



Lawrence Park

GOLF

CLUB



*The 75th Anniversary Edition
of the History of*

*Lawrence Park
Golf Club*

1921-1996

Property OF:
Nick Knirk

"Golf is a game that almost never fails even at the highest levels on which it can be played, to mar a round with a lapse or two, and that at the other extreme rarely fails to grant even the most abject duffer, somewhere in his or her round, with the wayward miracle of a good shot. I am here. . .because I am curiously, disproportionately, undeservedly happy on a golf course. . ."

- *John Updike*

On the occasion of the centennial
celebration of the founding of the
United States Golf Association.
Golf Journal, January/February 1995

FOREWORD

The origin of the word HISTORY is said to have come from early times when important events were passed on from one generation to another in either written or oral form. This method of conveying a story of a past event came to be known as HIS STORY.

That being the case, then I submit to you that much of what is contained herein may be termed HIS STORY. These primary sources of information were found in annual reports, notes, written and oral remembrances of the beginnings of our golf club and the subsequent growth and improvements it has undergone.

You will note the history is presented in reverse chronological order, as the history of the club precedes the earlier historical events of this immediate area. And while the club's founding and growth is the primary reason for this endeavor, I would be remiss not to present those earlier events which bear directly or indirectly to the creation of Lawrence Park Golf Club.

Hugh Pompeani

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

First and foremost I must thank Jack Aiton, long-time member of Lawrence Park Golf Club who suggested this 75th Anniversary History be written, who contributed substantially to the text, who edited the manuscript for its contents and who dispensed with an immense amount of good advice.

I'm grateful to Leo Schauerman who was kind enough to contribute the detailed notes he had compiled of the events leading to the construction and renovation project of 1988. They were extremely helpful to me.

Grateful appreciation to Jerry Rice for the use of his color photographs showing the progression of the construction project, and for golf course improvements accomplished from 1991 to 1996.

I'm beholden to Fred Peterson for photographs he had taken, developed and donated at no expense to the Club, and for his help in selecting photographs for inclusion in this history.

I'm indebted to Fred Corle for his sketch of the original nine-hole layout.

Finally, my undying gratitude to Debbie Lent, the ever-cheerful office manager, for her total cooperation in matters relating to this history but especially for typing the first manuscript.

To my daughter-in-law, Stephanie, my heartfelt thank you for taking time out as a busy mom and wage earner to read the manuscript and for offering suggestions to enhance the clarity of language.

Hugh Pompeani

CHAPTER I

THE FOUNDING AND EARLY GROWTH OF LAWRENCE PARK GOLF CLUB

When the United States Golf Association became organized on December 22, 1894, at the Calumet Club in New York City, it had as one of its stated aims: To promote the game of golf.

At that time, few Americans had ever heard of the game and even fewer played it. Those who did play were well-to-do. (1)

In 1894, not a single golf facility existed in the Erie area. Although the Kahkwa Club was founded in 1893, the main activities enjoyed by its members were boating and tennis.

According to John R. Claridge, who authored *Kahkwa Club, The First Hundred Years*, golf did not make its debut until 1897 when Joseph P. Metcalf requested a four-hole layout on the club grounds in order to demonstrate how the game was played. It was nothing more than mowed grass with tin cups in the ground.

In 1899, Kahkwa Club purchased a one-hundred acre tract of land bounded by today's West Eighth Street, Lincoln Avenue, Delaware Avenue, and the bayfront. It was at this location where Joseph Mitchell, of the Country Club of Cleveland, Ohio, laid out and built what might be called the first golf course in the Erie area.

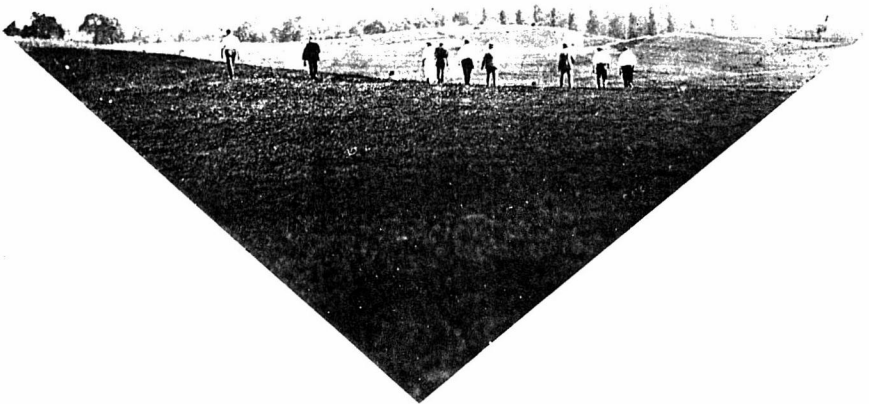
The clubhouse of that old nine-hole course has been modified into a home located at the corner of Vermont Avenue and Oxford Street. Thus, with the impetus provided by Kahkwa Club's golfing fraternity, did golf begin in the Erie area.

Some of the local players of note were: Willis Sterling, H.M. Fleming, B. Canfield Jones, John Clemens, Oscar Jarecki, Joseph Bowyer, and E.G. Germer. (2)

There remained a perception among some people that golf was strictly a wealthy man's game and, for a period of time, its progress was dragging. Slowly but inexorably, interest in this ancient sport continued to increase so that by 1920 it had grown to support three golf facilities: the newly-located, Donald Ross-

designed Kahkwa Club - 1917; the Glenwood nine-hole course (J.C. Martin today) - 1919; and the Erie Golf Course - 1920.

With the availability of a seventy-five acre tract of land and a volunteer work force, a new nine-hole Lawrence Park Golf Course made its debut in 1921.



The Beginning:

I.D. Smith, a former manager at Erie's General Electric plant, recalled the start of this project in a letter written to his son, Dave, on January 15, 1962. While the passage of time had dimmed some of his recollections, the essence of what occurred in 1921 is essentially accurate.

He wrote, "In the beginning, Messrs. H.W. Whittier, Charlie Ives, Clarence Piper, Carl Wendel (actually Carl came later in the summer of 1921) and myself approached Mr. M.L. Emmet, manager of the Erie works (Matthew Griswold was the manager at that time) requesting the use of the General Electric-owned Four Mile Creek property to build a nine-hole golf course for the company's employees. He readily agreed and promised to ease the financial burden in any practical way." (3)

Matthew Griswold called on Clarence E. Piper, assistant production manager of the plant, to head the project. In effect, the charge to Mr. Piper said: You develop a plan, find willing workers, build a golf course, and the company will assist you where it can.

"Pipe," as he was known to friends, was not a golfer, and if he had shown any reticence in this assignment it surely would not have been surprising. However, in those days, the plant manager was looked upon as a minor deity and his decision was never subject to question. Whatever he ordered was the final word on the matter.

The Challenge Ahead:

C.E. Piper's first task was to learn about golf course design and construction. This required a number of trips to the local library searching for books and other publications on the subject.

His next task was to recruit a volunteer work force to do the actual building of the layout he had designed. He brought together a group of men who had shown an interest in the project, and who were willing to work to its successful conclusion.

Feeling the need to know more about this growing sport, he asked his friend H.L. Whittier to teach him the fundamentals of the game. This involved trips to the Glenwood Golf Course where he learned the rudiments of the golf swing. (4)

The Original Layout and Construction:

A seventy-five acre tract of land formerly farmed by the O'Lone family and bought by General Electric in 1919 was to become the site of the nine-hole golf course. A treeless expanse once used to grow corn and hay, it was an excellent site for a golf course, and building a course there would prove to be relatively easy and inexpensive.

The course site description was as follows: it began east of the entrance road to the club and continued northward to what was Four Mile Creek Park (today's G.E. picnic grounds); thence eastward to what was the World War I rifle range (behind 12 green, 13 tee, 14 green, and 15 tee); southward to East Lake Road (this included the area where homes are located today just to the north of East Lake Road); and westward to the entrance road.

The Sunday edition of the *Erie Times* dated May 28, 1957, carried a retrospective in which C.E. Piper explained to H.L. Whittier the nine-hole layout he had conceived.

... during the winter of 1920 and 1921, Mr. C.E. Piper, then Assistant Production Manager of the Erie G.E. Plant, had formulated some very definite golf ideas. However, he kept his thoughts very much to himself until one fine Sunday morning in early 1921. On this particular morning, "Pipe" called on his friend H.L. Whittier and asked "H.L." to take a walk. Mr. Whittier agreed and was promptly steered down Rankine Avenue to the Lake Road and then "Pipe," calmly pointing to a spot about 20 yards north of the Lake Road, said, "I believe that will be our number one tee." Then Mr. Piper gradually unfolded his idea of a golf course to his now interested companion. The two golfers then "played" a theoretical round with Piper pointing out proposed green and tee locations on the 75-acre site. The original layout was later reviewed with Charlie Hymers, the Kawkwa professional, and other leading players of the city. Some minor changes were made but in general the eventual nine-hole course was built as originally conceived by C.E. Piper. (2)

Some of the preparations for the construction of the layout must have begun during the winter of 1920-21. In his letter, I.D. Smith wrote, "I remember one winter day when we were burning off an old cornfield and high weeds. . ." But by early spring of 1921, the volunteer work force began their work in earnest.



G. E. MEMBERS OF THE LAWRENCE PARK GOLF CLUB

Here again, Mr. Smith wrote,

We mapped out the tees, greens, fairways, out-of-bounds, and sprinkler system. Mr. Emmet (Griswold) told us we could have the necessary pipe and fittings if we could find the material in the Works. We found it. The pipe was loaded on a horse-drawn wagon, and we followed the stake line, dropping off the lengths of pipe as we went. After we had made up the joints and added drainage valves, we had a farmer plow a furrow at strategic points and buried the pipe. We staked out the permanent greens with the temporary greens adjacent to them. These temporary greens were ten feet to twelve feet diameter consisting of hard-rolled foundry sand, lightly oiled. Three or four putts were normal. If your putt was short, the ball would come right back to you. If long, off the

green on the other side. One had to sneak up on the green with extreme caution. The number three fairway paralleled Four Mile Creek Road with the green way down at the Park (Four Mile Creek Park), perhaps 500 yards (actually 393 yards). This fairway was extremely stony and the ball took fantastic bounces, sometimes over in the creek. (The creek at that time coursed close to the road.) To improve this situation, we drove stakes at about eight even intervals at the left edge of the fairway and invited each player to throw 25 stones at the nearest stake on each round. At the end of the first season, the fairway was cleared, and we hauled the stones to the dump. This lowland had been severely eroded by an extreme flood which bared the stones. The permanent greens were rather small but came along rapidly under Carl's attention and were gradually enlarged. We made shallow cylindrical sand boxes with covers mounted on pipe stands with hooks above to hold water pails. (To tee up a golf ball, one splashed water on the sand, took a portion of wet sand to the teeing ground, formed a cone, and placed the ball thereon.) Our pin markers were bamboo poles and they usually disappeared during the nights... I'm sure without Mr. Emmet's (Griswold) generous help and advice the club would never come into being. He was very enthusiastic about the idea and certainly made our job easier. (5)

Most of the greens of the original nine holes were built at ground level using horse-drawn drag buckets. It was not feasible, nor practical, to move much soil with horsepower.

The General Electric Company believed in the concept that happy employees were productive employees. Witness to that idea was the company's support of various sporting activities through the employee-run General Electric Athletic Association.

Therefore, it came as no surprise that Matthew Griswold, the company works manager, agreed to the request to use the seventy-five acre parcel on which to build a nine-hole golf course. That support, combined with a volunteer work force assembled and led by C.E. Piper, gave rise to a new course that would take its place among the three other golf courses in the Erie area in 1921. A General Electric tool shed was used as the first clubhouse-pro shop. It was situated some eighty yards north of East Lake Road at the foot of Rankine Avenue and near the number-one tee.

1921 Coupler

The following quote was found in GE's Coupler magazine of 1921.

A number of the men held a meeting about a month ago at which time they organized what will be known as The Lawrence Park Golf Club...

The use was obtained of an ideal spot containing about 75 acres and we have been assured by professionals that we will have the sportiest 9-hole golf course

in this part of the country. The number 4 green and number 5 tee are located practically at the water's edge of Lake Erie.

The members are doing most of the actual work on the course which among the big jobs included the piping for watering the greens. This required the laying of over a mile of pipe, which had been finished, the greens and tees have been completed and the course will be ready for play about the latter part of May. It has been the main object to keep the dues to the minimum and this has been fixed for GE employees at \$10.00 per year, for other members, \$15.00 per year.

After the greens and tees were permanently located the course was measured and found to have the following distances:

Hole

No.	1.... 346 yds. par 4	6.... 276 yds. par 4
	2.... 110 yds. par 3	7.... 130 yds. par 3
	3.... 393 yds. par 4	8.... 295 yds. par 4
	4.... 321 yds. par 4	9.... <u>229 yds. par 3</u>
	5.... 394 yds. par 42,494 yds. par 33

Jack Aiton, whose membership at Lawrence Park dates back many years, wrote and submitted the following narrative of the original nine holes:

The original Lawrence Park Golf Club course layout started north of East Lake Road at an extension of Rankine Avenue. A small pro shop was located about 100 yards north of the intersection...

One

The first hole started from the pro shop and extended west along East Lake Road. The hole measured 346 yards, par 4.

Two

The second hole was a short par 3, approximately 110 yards in length. The tee was located by East Lake Road and the green just west of the large oak tree.

Three

The third hole began on the rise just north of the large oak tree and extended north along the road to the lake. This hole was 393 yards long, par 4. The green is still basically the original green built at ground level with a slope from the back. Traps were constructed along the back of the green. This was typical of early trapping as the hard ground caused many balls to roll over the green.

Four

The fourth hole measured 321 yards, par 4, and started from the current number 12 ladies' tee. It extended east along Four Mile Creek Amusement Park (today's G.E. picnic ground). The fairway proceeded over the "saddle," named for its

appearance of a horse's back, to a green located at a sharp angle to the north (today's ball field). The green was relocated to the present site of number 12 green in the late 1920's.

Five

A long walk was required to get to the fifth tee, then found at the site of the present number 13 ladies' tee. This hole was 394 yards, par 4. The green for number 5 was the same as today's number 13 green. Two ridges of grass ringed the back of this green. They were three feet in height and were about ten feet apart. The mounds were designed to control balls from rolling down the hill behind the green. However, many balls because of unwatered fairways and hard greens still bounced over the mounds and down the steep hill. This left very difficult recovery shots that stopped between the two ridges leaving still another difficult recovery. The ridges remained until the 1960s when they were removed and the back of the green was sloped and covered with watered rough.

Six

The sixth tee was reached by a path down the side of the hill. Then the tee was found at the lower level about sixty feet west of the ridge where the current ~~thirteenth~~ ^{fifteenth} tee is located. The hole faced to the east in the direction of the current sixteenth tee to a green located at the top of the hill. The hole was 276 yards in length, par 4, and could be reached with a strong drive. A new green and tee were built in the late '30s which is now the location of number fourteen hole.

Seven

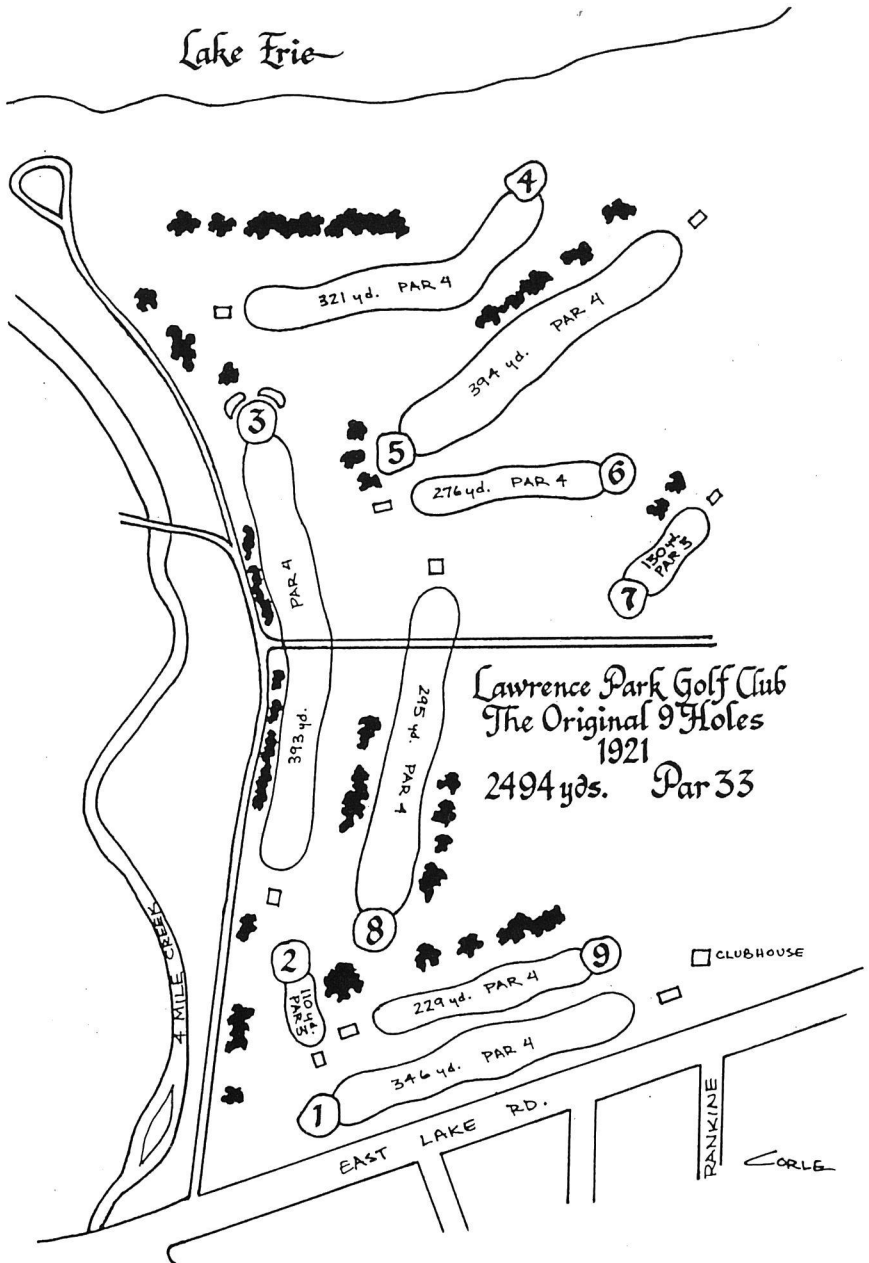
The seventh hole started from the present number 16 ladies' tee. The green was the current green at the practice fairway. This was a hole of 130 yards to a blind green at the bottom of the hill. The green still exists as the practice fairway green. A number of players were hit with balls when members did not realize the players were still on the green. It was also a difficult hole to play, as balls hitting on the downslope could bounce over the green. This was a good hole for caddies who probably contributed to a number of holes-in-one for players who provided good tips. The green was moved to the present location on top of the hill (15) in the late 1930s. The tee was then moved backward to the present site.

