

# NEWSLETTER



APRIL 1966

## Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND



FORTY-TWO YEARS OLD — and young enough  
to reach for higher achievements in turf grass  
management and professional stature.

**President—**

LEON V. ST. PIERRE  
Longmeadow Country Club  
51 Fenwood Road  
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**First Vice-President—**

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**Trustee—**

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**Finance Committee Chairman—**

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**Golf Committee Chairman—**

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**Newsletter Committee Chairman—**

MANUEL N. FRANCIS  
Belmont Country Club  
387 Davis Road  
Bedford, Mass.  
Phone 275-8830

# Golf Course Superintendents Association

## APRIL MEETING

The April meeting was held at the Waltham Field Station. President Leon St. Pierre presented awards to Dr. Joseph Troll and Michael O'Grady for their efforts in helping the advancement of the turfgrass profession. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the establishment of a research fund to assist the Golf Course Superintendent in their struggle with the elements.

### Voted Regular Member

Frank Merchel  
Hillview C. C.  
North Reading, Mass.

### Voted Assoc. Member

Mathew Spekas  
Middleton G.C.  
Middleton, Mass.

### Application for Membership

Albert Blanchette  
Reservation G. C.  
Mattapoisett, Mass.

Evangelos D. Angelos  
Holden C. C.  
Holden, Mass.

Peter Kirouac  
Dennis Pines G.C.  
East Dennis, Mass.

Lewis Kent  
Eastward Ho C. C.  
Chatham, Mass.

Anyone objecting to these persons becoming members of the G. C. S. A. N. E. must notify the secretary in writing before the next meeting.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be May 2nd at the Tatnuck Country Club, 1222 Pleasant St., Worcester, Mass.

The business meeting will be at 11:00.

Lunch will be served at 12:00.

Golf after lunch.

### Directions to Tatnuck

The club is located on Route 122 near the Worcester-Paxton line and the Worcester Airport. From the Massachusetts Turnpike take Exit 11 which empties onto Route 122 and follow this toward Worcester.

## CHAIRMAN-SUPERINTENDENT MEETING

The Chairman-Superintendent meeting will be held at the Westover Air Base Golf Course June 6th. This will be a joint meeting with the Connecticut Association.

### For Sale

Five Ideal fairway mowers with frame.  
A 200 gallon Hardie sprayer.  
Call Mike O'Grady, New Bedford - WYman 2-9885.



Recipients of GCSANE Awards  
Dr. Joseph Troll and Michael O'Grady

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### DO YOU HAVE THE HABIT?

Being critical of others, is one of man's least desirable habits. Many of us, in the Association, are quick to pick up an error or oversight, and dwell on it and more than likely embroider the facts so that they are out of focus.

Very often an application for membership in our Association is received with excellent credentials. Before this application is ever read, the word is out that the man applying for membership has broken our code of ethics, or he owns a business. Many times this information is accurate, and the application should not be read. However, when a member is one hundred per cent certain, and has facts for which an application should not be read, then he should submit these reasons to the membership committee, in writing. This is his DUTY.

There is nothing more irritating to the Board of Directors than to have a member come to them with "half-truths" or information which should have been presented to them three or four months earlier, in order to make an intelligent decision.

Application blanks will be available ONLY from the Membership Committee, as of this writing.

Gentlemen, when anyone has a grievance, write to your President or telephone him collect, immediately, so that we may better understand the situation.

NOW, YOU HAVE BROKEN THE HABIT!

Leon V. St. Pierre  
President

## MODERN GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT AND LABOR

Golf Course Superintendents today, like athletes and businessmen the world over, are judged and valued according to their achievements during the past year or years, and for this reason every effort should be made to produce the finest turf possible, using every means possible. Golf course maintenance and quality are directly affected by labor and equipment, and equipment is maybe the most influential of the two, for two main reasons, the first being that time plays a critical role in turf care. All work is done during daylight hours and specific times of the year while the course is in play. To work among golfers effectively and economically requires short bursts of rapid production with efficiency and quality. Modern equipment obviously can play an important part here.

We all realize that nearly all renovation work is done during weather that is most favorable for rapid turf recovery. Many operations that can be done in the spring or fall with a high degree of success could be completely disastrous in the hotter months. For this reason any work that would promote a higher quality turf and improve growing conditions must be done in these two short periods along with regular maintenance or not at all. And yet this renovation work cannot be put off very often or else serious and irreparable damage will result. Consequently, any equipment that will increase productivity in these short periods will give immeasurable benefits.

