



Keeping a Daily Diary of Golf Course Management

As a student intern at Medinah Country Club under superintendent Norm Johnson in 1938-39 and 1940, I spent my first year as his office assistant. In this capacity, I was assigned the responsibility of keeping a daily diary of the entire grounds maintenance operations. This included all aspects except the routine daily procedures such as cup-changing, mowing, etc. I was very favorably impressed with the value of the "daily diary."

As my internship moved along to the assistant position to John McCoy at the Ohio State University courses over four years (interrupted by three years in the Armed Services during World War II), I continued to make use of the daily-diary procedure with very productive results.

By 1947, I was offered the job of superintendent at the Beverly Country Club, where I again found the daily diary a very helpful and useful management tool. Additionally, I used the diary highlights to prepare a weekly report to my greens chairman, which he appreciated very much. Twelve years later, when I moved from Bev-

erly to Bob O'Link Golf Club, I left a complete diary of my 12 years of operations to Ted Woehrle, who replaced me and who had also been a student intern with me for three years.

In my final 21-year tour of duty at Bob O'Link Golf Club, it was routine standard procedure to continue the daily-diary process. However, I did make one important change: with four to six university students in an annual intern program, I assigned each of them the responsibility to keep the diary for a period of four to six weeks. Most all of them have told me of the many benefits they derived from their daily diaries.

While most superintendents today keep a great deal of information on their computers, it is nice to have a shelf full of your annual diaries to reflect upon from time to time. Probably some of you can keep a diary with your word-processing software, which can also serve the purpose very well.

Personally, my long-time use of a daily diary has carried over into my retirement years as I have continued for these past 23 years to make my daily entries and delight in reviewing them from time to time.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Phil Zeinert, CGCS Elgin Country Club

The following are highlights of the MAGCS Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, May 13 at Bartlett Hills Golf Course. Full meeting minutes, once approved, are available on the Midwest Web site.

- The Editorial Committee and *On Course* editor Cathy Miles Ralston are compiling questions for a survey to be sent to members asking for input concerning potential changes to *On Course* so that we may further improve the magazine.
- Midwest Family Tree corrections, as well as corrections to the directory's conversion table, will be sent with the mid-year updates to the directory.
- Vice president Fred Behnke will be attending a Green Industry meeting in June.
- Luke Cella reported on his recent trip to GCSAA headquarters to attend the Chapter Executive Conference. Listen for an update at the June golf meeting at Prestwick Country Club.
- Scott Speiden is finalizing questions for the membership survey to be sent out this fall. Scott is also finalizing all SOPs for the various committees.
- Erwin McKone reported that the Assistants Committee is busy planning an outing for assistants to benefit the MAGCS Scholarship Fund to be held, tentatively, in early September. The assistants are planning to contribute a feature article to *On Course* on a monthly or bimonthly basis and will write an article on the history of the Dom Grotti competition, which will be held this year at Prestwick Country Club during the June meeting.
- The following new members were approved:

Ann M. Huber Huber Ranch Sod Nursery, Inc.	Class E
Dan J. Glitto Prime Turf	Class E
Larry Collins TPEC	Class E