Eight

The eighth tee was located at the current ladies' sixteenth tee. The green site was situated in a swale west of the present sixteenth green in the direction of today's seventeenth tee. The hole measured 295 yards, par 4. With the hard fairways, the hole could be reached with a strong drive. The green's swale caused very difficult putting when the hole was placed on the side slopes. These slopes were five feet from the edge of the green to the bottom of the swale. The current green was moved in the '40s to the east, creating a slight dogleg left hole, and the men's tee relocated to the present position.

Nine

The ninth tee was situated at the men's present number seventeen. The ninth hole headed east parallel to number one hole to the pro shop, a 229-yard par 3. The total yardage for the nine holes was 2494 yards. Par was 33. (6)



This piece written by B.F.C. Putter (no joke) appeared in the *Erie Daily Times* of June 2, 1921:

Springing up like a mushroom, from practically nowhere, another nine-hole course links that will rival, if not surpass, any nine-hole course in this section, is almost ready for devotees of the honorable and ancient game in this city.

We are referring now to that stretch of land lying adjacent to Four Mile Creek on the East Lake Road, which, without any blowing of trumpets or blare on the part of its constructors, has come along so nicely during the past few weeks that it already is being played. The Lawrence Park Golf Association is the moving spirit behind the new club, and if they are able to continue the efforts they have put forth so far this spring, it will not be many seasons before the course will be one to boast about among any through this section.

When it is considered that the majority of the work has been done on the land by the players who expect to use it regularly, the progress made is remarkable and those who have put their efforts into the matter are certainly to be congratulated on the splendid start they have made.

While the finances of the club are none too great, still it would look as though the membership has given everything within their power to make the course a pleasing and playable one this summer.

The club is open to membership from any person in the city, and Mr. Whittier at the General Electric Company is treasurer. The fee for the season has been fixed at \$15 (\$10 for G.E. employees), which is nominal considering the advantages which the course has now to offer and the possibilities for its future development.

While intended primarily for golfers from the east side of the city, and particularly G.E. employees and Lawrence Park people, there is nothing to hinder any golfer from joining in right now and getting started on the new course. (7)

FOUNDING FATHER



C.E. PIPER, 1890-1964

Born in Schenectady, New York. Came to Erie in 1911 as an assistant production manager at General Electric. Married Clara E. Curly in 1917. Two children - John, 1918 and William, 1919.

No one is more deserving to wear the mantle of Founding Father of Lawrence Park than Clarence E. Piper. Surely there are others who deserve recognition for their splendid efforts to build a golf course, organize a club and solicit members, but no other person was more closely involved with the overall effort from start to finish.

Lawrence Park Golf Club is Organized:

The organization of Lawrence Park Golf Club occurred at a meeting held in March 1921.

At that meeting the first officers of the club were selected. They were:

President - C.E. Piper

Vice President - W.H. Treene

Secretary - H.L. Whittier

Dues were set at ten dollars per year for all General Electric employees, and for those who were not employed by the company, the club offered an associate membership at fifteen dollars per year.

Members were solicited and by the end of the first season of play, there were some 125 members enrolled.

The Formal Opening:

The date for the formal opening of the new nine-hole course was set for Thursday, June 9, 1921.

To note the occasion, the foursome listed below played a round of golf. They were:

Mr. Emmons, Vice President of the General Electric Company

Mr. Matthew Griswold, Manager of the Erie Works

Mr. N.J. Carling, Assistant Works Manager

*Mr. W.H. Treene, Club Vice President and Chairman
of General Electric Athletic Association*

An unidentified local newspaper, dated 1921, reported a story of the earliest golf matches played by four of Erie's best golfers at the new course.

A match pairing K.E. Blair and Mike Adams, a former city golf champion, against Charley Hymers, a professional at the Kahkwa Club, and S.F. Westerling, number one man at Lawrence Park, was held at Lawrence Park Golf Club during the golf season of 1921. The match was won by K.E. Blair and Mike Adams 1 up over 18 holes...

The scores were as follows: Blair - 84, Adams - 85, Westerling - 87 (equaling his own low score at L.P.), Hymers - 79. Not bad scoring considering the newness of the course.

A big crowd of 125 persons followed the foursome around the course.

The article goes on to say that the small greens prevented the players from "shooting with all their usual accuracy on iron shots."

Following the match, the golfers along with several others gathered for dinner at the Erie Club, where plans to improve the Lawrence Park Golf Course were discussed.

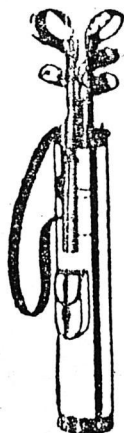
50 Golf Outfits

Last week we put on sale 15 of these outfits and sold them all in one day. We wired for 50 more sets, which are now ready for you.

At the Sport Store, 18 East Eighth

Sale opens Tomorrow Morning. Take advantage of this remarkably low price and get your outfit at a saving of \$6.50. Don't wait—come early.

- 1 Genuine leather-trimmed brown canvas Golf Bag. Regular ... \$6.50
- 1 Guaranteed Driver. Sells regular ... \$4.00
- 1 Guaranteed Brasso. Sells regularly at \$4.00
- 1 Guaranteed Midiron. Sells regularly at \$4.00
- 1 Guaranteed Mashie. Sells regularly at \$4.00
- 1 Guaranteed Putter. Sells regular ... \$4.00
- Outfit sells for ... \$25.50



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18 EAST 8

Hymers, the Kahkwa professional, offered numerous suggestions to improve the greens and to trap the course so as to make it a bit more difficult. It was also suggested that the fairways also be smoothed down.

Improvements planned for Lawrence Park Golf Course for 1922. . .should make the layout as good as any hereabouts.

Officials at the club have already decided on two important steps which will start in the fall of 1921. (1) Greens to be widened and spread out to twice their present size... (2) Fairways to be top dressed for at least twenty-five yards in front of greens.

Those who have worked for the success of Lawrence Park Club can feel sure they have done wonders. When work started in the spring (1921), it was hardly expected the course would grow to such popular favor, but persons from other clubs who have played the course lately have expressed their intention of joining next spring if the membership list is still open. (8)

The membership was limited to two hundred members.

Play flourished to such an extent that first summer that the club hired a golf professional from Pittsburgh, Carl Wendel. Frank Cazale served as greenskeeper under the direction of Wendel until he decided to return to his homeland of Portugal. Celestino Pereira, known as Joe Perry to members, succeeded Cazale later in 1922.



Coupler, a company publication dated May 29, 1923, contained an article about activities at the new golf club. It stated that the Housing Committee, with the assistance of several willing workers, rebuilt the caddy house, where a new floor was laid, the roof shingled, interior entirely remodeled and rearranged, with a new counter, showcase, club racks and plumbing.

The Greens Committee was busy adding several new traps to make the course a more sporting proposition.

Membership applications were to be made in writing to Mr. H.L. Whittier, fourth floor, Building 14. The dues had to be slightly increased this year to take care of additional expense in the upkeep of the course.

	<i>Dues</i>	<i>Tax</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Male company employees</i>	\$15.00	\$1.50	\$16.50 per year
<i>Female company employees</i>	10.00	None	10.00 per year
<i>Associate male</i>	20.00	2.00	22.00 per year
<i>Associate female</i>	15.00	1.50	16.50 per year
<i>Extra for wife of member</i>	5.00	None	5.00 per year

Here is a list of the 1923 season tournament play:

1. *Decoration Day Sweepstakes*
2. *Sweepstakes, June 30*
3. *Flag Tournament, July 4*
4. *Best Ball Four Ball Match, July 7*
5. *Match with Erie Golf Club, August 10 (LP 33.5 points; Erie 27.5 points)*
6. *Sweepstakes, August 4*
7. *Matthew Griswold Trophy*
8. *Club Championship - won by S.F. Westerling*
9. *Low Gross Qualifying - S.F. Westerling*
10. *Low Net Qualifying - A.L. LeJeal*

The Caddy Program:

Raymond L. "Brownie" Boyles served as Caddy Master during this period with approximately twenty to thirty youngsters, ages eleven to seventeen, which provided caddy service for members.

Each caddy signed in and then waited for an assignment. Typically, caddies earned 25 to 50 cents for a loop. During free time, caddies would often search for lost balls to sell. They garnered 10 cents for a well-worn and cut-up ball, and 50 cents for a good one. "Brownie" Boyles arranged his caddies into two classes: Seniors, over 13 years of age, and Juniors, under 13 years of age. Listed under

Senior Caddies in 1923 were James Iesue, former member now deceased, and his brother, Art Iesue, who is a current club member. Many youngsters got their start in golf by serving as caddies. It provided them with the opportunity to learn and enjoy the game and caddy tournaments offered them the challenge of competition.



Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Boyle.



The two honor caddies for 1923.

"The second caddy tournament played in August was by far the feature of the season and due to rain had to be postponed on two occasions. The prizes donated by members were so numerous that it was possible to award a prize to every contestant and, in some instances, two prizes. These included: drivers, brassies, radite clubs, mid-irons, mashies, camera, wrist counter, golf stockings, golf bags, caps and golf balls. This tournament was also run on a junior and senior basis.

"In addition to the caddy tournaments there was a caddy team: John Low, Hoyt Jones, Norman Gaylord and Jim McCallion." This team made a creditable showing against Kahkwa in a losing effort. Kahkwa Club - 6 1/2 points; Lawrence Part - 5 1/2 points. Tournament played at Lawrence Park Golf Club.

On Saturday morning, October 6, 1928, Mr. and Mrs. Boyle held a party in appreciation for the good work the caddies had done during the summer. The next day, the caddies presented Mrs. Boyle with a very handsome purse as a remembrance of the 1923 season.

The caddy program continued to flourish until about World War II. Following that, pull carts became the craze and the caddy program faded.

Caretakers in 1923

"The entire labor on the nine-hole course of the Lawrence Park Golf Club is taken care of by two of the hardest workers in this vicinity and a great share of the pleasure of the members and their guests have enjoyed has been made possible by efforts of Frank (Cazale) and Joe (Pereira)." Pereira was known to members as Joe Perry, and served as greenskeeper until 1970.

Also noted in the *Coupler* of 1923 was the following:

Putting greens planted with seed, such as we afford to purchase when the course was started, have not developed as we would like, so it was decided to start a nursery bed and try out the practice of "Vegetative Propagation" of Putting Greens from creeping bent stolons. We obtained a piece of sod about twelve inches by eighteen inches from the Green Section of the U.S. Golf Association which they supply to clubs that are members of the Green Section of this association. A piece of ground twenty-five feet square was prepared in the same manner as you would prepare your garden and then marked off in rows three feet apart. We then picked the sod apart taking out stolons or spears of grass with at least two joints and planted them four inches apart in the shallow furrows, covered lightly with soil, rolled and watered. The spears of grass started to grow and creeping along the ground so that in about three months the grass had completely covered a row about two feet wide. This fall we removed a small piece of sod from one of the rows and planted another bed, ninety feet by forty feet, and by the fall of 1924 we expect to have enough sod so that we can replant at least five of our greens with the creeping bent grass. This should give Lawrence Park Golf Club the best turf on the greens that is obtainable by any golf club.

Number seventeen green (then number three) and the current green at the driving range (then number seven green) were restored in this manner in 1923.

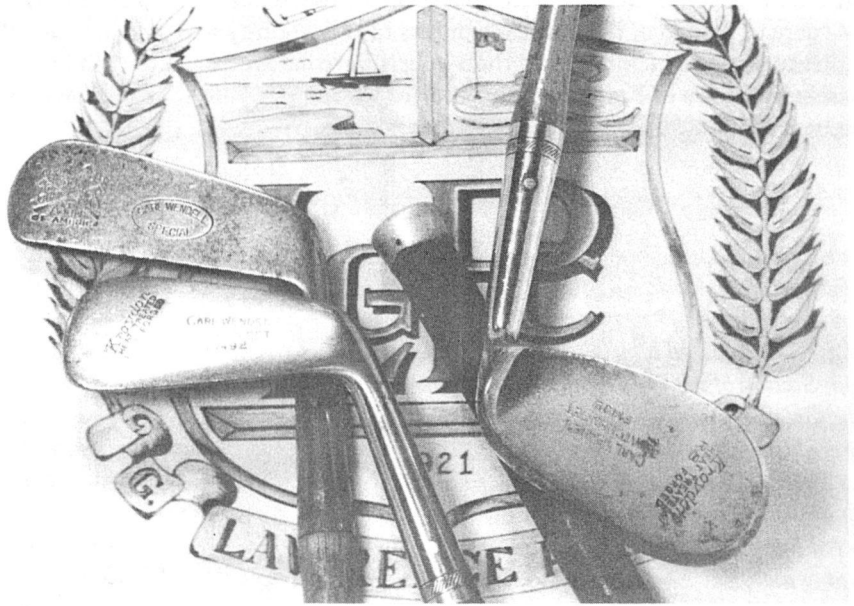
In 1924, Carl Wendel resigned to become head golf professional at the Glenwood Golf Club (J.C. Martin today). He was succeeded by Andy Brown, a company employee who learned the game in Scotland.

1928, Carl Wendel returned to Lawrence Park. He and his family established residence in the old farmhouse, once the home of the O'Lone family, and eventually the first official clubhouse.

Carl Wendel was regarded as a very capable golfer and a fine teacher. He gave lessons at the site of what was to become the number nine fairway. Jack Aiton adds, "Of course, he sold golf balls, clubs and other golf equipment, but he also learned the art of building golf clubs by assembling forged heads to wooden shafts and wrapping leather grips thereon.

"Broken shafts were either replaced with new shafts or repaired by gluing then wrapping the breaks with coated string and sealing the joints with shellac."

"Today, there are still a few Carl Wendel-assembled golf clubs in existence with his name clearly stamped on the forged head." (9)



During Wendel's tenure at the clubhouse, an area suitable for a parking lot became available. This, in turn, led to the construction of a pro shop. During the decade of the twenties, the club also erected a men's locker room on the west side of the clubhouse.

Eventually, a small lunch and beverage counter and lounge addition catered to members' needs. The front porch, facing northward toward the lake, offered a great place to relax after a round of golf. This porch occupied the space of the current patio.

After residing in the upstairs quarters of the clubhouse for twelve years, the Wendels found the space restrictive for family living and moved to Lawrence Park Township in 1940. Carl Wendel still served as golf professional.

Joe Perry, the club greenskeeper, and his wife Helen moved into the clubhouse shortly after the Wendel family left. The Perrys, as the Wendels before them, lived in the second floor quarters. Because Helen tended the lunch and beverage operation, and because Joe served as greenskeeper, this was indeed a very convenient arrangement for them with one exception: they had to share a bathroom with the female golfers.

Joe carried out his duty as greenskeeper for forty-eight years until his retirement in 1970. The membership had great respect for his work.

The Club Grows:

By the mid-1920s, the club was well established and growing. The following brief story that appeared in the *Erie Daily Times*, May 21, 1925, lends credence to that fact.

Saturday, May 25, is going to be "open house" day at Lawrence Park Golf Club. Plans are ready for entertaining members on that occasion. The new clubhouse is furnished now and it is planned to serve light refreshments during the course of the day.

In addition to the formal opening of the club for the 1925 season, Saturday will mark the opening of the day's play for roster positions.

All members anxious to get their names on the roster are urged to turn out Saturday or Sunday, play eighteen holes and turn in their cards so they can be listed. (10)

Holes One, Two and Nine Relocated:

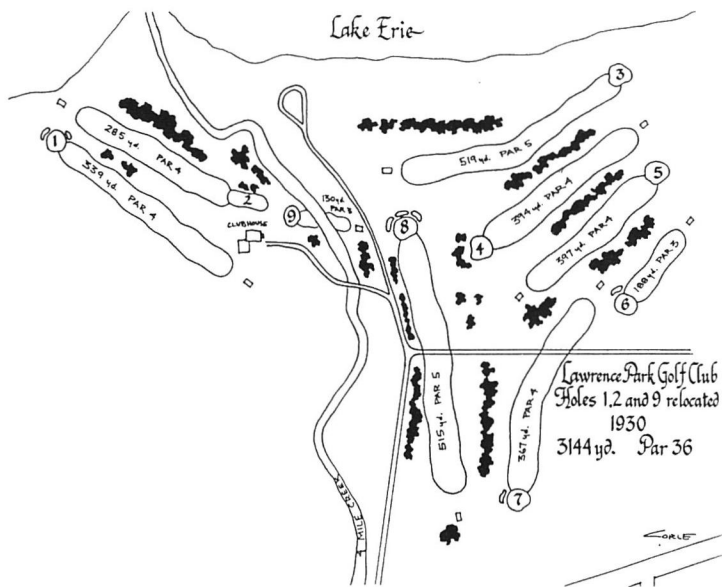
Attorney James M. Sherwin owned the parcel of land on which three original holes - one, two and nine - were placed. In the late 1920s, when Sherwin announced his intention to sell the property for home sites, it became necessary to move these holes to another area. The land near the clubhouse and westward toward the lake was the site where these three were relocated.

