compliment the environmental research they are doing.

7. Exact cost won't be known until proposals are received, but we estimate a total cost of \$250,000 for the literature search and superintendent study.

Golf course industry's biggest show hits the beach in Southern California

More than 16,000 people are expected at the 64th International Golf Course Conference and Trade Show, January 23-31, 1993, in Anaheim, California. The conference and show, considered to be the main event in the golf course industry, is sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

The week will include more than 60 educational seminars and sessions; a three-day, 175,000-square-foot trade

show; a gala banquet featuring a performance by the Beach Boys; the association's annual meeting and election of officers; and the 1993 GCSAA Golf Championship.

Conference week opens with the annual GCSAA Golf Championship, January 23-24 at several courses in San Diego. A field of nearly 400 will compete for individual and chapter team honors in the national tournament.

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Show hits the beach ...

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Meeting the professional needs of golf course superintendents will be covered in 54 one and two-day seminars offered during the first four days of the conference, January 23-26. Topics ranging from water quality and wildlife habitat conservation to employee safety training and managerial productivity will address issues that golf course management professionals face today.

Six education sessions are scheduled for Wednesday, January 27 with several more forums scheduled for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Sessions by allied as-

sociations, including the American Society of Golf Course Architects, Golf Course Builders Association of America, and the United States Golf Association Green Section, round out the conference.

Johnny Bench, the baseball Hall of Fame catcher who led the Cincinnati Reds during their legendary "Big Red Machine" dynasty, will be keynote speaker at the Opening Session on Tuesday, January 26 at the Anaheim Hilton.

A record 600-plus manufacturers and distributors of golf industry products, supplies, and services are expected to exhibit at the trade show, which runs January 28-30 at the Anaheim Convention Center.

A performance by the Beach Boys, who have recorded dozens of California fun, sun, and surf hits, will provide entertainment at the formal closing banquet on Saturday, January 30.

The highlight of the gala evening will be the presentation of the Old Tom Morris Award, GCSAA's highest honor. This year's award will be presented to popular entertainer and LPGA hostess Dinah Shore. Previous recipients of the award include Arnold Palmer, Gerald Ford, Bob Hope, and Tom Watson.

Last year's conference and show in New Orleans drew over 15,000 people. Nearly 2000 were international visitors and guests, representing 48 countries.

DIVOT DRIFT ...announcements...educational seminars...job opportunities ...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

SYMPOSIUM

Golf Course Wastewater Symposium— The United States Golf Association, in cooperation with the American Society of Golf Course Architects, Golf Course Builders Association of America, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and National Golf Foundation, announces a Golf Course Wastewater Symposium on March 4 and 5, 1993. The Symposium will be held at the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel in Newport Beach, California.

Effluent water from sewage treatment plants and wastewater from other sources has been playing an increasingly important role in golf course irrigation as the use of potable water for irrigation has come under public scrutiny. The Wastewater Symposium will bring together turfgrass managers, engineers, agronomists, golf course architects, equipment manufacturers, and professionals from other disciplines who have a role in planning, designing, and operating wastewater irrigation systems. The symposium will provide practical answers to questions concerning the use of effluent water for turfgrass irrigation and will encourage greater acceptance of wastewater irrigation as a significant means of conserving our most important natural resource. An indexed, peer-reviewed proceedings with valuable summaries, references, and appendices will be published from the symposium.

For more information on the event, contact Dr. Michael Kennar (405-743-3900) or Dr. Kimberly Erusha (908-234-2300) at the USGA.

MEETING RECAP

Thanks to Paul Jamrog and his grounds staff for having The Orchards G.C. in great shape for our September GCSANE monthly meeting. Also, thank you to Bob Bontempo, golf professional, and Mickey Burdick, club manager. Our guest speaker was Dr. Rich Cooper, University of Massachusetts. Rich gave an informative talk on bentgrass variety updates.

INFORMATION

Al Singer, Superintendent at Cedar Glen G.C., has announced his retirement as of September 1, 1992.

We regret to announce the passing of Bob Chisholm's mother and Dino Frigo's father recently.

MEMBERSHIP

Proposed New Members: Peter Bissel, Regular member, Ipswich C.C., Ipswich, MA; David Dwinnell, Regular member, Wollaston G.C., Milton, MA; and David Murphy, Assistant member, Cedar Hill G.C., Stoughton, MA.

Welcome New Friend: Fairway Design and Illustration, Warren, RI.

Four Friends of the Association and twenty-seven individuals have been dropped from GCSANE for non-payment of 1992 dues. Many have moved from our area or are in new non-related fields. All were notified three times.

GOLF RESULTS

GCSANE Two Ball Championship
The Orchards G.C.

Low Gross 70
Andy Langlois, Foxboro CC
Steve Chiavaroli, Tatnuck CC

Low Net 59
Jim Beane, Mt. Pleasant CC
Dick Zepp, Whitinsville GC

2nd Net 61
Leroy Allen, Retired
Ed Ulmann, Westboro CC

3rd Net 62
Gary Luccini, Franklin CC
Bob Ruszala, Hickory Ridge GC

4th Net 64
Bob Mucciarone, Retired
Ron Kirkman, Needham GC
Eric Newell, Rockland GC
Steve Murphy,
Gannon Municipal GC

Affiliate Division

Low Gross 72
Dave Farina,
Country Club Enterprises

Mike Cornicelli,
A-OK Turf Equipment

Low Net 64
Bob Healey, I.M.S.
Robin Hayes, Winfield Nursery

Please Patronize These FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

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Buy & sell used turf equipment
Mike Cornicelli (401) 826-2584

AA Will Materials Corp.

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Est. 1886 - 1-800-4-AAWILL

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59 Dwight St., Hatfield, MA 01038
Fertilizer, seed, and chemicals for turf
1-800-824-2474

Baker Golf Cars

40 Walker St., Swansea, MA 02777
(508) 379-0092
Reps. Ray Chadwick, Bob Kinyoun

Bartlett Tree Experts

Tree Maintenance, Fertilization & Consulting
153 Rumford Ave., Newton, MA 02166
(617) 969-5990

The Bordon Company

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Sales Rep. Jack Borden
Bulk Limestone Dealer

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Distributor of Irrigation Supplies
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Friends of the Association profiles

Safety Storage, Inc.

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Safety Storage has over 800 structures in place locally, and has achieved accep-

tance from New England fire officials, insurance companies, state building agencies, and local golf course superintendents. Currently, there are over 20 Safety Storage units in place for pesticide storage within the GCSANE community.

Please call Chris Hawthorne at 617-599-5490 if you are interested in having a storage audit of your pesticides, oils, and flammable liquids done for your club.

A-OK Turf Equipment

A-OK Turf Equipment was established a little over two years ago by Mike Cornicelli. Mike's interest in golf started at age seven when he joined the Junior Club at West Warwick Country Club. He started golfing about the same time, and later got his first job there at age 13.

Mike began sales in turf equipment ten years ago, when he worked at Turf Products Corp. and then at C & J Equipment. Mike started his own business to fill the

needs of superintendents with a small budget, but a large shopping list.

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