





May 1988

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### ST. ANDREWS

## Site of the 1988 Invitational

It's known as "The Invitational," but to the seasoned superintendents on the scene, in their heart of hearts, it's Family Day, the day the four vital facets of the game come together annually for a day of fun and conversation.

This year the date is Thursday, June 9, and the scene is the historic St. Andrews Club in Hastings-on-Hudson, the cradle of golf in America, where the game was born 100 years ago this past Washington's birthday.

The Invitational brings together, in a unique format, the club president, superintendent, greens chairman and professional playing in foursomes at bestball, and staged under the auspicus of the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association.

And no one is happier about the day than David Michael Dwinell, the tall, blond "super" at the host St. Andrews CLub, who has anxiously awaited the day he could showoff the new St. Andrews to his peers, confer and friends alike.

"I think they'll be pleasantly surprised," said the 32-year-old Dwinell, who has worked feverishly on the site since taking over in the spring of '83, The 6,445-yard, par-71 layout promises to be in superb condition, from the par-4 uphill first hole, known as "Reid's Gate," to the par-4 18th or "Home" hole.

The par-511th hole, by the way, one of the more controversial around, is known as the "Cemetery" hole, and it is here where Jack Nicklaus suffered one of the rare "defeats" of his legendary golfing lifetime. After years of frustration, financial and otherwise, Big Jack tossed in the towel last fall and pulled out of the project with the help of Chemical Bank, before "completing" the 11th hole.

But that's another story. This one should be devoted to St. Andrews and the Invitational or Family Day Reunion.

It was just down the road a piece, in north Yonkers, where one John Reid introduced the game to America. The date? February 22, 1888, just a few short weeks before the most awesome snow-storm in history. To this date it is referred to as the famous blizzard of '88.

Reid gathered up his friends John B. Upham, Henry Tallmadge, Harry Holbrook, Kingman Putnam and Alexander P. W. Kinnan, and a few old clubs he had brought with him from Scotland, and Mithey kicked it around on three improvised holes on a cow pasture along Palisade Avenue.

That was it. Little did they realize what they had inflicted on an unsuspecting audience. A century later, 20 million would pursue the game, in various digits, from one on up, over some 17,000 golf courses.

Five years after the initial shot, John Reid and his boys moved up the road a mile or two and laid out six holes with a total length of 1,500 yards, among the apple trees. And to this day, these pioneers are referred to as "The Apple Tree Gang."

In 1896 the club moved to its present site, after purchasing 160-acres for \$65,000, but not before staging the first National Amateur Tournament, won by St. Andrews' L. B. Stoddard over Chicago's Charles V. Macdonald, and the very

first U.S. Open in 1894 won by Willie Dunn, professional at the Shinnecock Hills Club.

It was during this same year, incidentally, Dec. 22, 1894 to be exact, that the august United States Golf Association was formed at a dinner meeting convened by one Henry O. Tallmadge, secretary of the St. Andrews Club.

Tradition? Webster defines it as "the handing down of customs, by word of mouth and by example, from one generation to another, without written instruction."

And "The Apple Tree Gang" spelled it out precisely 100 years ago when they wrote: "St. Andrews is, and I hope will always be, a fellowship of gentlemen—and gentlemen required no rigid rules of conduct or procedure." And that's the whole truth, according to St. Andrews, of course.

#### John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award

will be presented to

Ken Venturi

during Evening Program

Thursday, June 9, 1988 at St. Andrews Golf Club



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# In Search of Recognition

Since the early days of golf course management, superintendents around the country have formed associations for the purpose of improving their own welfare by communicating ideas, supporting educational programs and promoting a professional image of themselves. Since its inception, this has also been the general purpose of the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendent's Association. Although the relative importance of each of these objectives is debatable, certainly one of the most important and talked about is our quest to be recognized as professionals and for a job well done.

Nearly everything we do as individuals and as an association, contributes to our overall image in the eyes of the golfing public. Therefore, it is necessary that we all act in a professional manner at all times, from the way we dress, talk, write and present our golf courses. I'm proud to say that as a group, our Association has successfully adapted professionalism as a way of life, and many signs of the recognition which we have strived for through these efforts are beginning to appear.

