



# THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

— APRIL, 1986 —

## —DATES TO REMEMBER—

**April 7-8**

GCSAA Seminar  
"Environmental and Water Issues  
in the Northeast"

**April 17**

GCSANE Joint Meeting  
w/Cape /Cod Turf Managers Assn.  
Country Club of New Seabury  
Mashpee, Mass.

**May 12**

GCSANE Regular Meeting  
Beverly Golf & Tennis Club  
Beverly, Mass.

## —Position Opening—

**Golf Course Superintendent**  
Wedgewood C.C.-Brockton, Mass.  
Please Contact:

Mr. Elias  
Office: 588-4682  
Club: 583-9525

\*\*\*

## —Position Opening—

**Golf Course Superintendent**  
Whipoorwill G.C.  
Hudson, N.H.

Please Contact:

Mr. John Thompson  
Bradgate Associates  
74 North Eastern Blvd.  
Nashua, N.H. 03036  
603-882-1122

## Notice to Advertisers

Starting with our May issue the Newsletter will start a new column; **Commercial Clip-pings**. This column will feature personnel changes or additions, individual or company awards, and new lines taken on by Friends of the Association.

This information should be sent or called into the Editor or Newsletter Chairman for prompt attention.

(Note: Deadline for May issue is April 11th).

## — Dave Barber - a President for All Seasons —

Dave Barber is like that guy in the TV commercial.

You know, the one who exclaims: "I love my wife, I love my kids, I love my dog, I love my house, I love my job."

Could it be that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England has elected as its president one of the last of a vanishing breed - a happy man? "Why not?" Dave remarks. "I really can't find too much to complain about, I can think of more pluses than minuses in my life. As for taking over as president, I'm following in a line pretty good administrators. All you have to do is look at the Association. It's on an upbeat course as far as I can see."

Let it be said that the NEGCSA has a solid member of the profession at its top, one with thick blood lines that run through golf.

Dave's grandfather and first mentor, Sam Barberosa, was a golf course superintendent ("he called himself a 'greenkeeper' in those days," Dave mentions) - his stopovers including the Wellesley Country Club and Sandy Burr.

Then, too, Dave's father, Al Barber, once was a golf professional and has recently been golf director at the South Shore Country Club. In between, he worked at numerous jobs in the massive responsibility of raising 10 children.

Brought up in that good work ethic environment, Dave soon learned that there was no sense dreaming of the soft life because there wasn't going to be any.

Therefore, he spent much of his after-school time (Waltham High School) getting his hands dirty and his mind focused on being a superintendent while learning the ropes under his grandfather. There followed a two-year program at the University of Massachusetts where one of his professors was the late Lawrence Dickinson, placement training at South Shore, two years under the late and venerable Guy Tedesco at Wayland and his first head job.

Dave succeeded Guy at Wayland and remained there for 17 years until he received and accepted the call from the Blue Hill Country Club where he operates as one of the profession's finest.

Barber's been looking after Blue Hills for the last seven years and offers an interesting overview of the public-private course comparison.

"I've worked both sides of the street," Dave tells. "And I have to say that I prefer the private club (Blue Hills over Wayland). I guess it's a matter of having employers who are willing to spend money on the course."

"I've been lucky here (Blue Hills). They've put it all together for me and it's paid off at both ends. But, it all boils down to knowing how to do your job, regardless of where you do it."

Dave has some priority items on his NEGCSA presidential list as he completes his run up the Association elective ladder.

"Of course, the pesticide issue is one that's bugging a lot of members," he notes. "We're going to be front and center with this thing and seek to get some answers. It's pressing, so we hope the state board comes up with something concrete - and soon."

Barber also has stepped into another interesting situation since the state legislature just passed a water management act which could have strong impact on the golf course superintendent.

"Whether we like it or not, water resources, levels and the like are a very important part of our work environment," Dave relates. "We've never had any control over how water is used and what has to be done to make sure we don't abuse that use."

