Golf Course News adds to Advisory Board

Kevin Ross, Patty Knaggs, Raymond Davies and Roger Maxwell join GCN team

Patty Knaggs, CCGS, head superintendent at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn., has joined the Golf Course News Advisory Board. At 28, Knaggs has already managed golf course operations at two of the nation's top clubs: Hazeltine, site of two U.S. Opens, the most recent being 1991, and Westchester Country Club, host to the PGA Tour's Buick Classic. Raised in Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, N.Y., near West Point, Knaggs attended the University of Massachusetts where she earned a degree in turf management. She worked on crews at West Point and Eastward Ho! in Chatham, Mass., before landing her first assistant's position at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield, N.J.

She also served as assistant superintendent at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass., where she worked with architect Rees Jones on a thorough renovation prior to the 1988 U.S. Open. She moved to Westchester in 1989 and Hazeltine three years later. An experienced public speaker — she will speak at the Penn State and Iowa State turf conferences this winter — Knaggs is a member of the national, Minnesota, Iowa, Metropolitan (N.Y.), New England and New Jersey superintendent associations.

Kevin Ross, superintendent at Falmouth (Maine) Country Club, has joined Golf Course News as an editorial advisor. A certified golf course superintendent, the 34-year-old Ross is an instructor of turfgrass science at Southern Maine Technical College. He was president of the Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association in 1988 and 1989 and received its Distinguished Service Award in 1991.

A Maine GCSA board member for eight years and editor of its Monthly Green newsletter, Ross also belongs to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and GCSA of New England.

The Stonington, Conn., native attained an associate of science degree from the University of Maine in 1978, and a two-year turfgrass degree from Penn State University in 1981. After a three-year stint as assistant superintendent at Augusta (Maine) Country Club, Ross worked as head superintendent at Newton (Iowa) CC, then Martindale CC in Auburn, Maine, before joining the private Falmouth CC during its construction in 1987. He is a member of the Turfgrass Advisory Committee for Seed Research of Oregon.

Ross's father, Wendell, a PGA professional in Stonington, built two golf courses in the 1950s in Connecticut — Stonington Manor, which does not exist today, and Pequot CC in Stonington. So Kevin started mowing greens when he was 8, and was working 40 hours a week on a golf course when he was 12.

He and his wife Karen have one daughter, Abigail, 3.

Roger Maxwell, a 31-year veteran of the golf industry, has joined the Golf Course News Advisory Board. Voted one of the 36 most powerful individuals in golf by Golf Digest (1991), he retired in July from his post as vice president of Marriott Golf to pursue other avenues in the golf industry.

While at Marriott, he was responsible for the development and growth of the company's 23 U.S. golf facilities, which grossed more than $65 million annually.

Maxwell first joined Marriott in 1972 as head professional of the company's Camelback Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz. In 1976, Roger Maxwell became director of golf for Marriott Hotels and Resorts, a position he occupied until being named vice president in 1987. An Oklahoma State graduate and accomplished golfer, Maxwell held assistant and head professional posts early in his career at Lincoln Park Golf Club in Oklahoma City, The Bel Air Country Club in Los Angeles and Pinetop (Ariz.) Country Club.

Maxwell has been affiliated with numerous PGA chapters and committees, Golf Digest's Top 100 Course Selection Committee, National Golf Course Owners Association Advisory Board and International Golf Partners Clubs Advisory Board.

Among the awards and honors that have come his way are recognition as a Golf Entrepreneur of the Year by Golf Shop Operations (1990) magazine; Top Director of Golf by Executive Golfer Magazine (1987); and PGA's national Resort Manager of the Year (1978).

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