Architects schedule meeting

Group retains rich heritage

The Ross plaid blazer will be the colorful dominant dress at the American Society of Golf Course Architects annual meeting April 3 at the Pinehurst (N.C.) Hotel.

The blazer, symbolic of a group almost as select as the Order of the Garter, honors the family plaid of renowned golf architect Donald Ross. The "Father of Golf Architecture in America" and ASGCA founding member, Ross designed 600 courses over a 50-year career.

Although golf course architecture has been a recognized profession for more than 100 years with many distinguished practitioners, no formal organization existed until 1947. In that year, 13 charter members met in New York City.

Robert Bruce Morris, Chicago, Ill., was elected president; Donald Ross, Pinehurst, honorary president; Stanley Thomas, Toronto, Canada, vice president, and Robert Trent Jones, Montclair, N. J., secretary-treasurer. Jones is the only living founder member.

In December, 1947, Ross hosted a meeting of the new organization at Pinehurst. A constitution, bylaws and a code of ethics were adopted. Initial goals and concerns were to protect and upgrade the profession and to advance concepts and techniques of design consistent with the spirit of the game. The organization has grown in stature and numbers, expanding its interest and influence.

The ASGCA has 81 regular members (including 11 Fellows) and 13 associate members. These 93 men (and Alice Dye, Gulfstream, Fla., I represent about 90 percent of the world's active practitioners. ASGCA qualification standards include an established ability to design representative golf courses. Applicants are reviewed regarding ethics and methods of professional practice. To be selected as an association member is peer recognition of the applicant's personal and professional integrity and abilities.

The society nominates, selects and presents annually the Donald Ross award to a member of the golf industry who has made a significant contribution to golf in general and golf course architecture specifically.

Let us know

Golf Course News is asking all of its new readers – from golf course superintendents to architects to developers, Green Committee officials, and suppliers, to send is news of your organizations. If it is organizing a meeting, has elected officers, or has released a report of any kind, please send the information to Golf Course News, P.O. Box 767, Yarmouth, Maine 04096.



Attending the American Society of Golf Course Architects' inaugural meeting in Pinehurst, N. C., Dec. 5, 1947, were, left to right, William P. Bell, Pasadena, Calif.; Robert White, Myrtle Beach, S. C.; W. B. Langford, Chicago, Iil.; Donald J. Ross, Pinehurst, honorary president; Robert Bruce Harris, Chicago, president; Stanley Thompson, Toronto, Canada, vice president; William F. Gordon, Doylestown, Pa.; Robert Trent Jones, Montclair, N. J., secretary-treasurer; William Diddel, Carmel, Ind., and J. B. McGovern, Wynnewood, Pa. Other charter members were Perry Maxwell, Ardmore, Okla.; Jack Daray, Chicago, and Robert F. "Red" Lawrence, Boca Raton, Fla. Ross and McGovern were hosts.

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