



HINGHAM
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



The Hingham Historical Society & The Friends of the SSCC

Invite you to a conversation and toast to

100 YEARS OF THE SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB



SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 AT 7:00PM

Hingham Heritage Museum

34 Main Street

Hingham, MA 02043

\$20 includes refreshments and
commemorative program

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TOASTING 100 YEARS!



INTRODUCTION BY MURNIE LEARY

While a number of Massachusetts courses will be celebrating centennials in 2022, few are as special as Hingham's Town-owned South Shore Country Club (SSCC). This commemorative program highlights historic events and photos while uncovering many memories created through the years. Memorializing this part of treasured Hingham history is vital to our Town's historical record and its place in our collective future. The foundation of this information was compiled by Louis R. Abruzese, a passionate golfer and lifelong member, who grew up caddying at South Shore Country Club. Lou's history has been augmented with excerpts from [Not All Is Changed, A Life History of Hingham \(1993\)](#) by Lorena Laing Hart and Francis Russell Hart, in addition to anecdotes provided by many along the way.

THE BUCKET LOGO

Often referred to as "Bucket Town," Hingham's roots originated in its port with the wooden Hersey Bucket developed as a means of transport and storage. Generations of the Hersey family hand-produced these wooden buckets on the family farm. While a small portion still exists on Hersey Street, much of the Hersey Farm is what is now called the SSCC. As part of the Club's rebranding with the arrival of Jay McGrail in 2006, Peter Hersey kindly authorized the use of the Hersey Bucket. The SSCC logo as we know it today was fully incorporated into the club signage in 2015. While other logos have been used over the years, today's bucket logo pays homage to our collective history.



THE BEGINNING

In 1921, a group of visionaries decided to build a golf course and invited charter members from neighboring towns to invest in the project. The initial \$25,000 down payment encompassed 157 acres of land, originally known as the Derby Estate, the Hersey Farm and the Litchfield property. Daley and Cronin Landscaping constructed the original course. (Photo of ledgers). Ed Dann, grandson of Basil Cronin and nephew of William Daley, is in possession of his family company's original ledger books. It appears the course was built from the ninth hole back, using horses to clear the land. William Daley clearly held a note with South Shore, collecting timely payments throughout the years.

30 Supervision	9 hrs.	6.75
General expense	9 hrs.	2.50
	9 "	4.00
Installing land till	9 hrs. Foreman	5.00
	54 "	27.00
	1 Single team 5 hrs.	4.50
# 7 Fairway	9 hrs. Foreman	6.00
	2 double teams 9 hrs.	18.00
	27 hrs.	13.50
Clearing trees on # 4 hole	9 hrs. Foreman	5.00
	95 "	47.50
	9 " tractor	4.50
# 4 Fairway	4 1/2 hrs. Foreman	3.00
	20 "	10.00

Daley and Cronin Ledger from 1922

Built three holes at a time, construction began May 26, 1922 with nine holes completed by October 1922, costing approximately \$18,000. Once the course opened for play, the clubhouse and parking areas were begun. The clubhouse, designed by Harold F. Kellog and built unfitted and unfurnished in 1923 for \$30,000, remains largely intact today. Construction on the remaining holes began in the Spring of 1924, then opened for play in the Spring of 1925. All 18 holes were completed by 1928.



Early Construction of the clubhouse in 1923



South Shore Country Club Members enjoying a traditional Clambake after a round of golf in 1923

THE ORIGINAL COURSE

The Old Beacon Country Club - to be renamed the South Shore Country Club - was designed by the famed architect Wayne Stiles to be a course second to none. It was a difficult layout with its hills and valleys surrounded by several hundred trees that lined the fairways without bounds on both sides of several holes. The thickness of the trees blocked the view of the golfers playing on adjoining holes. The seventh hole, mostly swamp, was filled with tree logs and railroad ties, then covered with sod. A small, shallow pond was left in front of the tee and deepened in later years to increase the course's water supply. Evidence of the deterioration of the logs and trees can be observed today by the recessions on the seventh fairway. At its completion, South Shore Country Club was described by many experts as the best golf course in the Commonwealth. The club's first official tournament was a Kicker's Tournament in 1924. It was played on 6 temporary holes, so as not to interfere with new loam on future holes. James Kimball won the tournament with a score of 54. The following day, Sunday, designated as Family Day, was an open competition. The first couple was to tee off at 1:15. This may have been the very first "Scotchie." A silver cup, donated by Mr. Kimball, was awarded to the winners, whose names appear to be lost to eternity. In 1926, dues at the club were \$100 and green fees were \$4.00.



