



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.

August 1993

September Meeting

Monday, September 13, 1993
Hatherly Country Club

Host Superintendent
Rich Caughey

9:00 a.m. Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
10:30 a.m. Education
Golf and Lunch to follow
Golf & Lunch - \$32.00
Lunch Only - \$10.00

Reservations Required

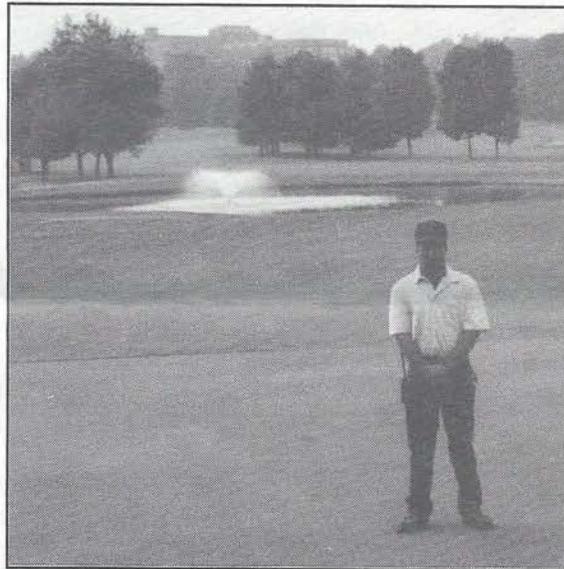
(617) 328-9479
Call by September 10, 1993

You must pay by check - No Cash!
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Rich Caughey has been superintendent at Hatherly Country Club for the past nine years. Previous to that he was superintendent for three years at Meadow Brook Golf Club in Reading. Married to Susan they have a son, Rick, and reside in Pembroke.

Directions to Hatherly Country Club: From Route 3 take exit 14 (Rte. 228), follow East to Rte. 3A. Follow 3A South to Scituate. At "Welcome to Scituate" sign take left onto Henry Turner Baily Road. Follow approx. 3 miles to Hatherly Road. Take left, club is on left.

Father's shoes perfect fit for Dave Mucciarone



Dave out standing on his picturesque golf course at Woodland Golf Club

Sometimes it's not easy following in your father's footsteps. Unless you're Dave Mucciarone. Dave is among that growing legion of young golf course superintendents who are keeping it in the family, taking to their father's shoes as if they were pairs of comfortable slippers while keeping a priceless tradition alive.

He tucks in the Woodland Golf Club every night. This is his second year as the popular course's head super. But he has a long way to go to catch dad, Norm Mucciarone, who whipped Woodland into shape during a successful 40-year stay.

So, is there life after father for Dave who was virtually Norm's designated replacement when he served as Woodland's assistant super and earned a glowing reputation in the

turf consultant field? "Oh, sure, there is," replied the one-time No. 2 man on the Newton North High School team. Everything's working out great. . .for both of us. Almost every day I find myself leaning on some tip my father gave me or maybe a suggestion he might drop."

"He's still very interested in my career and also the course conditioning process at Woodland. He really doesn't play here that often. However, he manages to sneak in a look at the course every now and then. I think he likes what he sees. Maybe because I'm doing things the way he did when he was in charge."

In fact, Dave probably wishes Norm would play more rounds at his old place of business. "What I mean is that when my father looks at the course now, he does it as a player for the most part," Dave explained. "And, it's true. Sometimes a golfer sees things a golf course superintendent doesn't. Some of us view the job from a restricted position and it's easy to overlook some mistakes or little missed assignments that may add to the overall efficiency of our maintenance programs."

