MPCA—
(Continued from Page 12)

should already be registered with the MPCA. This applies to petroleum and chemical tanks. There is no minimum size exemption except for the farm, residential and heating oil tanks described above (1,100 gallons capacity and less).

There is no fee for registering tanks. There is no penalty at this time for late registration. There is, however, an automatic reduction of any reimbursement from the Petrofund for not being registered.

Registration forms and secondary containment guidance are available from the MPCA by calling Joan deMeurisse, Aboveground Tank Program Coordinator, at (612) 297-8618 or Tin Tran, staff engineer, at (612) 298-8665.

By Joan deMeurisse
Tanks and Spills Section

GCSAA Offers
Time Management Correspondence Course

Not enough hours in the day to do everything you need to do, plus everything you want to do? A new correspondence course offered by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) was designed especially to help overcome this “time-less” problem.

The “Time Management” correspondence course was written by one of GCSAA’s most popular seminar instructors, Bree Hayes, Ph.D., president of the Hayes Group. She says the course was designed to be comprehensive, practical and challenging—“a real journey of self-exploration.”

During the course, the student will analyze personal time expenditures, assess time “wasters” and “thieves,” and learn how to set goals, delegate work and stop procrastinating. The course materials also include “essential” time management tips.

GCSAA also has correspondence courses available on the topics of media relations, underground storage tank management and hazard communication. GCSAA and its entire curriculum of seminars and correspondence courses are nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council on Continuing Education and Training, which is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

Successful completion of the “Time Management” correspondence course earns 0.7 CEU toward GCSAA certification or renewal. The course costs $50. To order by credit card, contact the GCSAA education department at telephone 913/832-4444, FAX 913/832-4433. Mail written orders to GCSAA Education Department, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049-3859.
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MEMBERSHIP REPORT
MAY 10, 1993
NORTHLAND INN

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HOLE NOTES 23
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‘Thanks So Much’ . . . Boots Fuller

On April 19, at the monthly meeting of the MGCSA, held in Mankato, I was honored and recognized by many of our association members as I approach my retirement from the Mankato Golf Club Superintendency. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who were in attendance that day. Your presence meant a great deal to me. I shall always remember that event.

As most of you know, retirement for me won't change a whole lot of my quest for staying busy and remaining occupied in whatever comes along. I know Mankato Golf Club is in the hands of a truly outstanding professional with Fred Taylor.

I have enjoyed my years with the golf course maintenance industry. And I have also enjoyed my relationship with the MGCSA, although a few times I was responsible for rattling a few cages. All in all, the values gained far exceeded the pain that we all went through.

Continued success to all my friends in the association. I will make the effort to keep in touch. Once again, thanks so very much for the April 19 recognition.

Your friend,
Boots Fuller

Minnesota Golfers
Send Caddies to College

Over 10,600 Minnesota golfers contributed approximately $328,000 in 1992 to send local caddies to college. The Minnesota Golf Association (MGA) and Minnesota Women's Golf Association (MWGA) collect golfers' contributions at golf clubs and courses around the state. The associations award the monies as Evans Scholarships, which provide four years of tuition and housing at the University of Minnesota.

There are 14 Evans Scholarship recipients this year, 10 men and four women.

Scholarship candidates must have caddied for at least two years, graduated in the upper 25% of their high school class and demonstrated a financial need. They must submit their applications by November 1 of their senior year in high school.

Interviews for 1993 took place at the Minikahda Club in Minneapolis on Thursday, January 7. All 14 candidates selected for interviews received the award and have been notified. They will join the 30 active Evans Scholars at the University of Minnesota this fall.

The Evans Scholarship Program was founded in 1930 by amateur golfer Charles "Chick" Evans, Jr. Evans won the 1916 U.S. Open Championship at the Minikahda Club and, from that day on, devoted his life to amateur golf and the education of caddies.

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Superintendent Fit
(Continued from Page 18)

This makes for a great superintendent fit. I can't imagine being in a position of the greenkeeper of yesteryear.

As the quest for ultra high quality continues, there will also be those instances when excess abuse tends to creep into the picture. Usually, the powers-that-be provide funding, ideas and recommendations in the proper manner. At too many golf courses, though, these same people seem to control everything.