Stiles's sketch of proposed 18th hole

OWNERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

THE 1930s-1960s

The 1930s and 40s saw an era of change at the Club. The 30s brought the Great Depression, and subsequent decline in membership and revenues. Mother Nature produced the Hurricane of 1938, destroying many trees - most notably the large elm that was on the left side of the ninth fairway, making it a slight dogleg. World War II delivered more bad news, resulting in the membership selling the Club to businessman Tom Hannaford. With the sale, many structural changes began. A bowling alley and swimming pool were new enhancements added to the property. Many mature trees on the course were replaced with apple trees that can still be seen lining the fairways to this day. The removal of the older and larger trees caused subsequent problems, due to the lack of shade and absorption they had provided.



Aerial View of the South Shore Country Club in the 1960s

THE 1960s-1980s

In 1960, Phil Farina and his associate, Ed Quirk, purchased the Club. At this time, more changes from Mr. Stiles's original design began, including a new green on 5, a new tee on 14 and a straightening of 15. The 14th hole eventually was made a permanent par 4 as an entirely new hole with a pond in front of the green. The 15th tee was moved back and became a permanent par 5, making South Shore a par 72 course. These changes resulted in houses being constructed on the far side of the course.

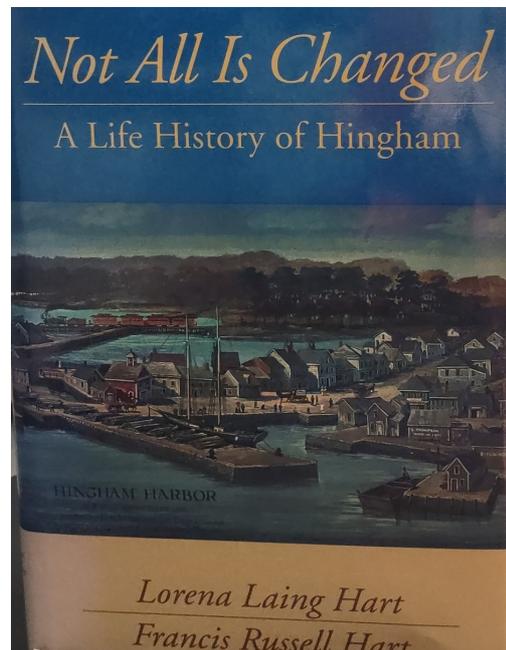
In the 70s, under the Farina ownership, membership diversified as evidenced by new events such as the Provolone Open, the Cardinal Cushing Golf Tournament, Italian Nights and Irish Nights, along with the Flags of the Sons of David waving about.

THE TOWN OF HINGHAM PURCHASES THE SSCC

With the passing of Mr. Farina, Ed Quirk became the new owner. News broke in the fall of 1985 that the Club had been sold to new owners who planned to build 85 homes on the property. The Town wanted to avoid further residential development in an effort to save 157 acres of open recreational space. A Town Meeting was held in 1986 for the approval of \$7MM for "taking by eminent domain" of the South Shore Country Club property. The secret ballot was approved by a vote of 1,216 to 327. On the subsequent Town Election Day, the results, while narrower, still were decisive: 2,993 to 2,341. As 1987 closed, a court-appointed panel set the price at \$7.5 million. At a Special Town Meeting in February 1988, 1,538 voters approved an additional \$1.25 million for purchase and development of the Country Club by a margin of almost six to one. One major question remained: whether to apply for state assistance.

If the state contributed, nonresidents would be eligible for memberships and the land would have to forever remain open space. At another special meeting, conservationists agreed with Alexander Macmillan. Describing himself whimsically as an "an old fuddy duddy Yankee," he supported State Aid to protect the land against future development. Robert Falvey expressed concern over "agreeing with Alec Macmillan about anything" but agreed: "We cannot afford not to take it." Edward "Tuck" Wadleigh, often the spokesman for lower-income Hinghamites, said he was "not a golfer (it's like playing catch with yourself)" but told Hingham to "get down off its high horse." Here was a rare and unbeatable coalition.

Ultimately, the Town purchased the Club via eminent domain in 1988, with the assistance of taxpayer dollars from both the Town and Commonwealth. In July 1988, over 500 people applied for memberships - some of them waiting in line for hours, some mothers with lawn chairs, games, and kids - to begin playing golf on the 1st of August. In November 1989, the Town's Country Club Committee reported a profit of \$87,297 in its first year of operation, and it continues to be proudly operated as a Town-owned enterprise today.



