The more things change...

Editor's note: Steve Renzetti started as a superintendent two months before Golf Course News came into existence.

By STEVEN RENZETTI
• Director of golf operations at Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, N.Y.

It is always interesting to reflect back. Sometimes the more things change, the more they seem to stay the same.

Ten years ago, I was a first-year superintendent preparing for my first full season of having the responsibilities and pressures of prepping a golf course for spring. As I was then, I still am today: reviewing bids from suppliers; wrapping up winter projects; training staff; educating members; and mapping out control strategies for the season. I'm still fighting moss on greens; trying to reduce the effects of poa annua seeding in May; timing my Hyperody control (oops, I mean annual bluegrass weevil); and trying to get rid of my slice.

Much of the core equipment is the same, perhaps a safety switch here or a tweak there. But all in all, much is the same.

As for revolutionary equipment, two things stand out.

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Audubon rough, the Web and GCN

By GORDON WITTEVEEN
• Golf course superintendent, The Board of Trade of Metropolitan Toronto Country Club

In the business of golf course maintenance, the last decade of the 20th century belongs to Audubon rough, the Internet and Golf Course News. All three have changed the face of golf.

There isn't a new golf course being built without fescue, birdhouses and a Web Site. Similarly, the minute an entrepreneur starts up a new golfing venture, he grab the latest copy of Golf Course News, an ungainly tabloid published in a no-name place on the East Coast. For Pete's sake, don't they know that for any new magazine to be successful it must come from places like New York, Cleveland or perhaps even Kansas City?

That little newspaper with modest beginnings grew and grew with each succeeding issue, and against all odds survived to celebrate its 10th birthday. Perhaps it'll even make it into the 21st century, in spite of its awkward size. Who wants to read a magazine, anyway, that is difficult to handle, that almost always falls out of your hands, and knocks the glasses off your nose?

I remember certain things in life very well....the day we beat the Russians in hockey right in their own backyard in Moscow....[and] the first time I picked up a copy of Golf Course News.'

It was at the Devil's Pulpit from the desk of superintendent Ken Wright. One expects a place like the Pulpit to have the latest and the newest. "Here, take it! I am finished with it," said Ken Wright, and I did
excited and encouraged about the potential for the next 10 years.

**Seay:** This isn’t by happenstance. Most of the designs have been a return to the more traditional-styled design. Which, in most cases, resulted in really exciting and encouraged about the potential for the next six to 10 years.

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**Witteveen**

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just that. I haven’t missed an issue since.

Funny thing about Golf Course News. Just like Ken Wright, I easily part with past issues. It’s not the sort of magazine that one hangs onto. Not like The Green Master and Golf Course Management of which I have stacks and stacks collecting dust on a bottom shelf. Golf Course News I read, usually within minutes after its arrival, even in the summer season, then take it to the staff room from where it disappears to God knows where, but never to a shelf.

The best thing about Golf Course News is the new friends that I have made. Most people in the industry one meets annually at convention time. But Mark Leslie, Terry Buchen, Kevin Ross, Michael Hurdzan and many others come regularly to my mailbox.

They speak from the heart in a language that one understands, and when I now meet them at convention time, my greenkeeping life is complete. Thank you, Golf Course News, for presenting golf course life as I live it. Have a Happy Birthday, with many more to come.

**Walden**

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Golf Car, the DriveControl System with regenerative braking and the only twin-cylinder, overhead cam gasoline engine.

Our goal for the next ten years is to continue to be the innovation leader and to strengthen our position in all the markets that we serve both domestically and internationally. I see tremendous potential for golf and golf cars in the next ten years and can’t think of a better place to be than right here at E-Z-GO.

**Palmer**

I agree with Ed and support and encourage everyone in golf to expose, provide and improve all of the elements of the game. And with more interest and more people coming into golf every day, all of us in the game need to promote, by example, the basic strengths of the game.

We must guard and protect these very elements that keep the game so great and be standard-bearers, if you will. This is one of the hallmark messages for the future from all of the Palmer companies. The game is in very good shape.

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**Palmer/Seay**

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Continued from page 21

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traditional design philosophies. That is, the playing
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of the game and, when possible, design-
ing and building to and with the land. In
most situations for the past 20 years or
so, we did not get a naturally rolling,
sandy, seaside, and beautifully timbered
400 acres without development to work
with. I should add that the PCDC design
team will continue to stay with the same
traditional design philosophies.

**Palmer:** Along that same line, our
course designs have always considered
what effect the new equipment has had
on the game. The U.S. Golf Association is
constantly looking at this and now is con-
centrating on the area of primary impor-
tance: the stabilization of the ball.

Another major aspect of golf course de-
sign, construction and development that
began slowly in the 1960s and has moved
to the forefront in the ’90s is the preserva-
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