The superintendent must stand up for himself, his ideas, his recommendations and his programs. This leadership trait is a common characteristic found in every successful superintendent.

Do not be led around by your green committee, BOD or owners. Have the courage to stand up for what's right and proper. Doing that daily will make you a better superintendent, and will enhance your superintendent fit.

The superintendent must be given the autonomy to operate the golf course in the correct manner. The key, however, is that each superintendent must earn this autonomy through solid course management, leadership, ability, diligence/work ethic and a good knowledge of golf.

In addition, the superintendent must have the intestinal fortitude to stand up for certain beliefs. By employing this fortitude, you will begin to create a better superintendent fit.

Your superintendent fit will be much smoother and your stature will rise if you stand up for yourself. This is, of course, assuming that you are right in your recommended course of action. Secondly, you need a track record of good management to rely on before being so bold as to stand up to your Board of Directors on a particular issue.

There seem to be too many instances of others making decisions and then expecting the superintendent to blindly carry out their orders.

Enhance your superintendent fit by standing up for yourself. It's what any good manager is supposed to do.

In other words, don't let anyone else run your show.

—Pat Norton,
Grass Roots, WGCSA

Butch Greeninger and Kevin Clunis discuss going “Downtown” for the Annual Conference.

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As a new member of the Golf Course Superintendent’s Association, I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself to as many of the general membership as possible. Over the months to come, I’m going to personally contact and meet as many superintendents as I can. That’s going to take some time.

Meanwhile, I want to let you know that the Howe Company is ready to meet your needs for quality professional turf products. I’ve been with Howe since 1970, and I know we can give you the highest quality products, customized to your requirements and specifications, and service any size order. I want to tell each of you personally about our capabilities to help make your job a little easier and your golf courses greener. I’ll be in touch.

(You don’t have to wait for my call. I’d be glad to hear from you.)

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Course Management—
(Continued from Page 9)

tal and physical aspects of the game, golf adds a third dimension—the course itself. And in the case of golf, the playing “field” is equally as influential on the outcome as the other two aspects.

All this leads to an obvious conclusion. A course should be set up commensurate with the skills of those who are to play it. In a USGA championship, the players are all exceptionally skilled and the course can and should be set up appropriately. However, daily play on courses will involve players from one end of the talent spectrum to the other. A middle ground must be established so that everyone can find something they enjoy. Let’s all face facts here. Few if any players at the club level play as well as the folks they see on TV. They may think they want the same conditions, but they would quickly find they are not up to the challenge. You know those flatbellies that sit in the 19th hole and watch the pros putt on greens with speeds over 10 feet, and then think the greens at their course should be the same? I often wonder how they drive home after watching the Indy 500 on TV.

ISSUE #4

“Can we have championship conditions even if we want them?”

The next issue is one that I feel is perhaps the most crucial. Most superintendents realize that the conditions seen on TV during a major championship simply cannot be maintained for an extended period of time. Unfortunately, many players have virtually no knowledge of the steps necessary to produce such conditions. Starved greens, microscopic cutting heights, unlimited labor and equipment and the course dried to the bone are not conditions that can be maintained for more than a few days at a time in most climates. This is truly “Management On The Edge” (Refer to the Green Section Record article of July, 1987 by the same name). It takes months and years to prepare a course for a major championship. Often, the complete reconstruction of greens and tees, reshaping of fairways, and yes, even the removal of trees that have been allowed to ruin the architecture of a classic design, must be accomplished prior to the event. Attempting to maintain championship conditions on a daily basis would destroy most courses.

As the Green Section staff travels the country, we often find ourselves explaining these facts to those present on the tour of the course. We also frequently visit clubs that are “pushing” the course way too hard in an effort to provide championship conditions. As a result, we often make recommendations to raise cutting heights, fertilize more and accept slower greens. These recommendations are in direct contrast to preparations for an Open. Is this “two-faced?” No, it’s just common sense.

Weeds—
(Continued from Page 20)

pretty clear when you see a good stand of dock that the area gets flooded during the year,” he says. “Basically, if you’ve got dock, don’t plant your vegetables there.” But weeds, he added, “can’t replace a soil test.”