Excerpts from Not All Is Changed, A Life History of Hingham (1993), by Lorena Laing Hart and Francis Russell Hart

MORE GOLF MILESTONES

RECORDS PRIOR TO 1970s

- Dolly Sullivan 76
- Jack (Fireman) Kelly 65

CURRENT RECORDS

- Pros Billy Farrell and Paddy LeClair 66
- Best 4-ball record 62, Ed Barry, Charles Colson, Dom Ventre and Stan Neptune
- Tom Czarnota holds the amateur record shooting a 67 during the club championship from the tournament tees
- Recent accomplishments by present members:
 - A hole in one by Neal Anderson on the first hole, which is a par 4
 - A deuce on the par 5 ninth by John Beck

CADDIES

During the 30s and 40s, SSCC employed over 100 caddies. They were ranked A, B and C depending on strength and service. Most everyone started at the C rank. The rates reflected the caddie's rank. When the caddies held a wildcat strike, the rates were raised \$.10 per round - a modest increase, but back then, a dime bought a ticket to a matinee!

In 1934 the rates were as follows:

- A- \$.65
- B- \$.50
- C- \$.40

SSCC no longer employs caddies but has a fleet of carts available for all golfers.



Photo of a Golfer at the South Shore Country Club in 1924



Assistant Golf Professional, Mike Libby, Demonstrating a perfect golf swing 2022

PROFESSIONALS

The course has hosted famous players: Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and even Babe Ruth! Please see a rare video from the Hingham Historical Society of SSCC from 1931 at friendsofsscc.org/history. Other greats who graced our course were Bob Rosburg, Paul Harney, Julie Boros, Kel Nagle, Mike Souchak, Tommy Bolt, and George Bayer. Way back Denny Shute played Ralph Gudahl in a match at SSCC; they were the 1937 PGA and Open Champs. Shute, who had Lou Abruzese as a caddie, won the match. The Golferama, sponsored by Phil Farina, was played in 1962 with many touring pros participating. Large crowds were in attendance. The tournament was won by Kel Nagle.



Arnold Palmer vs Gary Player World Tour Exhibition Match, June 19, 1962

The Hingham Journal

312 MAIN STREET
HINGHAM, MASS.

THE SOUTH SHORE ADVERTISER

VOL. CXIII NO. 24

THE HINGHAM JOURNAL, HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 1962

PRICE TEN CENTS

PALMER VS. PLAYER AT SOUTH SHORE

Scholarships For Hingham High Graduating Class Total \$84,010

July 4th Committee Releases Plans For Celebration

Mr. Joseph Sapanaro, 1962 chairman of the Fourth of July Committee, has announced that plans for the day are progressing rapidly with the cooperation of a hard-working committee. The events scheduled to date are as follows:

PARADE

The annual parade will form in the railroad station parking area at 9 a.m. for judging and is open to entry by all individuals, organizations, and businesses. Ed Demko is float committee chairman and has issued an appeal for the loan of low-bed trailers on which parade entries may be staked. A special invitation to all children and youth organizations has been issued by the committee.

MARATHON

The fourth annual running race over the four mile course from Queen Anne's Corner to the high school will be held in the afternoon. The race is open to all Hingham residents and there is no age limit. Applications for entry are available at the high school, junior high school, Wompatuck Community Center, Carnes' Drug Store or from the chairman of the event, James Kersey. Applications must be returned to Mr. Kersey on or before June 22 and must be signed by the contestant and his parent if he is under 21.

FIREWORKS

The fireworks will be on all night.

In one of the most colorful graduation ceremonies in the history of the Hingham High School, 206 members of the Class of 1962 were graduated on Sunday afternoon, June 10 in outdoor exercises on Michelson Field under ideal weather conditions. Marking a departure from previous graduation ceremonies was the fact that the boys wore scarlet caps and gowns, and the girls, breaking with tradition, were garbed in white. As they filed from the school onto the field, led by Junior Class Marshals, John Allen and Miss Lee Ferguson, to Elgar's "Tomp and Circumstance," they presented a picturesque sight to the hundreds of parents and friends seated in the stands.

Adding to the color of the happy occasion were the Arch Bearers wearing dresses of pastel shades. They included: Linda Gustafson, Lee Gazlay, Susan Chase, Beth Deabler, Bonnie Gustafson, Sally Reed, Marilyn Price, Nancy Tyler, Nancy Gates, Susan Richmond, Margaret Coleman, Wendy Poole, Patricia Mahoney, Janet Stoddard, Irene Currier, Carol Rizzotto, Andrea Anderson, Donna Lamb, Marcia Feeley, Mardi Dunlap, Carol Niedbala, Janet Hough, Kathleen Brackley and Deborah Eck. The departing seniors passed beneath their arches before they took their places in the stands.

