Saving floor space in welding operation

By TERRY BUCHEN

NAPLES, Fla. — With the goal of storing sticks of various types of metal in a secure, out-of-the-way location in the shop area, Olde Florida Golf Club has added an overhead storage rack above its welding unit and workbench.

Shop and equipment manager Kim Ellis built the unit in about three hours, and the cost was under $50 for materials, said superintendent Darren Davis.

The rack is 20 feet long to accommodate that length piece of metal, if needed. There are five down rods, all with support bars, so smaller pieces of metal can also be stored. Metal trusses, or purlings, run lengthwise on the ceiling, where they are spot welded to the "I" beam. The down rods are bolted to those trusses.

Due to the pitch of the roof and "I" beam, the down rods are different lengths so the bottom of the rack is level with the floor (not the 1-to-12 pitch of the roof). The end down rod (closest to the side of the building) is 4 feet in length while the end one (closest to the center) is 5 feet. The support bars that hold the metal are 24 inches long; 12 inches on both sides of the down rod. Of the 5 total down rods, the three closest to the center of the building have three separate racks made from the support bars. Due to the slope of the roof, the two down rods closest to the garage doors only have two racks so that the bottom remains level with the floor," Davis added.

"The racks formed by the support bars are 12 inches apart (up and down) and the down rods are 5 feet apart. The down rods (metal extending down from the ceiling) is 1-1/2 by 1/4-inch-thick angle iron. The support bars (metal welded to the down rod to create a shelf for the metal) are 1-by-1/4-inch-thick angle iron. The end two down rods have 1-by-1/4-inch thick angle iron attached to the end to form a containment system for the metal and they are attached with a clevis and cotter pins," Davis concluded.

In Iowa, the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association (IGCSA) has honored Dennis Schilling of Pheasant Ridge Golf Course in Cedar Falls as Superintendent of the Year.

Meeting at the 66th annual Iowa Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show here, Jan. 24-26, the IGCSA also presented the Assistant Superintendent of the Year award to Roland Trimble, and the Distinguished Service Award to Mike Gehl of Fillmore Fareway GC in Cascade, and Dean Fagerlind, who has retired from the Waterloo Parks Department.

The Charles Calhoun Writing Award was presented to Tom Lavrenz, director of golf for the city of Cedar Rapids.

Over $5,000 in scholarships were awarded to students in turf programs at colleges and universities across the state.

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