

William Roberston Ogg Jr. was born in 1888 in Carnoustie, Scotland. Ogg began his career in golf as a club maker for the St. Andrews Golf Company in Scotland. He remained in Carnoustie until 1914 when he left and settled in Dedham, Massachusetts and worked at what is now Brae Burn CC in Newton, MA. In 1919 he left Massachusetts for Atlanta, Georgia where he became the Head Golf Professional at East Lake CC. While at East Lake he worked with and played a lot of golf with a young Bobby Jones. Ogg moved to Worcester Country Club in 1921 and served as the club's Head Golf Professional from 1921 until 1944.

Willie Ogg was one of the founding members of the PGA of America and served as a National Vice President of the PGA of America in 1921. Locally, Ogg was considered one of the founding fathers of the New England PGA, serving as President of the New England Professional Golfers Organization (now known as the NEPGA) from 1926 through 1927 and then again from 1932 to 1933. Through his influence, Worcester Country Club was able to host the 1925 US Open and also be first site of the Ryder Cup Matches in 1927.

In 1933, he designed and invented the "Ogg-mented" style of irons that were patented and sold by the Wilson Company. His design took club head weight away from the heel and moved it toward the "sweet spot" of the blade. Ogg also created a toe-weighted design that banishes the vibration and torque that has previously resulted when contact was made too near the toe. He also improved their line of woods by improving the balance between the shaft and club head, and also patented a design for a golf glove.

As a member of the New England PGA, Ogg not only won the 1924 New England PGA Championship but also won the Massachusetts Open that same year. Prior to that year, he won the 1921 Shawnee Open and the 1923 Maine Open. In 1923 he finished tied for ninth place in

the PGA Championship which was the career best in the major championships he played in during his life.

Ogg was also a golf course architect after graduating from the Massachusetts Agricultural College's Winter School for greens keepers. Among the courses he designed were: Atlanta's James L Key Municipal Course in 1921, the Country Club of Wilbraham in Wilbraham, MA in 1927, and Green Hill Golf Course two years later in 1929.

After leaving Worcester, he accepted a position as professional and course superintendent at Albany Country Club in <u>Voorheesville, New York</u>, where in 1954 he made changes to improve the quality of the golf course by planting thousands of trees and installing a modern watering system.

Ogg lectured at the PGA Assistants' School in Florida on golf fundamentals, and his lectures were described by <u>Herb Graffis</u> in 1960 as "classics". Ogg was the author of the book "Golf as I Know it" which was published posthumously in 1961. He died on Christmas Day 1959 in Tampa, FL and at the time of his death, Ogg was engaged in design work on a new course in Tampa. He is remembered as a touring golf professional with a number of tournament wins and good finishes in golf major championships.