As individuals, many of us are being recognized at our clubs by being asked to speak at golf functions and to write articles for the club newsletter. Many of our local superintendents are also frequently asked to speak at various educational programs around the country. Perhaps one of the most significant signs of recognition we have recently received in the Metropolitan area has been the advent of "The Superintendent's Column," in the Met Golfer, written by Ted Horton and published by the MGA. Ted's article in each issue of the Met Golfer is an excellent communications tool which gives us a voice with a large portion of Met area golfers. This magazine is published quarterly and has a circulation of 100,000 copies. Another very significant incident has been the presentation of the Snead Award to Metropolitan area superintendents by the Met PGA. This award is presented to honor individuals for their contribbtions to the PGA, the Met section and the game of golf. Our specific reasons for winning the award are summed up with this paragraph quoted from the Met PGA Bulletin:

"The presentation of the Snead Award to a group, rather than an individual is unprecedented but certainly well justified. The impact of the golf course superintendents on the game in this area has been remarkable to say the least. Their cumulative efforts in golf course maintenance and grooming have had a tremendous influence on the playability of our area's courses as well as the quality of championship play at every level of competition. Amateurs, professionals, private clubs, daily fee and municipal courses all have benefitted from the strides of the area superintendents and their governing associations."

It was a priviledge for me to accept this well publicized award on behalf of all Met area superintendents at the Met PGA's 26th Annual Educational Forum and Awards Luncheon at the Westchester Country Club on Monday, April 18.

These are all signs that our search for recognition as profesisonals has not gone unnoticed and is in fact a reality today. Let's keep up the good work.

> Scott E. Niven, CGCS President, MetGCSA

**Next Meeting** July 25 **Mahopac Golf Club** Speaker: Noel Jackson

# **April Meeting Held at Mount Kisco Country Club**

Over 100 people attended our April Meeting at Mount Kisco Country Club. Dr. Michael Villani gave a very informative talk on the effects of soil moisture and temperature in relation to control white grubs. I am sure everyone was rethinking their programs that night.

Some 60 golfers challenged the course on a very cold and windy day. Those who braved the almost unbearable weather conditions were rewarded by playing on a beautifully maintained track. Fred Scheyhing and his crew had the course in unbelievable condition.

The results of the best ball of the foursome are:

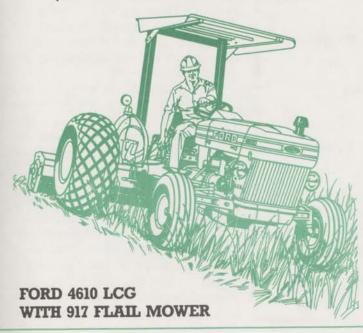
In a tie breaker 1st Low Net J.C. Fulwider, J.R. Fulwider, Todd Polidor and John Curry; 2nd Low Net Scott Niven, Dave Frey, Jim Calladio and John Callahan; 3rd Low Net Joe Alonzi, Bob Alonzi, Jeff Scott and Dennis Flynn; 4th Low Net Dom Richichi, Joe Camberato, Dom DiMarzo and Bruno Vadala; Closest to the pin Hole #4 Dom Richichi; Hole #13 Bill Bogle; Longest Drive Hole #9 Dave Arel; Hole #17 John Carlone.



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# **Developing and Maintaining a Successful Workforce**

by Michael H. Cook, Jr. - NYS DEC

Pesticide applications on golf courses in New York State is by far, not an easy task for golf course superintendents. Recently the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on March 30, 1988, placed a "... Final Order cancelling all registrations of the pesticide diazinon for use on golf courses and sod farms and immediately prohibiting further use if diazinon in these two areas...," citing the unreasonable risks to birds.

Here, for example, is another rule that perhaps fosters the perception on the part of pesticide users that there are too many rules and regulations being handed down by EPA and/or NYS DEC that doesn't seem to have much rhyme or reason. Should this perception take hold, then EPA and the NYS DEC may confront a group of frustrated pesticide users and possible contempt for its laws, rules and regulations.

However, it is up to us, the pesticide iser and regulatory field to work together and develop a rapport that is open, meaningful and workable that creates and fosters an environment that both protects the public and nurtures a relationship where both parties can work together.

Perhaps one way to develop a relationship with the regulatory community is to develop and operate a training and education program in regards to pesticide application.