The first of the three replacement holes became a par four built with the teeing ground south of the old clubhouse and with the fairway directed toward the west to a green some 30 yards short of a wooded area. Today, this hole is played as number 10.

The second replacement hole, also a par four, began with the teeing ground north of the first replacement hole and with the fairway headed toward the east to a small green which is now the back half of 18 green.

In 1949, the construction of a larger green located north of that old green site became number two. Today, this hole is number 11.

The par three third, and final, hole built to replace the lost three began at the site of the current number 18 south teeing ground. The green was constructed westward across Four Mile Creek to level area below the current 18 green. This number three hole is played today as number 18.



In those days, a 36-inch I-beam, laid on its side, served as a passageway over the creek to the green. There was no need for a wider bridge as the players and caddies carried their bags. In this manner, a golfer avoided the longer walk across the girder bridge to the other side of the creek.

Unfortunately, heavy rains would often inundate the green and render the hole unplayable. Occasionally; the I-beam walking bridge would fall victim to the debris-laden water, making it useless, too, until repairs were made.

It is interesting to note that in 1955, General Electric diverted the path of Four Mile Creek to its current course by number 18 hole because the creek's proximity to the road threatened to undermine the road bed. Fortunately, the Environmental Protection Agency did not exist then.

Because of all these modifications, new numbers were assigned to the nine-hole layout:

- Number 1 - today's number 10*
- Number 2 - today's number 11 (green at old 18 site)*
- Number 3 - today's number 12 (green at ball field)*
- Number 4 - today's number 13*
- Number 5 - today's number 14*
- Number 6 - today's number 15 (green at practice fairway)*
- Number 7 - today's number 16 (green at swale)*
- Number 8 - today's number 17*
- Number 9 - today's number 18 (green at base of hill)*

The Great Depression that began October 19, 1929, and continued until the start of World War II, precluded any large outlay of capital either for golf course or clubhouse improvements. In fact, what few improvements that were made to the course during those years were accomplished in a piecemeal manner and with mostly volunteer help.

In the late Twenties, a new green was built for the third hole (today's 12) at the crest of the hill replacing the green that sat at today's ballfield site. In the late Thirties, a new tee and green for holes five and six were created. In 1940, a new green was constructed for number seven hole (today's 16) east of its original site. It remains the current green.

These improvements to the course were quite significant considering the dire economic condition the club experienced during the Great Depression.

Failed Attempt:

On February 22, 1928, the Lawrence Park Realty Company developed a plan to purchase and literally convert the locale of the original nine-hole layout to hundreds of home sites. Further, the plan called for the inclusion of a new nine-hole course to be built partially on a stretch of land west of Four Mile Creek in the area of the current front nine.

Nothing is known of the proceedings between the realty company and General Electric, except that the attempt failed. (12)

C.E. Piper Leaves Erie for New Assignment:

Ray Peebles of the *Erie Dispatch Herald* wrote the following story about Clarence E. Piper's leaving Erie for a new assignment with General Electric Company. The article appeared May 5, 1928.

Approximately seventy-five members of the Lawrence Park Golf Club gathered around the banquet table at the Sunset Country Club last night to bid farewell to C.E. Piper, chairman of the executive committee of that club, who leaves next week to take a position with General Electric Company at Pittsfield, Mass., having been promoted after serving in the local offices of the company for 17 years.

Mr. Piper, who more than any other person was responsible for the foundation, organization and development of the Lawrence Park Club, was presented with a traveling bag and toilet set by his fellow club members as a token of their appreciation for the work he has done here.

The presentation of the gifts was made by Edward Heal, with Willis Durlin acting as toastmaster.

It is doubtful if any other man connected with golf was paid higher tribute than Mr. Piper received from his associates last night. In making the presentation speech, Mr. Heal pointed out that the guest of honor had worked diligently to develop the course and keep it in the best of condition, devoting much more time to work on the layout than to playing the game.

... While he was aware of what was to happen at the dinner last night, Mr. Piper was totally unprepared for the sincere feeling of regret at his departure. He experienced some little difficulty in finding words in which to frame his acceptance of the gifts tendered him by his fellow club members, and paid high compliments to his associates for the cooperation which they had given him in his work at the club.

In his closing remarks last night, Mr. Piper urged that H.L. Mitchell, who will succeed him as chairman of the executive committee, and J.L. James, chairman of the greens committee, be given the same cooperation of the membership body as has been experienced in the past.

The departure of Mr. Piper from Erie will mark the passing of one of the most energetic and best-liked members of the local golfing fraternity. Ranked as a pioneer in Erie golf circles as a result of his experience at the Lawrence Park Club, Mr. Piper has become known among golfers, not only at his own club but of all clubs throughout the district.

He is an official of the Erie District Golf Association and had an active part in the staging of the city championship tournaments during the past two years. (13)

An Attractive Offer:

The Lawrence Park Town Crier, a monograph dated October 1990, spoke of a most interesting probability. Following World War II, General Electric was offered the Behrend Estate, near Wintergreen Gorge, on which to build a new golf course. At that time, the high employment at the plant - due largely to the war effort - created a need for low-cost housing. Thus, moving the golf club to the Behrend Estate would have allowed the lake-front course to be used for such a development.

H.L.R. Emmet, the manager of the Erie Works, took the offer to Van Erben, vice president of General Electric at Schenectady headquarters, for consideration. After due deliberation, General Electric declined the offer, indicating that such a move did not serve the best interest of the company and the community.

The estate became Behrend Campus of Pennsylvania State University. (14)

TO: *Hugh Pompeani*
FROM: *Jean St. Lawrence*
RE: *Random Memories of Lawrence Park Golf Club*

Many willing hands built the square clay tees, and wrested the fairways from the knee-high undergrowth some seventy-five years ago.

One picture in my mind remains: personnel from the G.E. plant (including my father, John St. Lawrence) pounding moistened clay with long handled tools, weighted at the ends with heavy, flat, square metal. I believe that B.L. Delack and H.L. Whittier played with my father, and that they all formed these tees.

No. 1 hole was built at the foot of Rankine Road - just across East Lake Road - and extended the length of East Lake Road, west to a rustic road. Tee #2 appeared at the right of No. 1 green - running along the rustic road. Tee #3 pointed east along the lake.

Back in the area of No. 1 green, a pro shop was erected, and managed by Carl Wendel. It was not an elegant structure, but it served the players, and Carl was an unusually effective manager. It was he who delivered a mid-iron at our back door on my 7th birthday - a gift from my parents!

No wooden tees existed. We had quite large cylindrical tin canisters - filled with sand and attached to a pipe stand. Above the cylinder a pail of water was suspended, which could be tipped gently into the sand to allow the golfers to mold a tee with their fingers. I believe that these existed at all tees.

You know, I'm sure, that the past nine-hole layout existed on the acreage east of that rustic road - and was kept in good shape by two men, and sometimes a third - the original groundskeepers.

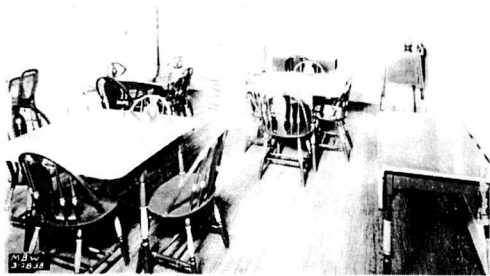
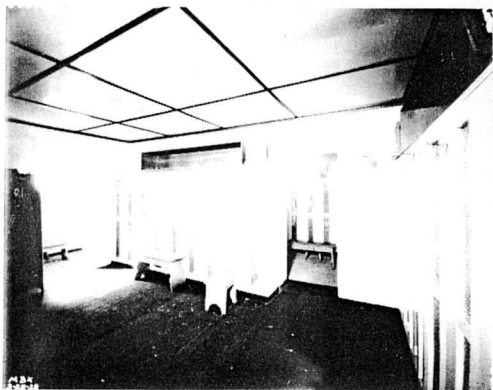
Norman Gaylord (who caddied there, as did Lewis Leonard) eventually became champion of the City of Erie. He also tried to help us line up our putts - by "us" I mean Burton Delack, my sometime sisters, Bill Patterson and me. Didn't Bill Patterson's sister - we called her "Sis" - become the ladies champion years later?

Bill Piper and his whole family are affectionately remembered. His mother, Ted, was a great golfer. Please inform Bill that he's mistaken about my having been champion of the women's group. Once in a while I'd win a weekly event, and occasionally played on the team that L.P. entered into for city club player.

For the past 49 years I've belonged to Acacia Country Club in Lyndhurst, never having lost my love for the game, which had its inception the year that Lawrence Park was founded - tho' for two or three years Burton Delack, Bill Patterson and I played just two holes; out hole #1, and back on hole #9. We each owned one wooden shafted club and two golf balls at that time.



2-17
2-18



The membership sponsored an exhibition by a professional golfer in the late '20s. The show took place near No. 5 green, where the pro, by the name of Kirkwood, drove a golf ball from a volunteer's forehead as well as from the face of a gold pocket watch owned by an anxious member. He also played trick shots from the traps facing away from the green that sailed back over his head and onto the green. No one seemed overly impressed as I recall.

Children of members were not charged a yearly fee until they reached 12 or 14 (?), and then were members at \$10 a head. There seemed no necessity for rules regarding the young. We didn't play on Saturdays or Sundays unless accompanied by adults, and we had ample time to play a few holes every week day for several years. It was rumored that a Mrs. Finch - a perennial winner in the ladies' group - hung a net in her attic and practiced hitting balls into it during the winter months. Perhaps she invented this practice! She was a fierce competitor, small in stature, middle aged, and friendly on and off the course.

Congratulations to you and the membership in your celebration of 75 years on the Lawrence Park fairways. It's a fine layout - I shall never forget it.

*Cordially,
Jean St. Lawrence*

CHAPTER II
JULY 5, 1942

**LAWRENCE PARK GOLF COURSE EXPANDED
TO EIGHTEEN HOLES**

Carl Reed owned the land west of the former O'Lone property (the site of the additional nine-hole layout) to what is today the Lake Cliff Subdivision, extending north and south from East Lake Road to Lake Erie.

Mr. Reed offered the land, for farming, to Dan Gallagher since the Gallagher property south of East Lake Road had been purchased by General Electric Realty for use as a plant site. This parcel became known in the area as the Dan Gallagher farm.

When Reed died, no written agreement was found allowing Gallagher to continue farming the land. In 1940, Gallagher moved out when General Electric Realty bought the estate. At the time of the purchase, it was not known what General Electric intended to do with the property.



What was known by the golf club officers, however, was that General Electric was a prime booster of the Employee Athletic Association and thus it seemed only natural that G.E. might support the addition to the golf course. The officers of the club approached General Electric management about their plans for the farm site and submitted a request to use the land for an additional nine holes.

The club officers had wished for many years that another nine holes would one day be a reality, making Lawrence Park a fine eighteen-hole layout.

General Electric gave its approval for the addition, but with the proviso that it would retain a 300-foot strip of land parallel to East Lake Road (adjacent to number 2 fairway) and a 300-foot strip containing the creek outfall from the plant. G.E. agreed to lease the 300 foot outfall strip to the club for \$1.00 per year and did not require any lease fee for any other property used by the club. (1)

The Planning and Construction:

The club officers and the club professional, who was director of greenskeeping and course planning, proceeded with plans for the new nine holes. In 1941, they hired Alfred H. Tull, a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, to layout the course.

In part, his biography read, "Born in England in 1897, he moved to Canada in 1907 and to the United States in 1914. He began his career as a construction superintendent, then worked for A.W. Tillinghast in 1922. He entered private practice as a course architect in 1935.

"Clients and others with whom he worked were struck by his ability to layout individual holes and establish a circuit by walking the land and staking the holes without resort to topographical plan." (2)

Tull developed the layout of the fairways and green locations. With one exception, his plan is still the one in use to this day. Number three green and tee had to be relocated east because of the growth of the Lake Cliff Subdivision in 1947.

Jack Aiton contributed the following write-up of the new nine holes:

The architect's plan followed the contours of the land with very little movement of soil. This plan provides the wonderful flow and contours to the holes that members enjoy today... The fairways had to be leveled as the farm had included a large fruit orchard. The orchard was planted with many ridges to provide for drainage. These ridges are still noticeable in the rough between holes 4, 6, 7 and 8. Soil did have to be moved to build tees and greens. This required a considerable amount of soil for number two and

seven greens. The other greens only required the proper green construction with good drainage base, top soil and contouring for good drainage and challenging putting.

Carl Wendel provided considerable input to the construction to provide ease of maintenance with a limited staff and equipment. Green mowers were gas powered single reel and therefore greens were limited to the present size to provide ease and quickness in mowing.

The board of directors hired John Cunningham, a general contractor and a member of the golf club, to do the earth moving work as laid out by the course architect. Construction of the new nine holes began in 1941.

In 1942, after a year of work, the new nine holes had taken shape and were ready for play.

The *General Electric News - Erie Works* of Friday, July 3, 1942, ran an article entitled, "Club to Open New Holes Sunday." It goes on to say:

Sunday will be a red letter day for the Lawrence Park Golf Club for it will mark the formal opening at nine a.m. of the new nine holes to the club course.

Everything is in readiness for the official opening of this addition to the club which makes of the Lawrence Park Course an 18-hole layout and one of the finest in the entire Erie district.

Manager H.L.R. Emmet will drive the first ball promptly at 9 o'clock and will be a member of the first foursome to play the new nine. Guests of the occasion will include members of city council, the Lawrence Park Commissioners and the sports editor of the Erie newspapers. (4)

The *Erie Dispatch - Herald* dated Monday, July 6, 1942, published an article written by Ray Peebles, sports editor:

Lawrence Park Golf Club members have been boasting about their new nine-hole layout.

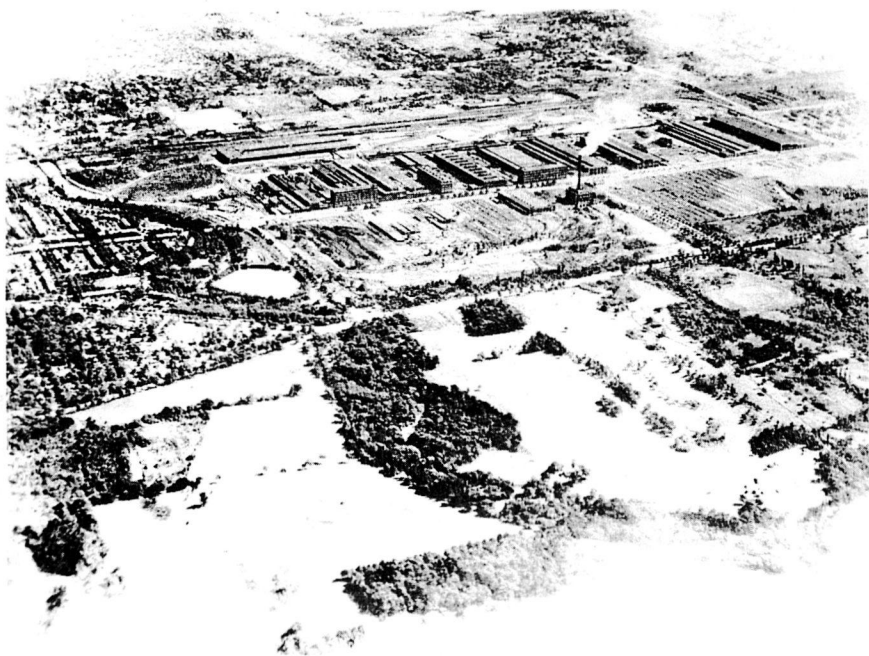
Officially opened the new section of the golf course Sunday morning with H.L.R. Emmet, manager of the General Electric Works here, hitting the first ball.

He hit a dandy, and a couple of foursomes of special guests, your agent in one of them, stepped cockily to the tee and prepared to follow the example set by Mr. Emmet.

Our cockiness left us with the first tee shot. Some two hours and 61 strokes later, I staggered over to the tenth tee, firmly convinced that the famous Pine Valley course near Philadelphia could be no tougher - no finer test of golf than Lawrence Park's new nine. (5)

The new holes served as the back nine and remained that way for several years until the golf professional suggested that completing play on the ninth hole and beginning the back nine on the present number ten provided better control of play.

The new layout included sand traps on two holes: number two and number seven. Number two's sand trap lay to the right of the green, while number seven embodied two sand traps opposite of each other east and west of the mesa-like green.



When the new layout opened for play, the knee-high rough had not been cut and to the chagrin of members, balls driven there were hard to find or lost. This was no small matter since World War II created a shortage of golf balls.

Testimony to this shortage was noted in the *General Electric News* in 1942:

"The present rubber shortage has affected the manufacturing of golf balls and in order for the club to obtain new balls it is necessary to turn in to the manufacturer old balls for recapping. Members are urged to assist by turning in balls for which they will be allowed credit of five or ten cents. In the future, the club will sell new balls to members only." (6)

CHAPTER III

CLUB IMPROVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

1946-1990

This chapter attempts to summarize significant events which were found in the Board of Directors' Annual Reports from 1946 through 1990, with the exception of 1947, 1948, 1951, 1952 and 1953. Unfortunately — because these reports contain important historical data — the reports for these years are missing.

1946

This report, the oldest available, called attention to two improvements to the course and the naming of a new golf professional.

H.W. Gouldthorpe, president, noted that:

1. Number 15 green was relocated from the base of the hill (now part of the practice range) to the top, where it still is today.
2. Number 17 tee moved northward sixty-five yards to its present site in order to accommodate plans to build a motel on property owned by Soudan. This shortened the hole to 523 yards. (Remember that that strip of land adjacent to East Lake Road was owned by J.W. Sherwin and sold for building homes and Soudan's Motel.)

