

A Guest Editorial — Why We Should Re-Locate

In closing, let us not forget that any organization is made up of members. Your ninety dollars a year buys you voice. Use it — to the Executive Committee members, to the national magazine, to the director, to this publication. A voice from the hitherlands may not be heard in Lawrence, but a chorus may be. Our opinions, whether positive or negative, should be and must be heard.

The Bonnie Greensward, April 1982

And, so, that chorus has been heard. The Coalition has made their point and the National leadership theirs. We all know that the nuts and the bolts of the issue (if Kansas or Florida has a better business environment, if Kansas or Florida has jobs available for wives and husbands, for example) are rather hazy. One could argue with another for years over them. The point, however, of last year's editorial, the point that needs repeating, is still plain. The National should re-locate to Florida for no other reason than the fact when one goes out they wear their best. **IMAGE**

This observer is not happy with this profession. In the golf world we are at the bottom. **That is wrong.** How often have you been asked the question, "What do you do in the winter?" I am insulted by that question; I think you should be too. We are extremely important to the operation of any country club, public golf course, or municipal operation. We know that, and in some, but too few cases, others know it. However, in far too many situations, the people directly involved do not know it. The grass will get cut because it always has. The job will get done or we will get someone else. What this profession lacks in too many situations is simple respect for the challenges, inherent problems, and complexities of being a golf course superintendent . . .

What this current argument, the National re-location, needs is simple honesty. What it does not need is a continual debate over Kansas vs. Florida. In this observer's eyes the move is a first step, putting our national organization in the center of the golf world. It is, of course, only a symbol. If the National re-locates to Florida and does nothing to promote the profession, we have lost. But symbol is important. It is important because it creates perception. And whether one likes it or not, perception affects our daily lives. For someone to perceive that a golf course superinten-

dent has all winter off is foolish. But it happens. We must change that and the National can help.

America's golf courses have bright, gifted, and dedicated superintendents. The point is that too many people do not know it. Moving the headquarters will not make it happen overnight but will put us in a position to begin to make it happen. It is a process that will be long, but change is necessary and we, as individuals and a group, must not be fearful.

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The Philadelphia Association of Golf
Course Superintendents

SUPT.-PRO (Continued from page 1)

Herman of Burning Tree, Jeff Granger and Bobby Kennedy of Fauquier Springs, and Joe Ratcliff and Ed Lorenz of Bryce Resort.

A total of 40 teams competed over the hilly Arlington, Virginia layout, which Lee Dieter had brought to a peak of early season perfection. In the closest to the pin contest, professional Don Baxter put his tee shot 19 inches from the pin on No. 14, while Superintendent Tom Regan of Bethesda got his to 32 inches. The long drivers on No. 18 were Ed Lorenz for the pros and Craig Rhoderick for the superintendents.

EMERY (Continued from page 1)

Association and Middle Atlantic Golf Association, wrote of Clare:

"Mr. Emery was many things to many people . . . a good story teller who had time to listen to jokes by members . . . a lover of life who enjoyed each day and its experiences . . . an honorable man, unassuming . . . a noncorrector who taught his students patience and the knack of playing within their ability . . . his handsome features rivaled his golf expertise . . . a father-like image to his employees . . . former assistants Jim Bellizzi, Jim Clarke, Bill Pearl, and Dennis O'Leary became head professionals . . . he was never too busy to expand a member threesome into a fun foursome . . . he could go anywhere with his members and never be embarrassed or an embarrassment."

President's Message

At our December meeting, the membership asked the Board of Directors to look into the possibility or feasibility of hiring an executive director, either full-time or part-time, for our organization.

A committee was appointed and research was started into all phases of what an executive director would do, how much time would be required of him, what meetings the association would ask this individual to attend, how much money would he (or she) be paid, and how this salary would be funded (that is, where would the money come from). At this time, despite the many hours of research and discussion, we are still unable to report back to the membership on whether or not the idea is feasible. It appears that more work will be required before we can make a determination.

We had a great turnout for the Superintendent-Pro tournament, and it was a good chance to get together with our fellow professionals, the men who run the pro shops. Our thanks to Washington Golf and Country Club for hosting the tournament and for joining us in establishing the Clare Emery memorial trophy.

Ken Braun, *President*



NEW MEMBERS

William Messett, Class D
Manor Country Club
Assistant Superintendent

Change from Class D to Class B
Steve Cohoon
Penderbrook Golf Club
Superintendent

It's a Girl!

Congratulations are in order for Walter and Linda Montross, who on May 11 (early in the morning of the night after the superintendent-pro tournament) became the proud parents of a 7-pound, 8 ounce Tracy Elizabeth Montross, their first-born.