"Frankly, awareness of this problem probably is a blessing in disguise for the

Dave con't. on page 5—

# Golf Course Superintendents Association



## — 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: What is the policy for opening the golf course at your club and who sets it?*

**Dick Arzillo, Unicorn Golf Club:** "The ideal time for the golf course to open is when you're virtually assured all potential dangers of damage to the turf have passed and it's full go ahead. "That's what we try to do at Unicorn which is a municipal course and falls under municipal jurisdiction.

"What that boils down to is a meeting of the minds,' in this case Stoneham recreation manager Steve Hoisington and myself. We get together and come to an agreement on when to open after giving the course and elements a long look.

"We have an advantage here because the course is set on top of a hill which helps drainage and promotes natural drying.

"Actually, we haven't had any problems along this line, even though we proceed with caution every spring. There's no target date, either. Again, it depends on conditions.

"Normally, we open the first week

in April. However, there are exceptions. In fact, because it dried out faster a year ago we opened our doors the last week in March.

"Regardless, I get no pressure from the players to open. My only problem is keeping practice players off the course in the middle of winter when we get a sunny day. Otherwise, getting out of the starting block doesn't present any bind for me."

**Lucien Duval, York Golf & Tennis Club:** "My judgement gets first call here as far as opening the course goes and so far the membership has gone along with it.

"Which means they know I'm thinking in the course's best interests and theirs if we don't open as soon as some of the other area courses. Fact is, we're usually the last in the group to open.

"Naturally, a few members get a little hairy when the weather suns up and they want to get out on the course. However, the old guard stands behind my decision. That helps. I have a good green chairman and the club has had the same president for the last 10 years.

"I have some experiences that I'd like to share with the Association, though - ones that proved disastrous when I had no part in deciding when to open.

"Specifically, it's the Manchester (N.H.) Country Club. I had no control there and the course paid the price. Heck, I can remember having to pull golf cars out of the snow.

"But, thankfully, that doesn't happen here. The members respect my judgement and recognize my expertise. That's why we never have any problems about when they get to tee it up for the first time."

**Ken Mooradian, Hopedale Country Club:** "That's a funny question for me, because opening the course here means switching from temporary to regular greens. This place is always open.

*Super Speaks con't. on p. 5—*

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

### President's Message

David Barber

April, 1986



Our long snowless winter is behind us, and all of us are looking anxiously to the warmer days of Spring. Our first outdoor meeting will be at the New Seabury Country Club April 17th. Qualifying site for the annual Guy Tedesco Invitational. Let's have a fine showing and give our Association's support to this rewarding tournament in honor of one who gave our profession so much.

Our Association congratulates the Mass. Golf Assoc. for their fine Annual Spring Conference which was held at the Newton Marriott, March 1st. At the Awards Presentation, Tom Schofield - Wellesley C.C. (site of the Mass. Open) and Henry Stelling - Myopia Hunt Club (site of the Mass. Amateur) received the MGA Championship Site Awards. Congratulations to Tom and Henry.

The 55th Massachusetts Turfgrass Conference was a great success and as

### —CORRECTION—

The telephone numbers listed in the Newsletter for David Barber, CGCS are incorrect.

Correct numbers are—

**Home Phone: 828-7266**

**Office Phone: 828-6540**

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**PRESIDENT**  
David Barber, CGCS  
145 Dedham St.  
Canton, Mass. 02021  
Home Phone 878-7266  
Office Phone 878-6540  
Club Affiliation  
Blue Hill C.C.

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Richard Zepp, CGCS  
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Whitinsville G.C.

**SECRETARY**  
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Tedesco C.C.

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Salem C.C.

**TRUSTEE**  
Stephen A. Chiavaroli, CGCS  
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Worcester, MA 01602  
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Office Phone 791-5373  
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Tatnuck C.C.