—American Horticulturist, March 1993
1993 Annual
Conference Update

The MGCSA's 1993 Conference is shaping up to be the best educational conference to date. There are a number of nationally known speakers on the program at this time, with a few more to be confirmed in the near future.

The workshops already in place include a session on IPM and a session on Golf Course Construction. These workshops will run concurrently on Wednesday afternoon for a three-hour time period. Thursday morning's workshops run concurrently for three hours with one session on Professional Relations and the other on Landscaping on the Golf Course. This format will allow attendees the opportunity to choose a subject that they feel is a priority for them.

The cost of the conference is also set up to allow everyone to select the level of cost that they feel is in their best interest. There will be a registration fee just for the educational portion of the conference with additions available for the Wednesday awards luncheon that will include Jack McCloskey, from the Timberwolves, as an informal speaker. The registration forms will be available in July. We hope for an early registration by the membership to allow the MGCSA office to send confirmations to each member on what individual sessions he or she will attend. This confirmation packet would include prepaid daily parking passes for those who choose to pay in advance.

The Conference Committee is focused on providing a quality conference to benefit the membership. We believe that this is, by far, the most comprehensive program that the MGCSA has ever sponsored.

If you have any questions, please contact the MGCSA office for further information.

As always, remember the dates November 17, 18 and 19, 1993 at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

—Conference Committee

Large audience listens to Leif Erickson of O.M. Scotts Co.

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Our heartfelt condolences are extended to Diane DeSplinter and her family for their recent loss. Dick DeSplinter died of cancer on May 9.

As many of you know, Dick was the President of our association in 1980, and his contributions left a lasting impression on many of us. We will miss him dearly.

In 1980 I was brand new to golf course maintenance in Minnesota. I looked up to Dick as a successful superintendent, and I thought, with some hard work, I could be in the same position.

Some of you, I am sure, worked side-by-side with Dick, and I would appreciate a phone call volunteering your time to write a short description on the impression he left with you.

* * * *

There is new life among us. Dale Wysocki of Faribault Golf & Country Club, is the proud father of a baby boy. Mom and son are doing fine; we are not sure about Dale. Congratulations are in order along with a wish for lots of luck. (At six months he probably will do all the talking.)

* * * *

As usual, the weather has not been cooperating with our monthly meetings. Let’s face it. May, in general, is just cool and wet. The event at Fox Hollow, of course, was rained out. All the same, we extend our gratitude to Doug Dieter and his staff for making the most of a bad weather situation.

They have a beautiful facility, and you could see the effort the grounds staff was putting out to get ready for us, even in the rain. It had to be disappointing for them.

I can speak from experience as our parking lot construction continues to stagnate due to weather delays.

Weed control, cultural practices, cutting and rained-out tournaments have been a problem for all of us. Timing is becoming a real issue to many as “windows” come and go. Additional pressure to tidy up Spring jobs all the way into June is not an attractive alternative. But what’s a Mother to do?

* * * *

At the May Board meeting it was noted that there are approximately 400 golf courses in the State of Minnesota. About 300 of these are members of the MGCSA. If any of you know people at one of these non-member courses, give them a call and find out why they are not members... and what we can do to get them to sign on.

* * * *

The Environmental Committee has its updates for the MGCSA Environmental Handbook completed, and you should have received yours with your dues statements. If you didn’t, be sure to call Scott or Jeff Turtinen at the MGCSA office.

* * * *

The June meeting will be held at The Lafayette Club on June 14. If any of you are interested in bringing a boat, the North Arm boat ramp would be your best bet. Crystal Bay is just under the bridge from the launch and due east around Bohns Point, across the bay, around the driving range point and our docks—21 slips strong.

Follow the cart path to the clubhouse. I am requesting the first tow behind any boat with a rope. Fishing should be good. The bass are always fun to catch, and they should be biting... not to mention there is a golf course to play.

Lafayette is short but well-bunkered. Be sure to practice your pitch-and-run and leave your driver in your bag.

See you all at the June 14 meeting.

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