36 Local Scholarships

In the course of the graduation exercises, 5 awards and 36 local scholarships were awarded with a total cash value of \$7,540. There will also be some substantial loans from Hingham service clubs, such as Rotary, Kiwanis and the Lions. Twenty-six students are to receive financial aid from schools and colleges totaling \$76,470. At this time

Oral Polio Vaccine Make-Up Clinic Slated For June 20

The Hingham Board of Health will hold a make up clinic for the administration of Type III oral polio vaccine on June 20th from 1:5 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Board of Health Office, 14 Main street, Hingham.

Youngsters 3 months of age through the 4th grade in school are eligible. Children who received Type I vaccine in the clinic held during May, but failed to receive a second dose during the clinics of the past two weeks, should now receive Type III. Youngsters who have not had the Type I dose, and those who may have received Type I from other sources more than four weeks ago are also eligible to receive Type III. No parental request forms are required unless a child is brought to the clinic with other than a parent. Forms are available at the Board of Health office for parents who find it necessary to send a child to the clinic without their presence.

Dogs Anti-Rabies Clinic June 23rd

The Hingham Board of Health will hold the Annual Anti-Rabies Clinic for dogs on Saturday, June 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Agricultural Hall, at the corner of East and Leavitt streets.

A Massachusetts Registered Veterinarian will be in attendance. All dogs must be on a leash.

Garden Club Members Fare Well At Jordan's Circus Flower Show

R.C. Registration For Swimming And Boating, June 21

Registration for both swimming and boating classes, sponsored by the Hingham Chapter of the American Red Cross, will be held from 1:30 to 4 o'clock on June 21 at the Hingham Bathing Beach.

Children's Classes

Swimming lessons are given free to all Hingham children who are over seven years of age or have completed the first grade in school. Children under the age of twelve must be accompanied by an adult while registering and parents are urged to be sure that the youngsters are in good physical condition before enrollment. Instructors for this year's classes will be Mrs. Francis Miller, Miss Joan Butterworth, Miss Jane Pitcher, and Miss Mary Cole, all of whom are certified Red Cross instructors.

Boating and sailing are also free to Hingham children who have a Swimmers Certificate and the certified Red Cross instructors will be Miss Helen Reid, Miss Jane Bray, Miss Deborah Eaton, and Miss Robin Stallard.

Mrs. George R. Carter of Detroit, Mich. has been the recent houseguest of her sister, Mrs. James O. Wood of 15 Stoddard road, Hingham Center.

Mrs. Natale Calvi of 134 Kilby street was returned recently to her home by ambulance from the Ravensraig Nursing Home.

\$4,000 To Winner.... Shot Making Demonstration At 3 P. M.

A fascinating demonstration of golf shots by Arnold Palmer and Gary Player will preface their World Tour match at South Shore Country Club next Tuesday afternoon, June 19th.

Palmer and Player will start the fourth match of their 1962 tour of five continents at 4 o'clock.

The shot-making demonstration, in which the famed professionals will show the shots with which they have made hundreds of thousands of dollars, will begin at 3 o'clock.

The setting for the demonstration will be the huge natural amphitheatre below the first and 10th tees of South Shore's tournament course.

1st and 10th Tees

Palmer and Player will hit from the regular 1st and 10th tees toward the first green, thus providing clear viewing spots on three sides for an unlimited number of people. The comments of Player and Palmer and descriptions of their shots and techniques will be carried over the viewing area by a public address system specially installed for the purpose.

Arnie and Gary, both master showmen and articulate mike veterans, will mix quips and tips with the commentaries of leading sportscasters, who will alternate as masters of ceremonies for the program.

A favorite subject of speculation this spring has been how far Palmer can hit his drives. The powerful couple may alternate as masters of Masters and British Open champion will be aiming them at a first-green target 325 yards away during the demonstration. When Arnie and Gary begin their match, they'll play the first hole from the tees at the higher elevation which were built a year ago.

Mr. & Mrs. Lincoln Feted On 60th Wedd. Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. S. Randall Lincoln of 1083 Main street, South Hingham were the guests of honor at a 60th wedding anniversary party and reception held at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart M. Donaldson of 1108 Main street on Sunday afternoon, June 10th.

Upwards of 75 guests were present from New York, Connecticut, Florida, California, and the communities of Winchester, Wellesley, Milton, Newton and Hingham. Many relatives were also on hand, including grandchildren and great grandchildren to help mark the happy occasion. Present also was Mrs. Lewis W. Foster of Hingham, the maid of honor, and a sister of Mrs. Lincoln; Miss Lillian H. Lincoln of Wellesley, a bridesmaid, and a sister of Mr. Lincoln; and Mrs. George Hersey of Hingham, a bridesmaid.