You've trained your technicians in pesticide application. After drilling them in the finer points of practice and procedures of applications, they're real pros. They can and will operate your pesticide equipment with great care, safety and accuracy. However, are these skills continually updated with education and/or training seminars?

Quality and consistent results from a pesticide application, be it an insecticide or herbicide, can be obtained through onthe-job training with seasoned employees and education.

Training is a combination of learning new skills, reinforcement of existing skills and developing confidence in your ability to use them. Here at New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC), Region 3 (Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan and Ulster Counties), the pesticide staff is very concerned that skills obtained are not forgotten and that new ideas presented are looked at with an open mind or objective view.

For example, seasoned employees are an excellent resource to learn of the circumstances that create accidents, consistent pesticide application, spills, safety in handling pesticides, etc... Often their experience will be conveyed in the form of ideas for installing safety devices around pesticide mixing areas or for implementing methods for the correct calibration and application of pesticides.

Educational seminars attended by individuals and in-house training can provide a vehicle by which employees can be active and feel a part of the overall scheme of the daily workload. An investment in a little time spent training and educating you and your workforce is worth the expenditure of a few dollars to keep abreast of the ever changing golf course industry.

Be consistent. Treat everyone with respect that your are entitled to. Involve the employees in decision making. Solicit suggestions on training, policies and equipment. When more emphasis is placed on involving the employees in everyday operations, many times solutions are reached and problems get taken care of much more easily.

A well trained, interested employee with the proper training and education is a good reflection upon, not only your golf course, but also, the public will see a professional and dedicated individual which is a reflection upon the whole golf course industry.



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# Super-Manager Meeting Held at Westchester Hills Golf Club

A great Super-Manager meeting was held at Westchester Hills Golf Club on May 10th. Over 107 Supers and guests attended. Thanks go to Drew Bollard, Matt Ceplo, and Kevin Morris for all their fine efforts. Special thanks go to Bruce Clark and Dr. Peter Landshoot of Cook College, Rutgers University for a very informative and well attended speaker session.

The winners of the tourney are as follows:

Managers-Super Tourney 1st Fred Scheyling - Jim Coop 2nd Tony Baviello - Mr. Sackett 3rd Earl Millett - Dan Vasquez

2 Man Other Tourney 1st Harry Ward - Mr. Havdenshield 2nd Mark Sinto - Dennis Petrazelli 3rd Dennis Flynn - Bob Alonzi Low Gross
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Mark Millett, Matt Ceplo 77

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Fred Scheyhing's crew was in attendance

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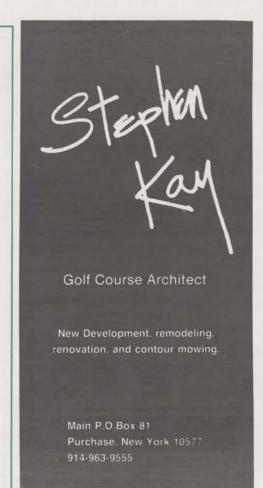
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## A NOTE FROM UNCLE ED

Mr. Scott Niven, CGCS President, Met GCSA Box 396 Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Dear Scott:

It is not easy for me to express my feelings and appreciation in a few words for the kindness of you fellows in making me an Honorary member of the Metropolitan GCSA.

Let me just say that it means so much to me, and I just hope that my health allows me to come down this spring or summer and tell you all in person at one of your meetings.

Over the years, I've followed the growth and success of the Met with great pride. In addition, I've had the pleasure of knowing quite a few of the members, and made many long lasting friendships. Of

course it's been a special treat to see some of my "nephews" from Upstate New York come down to the Southern N.Y. area, and do well in their positions.

Please give all of the Board and the Membership my sincere thanks, and best wishes for a good Turf Growing Season.

Very Sincerely, "Uncle Ed" Worthington

The June issue of the Tee to Green will include a list of used equipment for sale. If you would like to advertise any piece you would like to sell, please contact the editor 592-7829.

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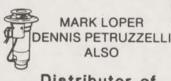
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# Weed-Gobbling Fish To Be Stocked in Ponds

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY MARCH 20, 1988

by CAROLYN BATTISTA

This year, for the first time, a fish known as the Amur, or grass carp, will be permitted in some Connecticut ponds.