**TRUSTEE**  
Mark J. Klimm  
P.O. Box 480  
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Home Phone 477-3516  
Office Phone 477-0919  
Club Affiliation  
C.C. of New Seabury

## Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

Newsletter - April, 1986

### — CHIP SHOTS —

Our apologies for not listing Pat Vittum as "Dr." Pat Vittum in the Committee column of last month's Newsletter . . . we would also like to apologize to Steve Carr, GCS, Pocasset Golf Club for omitting his name from the GCSAA Golf Tournament results, please accept our apologies as there were four readers who were interested in your score. Of course all they have to do is guess your age and multiply it by 3.2. We understand that your 2nd round was equally as good! . . . All members should have a By-Lar Book. You can get one by contacting Paul Miller . . . welcome back to Mark Taylor, GCS, who has re-joined the GCSANE . . . Allan Singer, formally super at Cedar Glen G.C., is now the Superintendent at the Thomson Club in North Reading . . . hey Silva, better start practicing speed skating - Lenhart just put you on his "check" list for next season to lessen your goals against average . . . our U.S. mail fails to deliver about 3 Newsletters per month. If you do not receive one, please contact Mike Hannigan and I'll get another one out ASAP . . . many thanks to Sally Miller for designing our new masthead - what is it they say about a woman's touch??

### —Position Opening—

#### Golf Course Mechanic

Worcester Country Club

Apply to: Michael Nagle

c/o Worcester C.C.

2 Rice St.

Worcester, Mass. 01606

or Call: 617-853-6574

### 2nd Annual North Autumn Classic

Two man, best ball, 36 hole championship - Sept. 29-30, 1986 at the Quechee Club in Quechee, Vermont. The tournament is open to any member of a GCSA with a current official handicap card.

The cost is \$115<sup>00</sup> per person which includes a cocktail party and dinner on Monday and an Awards Luncheon on Tuesday. The field is limited to 144 players and is already filling quickly. Local lodging is available and up to the individual. For questions or information please call Mark Fuller at 802-295-7488 or 802-295-1458.

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### "FLASHBACK"

*"Knowledge is not knowledge until someone else knows that one knows."*

—Lucilius

The March meeting was held at the Hotel Bradford with a number of guests of the greenkeepers present. Dr. O.J. Moer, a member of the Sewerage Commission Turf Service Bureau, was the guest speaker. Dr. Noer gave an interesting and informative talk accompanied by colored photographs showing results of some of the experiments. Some excerpts from Dr. Noer's talk were, that there is some deterioration in golf course turf particularly in fairways and tees. Some fairways had been impaired due to heavy watering, close cutting and lack of fertilizer. In most cases the greens had been kept in good condition but two or three mornings a week were not conducive to good putting greens especially on stolons. A plentiful supply of nitrogen reduces Dollar Spot, and an excessive amount aggravates Brown Patch. Calomel, or Calomel-Corrosive Sublimate mixture, prevents Dollar Spot for periods up to three or four weeks. Fungicides should be applied frequently to control Brown Patch during hot humid spells, prevention is better than restoration.

Initial results obtained with 2,4D have been good in eradicating dandelion, buckhorn and plantain. Treatments on clover, chickweed and knotweed have produced fair results. Experiments with 2,4D on crabgrass have not been satisfactory. Among the grasses, blue grass, fescue and poa annua are more resistant to damage from 2,4D than the bent grasses.

The rough is usually the principal source of weeds and it should be included in the weed control program. Following the treatment to kill weeds the area should be fertilized and limed if necessary. The voids left by the weeds should be replaced with a dense turf to prevent another crop of weeds from the weed seeds present in the soil. Reseeding is not necessary if permanent grasses suited to the soil and climate are present in sufficient quantity. Generous applications of fertilizer will cause the grass to spread and form a dense turf. Reseeding is necessary on fairways that are infested with poa annua and clover but the poa

annua and clover should first be destroyed with arsenicals in order to obtain a satisfactory stand of grass. A treatment with 2,4D may be necessary to kill the broadleaved weeds.

