



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.

March 1993

April Meeting

Tuesday, April 20, 1993
Poquoy Brook Golf Club

Host Superintendent
Charles Dickow

9:00 a.m. Board Meeting
10:30 a.m. Regular Meeting
11:00 a.m. Education
Golf and Lunch to follow

Reservations Required
Call by April 16, 1993
(617) 328-9479

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

Charles Dickow has been the owner & superintendent of Poquoy Brook for the past two years. Prior to that he was the owner/superintendent of Heritage Hill Country Club in Lakeville, MA since 1980. Married to wife, Susan, who is the General Manager of Poquoy Brook. They have two children, Tyler (5) and Sarah (3). Hobbies include: Guitar, Golf, and Landscaping. Member of G.C.S.A.A., U.S.G.A., National Golf Foundation, and Golf Course Owners Association of America.

Directions to Poquoy Brook: From 495 North and South - take exit #5. Go 1 1/2 miles, take right on Taunton Street, then a left on Leonard Street. Club is on the right.

Patty Knaggs brings a woman's touch to Hazeltine



Left to right: Bob Leaf, Green Committee Member; Cheryl Scheider, Club President; Patty Knaggs, Golf Course Superintendent; Mike Schultz, Golf Professional.

Patty Knaggs has been living dreams all of her life. But, this time the dream is too good to be true. "I'm not suggesting this is the final stop in my career," Patty said during a break from her duties as golf course superintendent at the Hazeltine National Golf Club. "But as far as accomplishing big goals and being able to apply my skills in ultimate surroundings, I don't know if anything could top this."

Hazeltine, of course, is considered one of the true gems in the constellation of championship golf courses. It was the controversial host to the 1970 U.S. Open and was the site of the same competition two years ago after a revampment movement headed by its original architect, Robert Trent Jones and his colleague son, Rees Jones. "I'm familiar with

the Open history of Hazeltine," Knaggs remarked. "The course was exposed to a lot of criticism the first time around. But, likewise, it received all kinds of accolades when the 1991 Open was played here. Being part of an Open venue, that's what my professional excitement's all about. This is what I've always wanted."

Hazeltine - located in Chaska, Minnesota - is Patty's second venture into the world of the head golf course superintendent. She landed the position last spring after two years of running the show at another landmark layout, the Westchester Country Club in New York. Before that she was "our Patty".

In fact, Patty's experience as first assistant to Bill Spence at The Country Club convinced her that she had made the right decision when she turned away from a potential law career to try her hand in the golf course superintendent's profession. Those days at The Country Club are unforgettable.

Their highlight was Patty's involvement in the priming of the venerable layout for the

continued on page 2

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1988 U.S. Open. She was very instrumental in every stage of planning for and carrying out the programs that went into the maintenance phase of the USGA's premier event.

Knaggs was Spence's assistant for four years before she became such an integral part of the operation she actually handled the head superintendent's day-to-day responsibilities while Bill concentrated on an Open agenda.

"That was the opportunity of a lifetime for me," Patty recalled her input into both the Open and overall scene in Brookline. "Being involved in such a prestigious event was a source of personal delight. Then, working with such an outstanding member of the profession (Spence) gave me a career outlook of practically unlimited promise. I can't measure how much my years at The Country Club contributed to my advancement in the field."

Patty's TCC years, in fact, turned into a risky commitment since she had opportunities to branch out onto her own as a head superintendent in the middle of her Brookline stay. "I wanted to remain there through the Open even if it meant putting a hold on my aspirations to have my own job," Patty told. "When everything's considered, that commitment proved to be the turning point in my career."

New England had no small part in that career's beginning, either, since it was another GCSANE stalwart who got the whole thing started. "That's right," Patty said. "After I had decided to put my political science degree (Syracuse University) in mothballs and see if I could make it as a superintendent, Brian Cowan (Eastward Ho) gave me a big break.

*"That was the opportunity
of a lifetime for me."*

Patty Knaggs

"I had gone through a string of "no opening" responses from a lot of clubs when Brian hired me. Not only did he give me my first job, he pointed me to the turf school at Stockbridge where Dr. (Joe) Troll became one of my biggest supporters. He and Brian

were a big help." The learning experience took over Patty's schedule after that. There were some lean years, some encouraging ones and, eventually, the chance to grow with the profession evolved in her association with Spence at TCC.

The Hazeltine job has sprung from those green years in New England and subsequent stopping-off place at Westchester. "This (Hazeltine) is just about the ideal course for all superintendents to practice their expertise," Patty explained. "Hazeltine is strictly for golfers, administered by golfers. There are no tennis courts, no swimming pool. Members come here to play golf, period. Socializing is secondary. What's even better for me is that I like the arrangement just as much as the members." Naturally, the tradition that's so much a part of TCC drips over to Hazeltine which apparently is determined to find its way onto the list of revered courses hosting USGA events. In keeping with that approach, its members demand championship conditions at all times. Which is the way Patty likes it.