Everett Anderson, a respected Lawrence Park member, was named to replace Carl Wendel who retired at the end of the 1946 season. Anderson's tenure as golf professional began in 1947. Carl Wendel remained as club manager.

The Executive Committee was increased from seven to nine members to better guide and develop the expanding activities.

1947 and 1948

Annual reports from 1947 and 1948 are missing.

1949

The season began with a total of 300 members and with the announced goal to solicit another 100 members.

Three new course improvements were accomplished:

1. A new number eleven green was opened for play this year. (The old number eleven was located on the site of the current number eighteen.) The new number eleven was positioned northward to its present site.
2. Also, number eighteen green was moved from the base of the hill to overcome those devastating floods from storm run-off in Four Mile Creek. This new green was joined with the old number eleven green to form a new 18. This conjoining of two greens yielded the largest and, arguably, the most difficult green to "read" and to putt of the entire layout.
3. Seventy pin oak trees were planted between the following fairways: one and nine; ten and eleven; twelve and thirteen; thirteen and fourteen; sixteen and seventeen. This served to delineate the fairways, add a degree of difficulty to the layout and add "scenic value." These majestic trees were planted by Dave Blair, and they struggled to survive until the installation of the sprinkling system in 1966.

1950

This year a Professional Service Committee and golf professional, Everett Anderson, initiated what was to be a caddy service for members. The committee proceeded to print cards with instructions for caddying, and Ev Anderson spent many long hours instructing qualified teenagers from the Lawrence Park High School.

Unfortunately for the committee and Anderson, this initiative was doomed to failure as it became increasingly apparent that the members continued to prefer pull carts to caddies. The experiment soon came to an end and was never attempted again.

1951, 1952, and 1953

No annual reports for 1951, 1952 and 1953.

While the report 1953 is among the missing, a few facts are known. This was the year that a new building program began with the construction of new lockers and restrooms for both men and women. This locker room building and

lockers are still in use today, with subsequent renovations and improvements. The Board of Directors hired Ralph "Butch" Crozier to succeed Everett Anderson.

1954

There were several matters of major importance that required attention this year:

1. The construction of a new foot bridge crossing the creek at number eighteen (not to be confused with the girder bridge in use today). This foot bridge fell victim to a severe rainstorm during the latter part of 1954.
2. Plans were in process to divert the creek bed and thus eliminate any future damage due to flooding and to preclude further undermining of the road. (No EPA at that time.)

The year 1954 also brought about the removal of the sand traps located east and west of number seven greens and the installation of grass bunkers in their place. The removal of these traps came in response to numerous complaints from members who spent too many sand shots getting out of the trap only to find themselves trapped again on the other side of the green.



1955

On May 21, 1955, the new grill room at the clubhouse was formally opened. It included a complete kitchenette for short orders and ample space for tables and chairs. No hard liquors were served.

The club hosted the Erie District Golf Association tournament, then more commonly known as the City Golf Championship. In the men's and women's division two were won, respectively, by Lawrence Park's Phil Orchard and by Sally Shickler.

This year was also noted for the first Carl Wendel Tournament in recognition of the many years of service he devoted to the membership as a golf professional and house manager.

1956

The Board of Directors hired Leo Anderson from Mount Union, Pennsylvania, as golf professional and house manager. Anderson succeeded Crozier, who terminated his three-year tenure as professional/manager.

The Griswold Cup, named in honor of Matt Griswold, General Electric plant manager who was the prime mover in Lawrence Park Golf Club's founding, was retired after thirty-five years. The Bert Miller trophy was inaugurated in its place. Miller was another officer at the General Electric plant.

The first of the "Backward Tournaments," also known as the "Goofy Tournaments," was initiated this year. Weather permitting, this tournament is played on Election Day in November.

1957

Forty-three loyal volunteers painted nine rooms, the ladies' shower, pro shop, and the locker rooms, and accomplished various other chores. Jobs were completed this way in years gone by to help keep costs in line and dues low. Often, projects were postponed until funds became available.

Despite this frugal approach, rising labor costs and material costs, along with the need to replace the water lines east of Four Mile Creek and with possible major repair or replacement of the old clubhouse/farmhouse, caused the Board of Directors to unanimously approve a dues increase for 1958.

Total membership was at an all-time high of 506 members. This was due, in no small part, to payroll deduction for employees of General Electric and an

advertising campaign using the new golf professional, Leo Anderson, as an attraction.

Ed and Carla Stoker were hired as clubhouse managers, replacing Joe and Helen Perry who decided to leave. Joe Perry remained as greenskeeper.

1958

This year saw an addition to the pro shop storage that doubled its previous capacity. The construction of a patio — the full length of the pro shop and its addition — provided a place for posting scores, relaxing, and for shelter.

The Board chose to repair the clubhouse, paint the exterior and add awnings to the west side of the grill room. Canopies were added to the west entrance of the grill room and the ladies' locker room. The showers in the ladies' locker room were tiled.

Membership rose to 543.

1959

Despite all the painting, decorating and repairing, the farmhouse/clubhouse had clearly outlived its usefulness. Now more than 100 years old, it was time to seriously consider razing it and constructing a new facility.

Accordingly, the Board created the Advanced Planning Committee, chaired by Wally Walworth. The committee's goal was to study and prepare a plan for a new clubhouse. At the conclusion of its study, the committee submitted their plan to General Electric management for its approval.

The company agreed with the need to replace the old clubhouse, but felt the building plan was too ambitious and suggested it be scaled down. General Electric requested to review any major construction as it did not want the membership spending excessive amounts of money on a building while there was still no decision concerning the future use of its property.

Finally, the modified plan gained G.E.'s approval. In April 1959, the architectural firm of Johnson, Gray and Associates began formalizing plans for a new clubhouse using data and preliminary criteria presented by the Advanced Planning Committee.

The clubhouse plan required long-range financing, but the one-year lease arrangement with G.E. Realty Corporation would not allow financing through local lending institutes. The club requested assistance from General Electric in

getting a sizable loan, payable in 25 years, with the hope that construction might begin in September of 1959. Because G.E. suggested a modified financial plan payable in a time span of five years, the financial arrangements remained unresolved, and the building plan was placed on hold for the next two years.

During 1959, the club's solicitor sought and obtained a liquor license effective August 1, and a bar opened early that month to capitalize on the remainder of the golf season.

1960

This was the first full year the club operated a complete bar arrangement and the first year it ran a food business. For many years, the members wanted to know the potential in operating a food business. It was decided to operate the business under the direction of the House Committee. Prior to this, the food was a concessional operation.

The experience gained in this effort resulted in better and expanded dining services to all members.

This was considered to be a pivotal and productive year for the club's progress. Facilities were thought to be adequate — but not elaborate — and the costs for clubhouse activities were reasonable. The club implemented a conservative "pay-as-you-go" approach to future costs.

With Board approval, W.F. Walworth, Chairman of Advanced Planning, and his committee worked to consider plans for a building program throughout the winter of 1959.

The committees concluded that the best approach to the building program was to initiate it in two phases: (1) Construct a patio (30' X 44' or 1320 sq. ft.) of such strength so as to support a covering and the eventual replacement of the clubhouse/ farmhouse. Funds would come from the golf course operation. (2) A study was begun to determine when to replace the farmhouse structure.

The patio was completed in early May of 1960, and the members expressed their enthusiasm for this addition.

Total membership in 1960 stood at 527.

An initiation fee, which had previously been eliminated, was reinstated in order to encourage members to stay, support club activities and to promote its future growth. Former members who wished to rejoin during the 1960 season were accepted without payment of the initiation fee, qualifying under a "grandfather clause."

For the first time, a social membership was established. Fourteen men and five women were accepted. These social members paid a reduced rate of ten dollars plus two dollars tax, and were allowed the privilege of being able to change to full membership at any time without an additional initiation fee.

Approximately fifty-five percent of the club's members were General Electric employees and pensioners, and forty-five percent were those with associate classification (members, but not General Electric employees).

The Golf Committee inaugurated the Father and Son Tournament.

For the first time, The Rules of Golf were implemented, and the Handicap Committee agreed to follow the United States Golf Association handicapping rules.

Thus, 1960 was indeed a year of significant and productive change for the better.

1961

On October 15, 1961, the old wood-frame farmhouse, used as a clubhouse since 1925 and over 100 years old, was demolished to make room for a new clubhouse. This was phase two of the building program and represented the final, major portion of the improved facilities program. Ground was broken for the new clubhouse in October, 1961.



Careful budgeting and close supervision of expenditures made possible the payment from cash reserves of over half the cost of a new building. These reserves were established over the prior three years. The balance came from short-term financing over a two-year period. The new building was scheduled to be completed for the 1962 golf season.

The Advanced Planning Committee deserves recognition and credit for its work on this project. Committee members were:

Wally Walworth - Chairman

Paul Amirault, Leo Lynch, Don Smith - for Building Construction

Dave Dickson, Gerrie Warrick, Betty Alexander - for Building Decoration

Bob Cool - for Building Financing

The goal for this time period was well stated by Carl Simon in his final year as president. He said, in his president's message, that he believed the members wanted "a good golf course, with adequate social facilities, and a reasonable dues structure."

Total members in 1961 were 517. The initiation fee was twenty-five dollars.

Lawrence Park's Jean Forsyth became a ten-time E.D.G.A. Women's golf champion.

1962

In the president's message, Tom Murray summarized the facilities improvement program, which began with careful planning four years prior in 1959. With close fiscal control, the club succeeded in paying the short term loan by year's end 1962. Cost of the second and final phase (clubhouse) was \$21,113.

At an open house at the beginning of the 1962 season, many members came early, stayed late and thoroughly enjoyed the first social gathering of the new season in the setting of the new clubhouse.

There were a number of other firsts this year, as well.

The first Women's Association banquet was held September 20, 1962. Ladies were allowed representation at board meetings, but only ladies who are primary members of the club are eligible to run for the Board of Directors. (Primary members are not to be confused with ladies who are members through family membership.)

The Women's Association seeks membership in as many Board committees as possible in order to maximize their contribution for the good of the club. They are a valuable part of the golf club's total operation.

Today, the organization is governed by an Executive Committee that consists of the following officers:

<i>President</i>	<i>18-Hole Chairperson</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>9-Hole Chairperson</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Monday Night Chairperson</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	

The Women's Association also ran a successful card party with resultant revenues going to furnish the draperies and fixtures for the grill room. Currently, fund activities include style shows, hole-in-one contests and raffles.

The Women's Northwestern Tournament, held at the club and directed by Sally Shickler, was another first-time activity.

Later that year at "Leo's Party," the club met its first major test as a caterer by serving a 110-plate banquet followed by an evening of dancing.

The total members for 1962 rose to 546.

Ten types of golf memberships were offered. They were: G.E. Men, Associate Men, G.E. Women, Associate Women, G.E. Family, G.E. Pensioners, Juniors, Students, Special, and Complimentary.

There were 43 social members this year, who planned to reinstate their full member status for 1963 without initiation fee.

1963

With the construction of the clubhouse completed, the Executive Committee's focus for the next several years was on golf course improvements. The committee intended to pursue an equipment modernization plan and began investigating several different types of fairway watering systems.

In addition to the focus on golf course improvements, the Board of Directors had been conducting year-long negotiations with General Electric to enable the members to purchase the property on a long-term basis with minimal financial burden to the membership. The General Electric Realty Corporation expressed a willingness to consider a tentative proposal regarding the purchase of the land on which the eighteen hole golf course now stood.

Club President, T.A. Murray, sent a letter dated October 14, 1963, to Robert Chase, Club Solicitor, apprising him of the proposal. Subsequently, Mr. Murray formed a Real Estate Committee which attempted to come up with a financial analysis to present to the Board of Director for their consideration.

The possibility to buy the land was now a reality if the financial details could be worked out.

This year, the golf committee reported several "firsts" for the finals of the men's city championship of the Erie District Golf Association which was held at Lawrence Park. Initiated were the following: Radio reports to the clubhouse of the progress of leading players; full use of the Civilian Defense Organization to handle crowds and parking; and the first "walking score boards" to keep the spectators apprised of the scores of the leading players.

1964

The on-going negotiations with General Electric regarding the golf course property were nearing completion.

This year the club hosted the Women's City Championship, which was won by the club's own Kay Hebert, and Lawrence Park's Judy Mitchell was runner-up.

The Board of Directors hired Bill Hartman as Club Manager.

1965

The Board expected that by the November 20th annual meeting, the negotiations with General Electric to purchase the golf course property would be an accomplished fact. However, this was not to be. It took two more years of negotiations to accomplish this fact.

The club found itself in a financial position to contract for a fairway watering system that would be installed before the summer of 1966.

The club purchased six Cushman cars this year, and so 1965 marked the start of golf car use at Lawrence Park. Several members owned their own cars, but this practice was phased out by 1980.

1966

The Directors experimented with the idea of allowing the club to remain open on weekends during November and December. It was a resounding success, as the decision to keep the clubhouse bar open every Saturday and Sunday met

with membership approval. No food was served, but the bar was open. "Visit, have a drink and watch football. Hours 9:30 to 5:30."

This year saw the golf course surveyed and rated according to the United States Golf Association recommendations. Men's rating - 70.4; Women's rating - 72.1.

Watering System Installed and Paid!

The late Stan Miodus wrote the following regarding the first watering system. It was found in the 1966 annual report.

Back in May of 1963, Mr. Ronald Whipple received quotations from several companies for an all-manual system and for a completely automatic system. The quotations did not include a reservoir or a water supply for the system. The price did not match our financial status at the time.

Mr. Dave Westcott then picked up the ball in 1965 and pursued this project, as had Mr. Whipple with utmost determination. We received additional quotations, had committees looking at movies, slides, and drawings of different types of systems. The automatic type system was ruled out. By now, the membership started swaying in a favorable direction. The financial aspect, however, had not changed too much - an increase in dues would have been required. Then, like "pennies from heaven" the excise tax was lifted and things really started to roll. The watering system was approved and budgeted at \$60,000. I was named Chairman. After checking out references and comparing prices, the McCune Irrigation Company from Youngstown, Ohio, was awarded the irrigation contract for \$52,489 for an all-manual system...

Our next concern was water. That dam and pond you see may seem very logical now; however, when we first considered a dam and reservoir of this type, figures of fifteen to thirty thousand dollars were flashed. With a \$60,000 budget, we started looking elsewhere. Quotations for digging a reservoir filtered by gravel fed by lake water were investigated. All workable but with their shortcomings.

I think I suggested we close our eyes and get a bid on a dam and reservoir. I received an unbelievable figure of \$3,000 from a Mr. Ellis whom I know for his work on water front, water breakers, etc. The total cost of this project was more, however, but still within our budget. Plans of the dam were submitted by Robinson Consulting Engineers to the Department of Forests and Waters and approved in short order. The deteriorating columns supporting the bridge at the dam required reinforcement and the dam was built. Provisions have been made in our proposal to the Department of Forest and Waters where we can increase the area of the reservoir should the flow of water in the creek warrant it. At the present time during our driest spell, after pumping at full capacity for eight and a half hours, the reservoir water level was lowered to two and one-half inches.

I am very pleased with the system in its operation. It is completed, but has not been accepted by us only because we have not had time to make a final check. With a few minor adjustments, I'm certain it will be in full operation in 1967.

I would like to thank the membership for their cooperation and understanding, knowing of the inconvenience caused during the installation of this system, but hoping it will prove itself worthwhile.

1967

An Option Agreement dated May 15, 1967, between G.E. Realty Corporation and Lawrence Park Golf Club, stated the conditions which allowed the membership to purchase the golf course property.

WITNESSETH

(1) For and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), the receipt thereof is hereby acknowledged, and other good and valuable consideration hereinafter designated, the Seller hereby grants to the Buyer the sole and exclusive option to purchase from the Seller all of the following described property: That tract of land located in Lawrence Park Township, County of Erie, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, more particularly described in Appendix A attached hereto and made a part hereof, together with all the rights, titles, interests, hereditaments and appurtenances belonging thereto, including all reversionary right in public streets or highways adjoining the premises, for the price and upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth. Except as otherwise stated herein, the Seller hereby covenants that so long as this option is in effect, it will take no action which would adversely affect the title to the premises.

(2) In addition to the consideration herein mentioned, as additional consideration the Buyer shall deposit with the Seller the following amounts on or before the dates listed:

(a) At the time of execution and delivery of this Agreement an amount not less than \$11,700

(b) On or before December 31, 1967, an additional amount not less than \$11,700

(c) On or before December 31, 1968, an additional amount not less than \$14,600

Upon deposit by Buyer with Seller of the total consideration of not less than \$38,000 listed above, Buyer shall have the right to exercise this option. Exercise shall be made on or before December 31, 1968, and shall be completed upon the mailing of a written notice to the Seller as hereinafter provided.

(3) *The price to be paid for the premises described herein shall be the sum of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$225,000.00) payable as follows:*

(a) *The option consideration heretofore paid by Buyer to Seller in the amount of \$38,000, as mentioned in Article 2, shall be considered a down payment on the property.*

(b) *Concurrently with the written notice sent to Seller by Buyer which shall exercise this option or within sixty (60) days thereafter, the Buyer shall execute and deliver to Seller a real estate mortgage and note satisfactory to Seller in the amount of \$187,000 which will provide for the payment of said sum over a period of twenty-five (25) years in one hundred (100) quarterly payments with interest at five and one-half percent (5 1/2%) with the first payment to begin on or before April 1, 1969, and the last payment to be made on or before December 31, 1993. If the Buyer shall complete the deposit of the total option consideration of \$38,000 before December 31, 1968, and shall exercise this option prior to that date, then in such an event, the date of beginning for payment of \$187,000 over a period of twenty-five (25) years on terms as heretofore mentioned, shall start on the first day of the next January, April, July or October. Mortgage to be executed by Buyer shall provide that Buyer may prepay the unpaid balance at any time without payment of penalty.*

Prior to the delivery of the deed, the club agreed to an easement of 60 feet in width for the use of the roadway along Four Mile Creek and for the installation of utility to the General Electric lakeside picnic grove north of number 12 fairway. The Club also agreed that General Electric retain the Power House Tract, parcel number 5 running along the creek adjacent to numbers 3, 4 and 5 holes.