The second main reason for more modern equipment lies in their individual purposes. Golfers have increased many times over in the last three decades, both in their number and rounds per year. Older courses, such as Tatnuck, which were built at or before this time had no idea of the demands the future would bring on turf culture. As a result they cannot meet these demands without changing completely their maintenance procedures in respect to inferior construction. A golf course architect or contractor today would not dream of building a green without an extensive, carefully designed underground drainage system, for it is of the utmost importance in removing excessive water which does serious harm. Nor would they use just any material for a base or topsoil. A soil mix of sand, loam, and peat and its proportions are given most serious consideration and tested in a laboratory for percolation rate, water holding

capacities, resistance to compaction, pH, elemental toxicities and deficiencies, bacteria content and other vital factors relating to the specific grass they chose to meet their requirements. It is apparent that greens built without this planning and forethought cannot compare with those built with it, without specialized care, and this is where today's newly-developed and single-purpose machines can bring and keep them at an equal quality.

The Superintendent owes it to himself to obtain every piece of equipment he possibly can, and use it to its fullest advantage wherever and whenever possible. Ninety-nine per cent of the better golf courses have the better array of equipment and the public, or membership, attribute a fine course to the Superintendent, not to machines, although we know that one needs the other. It is obvious, then, to assume that it is the Superintendents' ability to obtain money for equipment, in most cases, that enables him to do an outstanding job in the first place, although he must obviously know how and when to use it also.

Nothing need be said concerning poor labor for who would tolerate it for any length of time? Good, expensive labor, on the other hand, can easily approach the point of wastefulness when it is not used at its fullest capabilities. The use of good labor in antiquated methods hurts the Superintendent, primarily because it constitutes high productivity costs and loss of time that could have been put to other use. The golf course pays for this labor and may or may not object to using outdated methods, but the Superintendent in a sense pays for the time as he has a fixed total of man hours to spend as he sees fit. Wasting man hours hurts not the club as much as it does the Superintendent for he loses time that he could use to his own advantage on projects not necessarily needing attention, but would be to his benefit. Often it is these extra projects, above and beyond normal maintenance programs that draw the compliments and raise the salaries and professional status.

It can be said then, that the value of any Superintendent is governed by his ability to obtain the means of remaining abreast of modern advances in agriculture, through the wise use of labor, the continual updating of equipment, and the obvious attendance at educational seminars.

James J. Reidy  
Golf Course Superintendent  
Tatnuck Country Club

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR FRIENDS

Grounds Equipment Co., Inc.  
383 Boylston Street  
Newton Centre, Massachusetts

Abbott Spray and Farm Equipment Co.  
Waltham Street  
Lexington, Massachusetts

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.  
Wethersfield, Connecticut

The Clapper Co.  
1121 Washington Street  
West Newton, Massachusetts

Sil Paulini Inc.  
Loam Specialists  
Hopkinton - 435-4370

Geoffrey S. Cornish  
Golf Course Architect  
Fiddler's Green  
Amherst, Massachusetts

Larchmont Irrigation Co.  
Larchmont Lane  
Lexington, Massachusetts

Wyandotte Chemical Corp.  
709 Salada Building  
Boston, Massachusetts

Lee Patten Seed Co.  
20 Beck Road  
Arlington, Massachusetts

Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc.  
Sam Mitchell, Sales Representative  
18 Old Randolph Street  
Canton, Massachusetts

Mr. F. J. Lukasik  
Stauffer Chemical Co.  
380 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10017

Turf Equipment Co.  
28 Rutledge Road  
Natick, Massachusetts

The Hubbard Hall Chemical Co.  
P. O. Box 790  
Waterbury, Connecticut

Singleton Irrigations Systems, Inc.  
Manchester-By-The-Sea, Mass.

Tom Irwin Co.  
Bennet Hill Road  
Rowley, Massachusetts

Johns Manville Sales Corp.  
150 Causeway Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Philip A. Wogan  
Golf Course Architect  
21 Budleigh Avenue  
Beverly, Massachusetts

Sawtelle Brothers  
Jct. Routes 128 and 62  
Danvers, Massachusetts

The Kenneth Barrie Co.  
4140 and 4140A Washington Street  
Roslindale, Massachusetts

J. F. Aveni  
Lu Soil-Soil Conditioner  
Minerals & Chemicals Philipp Corp.  
25 Concord Avenue  
Belmont, Massachusetts

Stanley S. Philipkoski  
Sales Representative  
Stauffer Chemical Co.  
380 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York



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