The Rev. John M. Gallop, rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, and Mrs. Gallop, and Rev. Steven See, curate, and Mrs. See, joined the gathering in wishing the honored couple many happy returns of the day.

Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, who were the recipients of a large number of gifts, flowers and cards, were wed at the Church of St. John on June 11, 1902 by the Rev. George F. Weld. They received their friends amid a beautiful floral setting which

Hingham Journal Archive
June 13, 1962

AMATEURS

During the 1930s and 40s, the Greater Boston Four-Ball League played on Sundays and produced some of the finest golf played by the best amateurs in the state. These golfers came from Salem, Wollaston, Brae Burn, Wellesley, Indian Ridge and other courses as well as our own South Shore. Noteworthy players included Ted Bishop, Jesse Guilford, the Great Francis Ouimet, Fred Wright, Ted Adams, Dan Shea Jr., John Pyne, Bob Knowles, Art Weston, Buddy Bric, Fred Hannon, Bunny Wilson and Dave Nash, whose grand uncle Judge Kenneth Nash was a charter member in 1922.

Yearly, the Massachusetts Golf Association has chosen South Shore to host events. For example, the Mass Public Links Championship was played at SSCC in 2011. In 2017, SSCC hosted a USGA Women's Open qualifier, won by Nanna Kurtz-Madsen. She has gone on to win LPGA tournaments around the world, as well as being on the Solheim Cup Team for Europe. In 2020, the Women's Senior Amateur was held at SSCC.

A variety of team events are played at SSCC every year. For the women, MGA Spring and Fall Team Cups are under the MGA. The Abigail Adams events are played in the summer. The Old Colony Senior Men's League has long been a staple.

Although South Shore's permit holders organize these events, the Administration and CCMC wholeheartedly support these events. It is great that the clubs from around the South Shore come and compete here year after year. South Shore Country Club is well respected as a tournament venue.



South Shore League Champions of 1932

PLANE MAKES BOGEY ON 12TH GREEN

I will leave you with one of the strangest happenings at our course, which occurred in the early 70s. While many golfers were playing on this particular day, some of them still members today, a light plane landed on the third green (it was the 12th hole then). Many golfers scattered, jumping into the traps and onto adjacent tees, as the plane nose-dived onto the green. Miraculously, no one was hurt, the pilot escaped with a scratched nose, and Jack Prudente with a mouthful of sand.

There may be other names and scores not mentioned that should be, but I am relying on my memory. South Shore has provided me many memories and for that I am blessed.

ORE ADVERTISER
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1970
PRICE TEN CENTS

New Jersey Man Escapes Death As Plane Crash-Lands On 12th Green At SSCC Last Saturday

A 46-year old Upper Saddle River, N.J. man had a narrow brush with death last Saturday afternoon about 3:45 o'clock when he crash-landed his rented white and blue single engined Cessna 150 on the 12th green at the South Shore Country Club.

According to Hingham Police, Frank J. Dickson had rented the small plane at Marston Mills on the Cape, flew to the Norwood Airport, and upon trying to fly back to Marston Mills, got lost in the haze. Unable to make radio contact for directions, he brought the plane down below the haze. He made two passes up the 12th fairway, and spotting golfers along the route, decided against putting the plane down. A foursome, which included Lloyd Smith of 5 Accord Pond Road, South Hingham, owner of Smith Print in East Weymouth, was on the green as the plane approached. Smith was lining up his putt and looked up just in time to see the aircraft dangerously near. He made a flying leap into a sand trap as the plane buried its nose into the middle of the green.

Dickson, who, police said, holds a 3rd class and student's pilot license, was practicing for a cross country flight. He was in a slight case of shock and was assisted from the plane by George E. Sherman of 171 Fort Hill Street, Hingham; John W. Sullivan of 117 Front Street, Weymouth and Chester H. Beach of 166 Clinton Road, East Weymouth.

Police Officers E. Franklin Souther and Arnold Lee took Dickson by ambulance to the South Shore Hospital where he was treated and released.

The front nose wheel collapsed and there was slight damage to the wing tips of the plane where they cut into the greensward. A considerable amount of gas and oil also leaked out onto the green. Philip Farina, manager of the South Shore Country Club, stated that Al Auger, course superintendent, hopes to have the green in playing condition for the Southeastern Amateur Tournament here on October 12th.