There were a total of fourteen items in this legal document which need not be recorded here except to say the membership abided by all the provisions of this agreement. It was signed by Thomas A. Murray, President, and Martin Simon, Secretary. Attorney Robert Chase represented the Club.

1967 Press Release

On May 18, 1967, G.E. issued the following press release:

Arrangements have been completed to permit the ultimate transfer of the General Electric Company-owned Lawrence Park Golf Club real estate to the Lawrence Park Golf Club.

Announcements of the arrangements were made jointly by Vice President Oscar L. Dunn of the General Electric Company and Thomas A. Murray, President of the Lawrence Park Golf Club.

An option agreement was signed this week which provides for the accumulation of a down payment over a five-year period, with an option to purchase the premises upon payment of the accumulated installments and execution of a 25-year mortgage to cover the sale.

"The General Electric Company has been interested in insuring the continuance of this property as a golf complex," Mr. Dunn said.

"The Company is also pleased that it had been able to negotiate a satisfactory arrangement for the Lawrence Park Club to take over the premises without undue strain on that organization's finances," he added.

An important term of the agreement is the provision that the property will only be used for country club purposes for at least thirty years. This insures that the property will continue to be an attractive feature of Lawrence Park Township. The provision guarantees both the continuance of a fine recreational facility and an important "open space" in the rapidly expanding Erie metropolitan area.

"The company will retain the adjacent General Electric Picnic Grove property for the Erie Plant employees recreational purposes," Mr. Dunn said.

"This arrangement will enable the Lawrence Park Golf Club to invest in continued improvements of the property with the hope that it will become one of the Greater Erie's finest recreational assets," Mr. Murray emphasized.

1968

Dan Kimberlin designed a shield which became identified with Lawrence Park Golf Club. Today we recognize this shield on wearing apparel sold in the pro shop, on letterheads, club seal, bag tags and so on.



The Advanced Planning Committee of the Board proposed to avoid any indebtedness for 1969 except for the land purchase mortgage.

1969

With the purchase of the property in 1969, the Board of Directors dealt with the question: Who owns title to this possession? The club solicitor told the Board that the current members in any year are the owners. That answer lit a caution light!

A discussion ensued to determine what action could be taken to properly protect the entire membership from any discretionary action taken by a few members that could result in the property being taken or sold.

A plan to establish stock shares for members was discussed, but it did not meet membership approval.



A second plan was proposed to control membership dues and increases in capital equipment purchases. This plan was acceptable to the members.

The by-laws were revised to include a dues increase limit of 10% per year with any higher increase subject to two-thirds vote of approval by the members. In addition, it included in the by-laws a limit on capital expenditure of \$25,000. A larger amount would require a two-thirds member vote of approval also.

In this manner, the Board of Directors sought to assure the members that the Club would remain in safe hands.

A computerized handicap system was put to use this year through the efforts of Terry Dunn and Wally Walworth.

There were eleven membership categories in use. These memberships and the numbers belonging in each category were as follows:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Members</i>
<i>Men Single</i>	197
<i>Ladies Single</i>	43
<i>Family</i>	163
<i>Student & Junior</i>	21
<i>Retired A Single</i>	23
<i>Retired B Family</i>	8
<i>Retired B Single</i>	6
<i>Retired B Family</i>	5
<i>Clergy</i>	4
<i>Complimentary</i>	4
<i>Social</i>	110
<i>TOTAL</i>	584

1970

The annual report contained the following:

Note 1 - Property, Buildings and Equipment

On March 26, 1969, the club purchased from General Electric Company and G.E. Realty Corporation the land upon which the golf course, clubhouse and other facilities are situated, for the sum of \$245,270.

Prior to the purchase, the club leased the land, at no cost, on a year-to-year basis. During the years in which the land was under lease, the club had constructed various improvements, including the clubhouse, golf course and watering

system, and had written off the costs thereof, since legal title of these improvements resided with the lessors.

While the purchase of land was made at a consideration which contemplated the value of land alone, the club also acquired legal title to all of the then existing improvements. The aggregate appraised value of land and improvements acquired amounted to \$655,000.

The purchase price of \$245,270 has been allocated to land improvements on the basis of the relative appraised values of the individual assets acquired. Subsequent additions to the clubhouse and improvements to the parking lot have been calculated by use of the straight line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

Note 2 - Long Term Debt

Long term debt at December 31, 1969, consisted of the following mortgages issued in connection with the purchase of land, as more fully described in Note 1 above:

5% mortgage note, due 1994, repayable in quarterly installments of \$330, including principal and interest. \$15,957.

5½% mortgage note, due 1994, repayable in quarterly installments of \$3,452, including principal and interest.

	<u>\$183,402</u>
	\$199,229 Total
<i>less current porting</i>	<u>-4,130</u>
	<u>\$195,099</u>

The fifteen-year membership totals, 1956 through 1970, showed the following:

1956 - 410	1961 - 517	1966 - 549
1957 - 506	1962 - 456	1967 - 545
1958 - 543	1963 - 441	1968 - 563
1959 - 516	1964 - 429	1969 - 584
1960 - 508	1965 - 527	1970 - 532

This year, a new golf bag and cart storage room was built, along with a new pro shop, private office, security windows and outside flood lighting.

1970 was the inauguration of the Three-Day Member-Guest Tournament.

Because the golf course property was sold to the membership in 1969, General Electric saw fit to drop the payroll deduction for membership dues in October of 1970.

1971

The initiation fee of \$250 increased to \$300 after April 15, 1971, and the charter remained open for a limited time.

Green fees for private tournaments were increased this year to:

\$6 per person for tournaments of up to 20 players, Monday through Friday only.

\$7 per person for tournaments of 20 to 50 players, Monday through Friday only.

\$8 per person for tournaments of more than 50 players, Monday through Friday.

1972

With 572 total members, the club was on a sound financial basis; but finances notwithstanding, a dues increase appeared to be inevitable. The reason: costs of maintaining the golf course and running the clubhouse grew yearly. In addition, salaries and wages were on the rise, and equipment needed updating. The high inflation rate of the '70s had a great deal to do with these increased costs.

Greg Reich, course superintendent from 1970-72, resigned. Joe Perry returned as consultant.

1973

On September 30, 1973, the property, building and equipment were appraised at \$438,452, less depreciation of \$55,475 for a total value of \$382,977.

That year, the club owed General Electric Realty Corporation \$177,535 for the purchase of the golf course property.

During 1973, twenty-one members resigned and another eighteen golfing members changed their status to social, making the total number of members 569. This was alarming at the time, as Lakeview Country Club was scheduled to open soon and would also be soliciting members.

To address the problem, the club instituted an incentive plan to attract new members. The plan allowed new members to pay the \$400 initiation fee over a two-year period, with a minimum first-year payment of \$200.

During 1973, Jerry Rice was appointed course superintendent.

Lawrence Park had its share of champions that year:

Judy Meister was the Pennsylvania State Amateur Champion.

Sally Shickler was the City Amateur Champion.

Harry Boback, Jr. was the City Match Play Champion.

1974

During the year, the club's house operation decided to try an experiment in order to address the financial shortfall it was experiencing annually. The experiment: Major club events would be catered and the kitchen would only provide "short order" service to members. The experiment showed poor results and thus ended in failure.

A full-service kitchen was reinstated for 1975. To meet the needs of a full-service kitchen, the house operation submitted a list of items that needed replacement: chairs, dishes, a kitchen range adequate enough to handle large affairs, an exhaust fan and dishwasher.

In addition, major maintenance work was needed on the heating and air conditioning system.

Judy Meister joined the Ladies Professional Golfers Association and experienced a successful first year on the pro tour.

Sally Shickler won the Senior Women's City Championship, while Sandy Johnson finished runner-up in the City Championship.

1975

In order to offset the loss of money the house operation experienced every year, the Board of Directors — after investigating several alternatives to increase the volume of business in the house — introduced a minimum charge of \$15 per month, April through October, 1976.

It was the Board's hope that this monthly minimum would assure a level of revenue to, at least, allow a break-even house operation.

A new lounge was opened with a newly equipped kitchen.

A number of capital improvements were noted: the road to the clubhouse was black-topped and speed bumps were added to slow down traffic, a new entrance was added from men's locker room to the lounge, a new sewer system was installed, storage was added for 30 carts, and the men's locker room was partitioned.

Sandy Johnson won the City Championship.

Barb Van Dyke became the Women's Golf Association of Northwest PA Champion.

The Club's total membership was 499.

1976

The house operation was a losing cause again, despite the benefit gained by adding the \$15-a-month minimum.

A major accomplishment, however, was the significant reduction of the club's debt by \$31,600 - an 11% decrease.

Golf membership fell from 509 total members in 1975 to 470 in 1976, resulting in an \$11,000 shortfall. A membership drive was suggested for 1977.

1977

The club lost more members this year, falling from 470 to 452 total members. This amounted to approximately \$13,000 loss in revenue.

A membership task force of 14 member volunteers met and explored ways to encourage people to join. New members were sought, with special emphasis on getting young members who could sustain the club's vigor in the years ahead.

1978

In spite of the attrition of 23 members, 89 new members brought the total membership to 508, making 1978 a banner year for recruiting new members. Income from dues, assessments and initiation fees totaled \$174,000, was 57% over budget, and was almost twice the earnings of 1977.

The high revenue enabled the club to make capital expenditures of \$25,000 for new equipment, and to amortize most of the high interest bearing notes.

The dues structure of 1978 was the subject of a lengthy discussion by the Board of Directors. The club wanted to move away from a percentage increase in dues to a flat fee increase for all classes of membership.

At the time, 118 of 466 golfing members were receiving a reduced fee. A percentage increase would burden a full member too heavily, and thus a vote was taken on November 19, 1978. The vote passed, and the flat fee became a rule.

1979

This time may be best characterized as a year in which a number of small golf course improvements were noted.

The U.S.G.A. agronomist's recommendations to enhance the quality of the greens showed, according to the report, a "100% improvement" over previous years.

On the back nine, six of the fairways were contoured. Number 4 tee was enlarged and 20 trees were planted. The vehicle bridge was closed for repair.

The Golf Committee sought ways to correct handicap abuse and to implement a program for 1980.

The club lost 41 members but gained 36 new members, for a total membership of 503.

1980

Because of high interest rates, the club chose to avoid any short-term financing.

Thus, the Board decided to erect a pole barn for housing equipment, as this was the least expensive option.

House operations made a gratifying profit. The treasurer reported \$421,000 in total revenue for the year.

Debt was reduced by \$26,000.

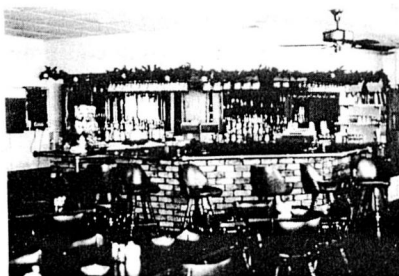
Capital expenditures of \$24,000 allowed the club to spend \$9,600 for main bridge repairs and \$7,000 for new golf paths.

A surplus of \$50,000 after operating costs eliminated the Club's need to borrow money to cover operating expenses from October to March.

A monthly calendar of events was introduced this year.

The Board hired Carl Bauer to serve as house manager and Steve Crane as golf professional.

53	<i>New Members</i>
27	<i>Members Resigned</i>
<u>26</u>	<u><i>Net Gain</i></u>
529	<i>Total Memberships</i>



1981

The great challenge to the Board of Directors in 1981 was to generate a sufficient cash flow in order to avoid any short-term borrowing at the high interest rate of 15 percent. Fortunately, the house operation was profitable this year and the club was free from all debt except for the mortgage on the property, which was five and one-half percent.

All projects this year were designed to recognize and stay abreast of inflationary times.

Thus, in financial terms, 1981 was a very successful year.

For the first time, the Board expressed the sentiment that a 480-member club would be ideal, desirable and a great convenience. But at the same time, it would also mean a hefty increase in dues if, through time and attrition, that number could be reached.

Apparently, that expression gained very little acceptance since the membership totals changed very little.

A substantial increase in the number of retired membership applicants resulted in reduced revenue from dues.

The U.S.G.A. Green Section, which had been invited for the previous four years to appraise the course condition, noted great improvements. The U.S.G.A. agronomist recommended reduced watering of greens to assure a good depth of the grass root system, continued aeration practice and thatching fairways.

1982

This was the third consecutive year of successful club operations.

There was no need to borrow money on a short-term basis to carry club operations to the following spring, and there was no debt except the mortgage on the property. These accomplishments were achieved with sound business practices and strict cost controls.

Total revenues reached a new high of \$539,000. This allowed the club a capital expenditure of \$52,977 to buy equipment for course maintenance, and to upgrade deficiencies at the clubhouse.

The mortgage on the property was reduced to \$125,000.

The course was measured anew in September with very accurate laser beam surveying equipment. The results showed the course to be 6,222 yards from the white tees — 180 yards shorter than the original measurement of 6,402. The 150 yard evergreen markers were relocated accordingly.

The long standing Retired (B) and the Retired Family (B) membership types were discontinued. Also, the Complimentary category was no longer tabulated in the membership types.

The Thursday Seniors Tournament made its debut in 1982.

Tragically, a fire on Saturday morning, August 7, 1982, destroyed the grill room. A smoldering cigarette in the waste container started the blaze.

The club negotiated with the insurance casualty adjuster for a satisfactory settlement, while at the same time consulted with contractors, tradesmen and decorators to restore the grill room. Restoration was to be completed by early in 1983.

The Women's Golf Association held a Spring Tea and Style Show and participated in a number of events throughout the year. Among them were the Ladies League, Member-Guest Couples, Best Ball, and E.W.G.A. Interclub events.

On a sad note, Joe Perry (Celestino Pereira), course superintendent for 48 years (1922-1970), died on August 24, 1982.

1983

This was the fourth consecutive year of a financially successful club operation. Cash flow improved to the point that, again, no short term borrowing was needed to carry the club to the following year.

The total revenue of \$550,000 constituted a new high.

This allowed the club to spend \$66,978 on capital expenditures. The debt on the mortgage was reduced to \$117,000. The grill room was completely renovated.

Attesting to the club's popularity was the fact that 19 potential members were on the waiting list.

The Women's Golf Association won the Northwestern Cup.

1984

All operations lost money for the first time since 1980. There were fewer outside events, and fewer special events, which normally sustained the club financially. This was due, in no small part, to the weather — and rainy days in particular.

Twenty new members were accepted, bringing the total membership to 536. Forty applicants were on the waiting list.

Dick Barber was named club manager. Mike Judy and Tony Catalina became assistant pros.

Total debt was down to \$108,000.

1985

Operations returned to a profitable status.

A new billing system was introduced and the so-called "chits" were discontinued.

Total revenue amounted to \$604,000. The clubhouse broke even. Capital expenditures of \$36,186 were used for various necessary projects.

Julio DiVecchio was appointed club manager.

Twenty-nine new members brought the total membership to 541. Of those, 498 were golfing members.

A need for a computerized irrigation system was expressed.

Golfing Members

1981 476

1982 483

1983 490

1984 494

1985 498

1986

The golf club was reported to be in great financial shape. Clubhouse operation was profitable. By 1986, the Board of Directors had been pursuing major

improvement projects. They were clubhouse renovation, sprinkler system and the possibility of a driving range near, or adjacent to, the golf course.

The main objective: Attain these improvements with no major assessments.

1987

The Board of Directors spent a good portion of the 1987 golfing season trying to promote and convince the membership of the proposed improvements they had envisioned for the club.

They were:

1. Clubhouse renovation
2. Automatic sprinkler system
3. New number-one golf hole along Four Mile Creek
4. Convert present number one to a driving range

The cost of these improvements was projected to be about \$500,000.

At the fall meeting at Iroquois High School, the Board again presented the plan to the members in attendance and, following a question and answer period, a vote was to be taken on the total package of improvements.

The question and answer period turned into a heated exchange between those for and those against the plan.

The vote was finally taken by secret ballot and resulted in a rejection of the plan. This was a great disappointment to the proponents of renovation.

Another vote was taken in which each of the four items of the plan was to be balloted separately.

Results showed the following:

1. Clubhouse renovation — failed to pass, but vote was close.
2. Automatic sprinkler system — passed.
3. New number-one hole — failed to pass.
4. Driving range — failed to pass.

The close vote on the clubhouse renovation project sent a signal to its proponents that another careful and deliberate approach might win membership approval.

The clubhouse had fallen into disrepair and the oft-taken "band-aid" approach could no longer address the work that needed to be done.

Repair to the auto bridge - \$56,000.

Introduction of a lottery system to assign starting times.

Total income was \$657,000. Capital expenditures were \$35,153. Mortgage on the property was reduced to \$68,047.44.

1988

This was a good year financially, with \$69,000 profit from operations.

The following capital projects were completed and paid:

<i>Automatic sprinkler system</i>	<i>\$133,000</i>
<i>Old bridge renovation</i>	<i>55,000</i>
<i>Kitchen & dining room equipment</i>	<i>21,000</i>
<i>Golf cars</i>	<i>14,000</i>
<i>GMC truck</i>	<i>11,000</i>

The Club experimented with a breakfast program for members.

A locker room attendant was hired.

The Club experimented with kangaroo-type power carts for members to rent. Experiment failed.

A long-range planning committee was formed to survey membership and collect results.

The Club's monthly minimum was extended to ten months of the year, and a voucher was made available for those members who leave for the winter months.

