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often catches flak from other more-traditional Audubon organizations. Well, here's third-party corroboration that golf courses attract birds and enhance the local habitat, not detract from it.

Superintendents would do well to pick up a copy of the NGF's "U.S. Golf Facility Employee Compensation Study." There are three editions: Daily-Fee, Municipal and Private. These studies compare salaries of supers, general managers, head professionals and directors of golf, to name just a few. They're invaluable tools for superintendents putting a budget together, fighting for fair compensation, or looking around for another job perhaps.

I found it interesting that superintendents are routinely the second-highest paid employee at most golf operations, behind the director of golf. That's right: Supers nearly always out-earn the head professional. Maybe that's common knowledge, but it came as a pleasant surprise to me.

For a copy of the study which best reflects your situation, call the NGF at 561-744-6006.

San Francisco-based Charlton Research, the firm which a few years ago conducted the RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) Public Opinion Survey, has completed a study exploring public opinion regarding environmental issues. Two tidbits from this survey struck a chord with me.

1) According to the Charlton study, virtually every American considers him or herself an environmentalist. And while we believe it is every person's "individual responsibility" to do his or her part in protecting the habitat, citizens have some confidence that environmental issues are being solved while others, like crime and welfare, are getting worse. Further, Americans acknowledge — if grudgingly — that government is most responsible for this upswing in environmental protection.

2) Scientific data supporting the safety of this chemical or that disposal process are viewed with suspicion. The Charlton test group was asked, "Can the accuracy of science be determined by the organization which conducts the study?" Sixty percent answered that science can be bought.

Wow.

Ten children of MetGCSA members were named recipients of the 1996 Bill Caputi Scholarship Awards, totaling $7,000. They are:
- Cassie Alonzi of Iona College, daughter of Kim and Bob Alonzi, superintendent at Winged Foot Golf Club.
- Dana Alonzi of Elizabethtown College, daughter of Kim and Bob Alonzi.
- Robert Carriere of Penn State, the son of Rosemary and Bill Carriere of James Carriere & Sons, Inc.
- Chris Flynn of SUNY-Coehoesville, the son of Brae Burn Country Club superintendent Dennis Flynn and his wife, Cindy.
- Benjamin Fulwider of Colgate University, son of Natalie and J.C. Fulwider, superintendent at Century Country Club.
- Kelly Kennedy of York College of Pennsylvania, daughter of Kathy and Joe Kennedy, super at Green Brook CC.
- Alden Maddocks of Trinity College, son of Ekwanok Country Club superintendent Ted Maddocks and his wife, Adele.
- Evan Maddocks of Vanderbilt University, son of Ted and Adele Maddocks.
- Christina Pakkala of Penn State University, daughter of Woodway Country Club superintendent Larry Pakkala and wife Carole.
- Jennifer Rice of Lafayette College, daughter of Pauline and John Streeter, superintendent at Woodbridge Country Club.

MetGCSA awards 10 Caputi scholarships

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