

65 Years — A Look Back

Letter Written and mailed to Green Chairman at the Clubs in Northern California

August 4, 1953

We take this means of informing you of the activities of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California, so that you will know of its purposes and objectives.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association is a cooperative organization for the collection, preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge, thereby effecting more efficient and economical maintenance of golf courses. To this end we meet the second Tuesday of each month at different courses. The host superintendent conducts the visitors on a tour of the course, explaining his practices and getting the views of the visiting superintendents.

We have a guest speaker at the luncheon meeting that follows the tour. These speakers are chosen for their background and reputations for knowledge on specific subjects that have to do with golf courses. The University of California Agricultural Extension Service has agreed to supply, upon request, a speaker on any subject that we would care to discuss at that particular time of the year.

In addition, we have a question box in which each member is asked to place one question. We ask them not to sign their questions. In this manner they do not feel that they have made an admission of ignorance, and the one who asked the question can debate the issue.

It is important that your superintendent attend these meetings. We need his experience and he in turn will benefit from the ideas of other superintendents. The most efficient man is one who admits he doesn't know all the answers but strives to learn new procedures.

Upon inquiry, we find that some superintendents have not been attending meetings because of expense involved (travel and lunch). We are sure that your club will benefit **many times over** the small expense outlay that is necessary for your superintendent to attend.

Won't you see to it that your superintendent is one of our regulars at these monthly meetings? Yours for more pleasurable golf through better maintenance practices.

Paul Paulsen, Secretary-Treasure
Golf Course Superintendents Association
of Northern California

The Way It Was (Cont'd)

courses. Later that year, Dr. Allister McKenzie was the featured speaker at Monterey Peninsula Golf Club. At the conclusion of the meeting all were invited to play golf.

And so it was that the Northern California Greenskeepers Association was born gaining in numbers and in strength each year, facing many of the same issues that confront us today. It is a history full of great accomplishments by great individuals who's dedication to the profession paved the way for the prominence we enjoy today. Follow me as we walk together through our rich past.

The Year was **1946**, the war had ended but many supplies such as equipment, fertilizer, seed and pesticides were in short supply. 2-4,D which had been invented in 1942 showed good promise as an herbicide. Bert Graves of the H.V. Carter Company was concentrating on the use of Weedicide a 2-4,D preparation. It was noted that the head greenskeeper and the Golf Professional should work closely together, "this should help the game a lot," it was said.

Two years later in **1948** a survey revealed that the salary range for superintendents was \$225 to \$450 per month.

1949 saw the introduction of the first aerifier for tees and greens. It was invented by Tom Mascaro.

In **1951** a letter was sent to Green Chairmen advising them that it would be beneficial for their superintendents to play golf twice a week. In **1953** a second letter was sent encouraging Green Chairmen to allow superintendents to attend monthly meetings. In the same year the name of the Association was changed to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California.

The use of 2-4,D saw its first challenge in **1955**

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Don Naumann
Tom Jackson
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Pete Bowman

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