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Monday, May 15, 1989

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Beautiful Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena, Illinois will host this fundraiser. Golfers fee is \$60.00; this covers your green fees and half of a cart. The day will begin on both courses with a shotgun start at 11:30 AM.

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In addition, Eagle Ridge Resort is offering a discount on accommodations for the nights of Sunday, May 14 and Monday, May 15. To take advantage of this special bonus, make your housing reservations directly through Eagle Ridge at 815/777-2444 and identify the group as "ITF Play Day".

* Combined Golf Day 1989 is being sponsored by Northwestern Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

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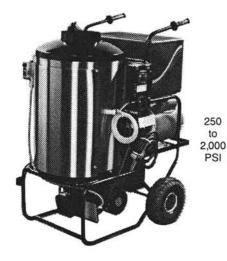
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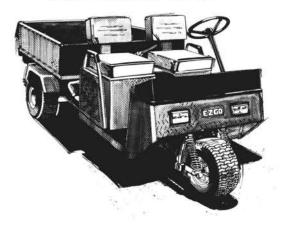
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Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

March 7 — Mechanics Association meeting at Chicago Turf & Irrigation

March 13 — MAGCS meeting at Nordic Hills C.C. at noon March 23-24 — GCSAA & Wisconsin Seminar, see Midwest Breezes

March 30 — CDGA Green Seminar at Butterfield C.C.

April - We need a meeting place Kankakee a 29th

May 15 — Joint Association meeting at Eagle Ridge, Galena, IL

May 25 - Superintendent/Pro Golf at Bonnie Brook

June — We need a meeting place

July - We need a meeting place

August — MAGCS meeting at St. Charles C.C.

September - We need a meeting place

October - MAGCS meeting at Prestbury C.C.

November - Annual MAGCS meeting and clinic



Rosey Grier Feb. 12, 1989 Photo by Jaunita Ebel

The 10th Annual Golf Course Superintendents Christian Prayer Breakfast was an uplifting success. It was held on Sunday, February 12, 1989 in the Anaheim Hilton. A gathering of well over 400 conference attendees participated. The highlights of the program was the Christian Music presented by the group Heaven's Wind, and the very inspirational personal testimony presented by Rosey Grier. The Golf Course Superintendents Christian Prayer Breakfast is organized by superintendents, free attendance is open to everyone, a freewill donation is collected to pay for all of the expenses.

ASSISTANT NEEDED — This position could turn into a Superintendents position in one year when another course is built. Call Russell Fink at Tamarack Golf Club, (312) 904-1033.

With deepest regrets we have to report the passing of a great friend of the Golf Course Superintendents. Herb Graffis passed away on February 13th, he was 95 years old. While he was in the Chicago area he was a great crusader for those of us who toiled on the courses to make them green and beautiful. Herb was the first golf writer to be in the Golf Hall of Fame. He is missed by many.

Ted Mochel of Woodbine Golf Club is looking for 3 used cutting heads for a Jac riding greensmower. Will accept any condition, call at (815) 838-1276.

The CDGA Green Seminar topic this year will be "Politics in Turf Management". It will be held at the Butterfield Country club on Thursday, March 30, 1989. This is always a good seminar to bring your club officials and a large attendance is the norm.

Chicagoland Golf Course Mechanics Association will have a meeting on March 7, 1989 at 10 a.m. at Chicago Turf & Irrigation in Itasca. All mechanics are encouraged to come.

For Sale — 10 Toro 694 sprinkler heads and 3 Toro 654 sprinkler heads, 50 1¼ inch snap valves. Also have a large assortment of galvanized plumbing fixtures of all sizes. Call Dann Quast at Medinah C.C. at (313) 773-1700 ext. 27.

Irrigation Sales — Shemin Nurseries, Inc. (Irrigation Division) of Addison, Il., is seeking an irrigation sales professional to service contractors and golf course customers in the northern Illinois region. Successful candidates will have previous irrigation and sales experience. Knowledge of design and sprinkler equipment is essential. Salary commensurate with experience, attractive benefit package and company vehicle included. Send inquiries to: Shemin Nurseries, Inc., Attn: George Barthel, P. O. Box 857, Addison, IL 60101 (312) 773-8090.

Illinois Lawn has a position open for an inside account manager at their Orland Park store. They are looking for a person who is 'people oriented' and has turf experience. They will train to do the job. Resumes may be sent to Pete Vandercook at 16450 S. 104th Avenue, Orland Park, IL 60462.

Position Wanted: University of Illinois graduate in Ornamental Horticulture, determined, quick learning, married man, 27, one child. Seeking an assistant role. Grounds management experience and supervisory position of working crews. Certified commercial applicator; classification turf and ornamental pest control. Resume and references sent upon request. Phone 595-8561, ask for Scott E. Voehringer.

