We want to hear from you....

In an effort to track the growth of golf course management companies, we are requesting that any management firm operating five or more courses contact us by Jan. 15.

We want to know the company's name, address, telephone and number of courses it manages. We will publish the information in the February issue of Golf Course News and will update the list every three months, noting the number and names of any new courses added during the previous quarter.

Management companies currently operate less than 5 percent of the more than 15,000 U.S. courses. But as anyone who follows the industry knows, that number is growing as management firms vigorously compete against one another to bring privately and municipally owned facilities under their corporate wings.

If you want your management company to be included in our quarterly listing, please telephone Peter Blais, Associate Editor, at 207-846-0600 or write to Golf Course News, PO Box 997, Yarmouth, ME 04096.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Phillips comment

Continued from page 10

Dodson in his Selkirk, N.Y. office. Golf's greatest ally at Audubon keeps a busy schedule, speaking at conferences from coast to coast and meeting with facilities interested in joining the wildly successful Audubon Sanctuary Program, his brainchild, which now boasts more than 1,200 member courses.

For the sake of perspective, however, readers should remember the Sanctuary Program is sanctioned by N.Y. Audubon, not the national. In fact, national and some its more influential chapters — Massachusetts' foremost among them — aren't exactly thrilled with Dodson's overt partnering with golf. Apparently, agriculture and the pesticides applied in that arena are fine — golf is not.

Don't expect that to change, either. Berle — who was keen on transforming the staid organization into a broad-based, environmental player on the national scene — was about as progressive as we could hope an Audubon president to be. Unfortunately, the man rumored to succeed Berle is Dr. Gerhard Bertrand, head of the Massachusetts Society, famous for sticking to bird watching and bird watching only.

In other words, while Dodson's Sanctuary program is an undoubted success and a significant boost to golf's larger public image, we're a long way from seeing any golf courses on the next Audubon Society call sheet. Besides, if you call Dodson back into its shell, Dodson would be more effective, for golf, just where he is.

The following item was received at the GCN offices just before deadline:

Keith Dewar — "an all-time classic person," according to Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. President Paul Eldredge — died in a Dallas hospital in mid-Decem-ber. Dewar, 73, built many golf courses as owner of American Golf before retiring in 1993. A close friend of Desmond Muirhead and Jack Nicklaus, he built Muirfield Village and Glen Abbey in Ontario as well as most of Nicklaus' early designs.

A transplanted Briton, Mr. Dewar also worked extensively in the Palm Springs area.

However, he will most be remembered for his flamboyant personality. "Keith was one of the great characters of all time — a legend in the golf business," said long-time friend and golf course architect Jay Morrish. "Someone ought to write his biography. Some of his friends were talking about having a wake for him. We could tell tales about Keith for 12 hours straight and never repeat a story."

Good news for those Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) members worried about national ratting around their recently expanded, Taj Mahaqueque headquarters in Lawrence, Kan. Seems the association has finally found a use for the spare wing: Tenants!

That's right. The association is renting out the third floor (old and new wing) and second floor of the new wing to NCS, an Iowa City-based telemarketing firm that plans to employ nearly 100 people in its new Lawrence location. GCSAA employs approximately 80 at its headquarters.

And this from the "It's Always Something" Department: Apparently, parking is now at a premium.

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January 1995