Editor's Note

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FROM THE EDITOR

We are accustomed to clubs and community sporting organizations having great local importance. Seldom, however, have such small local clubs exercised as great a national influence as the Newport Country Club. One of the earliest golfing clubs in this country, one of the founding members of the U.S.G.A., site of the first official Amateur and Open Championships in American golf, host to presidents and kings, and favorite watering hole of some of the most powerful men in the country (some of whom were even serious golfers), the venerable Newport Country Club has been unique among such institutions. From the earliest, most informal play on a rough field on Brenton Point, through tournaments and hurricanes, women’s emancipation and world wars, right up to the most recent renovations and improvements, the history of this club is fascinating — indeed, wonderfully curious.

With pleasure the Newport Historical Society publishes in this issue of Newport History Alan T. Schumacher’s “The Newport Country Club: Its Curious History.” Making this chronicle available has been a joint publishing venture between the Society and the Newport Country Club. Mr. Schumacher combines a keen interest in local history with his love of the sport of golf and his pleasure in the Newport Country Club. He is a former Director of the Newport Historical Society, has contributed to these pages on other occasions, and is currently a Director of the Newport Country Club.

— E.H.W.