For instance, Norm was and is a stickler for details. He thinks the little responsibilities a super has are just as important as the bigger ones. "It might fall under the heading of constructive criticism but something like a half-filled rubbish barrel that should be emptied might get my attention after dad

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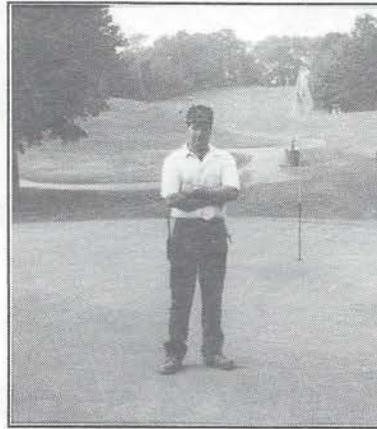
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tools around the course," Dave told. "It's not so much that he wants to catch me at something, he just wants everything to be just right. And, really, I welcome that kind of input. It keeps me on my toes. It's also sort of a reminder that I, or anyone, should never get complacent over the job. It's good to have him looking over my shoulder, so to speak."

One of the Mucciarone traits Dave has worked into his regimen is an early work call. He makes it a point to be at the course by five o'clock or as his father puts it, "be there when the greens wake up."

"That's a must for me," Dave said. "I think I should be around when the maintenance schedule for that day takes off. For us, it means the sprinklers start popping up at 5:30 a.m. I like to be there when it happens."

Such religious attention to on-the-job reporting comes naturally. "When I was a kid, getting into the habit of going to the gold course with my father in the morning, I had to make sure of an early start," Dave continued. "He was a 5 a.m. person and if I wanted to join him, I got one wakeup call. If I wasn't ready when he was, he left without me. So, that took care of turning me into a permanent early riser."

Dave emphasizes that there never was any question as where his place in the work world would be. However, the exact location was another story. At one time he thought about becoming a pro. "I think everyone who plays a better than average game of golf acquires an inclination to vision himself as a Tour player," Dave laughed. "With me, it was only kid stuff, fantasizing. When the serious part of my future was on the line, I knew that becoming a super was the only way to travel."

The younger member of the Mucciarone course conditioning team made that official when he took on the turf educational program at Stockbridge. Then, Norm pumped up the cause to keep Dave on the, uh, right course by making his son his assistant. However, there was just a slight obstacle ahead, one that might preclude Dave from succeeding his father at Woodland.

"When dad started to think about retiring, that was three years ago, there was a natural personal reaction," Dave recalled. "There was talk around the club that I'd follow in his footsteps but nothing concrete. After all, I was a young married man with responsibilities away from the job."

"So, I wanted to get my future set up. There was another offer from the Nehoiden Country Club, the one Wellesley College owns. I'd been consulting there and they wanted me to take over altogether. Therefore, I went to the Woodland people, explained the situation and wanted to know where I stood. Obviously, they told me what I wanted to hear and here I am."

Dave maintains that the one outstanding job-related asset he has comes from those many years observing and working with his father. He calls it a built-in insight or knowing what to expect in the way of turf disease and other maintenance problems before they occur.

"I already know what to do before it happens," he explained. "There are no surprises here because of all I learned from my father. And I'm still learning. . . from my silent partner. Our relationship, our association couldn't have had a happier on-going state."

GERRY FINN

Calendar

Sept. 13	Hatherly C.C. Member/Member
Sept. 27	Willow Bend Research Tourn.
October	Ferncroft C.C. Pro/Superintendent
Nov. 1	Needham G.C.

The Super Speaks Out:

This month's question: *With one of the driest early (May, June, July) golf seasons behind us, how did you cope during that agonizing spell of strained maintenance conditions?*

Kevin Killoy, Quaboag Country Club: "Haven't seen the numbers yet since Monson is a once-a-year water bill town. However, I'm sure that it (bill) will be considerably more than usual."

"That takes care of the water source which, fortunately for me, is no problem. We use water, plenty of it, but no as much as other businesses in town. There's a plastic injection company just down the street, so water must be available in virtually limited supply in this area."

"This is my first year as head super at Quaboag but I know the lay of the land and its reaction to the weather because I've worked here for the last 12 years. For one thing, as a nine-hole golf course, Quaboag is a compact-designed layout, so the irrigation system has a relatively long reach."