*They're waging war on the lowly weed,*

*With the modern weapon 2,4D  
Don't be surprised, but you soon  
may see*

*The dog have its day with K,9-P*

Credit to:

*Greenskeepers Club of N.E.  
Newsletter, April 1946*

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### Gasoline, Lead & Alcohol

Many of you are aware that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued rules which have resulted in a reduction of lead and leaded gasoline from the formerly allowable 1.1 grams (.8 in California) per gallon to 0.5 gram beginning July 1, 1985. These same rules call for a further reduction to 0.1 gram per gallon beginning January 1, 1986. Lead has provided two benefits.

1. It provides a gasoline with a higher octane number than an equivalent gasoline without lead.
2. It acts as a lubricant for certain internal engine components. This reduces friction, lowers temperatures, and generally extends engine life.

There are several ways to restore the octane lost by the removal of lead. One is by additional refining to create gasolines such as premium unleaded. A second, and generally more economical way, is to blend alcohol with the gasoline.

With regard to the second benefit of lead, we are not aware of any refiners having developed an acceptable additive to provide the lubrication qualities lost when lead is removed. As a result, those engines requiring lead's lubrication may experience more rapid wear than normal. Whether or not more rapid wear occurs is dependent on the type of use the engine sees. Generally, the more severe the service, the more rapidly wear will occur.

Blends of alcohol and unleaded regular gasoline have been on the

*Gasoline con't. on p. 4—*

—Gasoline con't. from p. 3

market at least since the early 1970's. In recent years, alcohol has been locally blended with unleaded premium, leaded regular, and diesel fuel. With the reduction in allowable lead, we expect more refiners, in more areas of the country, to begin blending alcohol with gasolines.

OMC has had in effect an extensive testing program for various alcohol blended gasolines. While testing is not yet complete, results so far point to several areas of concern.

1. **PERMEATION:** Alcohol blended gasolines tend to slowly permeate (or pass through) nonmetallic fuel system parts. This phenomena is similar to air gradually leaking out of a balloon or tire. During this permeation process, the alcohol removes with it some of the molecules in the nonmetallic fuel system parts. In effect, the alcohol has changed the material. The visual results can be premature hardening, surface checking (crazing) and cracking of once flexible items. In some cases, the part will swell and get mushy. The speed at which this occurs is dependent on the type and percentage of alcohol and the material composition of the part.

**USERS OF ALCOHOL BLENDED FUELS SHOULD FREQUENTLY CHECK NONMETALLIC PARTS FOR SIGNS OF DETERIORATION AND REPLACE THEM WHENEVER NECESSARY.**

2. **WATER ABSORPTION:** Alcohols will normally stay in solution with gasoline. However, alcohols also attract and hold moisture. If the amount of moisture reaches a certain level, the alcohol/water combination will separate from the gasoline and settle to the bottom of the tank. The occurrence of this event, called phase separation, is affected by the type and percentage of alcohol, local temperatures and relative humidity. Phase separation can cause several problems:

- a. The alcohol/water combination can attack the inner surface of metal fuel tanks and cause corrosion. The corrosion products will eventually clog fuel filters and small passages. In time, the tank could corrode through allowing fuel leakage. The alcohol/water combina-

tion can also attack aluminum and brass in carburetors and fuel pumps with similar clogging problems.

- b. In a four-cycle engine the alcohol/water will be drawn into the engine where it will burn although at a leaner fuel/air ratio than normal. This leanness may cause performance problems such as difficult starting, rough idle and stalling, and piston damage due to preignition.

**USERS OF ALCOHOL BLENDED FUELS SHOULD INSPECT THEIR FUEL TANKS AT LEAST ANNUALLY AND REPLACE THEM WHEN CORROSION OR LEAKAGE IS EVIDENT.** Those in high humidity areas or where morning dew is a frequent occurrence should be especially alert to this problem.

3. **SOLVENCY:** Alcohols can act as a cleaning solvent. With older units where fuel residue buildup has occurred, this cleaning action can remove the deposit and move it along to filters and small passages where it may clog. Again, the effect is dependent on the type and percentage of alcohol in gasoline.

