

1971 Green Section Conference: The Budget and the Satisfied Golfer

Thomas Mascaro--11th Recipient of USGA Green Section Award

Thomas C. Mascaro, of West Point, Pa., has been named recipient of the 1971 Green Section Award of the United States Golf Association. The Award is presented annually in recognition of distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.

Mr. Mascaro has been actively engaged in the turfgrass industry since 1936. West Point Industries, the company he and his brother Terry founded, developed and produced the first practical fairway and putting green aerifier. Not long afterward, he introduced the first vertical mower for control of grain and thatch on golf greens. Today he holds 10 patents and has five more pending.

In addition to his manufacturing activities, Mr. Mascaro has assisted and supported many state university research programs, and has designed, built, and donated several special machines for turf research. During the early days of turfgrass conferences he recorded, mimeographed, and distributed the proceedings to interested parties throughout the United States. He was co-founder, with the late H. B. Musser, of the Pennsylvania Turf Council and has served as its Secretary, President and now Board Member.

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

this later evolved into the first correspondence course in turfgrass management for golf course superintendents. The course was offered at cost, and today the alumni number over 1,000.

Mr. Mascaro is also a prolific photographer/writer on turfgrass management topics. He has accumulated over 30,000 slides, including one of the first golf car and another of superintendent Joe Valentine identifying the spot where he discovered Merion bluegrass.

He has written for numerous magazines, newspapers, and technical publications. His writings have been translated into Japanese, Italian, French, German and Swiss. He has participated in over 20 turfgrass conferences annually since 1950. Today, Mr. Mascaro is Vice-President of Kearney-National, Inc., in New York City.

It would be difficult to imagine where golfing turf would be today without the mechanical maintenance principles pioneered by Mr. Mascaro. He has contributed much to the turfgrass world.

Mr. Mascaro is the 11th recipient of the Green Section Award. Previous recipients were Dr. John Montieth, Jr., of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Professor Lawrence S. Dickinson, of Amherst, Mass.; O. J. Noer, Milwaukee, Wis.; Joseph Valentine, Ardmore, Pa.; Dr. Glenn W. Burton, Tifton, Ga.; Professor H. Burton Musser, State College, Pa.; Elmer J. Michael, Rochester, N.Y.; James L. Haines, Denver, Colo.; Dr. Fred V. Grau, College Park, Md.; and E. R. Steiniger, Laurel Springs, N.J.