Unable to contact the FAA, Hingham Police phoned the State Police who in turn got in touch with the Marston Mills authorities who removed the plane from the site on Saturday night.

L. Of Women Voters To Conduct Finance Drive Next Week

"1970 — The Year of the Voter" is the theme for the annual League of Woman Voters Finance Drive this year, to be conducted during the week of October 5th. The drive will be launched at the Second Parish Church by Mrs. Michael A. Radasch, Vice President and Finance Chairman. Personal fund solicitation will be carried on during the week by the finance committee and the Board of Directors.

Voters Service activities planned for The Year of the Voter include voter registration drives and an Old Fashioned Candidates Rally, to be held on the Scituate Common, October 17th. The Hingham League has joined with other area Leagues in sponsoring the rally, to which all candidates for office representing the area have been invited.

In addition to its Voters Service activities, the League will be initiating two new national studies this year: U.S. Congress and Environmental Quality. Under the Human Resources study item the League will examine the welfare system. On the state level, the League will coordinate its study of the national welfare system with a continued evaluation of the state system, and will complete a four year study of fiscal policy in Massachusetts. Locally, the League will continue its study and evaluation of the town government of Hingham, with particular emphasis on executive and administrative functions.

Registrations For Confraternity Doctrine Set

St. Paul's Church, will hold registration for the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine at St. Paul's School as follows: Grade 1 on Sunday, October 11th at 10:45 a.m.; Grade 2 and 3 on

Second Parish Sun. School Orientation Meeting, Oct. 4

The Second Parish Sunday School will open for the 1970-71 season with an orientation meeting and registration of pupils at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 4th.

A combination Sunday School and Family Service is being instituted this year, with the first regular service on Sunday, October 11th at 9:30 a.m. While the children are in their classes, the minister will conduct a "talk-back" sermon for the parents. After a 15-minute worship service for all ages, the minister will make a brief presentation of the topic for the day, and all present will be asked to participate in the discussion.

The discussion service will not displace the regular morning worship service, which will be held at 11:00 a.m. as formerly.

Baby-sitting will be provided for the 9:30 service at Wilder Memorial, 666 Main Street (across the street from the church). Baby-sitting for the 11:00 a.m. service will be provided as usual in the Parish House.

All interested persons will be most welcome. Sunday School classes are graded from Nursery-Kindergarten through Grade 9. Persons without children who are interested in participating in a discussion of relevant religious and ethical topics are cordially invited to attend.

The Hingham Rainbow Girls will hold a Rummage and Food Sale at Wilder Hall, 666 Main Street, South Hingham from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 3.

Congratulations are being received by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Smith of 2 Juniper Road, Bradley Woods on the birth of their 2nd child, 1st son, James Gregor, born Sept. 12th at St. Margaret's Hospital, Dorchester. Grandparents sharing in the honors are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene T. Smith of Hartford, Conn. and Mr. and Mrs. Ledyard D. Gardner of Palm Beach, Florida.

SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The South Shore Country Club Management Committee (CCMC) is a five-member volunteer Board appointed by the Select Board and Town Moderator to provide oversight to the facility. Originally coined the Country Club Development Committee, its job was to redevelop the golf course and facilities. Other appointed members included John Barry, Phil Swanson, Ellen Harvey and Bob DiCenso. Phil Swanson was a science teacher at the high school, as well as a noted conservationist. Phil stayed on the committee through the eminent domain process. Once the settlement was negotiated, Mr. Swanson resigned and Bob Garrity was appointed. Soon after, the Country Club Development Committee became the Country Club Management Committee.



Flag Raising Ceremony of the Original Country Club Development Committee August 4, 1988

"Having served on the original Country Club Development Committee, and now again having the privilege to serve on the Country Club Management Committee, it is wonderful to see that the original concept of the CCDC was not only to preserve the golf course from development and to prevent the loss of open space, but to transform the property into a true multigenerational recreational facility that would serve a wide and diverse part of our community. The current plan to build a new and beautiful pool complex furthers that original goal." - George Kay, original and current CCMC Member

SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB TODAY

Johnson Management managed the golf course for a number of years. Nora Bernard was the manager of the golf course. Joe Keefe was the golf professional. The pool, restaurant, and bowling alley were separate contracts managed by the Country Club Management Committee. In 2005, it became apparent that the entire facility needed to be under one management umbrella. It was then that the Town took over the management of the entire facility with a focus on the course, as 85% of annual revenues are generated from golf.