**USERS OF ALCOHOL BLENDED GASOLINES SHOULD INSPECT FILTERS AT FREQUENT INTERVALS AND CLEAN OR CHANGE THEM WHENEVER EVIDENCE OF CLOGGING IS FOUND.**

4. **LEANER AIR/FUEL RATIO:** Alcohol contains less energy per gallon than gasoline. As a result, alcohol blended gasolines burn leaner than straight gasoline. The greater the percentage of alcohol, the leaner the air/fuel ratio. Some indications of a lean mixture are hard starting and lower speed stalls. Some engines are more severely effected by a leaning of the air/fuel ratio.

**USERS OF ALCOHOL BLENDED GASOLINES WHO EXPERIENCE LEAN BURN SYMPTOMS SHOULD CONSIDER INSTALLING LARGER DIAMETER ORIFICE PLUGS.** These will generally restore the original air/fuel ratio but at some increase in fuel consumption.

Part of OMC's test program has been an evaluation of new materials

whose makers claim they eliminate the adverse effects of alcohol blended gasolines without creating other problems. If evaluation shows these claims to be true, then these materials will be incorporated into new OMC products. Also, dealers will be notified of the availability of these replacement parts so that they might be recommended to owners of older units where appropriate.

*Credit Outboard Marine Corporation  
A.T. Lanoie*

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## OIL SPILL

Recently there was a hydraulic oil spill on one of our greens which sent the mower operator tearing back to the shop and returning a short time later with a bag of charcoal. His intention was to apply it to the oil spill as he had been instructed when employed at another golf course. Fortunately I was in time to prevent him from doing so. I explained the effect of charcoal on an oil spill. It was pointed out that charcoal absorbs the oil but only adds more carbon and does not break it down, consequently the grass dies and we are left with a black line on the grass until able to resod.

I have found through experience that any detergent works well whether it be Tide powder, Joy liquid or organic penetrants (the latter giving the best results mainly due to the concentrated form).

The application of an organic penetrant from a 2 gallon sprayer directly brings results. Apply it three or four days consecutively, hosing it in with plenty of water.

The ideal situation would be to water a spill immediately after it occurs. Remember, be certain to use penetrant . . . not charcoal. You will not be disappointed with the results.

—The Divot News—

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— Position Openings —

**Assistant Superintendent**  
Andover C.C.  
Andover, Mass.

Contact:

Mr. Tony DeBettencourt, Supt.  
Office: 617-475-6638  
Home: 603-424-5380

**Golf Course Mechanic**

(Cart Experience Preferred)  
Andover C.C., Andover, Mass.

Contact:

Mr. Tony DeBettencourt, Supt.  
Office: 617-475-6638  
Home: 603-424-5380

**Assistant Superintendent**

Worcester Country Club

Send Resume to:

Mr. Michael Nagle  
2 Rice St.

Worcester, MA 01606

or Call:

617-853-6574

—Super Speaks con't. from p. 2

"However, there is pressure to play the regular greens. What I do is try to ignore it because, basically, it's my decision as to when players are allowed to use the greens they make their putts on most of the season.

"I must say that we seem to get a little more lenient every year in putting the pins back in the regular greens. So, it's tough on me and probably boils down to being the biggest headache I'll have all year.

"We do have a green committee and it's helpful. But the members here are always raring to go.

"It really is a pain. Listen, we're only nine holes and the traffic can be unbearable. Therefore, putting 150 to 180 players on those greens too early could mean we're on the way to getting tons of damage done on them.

"This is my 17th year here, so I pretty well have a handle on what it's going to do in the way of greens softening up and how many feet will be tramping on them. Every year, I just hope I've kept them on the temporaries long enough.

"Like I said, this thing's my biggest headache - a headache that refuses to go away."