"That situation beefs up the challenge," Patty said. "But everything here is in the superintendent's favor. The golf course comes first which means members put their mouths where their mouths are at budget time. Other than some unsuspecting catastrophe rearing its head, I don't see why I can't deliver a championship course from start to finish of every golf season. Patty Knaggs, then, has found her niche. Whether she approves of the title or not, Patty's the first lady of the golf course superintendent's profession. She's one of a kind and, just think, it all began here.

GERRY FINN

Calendar

April 20	Poquoy Brook G.C. Regular Meeting
May 10	Andover C.C. Andover, MA
June 7	Thompson Club

The Super Speaks Out:

This month's question: *What are your views on the value of attending the various turf conferences, seminars and other educational opportunities available to the golf course superintendent at the national, regional and local levels?*

Steve Mann, Captains Golf Club: "I'm a firm believer in the importance of education as an on-going aid to the superintendent regardless of his age, experience and status among his fellow supers. "This means, that when presented the opportunity, I'd jump at the chance to attend conferences like the national's big show every year. Unfortunately, I have to limit my GCSAA appearances and get to the international conference only on occasion. However, when I do make it, the benefits are well worth the time and expense involved.

"I didn't have that chance this year, but I'll be on hand for the Massachusetts conference this month. That one's always a must for me. "On the national front, the last one I made was in Orlando. There's no doubt that the wide range of subject matter in educational sessions and the same scope found in the industrial presentations make for a much broader experience.

"I'm a firm believer in the importance of education as an on-going aid to the superintendent."

Steve Mann

"Maybe more than anything, the fact that the national conference brings all kinds of superintendents together with all kinds of problems to be solved and just as many solutions offered gives it more appeal. I've always felt that sooner or later, even by accident, something positive comes out of mingling with colleagues from other parts of the country while discovering how they attack a specific problem or approach a challenging situation."

"Of course, I've always come away from the Mass. conference with some new aid or idea I can apply to my maintenance program. It is especially beneficial because it focuses on local issues and turf problems that are more consistent with my own area."

"Here on the Cape (Cod), we had a number of one-day seminars that seemed to be popular during last year's golf season. One in particular, a pesticide session, centered on a subject that's been on everyone's front burner since it's

closely associated with environmental matters. I liked that one. In fact, I like them all. I only wish I could attend more of them."

Randy Kehres, Pleasant Valley Country Club: "Just walking through the equipment show at the international this year was an educational experience in itself. You can't come any closer to the "latest" because it's all there before you . . . in products and services.

"One of the educational sessions, the one dealing with computers, was close to my situation because I'm an admitted computer illiterate. I couldn't believe how many software packages are available these days."

"There were a couple of tips I took out of that seminar, things that made me think some of my manual input can be replaced by electronic means. At least I told myself this is something I'm going to try when I get back from Anaheim.

"Another positive experience from attending the international conference was the chance to see some of my old friends from across the country. Naturally, socializing always turned into a turf bull session with everyone contributing and benefiting from the exchange."

"They're well worth whatever it takes in time and cost to get there."

Randy Kehres

"A disappointment did pop up, though. I went into the environmental seminar looking for pointers but all I got was a lot of political double-talk. As far as I'm concerned, there was just too much political posturing and not enough discussion of subject matter. I define the international conference as a major presentation in size and scope and events, like the Mass. conference, as a similar effort but with regional emphasis. That's the way it should be, too."

"I look at this time of year as the opportunity to plunge into the educational aspect of the superintendent's profession. I use these conferences to upgrade that education. They're well

worth whatever it takes in time and cost to get there."



Dan Higgins, Winchester Country Club: "I made the trip to Anaheim and other parts of California (San Diego for the golf tournament) and, as usual, I was glad I did. Frankly speaking, I probably got

more out of playing in the tournament than any particular seminar I attended. It's an educational experience being able to be a first-hand observer of how golf course maintenance is handled in parts of the country different than yours.

"For example, I was glad to know we in New England aren't the only supers in the boat with frost problems. One morning at the Mt. Woodson course in San Diego we had to wait an hour and a-half before we could tee it up. So, there was sort of a bond between the West Coast supers and visitors from colder areas realized right there. And, along the way, an idea exchange developed, one that was helpful to all."