Bud Bornman, is looking for an Assistant Superintendent position in the Chicago area. He has been in Assistant Superintendent training programs for the past six summers. Will be retiring from teaching this year and would like to go into this profession. If interested, please contact him by phone at 394-2485 or by mail at 727 S. Ridge, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

Mechanic Needed — Ernie Corsi is looking for a mechanic to work at the Glendale Lakes Golf Course in Glendale Heights. Mechanic with foreman abilities is desired. Call (312) 260-0018.

Dan Murray is the new Superintendent at Settlers Hill in Geneva. 9 holes were opened for play in 1988 and another 9 holes are being built this year, with another 18 holes scheduled in the future.

(Cantigny cont'd.)

Equipment.

Less than a month after our first tee and green were seeded we were mowing grass. We started in April of 1987 with two cushmans and a pickup truck. As we begin this 1989 season I believe we have \$500,000 in our equipment inventory. The key to acquiring equipment is to purchase machinery as needed and only what is necessary while under construction. This helps to make the entire equipment expenditure amount a little easier to bear if you spread it over two years.

At Cantigny we have 80/20 sand based greens, therefore the rocks, sticks, tree stumps, and logs that our fairways contained were rarely encountered as we mowed. We triplex mowed our greens until the spring of 1988, then we began walk mowing them.

Our fairways were another story. The rockhound does not get all of the debris. As you irrigate new seed on bare ground more rocks also begin to appear. No matter how many times that you hand pick your fairways, between the construction crew and ourselves we picked rocks four to six times, you never get all of them. We used Toro 216's to mow our fairways for the first time. The heavy duty six blade reels and beefy bedknives did an excellent job even as the reels changed along the new fairway grass.

In 1987 we purchased a New Holland 'bobcat' loader and a Ford 3910 tractor along with a Vicon fertilizer spreader for our first fall application. We also purchased an Olathe overseeder in 1988, the drought was showing our weak spots and the construction company was on their way out. In 1987 we bought an SDI 100 gallon spray tank that we mounted on our cushman for our first season spraying needs. A Sand Pro with a plow blade is a good machine to have as traps are being constructed. Sand traps will wash down in rainstorms or weeds will also soon develop if they are not raked occasionally.

These are the basic equipment pieces that we started with. We were fortunate to be able to borrow equipment from the Cantigny Gardens Department when we needed it. Without their help our initial equipment expenditure would have been substantially greater.

The Punch List.

We all make mistakes, forget things, and golf course construction crews are fallible. The punch list signifies the day when we go through the course and tie up the loose ends. As I said before, when the construction crew pulls out you're left holding the bag. You may see some minor changes that need to be taken care of or observed a situation or circumstance that won't work later during play. This is the time to get it done. And do yourself a favor, bring along a fine tooth comb.

Getting used to the boss.

These past two years have been exciting, educational, and inspirational. As April approaches so does our first opening day. I hope that the public will enjoy this effort in green and appreciate all of our work as much as Mike Nass does. He gives me enough rope to hang myself with and when I do get tangled up, he knows just how to untie the knots. He is an intelligent manager, fine turf man, and teacher.

ASSISTANT NEEDED — Ray Schei at White Eagle Course, Naperville, is looking for an assistant superintendent. Call (312) 983-5250.

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7	Promotion and Growth	3
8	Personal loyalty to workers	6
9	Good working conditions	4
10	Tactful disciplining	7

Andy Dauksas is the new Superintendent at Glen Oak Country Club, having moved up from the assistants position.

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Pictures From Anaheim

by Ray Schmitz



l. to r. - Joe & Frank Jemsek



l. to r. - Ken Goodman, Carolyn Goodman, Greg Thalman



l. to r. - Craig Hoeflin, Dave Behrman



l. to r. - Walter Fuchs, Jr., Walter Fuchs, Sr.



l. to r. - Rick Wilson, Pete Leuzinger, Bruce Sering, Julius Albaugh, Dick Trevarthan



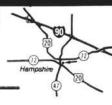
l. to r. - Rick Hahn, Ron Jones

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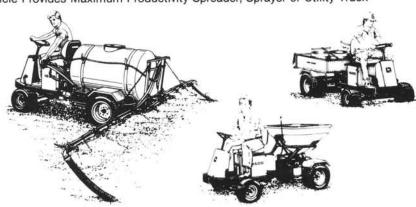
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My Chattering Friends

by Edward Wollenberg, retired Supt.

In a mysterious rite of spring, today, March 19, thousands of swallows will descend on the Mission San Juan Capistrano. In keeping with tradition there will be a daylong Fiesta de las Golondrinas [Festival of the Swallows] at this 200-year-old Franciscan mission.

A centuries-old legend has it that flocks of migrating swallows, flying 6000 miles from Argentina, pay homage to St. Joseph by arriving en masse at Capistrano on his feast day.

So, the swallows have returned to Capistrano, and shortly will also make their appearance again in the Midwest.