Expansion and Renovation 1989-1990

The events leading to the expansion and renovation of the clubhouse are chronicled in another chapter.

1990

Mother Nature strikes a blow:

On Thursday, September 6, 1990, a series of severe thunderstorms which produced heavy rain struck the surrounding area. Four Mile Creek, and others



in the vicinity, became swollen from the heavy rain and created what some people refer to as "gully washers."

On Friday, large tree limbs, brush and other debris carried by the powerful torrents of water became lodged against the single lane bridge leading to the

parking lot. By Friday night, Jerry Rice, the course superintendent, recognized the hazardous situation and advised members and guests in the clubhouse to leave as the bridge was in imminent danger.

His warning was timely. Around 10:00 p.m., the force of the water lifted the span from its pylons and deposited it in the water some 15 degrees from its original position.

Despite this damage, the club remained open. It was still possible to use the golf car and foot bridge between 11 green and 12 tee for pedestrian access to the clubhouse. Shortly thereafter, the club erected a temporary span which allowed vehicular access to the parking lot.

The bridge replacement was completed by Christmas of 1990.

The Board of Directors hired Anthony Catalina as head golf professional.

1991

With the increased numbers of outside activities using the banquet facility, an overflow parking area was created south of the maintenance building.

The installation of a phone line from number nine tee to the halfway house snack bar was accomplished.

The drought of 1991 showed June to be the driest on record. The state declared an emergency by early August in order to regulate irrigation and to protect the aquifer.

1992

The restrooms between thirteen tee and fourteen green were built.

The practice range was constructed and range membership was introduced. In prior years, members used and retrieved their own balls.

1993

A new concrete deck and guard rails were added to the number eighteen bridge.

A new cart path was constructed south of the number three green.

The men's number four tee was enlarged, and the addition of a cart path on the west side of the teeing ground was made.

1994

Four small traps were constructed behind number two green after a two-year period of addition 30 feet of fill to the back of the green. This year also saw the removal of the blacktopped path up the slope on the north side of the green.

A concrete bridge was added to number three hole.

A city water meter and a double check valve were installed in the bag storage room. The meter was originally located at East Lake Road.

Brush between Four Mile Creek and the entrance road was cleared, the land leveled and seeded.

1995

The addition of a new trap to the right side of number eighteen green added a new dimension of difficulty to this hole.

A new trap west of number six green was added this year, in addition to the tapering and sodding of the area behind number seventeen green.

A concrete deck was added to the large bridge approaching number four green.

Fall 1995 — Winter 1996

A new roof and additional storage area was added to the new maintenance building.

1995

Improvements were made to the Grille Room, Banquet Room, hallways and offices with new carpeting. A \$5 assessment was added to each member to offset the mortgage expense. Jackie Limano was hired as the Food and Beverage Manager. Jim Costintio was hired as the Executive Chef.

1996

All the professional staff were granted contract extensions. Over \$73K was spent on capital improvements including a new computer system, mowers and carts, new kitchen equipment. Membership approved the replacement of the cart bridge over Four Mile Creek and the installation of retaining walls. Estimated cost is \$186K and to begin in the fall of 1997. Mortgage interest rate was refinanced at a lower rate of 8.4%.

1997

Sandy Murry became the Pro Shop Manager and the rest of the Professional Staff was rehired. Since the revenues were down, increases to guest green fees to \$35, cart fees to \$20 for two, and dues went up 6% to cover the decrease in revenues. Contacted a golf course architect to discuss any improvements and changes to the golf course.

1999

The membership was given a time line regarding the golf course renovation. September to stake out the project and build green complexes on #7, #12 and enlarge #13 and begin construction of the driving range. October and November to work on course improvements, bunker and cart paths. March & April 2000 start work on irrigation systems mainly in the rough and finish any range improvements.

2000

The majority of the Golf Course Renovation was completed by January 2001. With the loss of green fees and cart revenues, costs and dues were increased. A Single Membership is \$1158 and a Family Membership is \$1395. Bunker, fairway and green mowers, a new handicap system, driving range vehicle, kitchen broiler/grill and grill room tables and chairs were purchased.

2001

Membership decreased by 8% since 2000. In an effort to cut costs the Club House will be closed Wednesdays in March and every Monday throughout the year. No trail fees for members with power pull carts.

2005

377 Members - 107 Social Members

Julie Christianson resigned as Food and Beverage Manager after 14 years and Donner Von Ritter was hired. Three new air conditioning units, new fuel station tanks, new phone system, five new carts and a new greens mower were purchased.

2006

368 Members – 107 Social Members

Discussion of establishing reciprocal memberships with other golf clubs was had, decided that LPGC would not participate. New program was started, \$1500 initiation fee paid over two years and the Club got 42 new members. The Tax Suit started taking depositions. Purchased a new awning at \$5500, a new tractor and new green roller.

2007

331 Members – 99 Social Members

IRS rejected a proposal to settle the fines and interest, a court date was set for October 2007. PA Fish Commission made proposal for fish ladders on Four Mile Creek. Vandalism on greens #4 and #8 and LPGC received a check for \$18000 to cover the damage.

2008

324 Members – 79 Social Members

Board unanimously approves the agreement with the Fish Commission to install a fish ladders. USGA visited LPGC and was impressed with the shape of the course and gave suggestions. Jay and Marci Honard started running the Food and Beverage at LPGC. Club purchased a new alarm system, a new draft system and a new leaf blower. IRS lawsuit settled, a lien was placed on the Club, working on a settlement.

2009

300 Members – 70 Social Members

Reconstructed #14 tee started in September. New tee box built on #8. Non-members can come for lunch Tuesday thru Friday from 11am to 2pm. Office manager Debbie McCurdy resigned. Initiation fee of \$1000 and \$500 for members under 35 established and if coming from another private club, no initiation fee.

2010

300 members – 66 Social Members

Finished the overflow walls on #13. Discussion to join the WPGA, decided not. In July, IRS settled and money in escrow to pay the penalties and interest. Fish ladder opened on 9/30/2010.

2011

313 Members – 75 Social Members

New back tees built on holes #12 and #16. Bought some equipment from and supplies Gospel Hill for half off of cost. Fish by-pass to start building in August.

2012

332 members – 71 Social Members

Men's Locker Room was updated and all lockers were taken by members. October 22, 2012, the fish by-pass was opened. LPGC attended the Golf and Travel Expo to advertise and attract new members. Jackie Gulnac was hired as the new Office Manager.

2013

313 Members – 86 Social Members

LPGC closed on the purchase of Jerry Rice's house behind #8 tee. June rounds and house sales down due to excessive rain. New cart fleet purchased in May, 50 electric and 15 gas carts. Two day member-guest flyer sent to the membership.

2014

274 Members – 96 Social Members

Final plans for the new patio were sent to the membership on October 30, 2014. 42 teams for the first Annual Jerry Rice Two Day Member Guest. Val Mattson was promoted to the new Club Manager in March.

2015

271 Members – 121 Social Members

Cathy Barone appointed new Club Manager in December, 2015 as Val Mattson moved on to another job. Jerry Rice resigns as Superintendent, Nick Kunik takes his place in December, going away party was planned. The refurbished Patio opens in July and is kicked off with a "Patio Party."

2016

288 Members – 131 Social Members

George Sperry was hired as the Assistant Superintendent. New POS system was installed.

2017

275 Members – 128 Social Members

New maintenance package approved and purchased for \$340K. Large oak tree by #8 tee box was damaged in a wind storm and taken down. New Office Manager, Alicia Costello was hired as well as Michele Horneman as Club Manager. Reciprocal with the Erie Yacht Club started in March, 2017.

2018

263 Members – 110 Social Members

New scoreboard was installed. A new 5-handle draft system was installed. The LPGC flowerbed was removed by #9 tee. Tall Ships party on #2 tee was well attended.

2019

265 Members – 106 Social Members

Member Appreciation party was planned and well attended. The Superintendent's Crew start cutting down Ash Trees that were infected, this will be an on-going project.

2020

268 Members – 105 Social Members

Started to replace the batteries in the electric carts in order to have the fleet last longer. LPGC started using the GHIN Handicap System thru the Western Penn Golf Association, as there were changes to the USGA's Handicap Rules. There was no golf permitted during the month of May due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and many outings and social events were canceled.

2021

287 Members – 105 Social Members

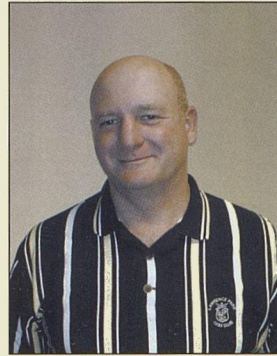
New program of putting "ads" on Facebook was started. Parking lot was resealed and the water pumps in #18 pond were replaced. Improvements to the Por Shop and Club House were done. Several Centennial tournaments and events were planned. A new wall is being planned by the putting green with Member Bricks being sold.



Scott Jenkins
Head Golf Professional

Scott is a native of Erie and a graduate of Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. Prior to coming to LPGC in 1999, Scott worked at various clubs in the Pittsburgh area including the prestigious Oakmont CC.

Scott and his staff provide outstanding member services including quality teaching and tournament programs for both adults and juniors.



Jerry Rice
Head Greenskeeper

Jerry is a native of the Erie area and is a 1972 graduate of the Penn State Turfgrass Science program. He has been at LPGC since 1972 and has held his Certified Golf Course Superintendent title since 1982.

Jerry and his maintenance staff work diligently to provide our members with the highest standards to test their playing skills.

Shown at the top is our newly-remodeled dining room, while at the bottom is just a small section of the grill room and bar area. In addition, there is a formal dining hall to accommodate weddings, parties and tournaments. We are extremely proud of our competent kitchen and dining room staff. Whether you want a 'quick bite' with your foursome or have the family join you for dinner, our menu selection and the quality of our meals is second to none.



For more information, contact
Debbie Lent
at 814-899-0257



*Lawrence Park
 Golf Club*



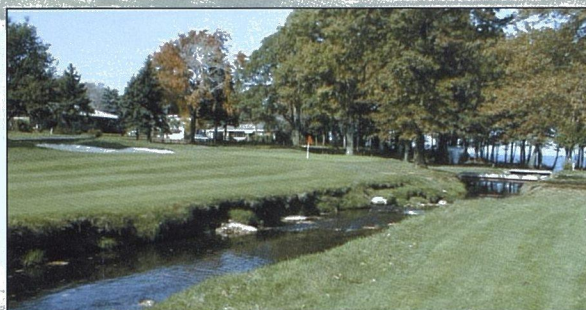
*Lawrence Park
 Golf Club*

since 1921

From the moment you drive down the tree-lined private



entrance and cross the bridge over Four Mile Creek to the clubhouse, you'll know you are about to enjoy a truly memorable golfing experience. Located in Erie, PA along the shores of Lake Erie, Lawrence Park treats golfers to some of the most beautiful scenery imaginable. In fact, virtually every hole offers at least a partial view of the Great Lake.



Our signature hole #13 is a challenging 525 yard par 5. A winding stream meanders through its entire length and empties right into Lake Erie.

But the journey isn't going to be a walk in the park, because the 6600 yard layout (from the championship tees) presents rolling terrain dotted with streams, traps, ponds and numerous hazards to help produce a course slope rating of 137, making it one of the 'toughest tracks' in northwest Pennsylvania.

Lawrence Park Golf Club was founded in 1921 as a 9-hole course on a 75 acre tract of land owned by the General Electric Company. The initial membership was almost entirely com-



It's not uncommon to catch a glimpse of the big Niagara as you sink your putt on the double-tiered #3 green above Lake Erie. (par 5 - 540 yards)

prised of GE employees and residents of the Lawrence Park community. Today, the club is a member-owned, non-stock, non-profit corporation with over 400 golfing members (both



The par 3 twelfth hole (170 yards) features an elevated tee and green that is fully trapped and guarded along the front by a rippling stream.



If you're lucky enough to make it across Four Mile Creek to hole #9, you must still face a slippery, undulating green that measures over 150 feet from front to back (par 3 - 180 yards).

single and family) in addition to over 100 social members. Having just recently undergone a 1.8 million dollar renovation, the condition of the course is nothing short of spectacular.



Hole #17 is a 360 yard par 4. The fairway doglegs around a pond to a slightly elevated green that is heavily trapped on the left and rear.

Lawrence Park Golf Club

LAWRENCE PARK GOLF CLUB
SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4, 2004

I. President LaGuardia welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:05pm with an introduction of our Solicitor, Chuck Agresti, the Board Members and Professional Staff. Board Members, Mike Lynch and Ed Zenewicz, and Superintendent, Jerry Rice, were absent.

II. After reviewing the minutes, Bud DePlatchett made a motion, which was seconded by Dave Bagnoni, to accept the minutes from the 2002 Annual Meeting. The vote was unanimous.

III. REPORTS

PRESIDENT- Joe LaGuardia

Mr. LaGuardia reviewed the course of events leading up to the revelation of our current IRS situation, firing of Debbie Lent, former Office Manager and the steps that have been taken to begin to correct the problem. Harry Anderson, retired IRS director, was introduced to the board in May 2003 by Don Patrick. Mr. Anderson has been working very hard on our behalf with the IRS to figure our final amount owed to them and we thank him for his efforts. Mr. LaGuardia also thanked John Lipchik, Mike Jenkins and Mark Chevalier for running the business office until a replacement for Ms. Lent was hired. At the end of July, our club did not lose our Liquor License thanks to Julie Christiansen having a courier get our payment to state just in the nick of time. Atty. Chuck Agresti has done a tremendous job in advising the board on the actions that have been taken and still need to be completed in resolving our IRS predicament.

VICE-PRESIDENT- Ed Zenewicz: No report.

SOLICITOR- Chuck Agresti

Atty. Agresti explained that our board relied on the audit reports prepared by McGill, Power, Bell and Assoc. We are holding them responsible for their malpractice due to them not making the effort to determine that we were failing to file the proper tax reports, making the payments associated with those reports and having a bank account not reported on the financial statements. Atty. Agresti has been corresponding with an insurance adjustor representing McGill, Power, Bell and Assoc. and had a meeting with them February 4, 2004, concerning settling this matter out of court. A deadline of March 1, 2004 was given to resolve this issue or we are going to proceed with legal action. At this time, we are not suing Ms. Lent.

TREASURER- John Lipchik

Mr. Lipchik began by covering two items that were questioned last meeting. Our assessed property value went from \$490,000 in 2002 to \$2,100,000 in 2003. That raised our property tax from \$50,500 in 2002 to \$53,500 in 2003. The amount for 2004 is \$49,000. Our mortgage rate was covered next. It is a variable rate of LIBOR + 1%, at the end of every month, which currently is a 2.1% annual rate-an outstanding rate. Our mortgage payment is currently fixed at \$23,500 and when the interest rates dropped, we were able to pay down the principal more. Mr. Lipchik also thanked Mike Jenkins and Mark Chevalier for their help in the Business Office and on the Finance Committee. Deborah McCurdy was hired at the end of June 2003 to be the Business Office Manager. The lack of information and inaccurate bookkeeping lead to an exception opinion on the 2001 Audit due to an out of balance of \$40,166. A business of our size is allowed \$34,200 before an exception report is issued. In the course of the 2002 audit, @ \$17,000 of the discrepancy was found by Bob Imboden of our current auditing firm Root, Spitznas & Smiley. We thank Bob for all the work he has done on our audit and in connection to our IRS situation. Mr. Lipchik also thanked the Board Members, Dave Krauza and his company Checks & Balances for taking over payroll, Matt Zonno of PNC Bank for helping us avoid being put on a default rate with our mortgage (which would have added 3% to our rate or @ \$6000/month), and Harry Anderson.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE- Mike Jenkins: No Report.

GOLF COMMITTEE- Ed Duffin: We are working on 2004 schedule.

LONG RANGE PLANNING- Jim Dammeyer: Capital items for 2004 are reupholstering banquet chairs, banquet tables, 2 fryers, 2 thermal receipt printers, carpeting by Joe B's Carpeting in proshop, hallway and locker rooms (thanks to Ladies League for \$800 towards carpet), 2 lightening sirens, 3 air conditioners and blacktop in main areas. The capital assessment enable us to do these projects.

SOCIAL/PROMOTION- Jamie Neumaier: No Report.

GREENS COMMITTEE- Chuck Dushole: Members of committee for 2003 were George Carter, Ed Duffin, Ted Grassi III, Chip Shamburg and advising were Scott Jenkins and Jerry Rice. The first meeting will be in March or April. Al James and Pat Fetzner are welcome to join in G. Carter's absence.

HOUSE COMMITTEE-Mike Lynch: Julie Christiansen gave the report in Mr. Lynch's absence. Costs were cut with a 42% food cost, 32% beverage cost and 42% labor cost in 2002 versus 51% food, 34% beverage and 44% labor in 2001. The gross income for 2002 was \$25,000 higher than 2001. Ms. Christiansen stated that the comment cards are working well and commended her staff for their performance.

CHAPTER IV

EXPANSION-RENOVATION PROJECT OF 1989-1990

With the club in good financial standing as shown in the Annual Report of 1988, the notion of clubhouse repair and renovation was to gain acceptance once again among a number of members.

Until this time, there had only been a piecemeal approach to addressing the increasing number of clubhouse deficiencies that needed attention. This "band-aid" approach was, at best, impractical.

There was also an idea percolating among some members that if these deficiencies were dealt with in a single project, the clubhouse size would stay the same and its use would continue to be limited. Functions that required the use of the dining room — such as wedding receptions — the members to a small grill room and to a limited menu offering.

On Tuesday, July 26, 1988, a group of six club members met on the patio to address these concerns. A "brainstorming" session followed in which ideas were expressed about the needs of the club. Leo Schauerman and Ed Griebel co-chaired the meeting.

At a second meeting held August 16, 1988, a group of eight members developed a plan to mail a survey to all members, asking for their suggestions concerning club needs. It was deemed a logical next step.