"The computer session in Anaheim was one of my stops and it presented a good overview of the subject. However, it didn't get into specifics which was what I was looking for because of an irrigation system control update I'm planning here. As for the industrial show, it was really big time. I've had an equipment wish list all along, so the show was a good opportunity for me to compare products just in case my dreams come true.

"I'll be hitting the Mass. conference with a more localized mentality. That's the difference between the two shows. Each has its appeal. Both are vital parts of the educational changing picture in our profession."

GERRY FINN

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President's Message



As the 1993 golf season rapidly approaches, I would take this opportunity to thank the Franklin Country Club for the use of their fine facility. All four of our winter monthly meet-

ings were hosted by Franklin and the hospitality shown to our membership was tremendous. Many thanks to host superintendent Gary Luccini and all of Franklin's management and service staff.

As many of you know, your current Board of Directors has recognized the importance of the formation of a Benevolence/Scholarship Fund. Benefits of this Fund would be available to all

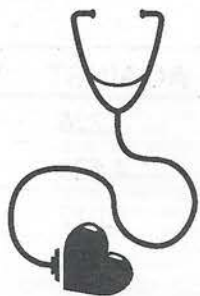
regular and affiliate members of GCSANE. As stated at our Annual Meeting, a subcommittee has been appointed to investigate this Fund's establishment. This committee is being chaired by Jack Hassett; Paul Miller, Tim Berge, Bob Matthews, Roger Brink, and Frank Santos will work with Jack to develop recommendations for various methods for the raising of funds and for the development of criteria for the awarding of funds. I would hope that all members of GCSANE will support the formation of this Fund. . . We should have some specifics for you in the very near future.

Looking ahead to the 1993 Research Fund Tournament, this fund-raiser event will be played at Willowbend on September 27th. Tournament chairman, Richard Zepp, will be working with host

superintendent Bob St. Thomas, along with our Research Fund Chairman, Ed Brearley. Let's all make sure to mark our calendars now, to assure that we fill the entire field of sixty two-somes . . . While on Research, I am pleased to announce that Tee & Green Sod, Inc. of Exeter, R.I. has offered to contribute to our Research Fund by participating in a similar program as Read Sand & Gravel already sponsors. President, David Wallace, has stated that Tee & Green Sod, Inc. will donate \$2.00 per thousand feet of sod delivered to our GCSANE members. Funds would be deposited to our Research Fund in late fall, 1993.

Wishing all good-luck with the new season. See you on April 20 at Poquoy Brook Golf Club.

Stephen Chiavaroli, CGCS.



Doctors Advice . . . Cool Temp. Diseases Hot Topic

Dr. Noel Jackson, this month's turf doctor who hangs his shingle at the University of Rhode Island, applies a little *deja vu* addressing the quandary of what to do about cool temperature diseases. In other words, what pops up on the disease screen this spring (late-March to mid-June) probably was in evidence last fall and winter (mid-October through December).

"Our records for 1992 reveal that the season closed as it began, with the frequent occurrence of two cool temperature diseases, fusarium patch (pink snow mold) and yellow patch (a cool weather form of brown patch)," Dr. Jackson told the Newsletter. "One (fusarium patch) is familiar to most turf managers, while the other (yellow patch) sometimes causes confusion in identification because its symptoms

resemble those of necrotic ring spot."

According to the Rhode Island turfgrass disease control recommendations, as endorsed and promoted by Dr. Jackson, preventive measures applied in late fall and early winter form the most effective combative force against fusarium patch. Among the popular fungicides, used in these measures, are Chipco 26019, Curalan, Fungo, Terraclor, Tersan 1991, Touche and Vorlan. Since spring often is accompanied by cold, wet weather, conditions that may revive the disease's symptoms, repeat treatments might be necessary.

Dr. Jackson notes that optimal use of a balanced fertilizer shields recovery of diseased turf in the attempt to control yellow patch. He also tells that laboratory studies show varying success in arresting the growth of yellow patch through use of Chlorothalonil (Caconil), quintozene (PCNB), chloroneb (Teremec SP) and iprodione (Chipco 26019). In a related

matter, Dr. Jackson takes a hard stand on the question of winter golf play.

"In the absence of snow cover, extremely cold weather conditions (especially over prolonged stretches of time) result in desiccation and death of turf," he observes, "Continued play exacerbates the damage and could impair its recovery in the spring."

Dr. Jackson concludes: "Prevention of winter injury (to turf) depends on the adroitness of the golf course superintendent, plus the cooperation of club members in recognizing that severe damage may be the result of playing the course under adverse conditions. Closing the course completely or suspending play on regular greens over the winter are measures I strongly recommend."

GERRY FINN

GCSAA and AGCSA Pledge To Support One Another

The Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America are preparing for the future by studying joint membership. Both associations have many common needs and professional interests.