The CCMC hired Jay McGrail in January of 2006 as Golf Superintendent, with Jake Silva joining the team in 2007 as Head Greenskeeper. This team rejuvenated the course while also recognizing the need and opportunity for year-round revenue enhancements with the addition of three indoor golf simulators. Upon McGrail's departure in 2018, Kevin Whalen took the helm of the facility as Executive Director. Chris Riley, PGA Golf Professional, had been onsite since he started working on the driving range as a boy. Mike Libby, who golfed at South Shore as a young man, returned to the course in 2015 as the Assistant Pro. Frank and Elio Ricci operate The Greenside Grill (restaurant) and Raffaels (banquet facility) under a 20-year lease with the Town.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has provided growth opportunities in golf and at the SSCC, with over \$2MM of revenue generated during the past few years. After being undersubscribed, there now is a waiting list of over 300 for permits.



The SSCC Alley is a popular spot for Hingham Bowlers!



The SSCC Course continues to thrive under current leadership



SSCC hosts an annual Kite Day for all community members

NEW TOWN POOL AT SSCC

Originally built in the 1950s and upgraded in the 1980s, the pool was closed indefinitely in the Fall of 2019 after serving generations of swimmers. The Friends of the SSCC was formed in 2017 by Warren Pellisier initially as a fundraising mechanism to help construct a new pool. While that effort failed, the 501c3 serves to provide funding and support to the CCMC for identified projects. Under consideration since receiving \$75K of CPC funding in 2017, the pool project has undergone numerous changes based upon community feedback, budget and location. Annual Town Meeting in June 2020 approved up to \$500K to fund design and construction documents for a replacement, 25-yard Town pool; a zero-depth entry wading pool for children and those with special needs; a splash pad; and locker rooms, a concession stand and gathering areas. RMD Collaborative under the direction of Chris Rotti was hired as the Architect, while Pomroy Associates is the Operating Project Manager.

This "replacement" pool facility was directed to be designed to accommodate a detachable "bubble" structure that would permit winter use of the pool. Accordingly, the pool's infrastructure will support year-round use, but the pool will initially be opened as a seasonal facility operated by Hingham Recreation until a year-round budget can be developed and approved.

In conjunction with Net Zero principles, high-efficiency technology has been incorporated. The relocation of the pool facility to the aged existing tennis court site will allow for better traffic flow, separating golf from pool operations while also taking advantage of optimum sunlight and topography.

Members of the Hingham Community voted "Yes" to fund the proposed Town pool at the April 30, 2022 Town Meeting and the subsequent May 14 Annual Town Election by a 75%+ margin. \$8MM of debt exclusion funding will be combined with an additional \$500K of CPC monies to build a new pool facility, expected to be open for operation in the summer of 2023 pending the completion of the Town of Hingham Building Permit process.



**Rendering of Proposed Town Pool at SSCC
by architect Chris Rotti - RMD Collaborative**

SUMMARY



As the South Shore Country Club proudly celebrates 100 years, the Club and golf course continue to be an integral part of Hingham's history and community. Although sometimes it may seem to some like a "hidden gem," the Town and the public continue to support its operations. Taken by eminent domain with its taxpayer financing, the Club has paid its obligations as agreed and continues to grow in value as an investment in open space and community.

We are so fortunate to have this incredible asset, the support of citizens of the Town and the group of volunteers that make it all happen. With the combination of the restaurant, golf, bowling alley and pool, the SSCC has become a gathering place for community events and families to enjoy. The future looks bright and exciting as South Shore enters its next 100 years!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TEXT

From Lou Abruzese [History of the South Shore Country Club \(est 2002\)](#) "Excerpts have been "stolen" from Roger Barry, a classmate of mine and one of the great Golf Reporters of our time. The rest came mostly from the Hingham Library and personal experiences"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Hingham Historical Society (HHS)
- Ann Marie Martin and Family of Lou Abruzese
- [Not All Is Changed, A Life History of Hingham \(1993\)](#) by Lorena Laing Hart and Francis Russell Hart
- Dierdre Anderson, Exective Director, HHS
- Sarah Dogget, Assistant Director, HHS
- Bob Malme, Archivist, HHS
- Peter Hersey
- Ed Dann
- Frank Brown
- Alice Lundgren
- The Friends of the South Shore Country Club
- The Country Club Management Committee
- Kevin Whalen
- Chris Riley
- Mike Libby
- Jake Silva
- George Kay
- Patricia Gilbert McDonald
- Christine Smith
- Peter Smith
- Cate Cannon
- Patty Krumholz

ARCHIVES

THE HINGHAM JOURNAL, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1923

TOPICS *The Week's Review of Happenings about Town*

Opening of Country Club

The South Shore Country Club formally opened their golf course and laid the corner stone of their new building at West Hingham on Memorial Day. The club has a membership of over 200 at the present time, and it is safe to say that there were 500 people present during the day.

