

Myra D. Paterson Trophy



1956—Mrs. Myra D. Paterson is pictured with the W.M.G.A. 50th Anniversary Book opened to the "dedication" page. The book was dedicated to our Honorary President, Myra D. Paterson—a great golfer, a great administrator and a great lady.

Mrs. Paterson started playing golf back in the 1890's when the fairways were stubble, the greens were made of sand and she was playing with a gutta-percha ball. Before long however, Mrs. Paterson was Champion at Englewood and Baltusrol, runner-up in the 1904 WMGA Championship, captain of many teams, first winner of the North and South at Pinehurst in 1903 and won again in 1904 and 1905, and a qualifier in the 1905 Women's National.

Mrs. Paterson's real devotion to golf is seen in the records of the WMGA as she served on the Executive Committee in 1902 and 1905, was a Vice-President in 1906 and then became President in 1910. From this time through 1931, Mrs. Paterson served ten years as President and was elected a Life Time Honorary President in 1923. Upon returning to serve as active President in 1929, the Association voted she retain her Honorary status on completing her active term.

Mrs. Paterson was a founder of the Women's Westchester-Fairfield Golf Association and in 1924 the United States Women's Senior Golf Association. Her activities spread into the Women's Eastern Association and the Philadelphia Association. For many years she made a study of various systems for handicapping.

The Myra D. Paterson Trophy, donated in 1925, is played for by teams of 10 players each representing Westchester, Long Island and New Jersey.

Mrs. A. Anthony Dreyspool journeyed to Haverford, Pa., to interview Mrs. Paterson in her 81st year. (1954). Mrs. Paterson passed on in 1957 and the WMGA made a donation of \$250.00 to her favorite charity.