—GERRY FINN

**Massachusetts Turf Conference Reflections**

The 55th Massachusetts Turfgrass Conference and 10th Industrial Show was dedicated this year to Mr. Geoffrey Cornish and was a smashing success. Mr. Cornish was honored at the annual banquet on March 5 . . . How about our own Tony Caranci, GCS, Ledgemont C.C. who, at the last minute filled in as Master of Ceremonies in the absence of Dr. John Dennison-Dean - Stockbridge School of Agriculture. MAYOR Caranci was as smooth as someone running for office . . . we don't have all the figures yet, but good weather surely was factor in the large attendance of both trade and educational sessions this year . . . speaking of education, many fine comments were heard about the regular sessions, and many more nice things were said about the Monday seminars . . . our thanks again to Dr. Troll and his staff for making this conference one of the best!

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**Used Equipment for Sale**

\*1977 84" National Mower  
New reels and bed knives  
Good 12 H.P. Kohler Engine \$750<sup>00</sup>

\*3 Gang Set of 6 Blade Toro Spartens w/Frames . . . . . \$500<sup>00</sup>

\*Peerless Reel Grinder . . . . . \$100<sup>00</sup>

\*H.P. Campbell-Hausfield Air Compressor w/30 Gal Horizontal Tank . . . . . \$300<sup>00</sup>

Contact: Mike Nagle GCS,  
Worcester C.C. 617-853-6574

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—Dave con't. from page 1

golf course. There's been too much undisciplined use of water. We were going hog wild for a while. Now, certain areas are coming to realize its supply is not bottomless."

The new prexy also intends to keep up the public relations push for the profession and the on-going attempt to keep the superintendent's image headed toward a brighter shining.

"I would like to see everybody in the Association become professional in all ways," Dave added. "That means more attention to appearance. At least, we can look professional as a starter."

Dave Barber, then, is going at his new post at a predictable pace - around the clock. He's a president for all seasons and someone solid to look up to. Give a look. It is most deserving.

—GERRY FINN

—NEXT MEETING—

Thursday, April 17th, 1986  
Country Club of New Seabury  
Mashpee, MA

Joint meeting with Cape Cod Turf Managers Association

10:00 A.M. - Directors Meeting  
11:00 A.M. - Lunch  
12:00 Noon - Golf. Shotgun start.  
Make your own foursome qualifying for the Guy Tedesco Memorial Golf Tournament.

\$45<sup>00</sup>/Person includes Lunch & Tournament Entry Fee

**Superintendent Profile -**

Host Tom Colombo is a 1982 graduate of the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at UMass. He worked through high school and did his placement training at the Bass River Golf Course. He has been at New Seabury for four years, working as assistant to Mark Klimm who has been appointed the title of Director of Buildings and Grounds for New Seabury. We congratulate both Tom and Mark on their new assignments and look forward to the first golf outing of 1986.

**Directions -** From Rt. 3 go over Sagamore Bridge. Take exit 2 (at 130) toward Mashpee. At Mashpee Rotary follow signs to golf course.

**Important -** Please contact Tom no later than April 14th.

**Reservations are a MUST.**  
477-9111 Ext. 1544

■ ■ ■

**FINANCE CHAIRMAN**

Joseph G. Mondor  
13 Longview Drive  
Wilbraham, MA 01095  
Home Phone (413) 596-8057  
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Club Affiliation  
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James O'Kelly  
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Club Affiliation  
Brae Burn C.C.

**EDUCATIONAL CHAIRMAN**

Edward L. Brearley  
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Club Affiliation  
Weston Golf Club

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1121 Washington St.  
Newton, Mass.  
617-244-7929

**\*Geoffrey S. Cornish & Brian Silva**  
Golf Course Architects  
Fiddlers Green, Amherst, Mass. 01002

**Country Club Enterprises**  
Club Car Golf Cars  
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P.O. Box 400 W. Falmouth, Mass. 02574  
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Bob Kennedy, Rep.  
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(617) 295-2362

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Jack Peterson  
Dennis Friel Phone # 617-938-1751  
Wayne Ripley

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617-862-2550

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Rocky River, OH 44116  
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Mike Donahue, Rep.  
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