The remarks at the corner-stone exercises were made by the president of the club Mr. Thomas W. Pelham. There was a flag-raising at 12 o'clock by a squad of Marines from the Hingham Barracks, through the kindness of Commander McClintic of the Hingham Ammunition Depot. A real old South Shore clambake was also a feature and was pronounced a success.

Throughout the day the members to the number of nearly a hundred tried out the nine completed holes.

It is hoped to have the Club house completed by August, and to continue work on the remaining holes.

These links when completed will be a valuable asset to the town, and one of the best courses in this part of the state.

Hingham Defeats Abington

In an Old Colony League contest at the playgrounds on Saturday afternoon before a good crowd, Hingham High defeated Abington High in the second meeting between the two teams by the score of 14 to 10. In the previous game Abington was victorious. Saturday the Hingham batters clouted the Abington pitchers to all corners of the field, and before the set-to was over the home team had piled up 16 singles, three of them triples.

Linscott, Gordon and Ripley were the chief stickers for the winners, and for the losers Erickson and Agius were the clouters.

The fielding of both teams was poor but there were several star plays. Bryant made one catch that was a dandy, and Agius turned in a stop and throw that was a feature play.

The teams see-sawed back and forth, and in the seventh they were tied at nine each. But in the closing innings Hingham scored five more runs, while the best that Abington could do was to score one.

For the winners the fielding of Gordon

Hingham Journal Archive, June 1, 1923

Hingham Journal

THE SOUTH SHORE ADVERTISER.

HINGHAM, MASS. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1924.

PI

The South Shore Country Club

THE South Shore Country Club held its annual dinner at the Boston City Club last week, and officers elected for the coming year.

Reports showed that work had already been started on the second nine holes, which will give them a 6300 yard course in 1925.

The club house of 14 rooms has been finished and will be ready for occupancy in the spring. Steel lockers and shower baths have been provided.

There will be no changes to speak of in the present nine-hole course this coming season except that the fairways to the third and fourth holes have been widened, the former about 30 yards and the latter 35 yards on

the right, something that the state golfers will be pleased to know.

The officers elected were: Lewis N. Gilman, secretary-treasurer; Harold G. Storke, clerk. The board of governors, re-elected for a second term, follows: For Hingham: George A. Cole, John T. Hollis, James H. Kimball, Harrie M. Richmond, Arthur P. Russell. For Hull: George H. Dresser, Frank S. Hickey, Thomas W. Pelham, Blanchard U. Shriner, Bowen Tufts. For Weymouth: W. Carleton Barnes, D. Arthur Brown, George N. Eck, Arthur C. Heald and George W. Perry.

The above officers will meet within a short time and elect a president and two vice-presidents.

Assurance Douk

The person who rents a Safe Deposit I of this Bank puts the capstone of safety o insurance and protects all his valuable do destruction.

Every fire and every robbery should r taken in not protecting your valuables.

This Bank offers the best security and venient locations in town.

The Hingham Trust

HINGHAM, MASS

B. A. ROBINSON, President

L. R. WOOLAVER, Assistant Tre

The Merit of Our Sa

Most of our members purchase shares by on each share subscribed.

This is probably the best of all savings i larity, which is the real secret of success i

Hingham Journal Archive, February 8, 1924



Let's Celebrate!

100th Birthday Party of the South Shore Country Club

You are Invited

April 9, 2022 6-10pm

South Shore Country Club - Hingham Room
 274 South Street, Hingham, MA
 \$50 per Ticket • Food • D.J. • Cash Bar • Raffle Items

FRIENDS of the SSCC

April 16, 2022
 SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB
KITE DAY IS BACK!
 1:00-5:00PM

South Shore Country Club
 274 South Street, Hingham, MA 02043

FRIENDS of the SSCC



SUNDAY JUNE 5, 2022
 SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB
100TH ANNIVERSARY GOLF TOURNAMENT
 9:00am Shotgun Start
 Followed by a Reception in the Pavilion Tent

SIGN UP ONLINE OR AT THE SSCC PRO SHOP



HAPPY 100th ANNIVERSARY SSCC

MARCH 26, 2022
 SOUTH SHORE COUNTRY CLUB
VOLUNTEER DAY

South Shore Country Club
 274 South Street, Hingham, MA - 8:00-12:00pm
 SIGN UP TODAY- <http://www.friendscc.org>

FRIENDS of the SSCC



Town Pool

YES

FRIENDS of the SSCC