Officials of both organizations met at the AGCSA offices in Melbourne, Australia, recently to discuss ideas and opportunities that would be mutually beneficial. The topics under initial consideration include education programs, turfgrass research needs, consulting and management services for the golf course industry, and the sharing of information which

will be helpful to all golf superintendents.

Golf course superintendents need to be prepared to meet new challenges and opportunities as the game of golf continues to grow on a worldwide basis. Both associations feel that by sharing their collective expertise, their members will be well positioned to meet these demands.

Both associations share an active involvement in educational activities such as conferences and shows to ensure their memberships are kept up to date with the latest technology. GCSAA will host the Pacific Rim Golf Course Conference and Show March 15-23, 1993, in Singapore.

AGCSA will be hosting its Biennial Turfgrass Conference in July 1994 in Adelaide, South Australia.

Both GCSAA and AGCSA are excited about the possibility of working together to enhance and support the golf course industry and encourage all members to be active and participate whenever possible. At the meeting in Melbourne, both organizations pledged their support to each other and assured their respective memberships that they will be kept informed as efforts progress.

**Doug Robinson, President
AGCSA**

**William R. Roberts, CGCS, President
GCSAA**

The GCSAA Annual Meeting

	AMENDMENT	FOR	AGAINST
A	Environmental Response	4,107	1,226
B	Amendment Resolutions, 2/3 to simple majority	1,175	4,528
C	Eliminate delegates, individual voters	1,321	4,012
D	Scheduling annual meeting by board	3,229	2,173
E	Reclassify membership	1,882	3,541
F	Opening membership up	2,484	3,025
G	Dues regulated by board	920	4,513
H	Creates individual voting system	1,494	3,939
I	2/3 majority to add amendments	1,299	4,062

Randy Nichols, CGCS • President ELECTED
Joe Baidy, CGCS • 3,248 ELECTED Vice President
Gary Grigg, CGCS • 1,879

DIRECTORS

Gary Grigg, CGCS - 4,377 Elected
 Dave Fearis, CGCS - 3,826 Elected
 George Renault, CGCS - 3,453 Elected
 Charlie Passios, CGCS - 2,041
 Joe Hahn, CGCS - 1,481

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

CONGRATULATIONS

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GOLF TOURN. NEWS

Mike Corniceu, will run hole in one insurance at \$5.00 for one year or until an ace is scored.

Format: Poquoy Brook best 16 holes out of 18. Individual 50% HPCP

THANK YOU!

Thankyou's to member's that worked the GCSANE booth at the Mass. Turf Conference:

Steve Chiavaroli	Mike Legere
Chip Brearley	Bob Matthews
Roger Brink	Art Miller
Jack Hassett	Mike Nagle
Paul Jamrog	Bob Ruzsala
Wayne LaCroix	Joe Rybka
Dick Zepp	

Thankyou's to member's that worked on the Audio Visual and Lights:

Owen Regan	Dick Duggan
John Barey	Bob Ruzsala
Richard McHugh	
Bob Bianco (R.I. Assoc.)	

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Friends of the Association

Read Sand & Gravel, Inc.

Read Sand and Gravel, Inc. is located in Rockland, Mass. and has been in existence since 1969, founded by Bill Read, with the idea to service local homeowners and contractors with loam, sand and gravel. Providing pick-up and deliveries of small quantities of materials. Today Read Sand & Gravel, Inc. has grown and expanded operations in Rockland, Sagamore, and soon Wakefield, New Hampshire, with multiple acres of material sites in Southeastern Massachusetts. Homeowners and local contractors are now only a fraction of Read's daily business in the 1990's.

Hundreds of landscape contractors, colleges, schools, municipalities, athletic facilities and golf courses spanning from Massachusetts through Rhode Island, and New Hampshire are in constant contact with Read Sand & Gravel, Inc. for their specific needs in materials for new construction, renovations, and maintenance.

Contributors of the Francis Ouimet Caddie Scholarship Fund 1993, sponsors of Turf Research 1993. \$0.25 per cubic yard of material delivered to golf courses from Sept. 1, 1992 - Sept. 1, 1993.

Read delivers these products and

more in our three state area, providing drainage stone, mulch, gravel, and fill materials, ties and landscape timbers. Read is a distributor of Agri-Turf Products, and members of GCSANE, RIGCSA, NHGCSA, and GCMACC.

In 1990, Joe Farina joined Read Sand & Gravel as their Golf Course Turf Specialist to over see their materials operations, selection, processing and sales to the golf course turf industry.

Further questions or details contact: Joe Farina, 1-800-660-2955 or 1-617-878-2955.



James Reinertson

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