Accordingly, the eight-member committee developed a long-range planning survey on September 19, 1988. It solicited members' opinions in three broad categories:

1. Clubhouse improvements
2. Golf course improvements
3. Other improvements

By October 24, 1988, the surveys were returned and tabulated. An overwhelming 82% of the returns favored clubhouse renovation, as well as other improvements.

These results were presented to the Board of Directors for their consideration. Differences of opinion ensued, however, as the Board weighed the pros and cons of renovation. An uneasiness to commit funds for an architectural study culminated in delays. The Long Range Planning Committee became inactive.

Sometime later, Ed Griebel and Leo Schauerman decided to request permission to appear before the Board of Directors. They sought authorization to reactivate the Committee. After lengthy discussion, the Board agreed:

Ed Griebel and Leo Schauerman would serve as co-chairmen, and the Board allocated monies for the study.

On July 31, 1989, fifty-five members volunteered to serve on ten subcommittees. To allow for easy flow of information to the entire Board, an effort was made to include a Board member on each committee, as well.

The ten subcommittees were as follow:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Parking lot | 6. New cart barn |
| 2. Clubhouse | 7. Air conditioning |
| 3. Kitchen | 8. Golf course |
| 4. Men's locker room | 9. Furnishings & decorating |
| 5. Ladies' locker room | 10. Financial procedure |

A Public Relations Committee joined the other ten when it was determined that the membership must be kept apprised of the on-going committee work.

The subcommittees recognized that while the pace of their assignments must be well-planned and orderly, they must proceed with a sense of mission and without "foot dragging."

As each subcommittee reported on its progress and the funds needed to accomplish its respective goal, it became increasingly obvious to everyone that a list of priorities was needed.

Five of the ten subcommittees were addressing concerns that related, either directly or indirectly, to the clubhouse. The obvious number one priority became the clubhouse renovation and expansion. Paving of the parking lot became part of the project as well.

Except for the Finance Subcommittee, the other subcommittees became virtually inactive and their reports were filed in the office for future consideration.

The Board of Directors engaged the architectural firm of Weibel, Rydzewski and Schuster to consult with the subcommittee members, listen to and evaluate their ideas and to develop plans for the renovation and construction effort. Norbert Rydzewski represented the architectural firm.

A Building Committee comprised of Joe Kieffer — Chairman, Dan Yurkovic, Charles Schaaf, Ed Jakubowski and Bob Tullio met on several occasions to review plans and set deadlines for the various activities. These dates were bold and ambitious, but the members of the Building Committee were determined to meet them.

On September 6, 1989, the Finance Committee — chaired by Chris Zimmerly — met to discuss the financial program required for the entire venture.

After discussing several different approaches, it was agreed that:

1. It should be a fifteen-year pay back plan.
2. All banks and savings and loans should have the opportunity to bid.

During the ensuing weeks, the Financial Committee held many meetings to work on the numbers. It received input from other subcommittees, including the Building Committee which agreed to the proposed financial package.

On October 21, 1989, the Building Committee recommended a financial package to the membership which contained the following items:

1. \$960,000 - cost of construction.
 2. 90,000 - to pay for the newly installed computerized watering system
 3. 50,000 - to pay what was left of the G.E. golf club mortgage from the time the members bought the land in 1969.
- \$1,100,000 - grand total for the loan

With a total of 500 members, a fifteen-year mortgage at 11.5 percent meant that each member would be assessed \$19.75 per month over the life of the mortgage.

An attractive brochure complete with financial projections and information, as well as an artist's rendering of the proposed clubhouse and interior design plan, was mailed to each member.

Further, a meeting was scheduled for November 2, 1989, to address the questions and concerns of the members regarding the project.

The members also received a club improvement ballot which delineated the following information:

1. The monthly assessment would not exceed \$19.75.
2. The assessment included the cost of the new watering system (which had been approved and installed subsequent to the first attempt at renovation).
3. The completed ballot was to be returned no later than November 15, 1989.
4. A "yes" vote indicated support for the project.

After the ballots were mailed, many dedicated volunteers conducted follow-up telephone calls to members to answer questions about the project and to urge them to vote in favor of it. The results were a good number of returns.

The vote count showed:

YES - 251
NO- 161
TOTAL VOTES- 412

The count was conducted by the accounting firm of Kramer, Smith and Bish.

For those who worked so hard, this was a satisfying accomplishment.

The Finance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors the selection of Marquette Savings Association (now Marquette Savings Bank) as the mortgage holder for the 1.1 million dollar loan.

The Board, in turn, directed the club treasurer to write a letter to Mr. S.T. Wahn of the Real Estate and Construction Operation for General Electric in which a payoff amount was requested to satisfy the remainder of the mortgage note of 1969.

Mr. Wahn responded to this question in a letter dated July 31, 1990, and stated, "... After careful analysis, please be advised that General Electric Company will accept \$45,960.00 as payment in full on or before August 15, 1990."

John C. Brydon, club solicitor, sent a certified letter to Mr. Wahn on August 9, 1990, stating, "Enclosed please find a draft drawn on Marquette Savings Association in the amount of \$45,960.00, representing the mortgage payoff figure for Lawrence Park Golf Club."

Construction Begins:

The construction phase began in the spring of 1990 and continued through the summer and early autumn.

A three-man committee — with Joe Kieffer as chairman along with Ed Griebel and Dan Yurkovic — met weekly with Norb Rydzewski, the project's architect, to monitor and expedite progress and to approve or reject little changes along the way.

Members were kept informed of progress by periodic mailings from the public relations committee.



Open House:

In early November 1990, an open house revealed to the members the renovated and expanded clubhouse. On this festive occasion, members enjoyed the large and well-appointed banquet hall, the renovated grill room, meeting room, business office, manager's office, state-of-the-art kitchen, expanded ladies' locker room, new passageway from a renovated pro shop to ladies' and men's locker rooms, and other amenities such as a halfway house and an employee lounge, new putting green, club storage in the basement of the banquet hall, and the demolition of the old cart barn.

The freshly painted exterior and canopy addition to the old block building helped to blend the old with the new.

It would not be an overstatement to say that the great majority of members approved the expansion-renovation project of 1989-1990.



Long Term Debt:

Construction/Renovation:

An 11.5 percent first mortgage note secured by the club's real property and payable in monthly installments of \$12,503, including interest, through February, 2006: \$1,096.032. (This mortgage note was refinanced with PNC Bank at 8.75 percent for five years in 1992.)

Bridge:

A 12 percent second mortgage note secured by the club's real property and payable in monthly installments of \$2,153, including interest, through February, 2001: \$150,000.

In Summary:

As Lawrence Park Golf Club celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary in 1996, it is fitting to ponder the beginning years, what it has become today and what it might be in twenty-five years when it celebrates its centennial.

The club grew from a seed of an idea planted in 1920. The idea sprouted into a nine-hole golf course in 1921, was designed by a non-golfer, built by a volunteer work force, founded by its members (as few other clubs have been), and was supported and controlled by the General Electric Company primarily for the recreational activities of its employees.

Through the years, its growth was slow, deliberate and cumulative. It offered an affordable dues structure to its members, and solicited members from outside the ranks of General Electric employees in order to remain affordable.

In 1942, Lawrence Park Golf Club grew into an eighteen-hole course.

In 1969, the club members purchased the golf course property from the General Electric Company, and by all accounts, this acquisition was characterized as the most significant event to have occurred in the club's history. With this ownership, the club's future direction rested solely with its members.

Thus, General Electric, in this memorable year 1969, relinquished forty-eight years of ownership and control.

The club's early growth is a tribute to the founding fathers, past boards of directors and committee members whose foresight allowed the club to grow to its present status.

They number in the hundreds and have spent long periods of time working hard to make Lawrence Park the club it is today. They were mindful of the club's needs and addressed them with volunteer help when possible, or by a pay-as-you-go plan, or other prudent fiscal arrangement.

It is impossible to list here all the names of individuals who served in those various capacities. They are owed a debt of gratitude for their wisdom and toil, and for passing on to this generation a member-owned golf club worthy of their efforts.

Today, Lawrence Park Golf Club offers its 450 or so members a challenging, scenic and well-maintained golf facility, a newly renovated and expanded clubhouse, a state-of-the-art kitchen, a new grill room, fine dining in the ambiance of a well-appointed dining room, and a sheltered patio for summer use.

The club is on sound financial footing and still offers its members a reasonable dues structure.

In 2021, when Lawrence Park Golf Club celebrates its centennial, will it still be a thriving club? What will the future hold?

Of course, it is impossible to predict the future but it's reasonable to assume that with sound management and an active membership, Lawrence Park Golf Club's future will be bright and full of promise.

CHAPTER V

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AREA

Following is a brief historical account which describes the growth and transition of the Lawrence Park Golf Club area. It is intended to show the linkage of the past with the present, and thus provide a perspective which adds to and enriches the history of Lawrence Park Golf Club.

The Crowleys:

Two early settlers of this immediate area were Thomas and Michael Crowley. These two brothers migrated to America from Ireland in the early 1800s in search of a better life.

Researchers of the Lawrence Park Historical Society wrote that "... in 1827 (Michael) Crowley purchased 399 acres of land here in what was then Millcreek Township from the Marshal for the back debts of Benjamin Wallace. The land occupied both banks of Four Mile Creek and extended south to Buffalo Road." (1)

Michael and Thomas soon cleared the land for farming and afterwards planted an apple orchard in the area of, what is today, the General Electric picnic grove.

In 1830, Michael Crowley divided his property into five sections. Two of the sections were of equal size. Of these two sections, Michael sold the portion to the north to his brother, Thomas, and retained the portion to the south for his own use. This southern section included the land on which the familiar old stone house now stands. (2) General Electric purchased a section of this property from an heir of Richard Crowley c. 1907 for its new plant. Whatever became of the remaining sections is not known.

The Pennsylvania General Electric Company map from the office of the resident engineer dated September 11, 1909, showed that several parcels of land north of East Lake Road were owned by Morrow B. Lowry, Richard Crowley heirs, and Carl M. Reed.

Subsequently, the O'Lone family farmed the 75 acres east of Four Mile Creek which was to become the site of the original nine-hole course, and resided in the farmhouse, which was to become the first clubhouse.

Old Stone House:

Located at 3506 East Lake Road and built by Michael Crowley in the Greek revival style of architecture with 18-inch thick walls, this 1830 stone house stood witness to more than a century and a half of local history.

Michael and his wife, Mary, resided there until Michael's death on August 28, 1854. The house changed hands some seven or eight times in the intervening years until Mary Crowley sold it and the land in 1872. (3)

This old 19th century landmark was rumored to have been the last stop along the "underground railroad" before slaves were transported to Canada and freedom. It remained unoccupied for a number of years. On October 12, 1990, the present owners purchased the home at auction for the sum of \$45,000. (4)

As a footnote to this pioneer family's story, it is interesting to note that Michael Crowley married Mary O'Neal from nearby Erie County in New York State. Their marriage bore two children: Thomas and Mary. Mary was killed in a wagon accident on her way to school, and Thomas became Chief of Police for the City of Erie in 1863. (5)

Four Mile Creek:

"From sawmills and gristmills to 'Waldameer East' and now the Lawrence Park Golf Club ... " - *Erie Story Magazine*, May, 1988.

According to Donald Albertson, Four Mile Creek begins its meandering trek to the lake at a divide in Greene Township some eight miles south of the lake shore. It cuts through Wintergreen Gorge, crosses Station Road a little south of Gospel Hill, proceeds northward into Lawrence Park Township, past the east gate of General Electric, through a large tube beneath East Lake Road and through Lawrence Park Golf Course to the lake. (6)

This stream played a decisive role in the development of this immediate area in two distinct ways: (1) as a source of power to drive sawmills and gristmills, and (2) as a recreational area.

As a Source of Water Power:

Four Mile Creek was the source of power to drive a sawmill built by John Riblet, Sr. in 1802, one-half mile south of Wesleyville, to provide lumber for the Pennsylvania Development Company.

William Saltsman saw the need to construct a sawmill in 1815, followed by the erection of a gristmill in 1826. William Cooper, Sr., bought and rebuilt the Saltsman mills in 1850 only to have them burn to the ground on August 3, 1883. They were never rebuilt. With the advent of electric power, these water powered mills were no longer needed.

Today, Cooper Road and Saltsman Road serve to memorialize the names of these early mill owners.

As a Recreational Area:

Near the lake front, Four Mile Creek became a favorite site for church and family picnics. In those days, Four Mile Creek was also known as a great place for bass fishing.

Don Albertson writes in the *Erie Story Magazine* about the recreational activities found around the area of Four Mile Creek.

Through the 1800s as the picnic areas expanded and the number of pleasure seekers grew, other amusement and recreation facilities were added and along with them were game booths, hawkers, medicine shows, entertainment rides, a dance hall, exhibition hall, hotel and eating and drinking halls. Down the road a piece, on Walbridge and Middle Road, was the Fairgrounds and a large race track.

... In the early days whiskey was a common commodity and its use almost universal. Distilleries were as common as the gristmill became afterward, and a large share of the grain was converted into liquor. But a great temperance wave swept the country in the 1870s and distilleries rapidly disappeared.

Many farmers had their home stills and through the years it was not uncommon nor inappropriate to offer friends a swig of the homemade stuff when they visited ... or sneak one or two in the barn out of sight of the temperate wife. Many of the cold medicines and other nostrums of the early century were heavily laced with alcohol.

It is said that around the turn of the century, church picnics were held in groves and parks of the west county since they were "dry" while those in the east county were "wet." Be that as it may, in the prohibition 1920s there was no objection to bringing your own drinks to Four Mile Dance Hall... according to one who did. (7)

In the spring of 1887, two enterprising gentlemen named J.J. Lang and C.H. Rabe bought thirteen acres of the Crowley farm. The purchase included the apple orchard and the mouth of Four Mile Creek.



That spring, workmen built a "board smooth avenue" along the east bank of the creek to the lake. In addition, workmen constructed a "wide, substantial" pier, two hundred feet out into the deep waters of the lake, thus allowing a safe place for docking "passenger steamers and sailing yachts." (A remnant of the steps to the pier are still there today.)

During the winter of 1887-88, workmen constructed an elegant hotel facing the pier. The building, of French style architecture of Eastlake design, stood three stories high. At ground level it measured 60 feet by 1000 feet. It was named Grove House after the extensive grove of fruit trees on the surrounding farmland. The interior was said to provide dressing and checking rooms, reception and smoking rooms, and a refreshment hall.

In the June 4, 1887, edition of *The Morning Dispatch*, an advertisement read, "Grove House is the most beautiful place and the best place for bass fishing on the lake front or bay." The advertisement goes on to say that the hotel had the finest foreign cigars and beers.

With the passage of time, more recreational facilities were erected: a dance pavilion, a stable and a bowling facility.

"Transportation to the resort was initially limited to ferry service and horse drawn bus." (8) In 1901, a trolley service, provided by the local motor company,

began to carry passengers to the park. This trolley system employed open-sided trolley cars on a narrow gauge track. From East Lake Road, the trolley entered at an area near number seven and eight fairways and proceeded north along that flat area west of number eight fairway, then cutting across number ten and eleven fairways, the trolley crossed the girder bridge to the park.

In the spring of 1902, A.P. Lang purchased the park and added a water works. He also drilled a 900-foot deep gas well which provided a plentiful supply of fuel for heating and lighting. (The gas from this well eventually provided the heating needs of the O'Lone farmhouse which became the first clubhouse in 1925 and yielded gas for clubhouse heat until the 1950s.)

On Labor Day 1902, Grove House was destroyed by fire. Rather than rebuild the hotel, Mr. Lang chose instead to erect a large casino and a theater. In time, he added a roller coaster, a carousel and a roller rink. Its name was changed to Four Mile Creek Park. (9) It subsequently acquired the moniker: "Waldameer East."

The Roth orchestra, that played at the Moose Club during the winter months,



provided the music for dancing.

George White and his sister, Edith White Wilson, were ages nine and six, respectively, when they and their parents moved to the O'Loone home in 1919, the year General Electric purchased the property. Mr. White was paymaster at General Electric at that time. George and Edith remember still the sights and sounds of Four Mile Creek Park.

An advertisement in the *Erie Daily Times* dated May 26, 1924, heralded the opening of Four Mile Creek Park for its forty-sixth consecutive season as a picnic and amusement place. (10) Ironically, Four Mile Creek Park burned to the ground during that 1924 season and was never rebuilt. Art Iesue, who in 1919 lived in Lawrence Park with his parents (and still lives there today), vividly remembers the fire that consumed the park.

General Electric Comes to Erie:

At the turn of the century, ours was a nation in transition. "... the economy of the nation was shifting from the countryside farms to urban industrialization which swept from its eastern base westward. A floodtide of immigration provided labor for this flourishing industrial growth." (11)

It was during this period of industrial growth that Edison General Electric Company at Schenectady, New York, and Thomas-Houston Company of Lynn, Massachusetts merged to form the General Electric Company in 1892.

The demand for local lighting, power generation, transmission, street and interurban electric transportation increased yearly.

The plants in Schenectady and Lynn were at full capacity, so there was a strong desire on the Board of Directors to seek new land and to build a manufacturing plant closer to developing midwestern markets.

Francis Cole Pratt and Matthew Griswold:

The story of how General Electric came to choose the Erie area as the site for a new manufacturing plant contains a very interesting occurrence.

Francis Cole Pratt from Hartford, Connecticut, and Matthew Griswold of Erie were college classmates at Yale and were very close friends. After college, they had gone their separate ways but their friendship endured.

By 1906, Mr. Pratt had ascended the corporate ladder to become assistant to Edwin W. Rice, Jr., Vice President of General Electric at Schenectady, NY,

while Matthew Griswold had been engaged with the family business, the Griswold Manufacturing Company here in Erie.

Francis Cole Pratt, at the direction of his superior, was on a search for a new plant site in the Buffalo and Cleveland areas. On the way, he took the opportunity to visit his friend and classmate, Matthew Griswold, in Erie.