Some states ban the Amur. Connecticut was among them until the General Assembly's Regulation Review Committee adopted new rules, effective at the beginning of this year, under which privately owned, screened ponds of five acres or less could be stocked with triploid, or sterile, grass carp. Some ponds have already been illegally stocked with the fish, and the Department of Environmental Protection is investigating those.

A supporter of Amur stocking is State Senator George L. Gunther, a Republican from Stratford who is co-chairman of the review committee. Dr. Gunther, a physician and an amateur breeder of tropical fish, said the use of Amur in a weedy pond was preferable to spending thousands of dollars on chemicals that could threaten the environment. He said proper stocking of grass carp would not harm other species.

"You've got to balance the fish with the area you want done," Dr. Gunther said. "You've got to know what you're doing."

State biologists say that may not be a good idea. "Amur are plant-eating fish, but the problem with such creatures is that plants play an important part in the environment," said one biologist, James Moulton, who is an assistant director for inland fisheries at the environmental department's division of fisheries. "If you have a creature that totally eats them up, you have a poor environment."

He added: "Plants have a purpose. They provide food for ducks and fish and habitat for invertebrates that are part of the food chain."

Under the new regulations, people will apply for permits and environmental department representatives will inspect their ponds. "We'll give people information as to the environmental effects," Mr.

Moulton said. He added that the pond will have to be screened, to keep the fish in, and that only triploid, or sterile, Amur will be perrmitted. "Their impact will be only on the place where they're put," he said.

The president of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Robert Chalifour, said, "I know some people would be glad to have the fish." Mr. Chalifour, who lives in Groton, said that many golf course ponds provide water for irrigation, and that Amur could help keep weeds and algae from clogging pumps, strainers and sprinkler heads.

Some pond owners are apparently already glad to have Amur. "There have been unpermitted importations," said Mr. Moulton, most of them in the western part of the state.

"We are pursuing the matter. We have notified the people involved that we know about the situation, and we'll meet with then to resolve it."

To resolve, he said, means to eliminate of the Amur. "Our purpose is to get rid of the fish," he said, adding that if people did not cooperate, fines and jail terms were possible. However, he added that people involved could apply for permits to legally stock the fish.

Connecticut will move slowly, according to the environmental department's director of fisheries, Robert A. Jones. "The Amur is a nonchemical answer to a problem, which people like," Mr. Jones said. But, he said: "The Amur is an exotic fish, with unknown ramifications. We are conservative when it comes to exotic species. What we're trying to do is allow the fish in very restricted situations, to see what they do and we what we'll do."

Applications for permits to import and possess triploid grass carp are available from the D.E.P. Bureau of Fisheries, Room 225, State Office Building, Hartford, Conn. 06106. There is no charge for the permit.

# GCSAA And PGA "Follow Through" Together

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and the Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA) are embarking on a new effort to encourage golfers to "follow through."

"After You Follow Through, Don't Forget To Follow Through" is the theme of a campaign designed to remind golfers to repair ballmarks, rake bunkers and replace divots. The campaign is being launched with the publication of a 17 by 22 inch four-color poster featuring golf professional Tom Watson.

"Every member of each organization will receive the poster in the coming weeks," said John A. Segui, CGCS, president of GCSAA. "That's more than 25,000 posters throughout the country."

Jim Awtrey, executive director of the PGA, said: "Today's golfer must understand his responsibility to help maintain the conditions on the course. Simple things like replacing divots can make a great difference in the overall appearance of a course, in the cost of its maintenance and ultimately in the cost of the game of the golfer."

PGA President J.R. Carpenter said: "We're pleased to participate in this joint effort between our two organizations. Both organizations have the best interest of the game at heart."

The poster campaign will be supported by four-color ads that will appear in various golf publications.

"This is the first of what I feel will be many joint projects involving our two organizations and directed at today's golfing public," said John M. Schilling, executive director of GCSAA. "We're very appreciative to Tom Watson for contributing his time to this campaign as well."

For more information about the "Follow Through" campaign, call or write GCSAA headquarters at 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, KS 66046; 913/841-2240, or the PGA of America, 100 Avenue of the Champions, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410; 305/626-3600.

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