



Tom Mascaro (right) and Eb Steineger, longtime superintendent at Pine Valley, were often together at turfgrass meetings and trade shows.

#### In Memoriam — Thomas C. Mascaro

The Green Section staff was saddened to learn of the passing of Tom Mascaro on May 6, 1997. Tom was a leader in the turfgrass industry for more than 60 years, and in 1971 was named the recipient of the Green Section Award for his significant service to golf through work with turfgrass. He also served for many years on the USGA's Green Section Committee and its Green Section Award Committee.

Tom first became involved in the turfgrass industry in 1936. West Point Industries, the company he and his brother Tony founded, developed and produced the first practical fairway and putting green aerifier. Not long afterward, he introduced the first vertical mower for control of grain and thatch on golf greens. He held many patents for his innovative inventions.

In addition to his manufacturing activities, Tom assisted and supported many state university research programs, and designed, built, and donated several special machines for turf research. During the early days of turfgrass conferences, he recorded, mimeographed, and distributed the proceedings to interested parties throughout the United States, all for the benefit of the golf course superintendent and the turfgrass industry. He was co-founder, with the late H. B. Musser, of the Pennsylvania Turf Council and served as its secretary and president.

Through Mr. Mascaro's efforts, his company developed and published a book entitled *A Handbook for the New Green Chairman*. His informal editorial staff included Richard S. Tufts, former President of the USGA; Admiral John S. Phillips, of Army Navy Country Club; H. B. Musser, of Penn State; and others. In 1994 he published another

book, *Diagnostic Turfgrass Management for Golf Greens*, which emphasized treating the causes of turfgrass problems rather than the symptoms.

He also developed a turfgrass school for salesmen, and this later evolved into the first correspondence course in turfgrass management for golf course superintendents. The course was offered at cost and had well over 1,000 alumni.

Tom was a prolific photographer/writer on turfgrass management topics. He accumulated over 100,000 slides, including one of the first golf cart and another of Superintendent Joe Valentine identifying the spot where he discovered Merion Bluegrass. His photos were used in many magazines, and his "Photo-Quiz" column appeared in GCSAA's magazine for more than 20 years. He also wrote for numerous magazines, newspapers, and technical publications, and his writings were translated into Japanese, Italian, French, German, and Swiss.

It would be difficult to imagine where golf turf would be today without the mechanical wizardry of Tom Mascaro. He contributed much to the turfgrass world and will be missed by his many friends in golf.

A comprehensive article on Tom's life and career can be found in the January 1997 issue of *Golf Course Management* magazine. Memorial donations can be made to the GCSAA's Historical Preservation Committee.



In cooperation with the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, the USGA co-hosted a one-day symposium at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C., on the topic "Golf Environments of the 21st Century: Integrating Wildlife Conservation Into Golf Courses." Presenters from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Save the Bay, North Carolina State University, Audubon International, the GCSAA, and others discussed the importance of partnerships between the golf and environmental communities. Mr. Bill Leary, special counsel to Secretary Bruce Babbitt of the Department of the Interior, gave the lunchtime keynote address.

#### Dean Knuth Resigns

Dean Knuth, Senior Director of Handicapping, GHIN, and Green Section Administration has resigned his position with the USGA to become Managing Director of the International Research Institute in San Diego, California. INRI develops command and control software for the U.S. military services.

Since 1990, Dean has overseen the expansion of many USGA Green Section programs. He has been a longtime supporter of the Green Section's Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program, and he played an active role supporting expanded funding for turfgrass research. During his tenure as Senior Director, the Green Section has developed and implemented the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, the Wildlife Links research program, and the Construction Education Program.

During his 16 years on staff, Dean also developed the USGA Slope Rating System (implemented nationwide and in many other parts of the world), Junior Par for Kids, the USGA Pace Rating System, and the USGA's Golf Handicap and Information Network (GHIN). In recent years, he developed the USGA's web page, increasing communication about USGA programs around the golfing world. His ideas have impacted nearly every USGA activity.

From all of the staff, thanks go to Dean for his invaluable support of the USGA Green Section, and best wishes in his exciting new endeavor.

#### CORRECTION

In the article "Green Speed Physics," which appeared in the March/April 1997 issue of the *Green Section Record*, a more precise calculation for the absolute value of the coefficient of friction resulting from a Stimp meter measurement taken on a level green (Equation 6) will be obtained by fixing the roll of the golf ball down the 36-inch-long Stimp meter at 30 inches long from its center of mass in the Stimp meter notch from which it releases. The article mistakenly reports the length as 36 inches. This change also refines the initial velocity of the golf ball from the base of the Stimp meter to be 91.1 instead of 95.5 inches per second. However, as a practical matter of application, the summary sets of curves developed in Figures 4, 5, and 6 remain unaffected, as they relate Stimp meter measurements made on level and sloped greens to maintain corresponding putting speeds, being based upon the same absolute values of the coefficients of friction one to the other.



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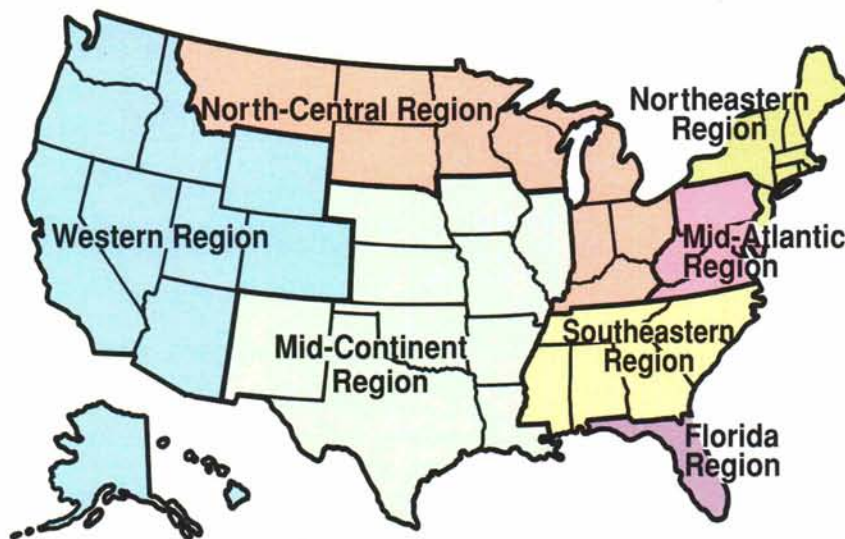
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