"Therefore, we were able to keep more than 60 percent of our roughs irrigated. The rest we just left to brown up with hopes that a normal rainfall in late summer and fall would bring it back to greening country."

"Probably the most obvious effect the lack of rain had on our overall maintenance program is that it made for long days. That's because the irrigation system is only partially automatic. Which has made for a lot of manual watering. During that period I went on a 35-hour watering week. It was a daily thing, usually starting around 4:30 and finishing at 9:15 or 9:30 (a.m.). In the process I'd estimate that the drought (and that's what it was) doubled my manual watering hours."

"Otherwise, there were no drastic measures to present a complete greening look to the course. We just pumped as much water as we could into the course and let the fringe areas (unreachable roughs) brown out."

"Perhaps the most important aspect to the strain on the program was the members' response. If there were any complaints about course condition, I didn't hear them. In fact, the only work I got and from many sources was that playing conditions were as good if not better than ever."

Dick Zepp, Whitinsville Golf Club: "First, let me say that the weather conditions almost from the start of the season through the early days of July were the worst in matter of negative rainfall that I've ever experienced."

"From a personal standpoint, there was just one inch of rain at Whitinsville between the middle of April and the middle of July. That's about as dry as it gets anywhere."

"Again, from where I'm responsible for the playing ability and looks of the golf course, the situation became acute because Whitinsville is a very dry course to begin with. It's set on a combination of sand and gravel, requiring a lot of water to keep it green."

"So, my irrigation system which is completely automatic, was humming away during what naturally was a stress period for plant life here. The positive aspect to its continual use was the Mumford River, our source of water. No problem in that neck of course conditioning."

"As for the roughs, we just let the irrigation system dictate where the line between green and brown would begin. Our system leaps out to about 20 or 30 feet into the roughs. Beyond that, it was every blade of grass for itself."

"I should add that there was a slight complication combating the drought. It necessitated some hand-watering in overly dry spots in the fairways. Other than that, I relied on technology and occasional rain dances to turn the oven down and keep baking-out to a minimum."



Rick Giverson, Westover Golf Club: "I have no flow meter on my irrigation system. However, I'd guess that a once-a-day watering schedule here accounts for an output of 250,000 gallons."

"That was a constant for almost three months into the season. It might have reached a critical stage, too, because our water source is a man-made pond that has reached a point where remedies must be taken to keep it working at full tilt."

"Therefore, there has been talk of putting in a holding pond which would be a project in itself."

"We hoped for a couple of weeks of relief from the heat and humidity instead of those 20-minute downpours which were more of a nuisance than a help."

RICK GIVERSON

"Away from those thoughts, coping with the sandy soil has been a strain in dry periods because we usually end up baby-sitting our greens to keep them up to snuff. Syringing the greens, then, upset my overall schedule somewhat."

"The rough browning line followed the reach of our automatic irrigation system. It hit 20 feet in from either fairway after which the browning effect took hold."

"However, I'm happy to say that the course and its condition held up through all the stress. What we hoped for going into the middle of July was a couple of weeks of relief from the heat and humidity instead of those 20-minute downpours which were more of a nuisance than help."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we look back at the past summer, very few golf course managers need to be reminded of the tremendous challenges that faced us during the last few months. While our water problems are not quite over, to date, relief is surely on the way. Our GCSANE members need to be congratulated for their efforts and successes.

While all of our members prepare their courses for event after event each week, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the following four members of GCSANE, for the fine course conditions afforded at their facilities, during the following major events: On June 21-23, the Mass. State Open was prepared for by Peter Hasak at the Tedesco Country Club. On July 22-25, Randy Kehres, CGCS., successfully prepared the Pleasant Valley Country Club for the PGA Tour's New England Classic. On July 29-Aug. 1, Dave Barber, CGCS., again prepared the Blue Hill Country Club for the LPGA Tour's Ping Welch's Championship and on August 2-8, the Senior PGA Tour's Bank of Boston Nynex Senior's Classic was prepared for by Paul Miller, CGCS., at the Nashawtuc Country Club. Congratulations to those individuals for the hard work and planning, particularly during such adverse weather conditions.