When Pratt revealed the purpose of his journey, Griswold persuaded him to look at Erie as a site for a new plant. He pointed to the advantages Erie offered: the suitability of the farmland east of the city to support a manufacturing plant using heavy machinery, the nearness to the lake for water transportation, the established trolley line, the skilled work force and Erie's location midway between General Electric's search objective. He was eloquent in his praise of Erie's potential as a plant site.

Impressed with the possibilities this area offered, Pratt reported to his superiors a favorable opinion on Erie as a potential plant site.

Pratt's side trip to Erie to meet his college buddy, became a most fortuitous event for the Erie area's work force since General Electric decided to build its manufacturing plant here.

With the site selection approved, the company hired Attorney James M. Sherwin to represent them in purchasing options on land.

In all, General Electric bought one square mile of property. The area today can be described as follows: Franklin Avenue on the west; Conrail Railroad on the south; Nagle Road on the east; and Lake Erie on the north.

An Unexpected Glitch:

The Millcreek Township road commissioners (this area was part of Millcreek Township then) almost scuttled General Electric's plan to build here. The commissioners wanted to build a road through the property the company agreed to purchase. This road would have bisected the land and the General Electric vehemently opposed the proposed road.

Fortunately for Erie, cooler heads prevailed. The proposed road was shelved indefinitely.

On August 7, 1907, the *Erie Daily Times* announced in big, bold headlines: "G.E. WILL COME TO ERIE FOR A CERTAINTY." (12) The Erie community welcomed the news, for it meant good jobs for the Erie work force.

Beginning in 1910 and continuing until about 1920, building after building began dotting the rural landscape. At about the same time, an employee housing development was also being built near the plant site.

This notion of building affordable housing for employees near the plant was espoused by Sir Ebenezer Howard from England, and was known as the "Garden City" concept. Its thrust was to help promote good management-worker relations.

As these homes were completed, employees bought them at a fair price.

One employee, the parent of Art Issue, purchased such a home in 1919, and Art still lives there after all these years.

With the completion of the employee housing development in 1920, it was named Lawrence Park in honor of Captain James Lawrence who, while mortally wounded in the War of 1812, uttered those immortal words: "Don't give up the ship."

Lawrence Park became incorporated as a township in 1926.

General Electric Supports Sports:

In view of General Electric's interest in maintaining a healthy working relationship with its employees, it is not surprising that the company actively supported a variety of sports programs. In accordance with that support, the company's management sponsored an employee-managed General Electric Athletic Association.

G.E.A.A. built a baseball park east of the plant, and sponsored a team which played a full schedule of games with semi-professional teams from in and around the Erie area.

G.E.A.A. also sponsored bowling leagues, amateur fights at the baseball park on Friday nights, and organized a soccer team in deference to those European-born workers who enjoyed that sport in their former countries.

With this obvious commitment to recreational activity, it was not unusual — nor surprising — that General Electric would support a request for a golf course.

In conclusion, these past events were precursors of what was to come. It foretold how, by happenstance, the transition this area had undergone was to lead to the founding of Lawrence Park Golf Club.



ADDENDUM

Collecting the data which have gone into this effort brings to mind the limited amount of historical material on file.

These shortages have left voids in this history that in all likelihood will never be filled. That is unfortunate!

Some of these shortages may be due, in part, to the failure to preserve vital data, while others may be due to the careless handling of important documents such as the old annual reports that contain a wealth of information. Witness the fact that the following annual reports are missing - 1947, 1948, 1951, 1952, and 1953.

To avoid this happening again, it would seem appropriate to designate a person, perhaps a Board member, to act as historian and be responsible for retrieving and filing information of historical value for eventual use. And why not purchase a camera to photograph important club events? The open house that followed the recent construction-renovation project is an example of a missed opportunity to photograph a momentous event in the club's history.

In this manner, any future historical updates would not be shortchanged.

Hugh Pompeani

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Chapter IV - Expansion-Renovation Project - 1989

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Club Presidents

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. 1921-24 --- Piper, C.E. | 15. 1970-71 --- Kern, K. |
| 2. 1925-28 --- Hoffman, R. | 16. 1972-73 --- Dunn, H. |
| 3. 1929-34 --- Shank, C.E. | 17. 1974-75 --- Van Dyke, T. |
| 4. 1935-39 --- Capps, P. | 18. 1967-79 --- Simon, M. |
| 5. 1940-45 --- Miller, H. | 19. 1980 --- Aiton, J.C. |
| 6. 1946-50 --- Gouldthorp, C. | 20. 1980-84 --- Kern, K. |
| 7. 1951 --- Stout, C.E. | 21. 1984 --- Olesky, S. |
| 8. 1952-53 --- Meier, D.R. | 22. 1985-87 --- Wedzik, T. |
| 9. 1954-55 --- Church, C.R. | 23. 1988-89 --- Herbe, D. |
| 10. 1956 --- Coho, O.C. | 24. 1990 --- DePlatchett, R. |
| 11. 1957-58 --- Aiton, J.C. | 25. 1991-92 --- Griebel, E. |
| 12. 1959-61 --- Simon, C.E. | 26. 1993 --- Tullio, F. |
| 13. 1962-67 --- Murray, T.A. | 27. 1994-95 --- Catania, C. |
| 14. 1968-69 --- Simon, M. | 28. 1996 --- Leonard, W. |

Greenskeepers

1. 1921 --- Frank Cazale
2. 1922-1970 --- Pereira, Celestino (Joe Perry)
3. 1971-1973 --- Reich, Greg
4. 1973 to present --- Rice, Jerry

Golf Professionals

1. 1921-22 — Boyle, Andy
2. 1923-24 — Brown, Andy
3. 1925-46 — Wendel, Carl
4. 1947-52 — Anderson, Everett
5. 1953-56 — Crozier, Butch
6. 1957-69 — Anderson, Leo
7. 1970-71 — Stevens, Gene
8. 1972-73 — Daughenbaugh, Ron
9. 1974 — Meyn, Otto (Skip)
10. 1975-76 — Hickman, Butch
11. 1977-79 — Kramer, Jeff
12. 1980-89 — Crane, Steve
13. 1990 to present — Catalina, Tony

Women's Golf Association Presidents (formed in 1962)

- 1962 — Ruth Kelly
1963-1971 — No records available
1972 — Joanne Mackey Figurski
1973 — Judy Meister
1974 — Betty Wager
1975 — Joanne Mackey Figurski
1976-77 — Alice Gray
1978-79 — Marilyn Kurtic
1980-81 — Sarah Farver
1982-83 — Charlotte Schauerman
1984-85 — Betty Vossers
1986-87 — Rita Roberson
1988-89 — Nancy Duskas
1990 — Sally Shickler
1991-92 — Lois Kieffer
1993-94 — Lois Kieffer
1995-96 — Audrey Zimmerly

*Lawrence Park Members
Who Have Been Inducted in the
EDGA Hall of Fame*

C.E. Piper — 1953
Carl Wendel — 1957
Joe Perry -- 1969
Hank Andrae and Sally Shickler — 1977
Dick Fessler — 1982
Jean Forsyth — 1983

Jean Forsyth Women's Tournament

Peg Simon — 1994
Charlotte Schauerman — 1995

Club Presidents

14. 1996 – 2001 Bill Leonard
15. 2002 – 2007 Joe LaGuardia
16. 2008 – 2014 Dave Irwin
17. 2015 – 2016 Ken Ray
18. 2017 – 2019 Chip Shamburg
19. 2020 – present Denny Grow

Greenskeepers

4. 1973 – 2015 Jerry Rice
5. 2016 – present Nick Kunik

Golf Professionals

13. 1990 – 1998 Tony Catalina
14. 1999 – present Scott Jenkins

***Lawrence Park Members
Who Have Won Championships in the
Erie District Golf Association Tournaments***

Amateur Medal Play

J.J. McCarthy --- 1925
Norm Gaylord --- 1929
Norm Gaylord --- 1931
Norm Gaylord --- 1933
Everett Anderson --- 1945
Ed Spadacene --- 1947
Phil Orchard --- 1955
Dave Hambly --- 1965
Dave Hambly --- 1966
Brett Kieffer --- 1980
Brett Kieffer --- 1981
Brett Kieffer --- 1991
Joe Cassano --- 1992
Joe Cassano --- 1993

Match Play (began in 1973)

Harry Boback, Jr. --- 1973
Brett Kieffer --- 1979
Brett Kieffer --- 1982
Tony Pepicello --- 1986
Joe Cassano --- 1989
Brett Kieffer --- 1993

EDWGA

Elaine Ghering --- 1941-42-43
Jean Forsyth --- 1945-47-49-50-51-52-57-58-60-61-66
Aurelia Herrman --- 1946
Elaine Newby --- 1954
Sally Shickler --- 1955-73
Kay Hebert --- 1963-64-67-69
Judy Mitchell (Meister) --- 1965-68-71-72
Sandra Johnson --- 1975
Erin White --- 1990-92-93

Men's Club Champions

1946 -- Jack Aiton	1971 -- Joe Fonzo
1947 -- Ed Anderson	1972 -- Dave Krauza
1948 -- Dick Brandenstein	1973 -- Dan McFadden
1949 -- Ralph Crozier	1974 -- Dave Westcott
1950 -- Ralph Crozier	1975 -- Tom Van Dyke
1951 -- Unknown	1976 -- Pat Rutkowski
1952 -- Lou Close	1977 -- Brian Henderson
1953 -- Tom Johnson	1978 -- Joe Fonzo
1954 -- Jack Aiton	1979 -- Brett Kieffer
1955 -- Ron Whipple	1980 -- Bill Koper
1956 -- Jack Aiton	1981 -- Brett Kieffer
1957 -- Jack Aiton	1982 -- Brett Kieffer
1958 -- Jack Aiton	1983 -- Tony Pepicello, Jr.
1959 -- Jack Aiton	1984 -- Tom Wedzik
1960 -- Jack Aiton	1985 -- Tony Pepicello, Jr.
1961 -- Jack Aiton	1986 -- Brett Kieffer
1962 -- Jack Aiton	1987 -- Brett Kieffer
1963 -- Dave Hambly	1988 -- Brett Kieffer
1964 -- Dave Hambly	1989 -- Joe Cassano
1965 -- Dave Westcott	1990 -- Brett Kieffer
1966 -- Bruce Mitchell	1991 -- Brett Kieffer
1967 -- Bruce Mitchell	1992 -- Tony Pepicello, Jr.
1968 -- Dave Hambly	1993 -- Tony Pepicello, Jr.
1969 -- Steve Koscelnik	1994 -- Brett Kieffer
1970 -- Jack Aiton	1995 -- Bill Koper

EDGA Hall of Fame Members

2001 Brent Kieffer

2006 Steve Crane

2018 Joe Cassano, Jr.

EDWGA Hall of Fame Members

1977 Sally Schickler

1983 Jean Forsyth

1984 Elaine Uht

1990 Aurelia Engert Herman

2001 Dottie Vassor

2012 Turk Hamilton

EDGA Amateur Champion

1999 Keven Fetzner

2016 Chris Kupniewski

EDWGA Stroke Play

2013, 2014, 2019 Steph Urban

2015, 2016 Karlie Zabrosky

EDGA Match Play

1999 Ted Grassi

2001 Joe Cassano

2015 & 2016 Chris Kupniewski

2017 Sean Sculley

2021 Jon Merriott

EDWGA Match Play

2005 Tanica Bell

2009 & 2018 – 2021 Stephanie Urban

2012 – 2014 Karlie Zabrosky

J. C. Martin Men's Seniors

2011 Bob Paris

2016 Dave Irwin

2021 Bob Paris

EDWGA Senior's

1974, 1979, 1981 Sally Schickler

2012, 2015, 2017, 2019 Gail Heubel

Ladies' Club Champions

1944 — Jean Forsyth	1970 — Sally Shickler
1945 — Jean Forsyth	1971 — Judy Meister
1946 — Unknown	1972 — Judy Meister
1947 — Helen Leiby	1973 — Judy Meister
1948 — Jean Forsyth	1974 — Julie Dornhoefer
1949 — Jean Forsyth	1975 — Sandy Johnson
1950 — Jean Forsyth	1976 — Elaine Satyshur
1951 — Jean Forsyth	1977 — Sally Shickler
1952 — Jean Forsyth	1978 — Elaine Satyshur
1953 — Sally Shickler	1979 — Sandy Johnson
1954 — Jean Forsyth	1980 — Elaine Satyshur
1955 — Sally Shickler	1981 — Elaine Satyshur
1956 — Jean Forsyth	1982 — Barbara Van Dyke
1957 — Jean Forsyth	1983 — Evelyn Smith
1958 — Jean Forsyth	1984 — Jean Forsyth
1959 — Jean Forsyth	1985 — Evelyn Smith
1960 — Jean Forsyth	1986 — Jean Forsyth
1961 — Jean Forsyth	1987 — Evelyn Smith
1962 — Kay Hebert	1988 — Krista Kieffer
1963 — Kay Hebert	1989 — Sandy Johnson
1964 — Kay Hebert	1990 — Turk Hamilton
1965 — Sally Shickler	1991 — Sally Shickler
1966 — Kay Hebert	1992 — Jean Forsyth
1967 — Judy Mitchell	1993 — Jean Forsyth
1968 — Kay Hebert	1994 — Gina Welsh
1969 — Sally Shickler	1995 — Gina Welsh

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David and Susan (Whipple) Oldakowski
Ann and Will O'Neil
Wanda and Don Roth
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Men's Club Champions

1996 Joe Cassano

1997 Todd Grassi

1998 Jason Nuara

1999 Todd Grassi

2000 Brian Heitzenrator

2001 Jason Nuara

2002 Mark Noce

2003 Ted Grassi

2004 Ted Grassi

2005 Ted Grassi

2006 Ted Grassi

2007 Ted Grassi

2008 Ted Grassi

2009 Jamie Neumaier

2010 Bob Paris

2011 Ted Grassi

2012 Dave Spitzer

2013 Mike Garcia

2014 Ted Grassi

2015 Ted Grassi

2016 Dave Spitzer

2017 Bob Paris

2018 Cameron Zbrzezni

2019 Jon Merriott

2020 Eric Wildauer

2021 Jon Merriott

Ladies' Club Champions

1996 Gina Welsh

1997 Penny Grezlak

1998 Gail Heubel

1999 Gail Heubel

2000 Gail Heubel

2001 Jenny Russell

2002 Stephanie Urban

2003 Gail Heubel

2004 Stephanie Urban

2005 Stephanie Urban

2006 Stephanie Urban

2007 Stephanie Urban

2008 Stephanie Urban

2009 Sara Candela

2010 Sara Candela

2011 Sara Candela

2012 Sara Candela

2013 Stephanie Urban

2014 Stephanie Urban

2015 Stephanie Urban

2016 Stephanie Urban

2017 Stephanie Urban

2018 Stephanie Urban

2019 Stephanie Urban

2020 Stephanie Urban

2021 Stephanie Urban

Mens' Senior Club Champion

2018 Bob Paris

2019 Bob Paris

2020 Bob Paris

2021 Mark Trigilio

Tom Mudger Match Play

1998 Tom Mudger

1999 Mike Latimer

2000 Dennis Wildauer

2001 Carney Metzgar

2002 Jamie Neumaier

2003 Carney Metzgar

2004 Eric Stitt

2005 Eric Stitt

2006 Eric Stitt

2007 Jim Danmyer, Denny Hartwig

2008 Sean Costello, Terry Costello

2009 Mark Chevalier, Steve Dobosiewicz

2010 Jim Danmyer, Denny Hartwig

2011 Don Burdick, Mike Machuga

2012 Mark Chevalier, Steve Dobosiewicz

2013 Cale Baumann, Mike Sisti

2014 Cale Baumann, Mike Sisti

2015 Cale Baumann, Mike Sisti

2016 Chip Shamburg, Craig Shamburg

2017 Fred Bird, Paul Bretz

2018 Dave Johnson, Brent Johnson

2019 Todd Dinner, Oto Hlincik

2020 Rick Hersey, John Sikora

2021 Jonathon Turfitt, Phil Witkowski

Carl Wendel Match Play Tournament

- 2001 Don Synder, Paul Mihalak
- 2002 Mike Jenkins, Larry Krawiec
- 2003 Mike Roth, Mike Smerker
- 2004 Mike Feikles, Dave Schneider
- 2005 Jerry Clover, Chuck DuShole
- 2006 Dave Tullio, Chris Tullio
- 2007 Tom Meehan, Kevin Shaffer
- 2008 Tim Hunter, Bob Shepard
- 2009 Bob Curry, John Sherman
- 2010 Jim Carey, Dave Johnson
- 2011 Ted Grassi, Mark Trigilio
- 2012 Scott Bixler, Rex Stephans
- 2013 Chuck Jenkins, Jeremy Plummer
- 2014 Tedd Grassi, Mark Trigilio
- 2015 Larry Krawiec, Joe LaGuardia
- 2016 Dan Haller, Jeff Earle
- 2017 Bob Danylko, Dave Westcott
- 2018 Chris Downey, Mike Feikles
- 2019 Sean Costello, Terry Costello
- 2020 Shawn Adamczyk, Bobby Jackson
- 2021 Johathan Turfitt, Phil Witkowski

Jerry Rice Member/Guest

2013 Craig Shamburg, Dan Dingfelder

2014 Rob Thompson, Dave Spitzer

2015 Mike Garcia, Bill Vitron

2016 Dennis Hartwig, Jack Monda

2017 Dan Haller, Cameron Zbrzezni

2018 Lon Akerly, Tom Hartline

2019 Matt Barto, Cole Davis

2020 Doug Babel, Nick Belknap

2021 Trevor Walbridge, Matt Gallardo

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1996 Womens Golf Association

1996 Board of Directors

*1996 Professional Staff -
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Lawrence Park Golf Club
1921-1996