For years we did everything imaginable to get purple martins to take a lease at the confines of the Innsbrook Country Club. Needless to say, I had plenty of expert advice from the members, who are so knowledgeable in every phase of country club operations, from agronomy to financial wizardry and, including, ornithology.

We contacted many of the so-called martin experts, including cities like Griggsville, Illinois — which is titled, "The Purple Martin Capitol of the Nation". We erected martin houses, strung wire from one house to another, and did everything the experts suggested. All to no avail.

It was a few years after abandoning our efforts and hopes of luring them to our area when, while entering the cart shed one morning I heard a strange "peeping" noise. There, on the joist of the cart shed were two swallows — midget cousins of the purple martins — greeting me in a cautious way. I was ecstatic, to say the least, and welcomed them with open arms. I watched that first pair build their nest alongside a 2 x 6 rafter

high in the peak of the roof.

Their nests may not be the most beautiful, but they are striking examples of bird patience and industry. The mud used for these nests to cement it together was brought in beakful by beakful, with an occasional strand of grass incorporated with the sandy mud. And I have to believe that their "building" is more efficient in terms of material than is the work of most human bricklayers.

When I retired a few years ago they had multiplied to at least 100 or more, and seemed they brought all their kin after the first years of occupancy. We never saw a single purple martin, but I could not have asked for a better substitute.

To me there isn't a more graceful bird in the air than the swallow. They seem to have such a sense of fun, and have often seen two of them appearing to be playing tag, or competing in aerial acrobatics and playing what seemed like follow-the-leader tactics. They seem to enjoy showing-off for anyone who will be an audience.

They are generally quiet and orderly, but if you take the time to listen they will chatter with you and at you all day long. My grandmother used to sing a little ditty in German to me that went something like this:

Frau Swalba ist ein zwitscherer Sie zwitsch den gansen longen tag Und wann sie niemand horen willst Zwitsch sie fur sich allein Das zwitscheren, das zwitschotcheren Den gansen longen tag

Which, literally translated, means:



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Lady Swallow is a chatterer She chatters the whole day long And when no one wants to listen to her She will chatter to herself That chatter, that chattering Goes on the whole day long

Yes, they are very verbal, once they get to know you.

They eat a tremendous number of insects, such as gnats, moths, flies, leafhoppers and the ever annoying and pesky mosquito. I have seen the cushions on the golf carts literally covered with dead insects in the morning, which I assumed dropped from their mouths in feeding their young up in the nests. In the book, "Gardening Without Poisons", Beatrice Hunter reported, that a single swallow devours 1000 leafhoppers in 12 hours.

We seldom think of swallows as companionable birds, such as robins, we choose to nest close to human habitations. Yet, the swallows prefer to nest inside a building, and if there is any choice they seem to pick one which is used constantly by human beings. For instance, our old and obsolete pumphouse at Innsbrook, offered many good places for swallows to nest, and had enough openings to admit a whole flock of them, and is located by the creek which should supply an ever abundance of accessible mosquitoes for their diet. But not one pair ever took up residency there.

The pumphouse is quite a distance from any other buildings and nobody hardly ever goes there anymore. The swallows chose, instead, the cart shed and the equipment building, where there is a lot of action every day. In fact, one pair built a nest in our shop above the shop lamp just 10 feet from my office.

And in the morning, those that had been locked out the night before, were perched on the roof waiting for you to open the buildings. Those that were locked-in would greet you on their way out. And until you went outside again, there was seldom a bird on the roof; two minutes after going outside there were a half dozen waiting and talking to you.

I recall an incident when my daughter and grandson, Gabe, while visiting from California, dropped by the club so I could give Gabe a ride on the golf cart as I had promised him. They said when they walked into the cart shed all chattering stopped, as they were cautiously "checked out". When I entered a few moments later, they greeted me with their usual exuberant and enthusiastic chatter, seemingly, giving approval to the strangers that were my guests.

Are they messy? Yes, they are. But only their children, and they are "potty" trained a lot faster than we humans train our kids. The baby swallows do not mess in their nest, and hang their little "you-know-what" over the edge of the nest, and anything obstructing the line of gravity is going to be "put upon". My chairman suggested at one time, that maybe we should have a Pest Control outfit come in and spray the interior of the building to discourage their nesting. My reply was, "Unless this is a direct order, I will clean up after these enjoyable critters. It gives me more pleasure to do, then the human messes I have been periodically subjected to and demanded to clean up for you humans."

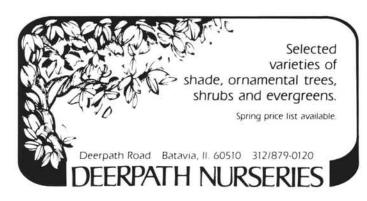
Since retiring I miss a number of things, and the wonderful chattering and acrobatic swallows is one of them. Whether they are still tenants at Innsbrook since I left I do not know. I certainly hope so.



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