Our Association's first Memorial Tournament was conducted at the Wachusett Country Club on August 24. Proceeds from this event will provide the initial funding of the GCSANE Benevolent Fund (details to follow in Sept. Newsletter). Thanks to Wachusett Country Club owner and superintendent, Don Marrone, Jr., for his tremendous generosity and fine hospitality. Thanks to all who attended and also to those who didn't get to play, but participated by sending in contributions anyway. The Ouimet Scholarship Fund conducted a special Golf Marathon on August 10, in celebration of its Centennial Campaign, the 100th anniversary of the birth of Francis Ouimet. This event took place at the Stow Acres Golf Club, where Andy Langlois is now golf course superintendent. The funds raised from this marathon event will go toward current renovations planned for the Ouimet Museum, which houses the operations of the Mass. Golf Association, Ouimet Fund and the Women's Golf Assoc. of Massachusetts.

Incidentally, the MGA staff now includes a position filled by Mr. Tom Landry, formerly of the Georgia Golf Association. Mr. Landry is Director of member services, which was created to better facilitate the services that the MGA member clubs expect and demand of the MGA. . Congratulations to the MGA Executive Board, staff, and tournament committee and officials, for the successful planning and conducting of the Mass. Open at Tedesco Country Club and the Mass. Amateur at the Essex Country Club.

One last matter that deserves mention at this time involves a new Mass. Pesticide Regulation which became effective in mid-July. Mr. John Kenney, of the Pesticide Board in Boston, has informed me that all applications of pesticides in Massachusetts, whether these pesticides are restricted or non-restricted, will soon be required to be licensed by the Commonwealth. Details of this new regulation will be available very soon and posted. Finally, let's not forget the plan for the 1993 GCSANE Research Tournament at Willowbend Club on September 27th. Host Supt. Bob St. Thomas has this new facility looking quite gorgeous. Hope to see you there in September.

Stephen Chiavaroli, CGCS.

President

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



Sullivan Tire Company



Sullivan Tire Company is pleased to donate one dollar per tire for every tire purchased by GCSANE Golf Course and Country Clubs from Sullivan Tire. This donation will be specifically for the GCSANE Turf Research Fund. This opportunity for the association will be from August '93 through March '94. At the end of August, Tom Wilson, Specialty Tire Manager for Sullivan Tire, will tally all tires purchased by each association member and donate one dollar for each tire unit purchased.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to help your association by supporting this program, sponsored by Sullivan Tire Company. Please call Sullivan Tire to inquire about a tally sheet to record your transactions at any of Sullivan Tire's twenty five locations. Then return the list to the treasurer of your association when the promotion period is over. If you have any questions please contact the association or **Tom Wilson at Sullivan Tire Company**

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Results, Thorny Lea, August 9, 1993 *ABCD Best Ball*

LOW GROSS

Jack Hasset
Ruen Garrity
Kevin Laporte
Max Mierzwa

1st NET

Dave Commee
Mike Hermanson
Dave Karhman
Gary Luccini

2nd NET

Greg Misodolakis
Mike Cornicelli
Steve Butler
Dick Zepp

3rd NET

Tom Fox
Robin Hayes
Tony Carranci
Leroy Allen

*Special thanks to Joe Rybka and his staff at
Thorny Lea for putting on a great day.*

Results, Supt. 1993 Championship Concord Country Club

SUPT. LOW GROSS

Jack Hasset - 74
Greg Misodolakis - 75
Paul Miller - 79

SUPT. LOW NET

Dick Duggan - 67
Mike Hermanson - 69
Bob DiRico - 70
Lou McNally - 73
Paul Jamrog - 73

SENIOR LOW GROSS

Ed Uhlmann, Jr. - 73
Len Blodgett - 80

SENIOR LOW NET

Joe Rybka - 70
Leroy Allen - 71

AFFILIATE LOW GROSS

Jim Casey - 72
Matt Dunn - 78

AFFILIATE LOW NET

John Lenhart - 67
Ron Smith - 68

*Special thanks to Dick Duggan and all his staff at
Concord Country Club for putting on a great tournament,
and thanks to Dennis Friel of Tom Irwin Co., for the
beverages afterwards.*

Golf Course Superintendents of New England

GCSAA bestows the title of Certified Golf Course Superintendent only on those people committed to professional excellence in the industry. Orrin W. Ellis, CGCS recently completed the certification renewal process which has earned him the right to continue using the title, Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS).

Successfully completing the renewal requirements of GCSAA's Certification Program is no small accomplishment. It requires individuals to participate in a minimum of 20 hours per year of continuing education to ensure that they stay up-to-date in the latest in golf course management techniques.

Mr. Ellis' willingness to be judged by the standards of his fellow professionals and assume a position of leadership in the game of golf should be commended. This is a significant achievement in his professional career. We believe that the renewal of his certified status demonstrates both a desire for personal achievement and a wish to provide Pine Meadows Country Club with the best playing conditions possible. Please join us in congratulating him on his accomplishment.

Nancy G. Scott
Education Manager

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

JOB OPENING

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Wedgewood Management Co.
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JOB OPENING

Watch your mailbox for information on the Research Tournament September 27th at Willow Bend. Lets make this tournament a big success.



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Tom Fox - (508) 865-9150

Turf Products Corp.
7 Coppage Dr., Worcester, MA 01603
(508) 791-2091

Turf Specialty, Inc.
15 Londonderry Rd.
Londonderry, NH 03053
Turf & Ornamental Supplies.
1-800-228-6656
Bob Flanagan, Kevin Lyons,
Dave Schermerhorn, John Lensing

White Turf, Inc. - Barre, MA
Irrigation contractor, Pump specialist.
(508) 355-6777

Winding Brook Turf Farm, Inc.
240 Griswold Rd. Wethersfield, CT 06109
800-243-0232, Alan Anderson

Winfield Nursery
1320 Mountain Rd., Suffield, CT 06109
Jeff Rogers
(wholesale nursery trees & shrubs)

Phillp Wogan
Golf Course Architecture
17 Walker Rd., Topsfield, MA 01983

Varney Bros. Sand, Gravel & Concrete
Concrete Golf Cart Paths
Bellingham, MA
1-800-441-7373
Kenneth Mooradian, Rep.

FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Sullivan Tire Company

At Sullivan Tire Company we are proud to be called "Friends of the Association". In Sullivan Tire Company's thirty seven years in the tire business we are known in New England for quality products, old fashioned hustle style service, a professional courteous staff and one of the very best names in tires "Goodyear".

Recently Sullivan Tire Company has been chosen to be the master distributor in specialty tires and tubes in New England by Goodyear. This new change has brought the Goodyear specialty tire product line to the New England Lawn, Turf and Landscape Equipment users. Sullivan Tire Company has twenty nine location's and is growing in the New England area to serve you with a great American made product line.

At Sullivan Tire Company we stress family values with a long term commitment to serve you. We want and we appreciate your business. We believe in making constant improvements for better service to provide a lasting relationship with those who are in the lawn and turf industry.

Please contact Tom Wilson at (508) 580-2222 or anyone of our locations for assistance regarding specialty tires.

WE ARE SORRY IF THERE
IS ANY CONFUSION REGARDING
LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER
(JULY)
AND THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER
(AUGUST)



THE NEWSLETTER

James Reinertson

96 Main Street
Wayland, MA 01778

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