Architects pick Zoller for Ross Award



John Zoller

Course Architects will present its coveted Donald Ross Award to former Northern California Golf Association Senior Executive Director John Zoller.

Zoller's selection "acknowledges the organizers, builders and superintendents of all new golf courses," said ASGCA President Robert Trent Jones Jr.

The award will be presented on March 26 at the organization's annual meeting at the Inn at Spanish Bay on the Monterey Peninsula in California. It is given annually to a person who has contrib-

The American Society of Golf uted to the growth, understanding and public awareness of the importance of golf course architecture to the game.

> Jones cited Zoller's "lifetime of service to the game," adding: "John has literally done it all within the game of golf and the business of golf since he first hoisted a golf bag in Hamilton, Ohio, a half cen-

> "As a recipient of the Donald Ross Award, John Zoller is recognized as an outstanding representative of the many people without whom the ASGCA's architectural efforts could not flourish."

Jones said: "We honor a golf course superintendent, a club manager and true gentleman who has played and contributed to the game of golf magnificently for more than 50 years.

"From caddy to turfgrass expert, and from the workshed to the front office, John Zoller has been everything to the game of golf. He has the unique distinction of having supervised and advised on all seven golf courses within the hallowed gates of the Del Monte Forest on the Monterey Peninsula."

As executive director of the Northern California Golf Association, Zoller led one of the largest associations in the country from 1980 until retiring in 1989.

A major accomplishment during that time was development of Poppy Hills Golf Course at Pebble Beach, which marked the first time in North America that a golf association of volunteers had financed, built and operated its own course for the benefit of its 110,000 members and the golfing public. Poppy Hills will host the National Intercollegiate Championship in June

The NCGA's effort is now "a blueprint for every state and regional golf association in North America," Jones said. "What better way to establish and make available to players of all skill levels true championship facilities ... to conserve the open-space environment ... to foster 'open to the public' golf courses of high caliber all over the country ... to meet the exploding demand for our grand and glorious game?

"Every golf course architect appreciates what John has done personally to enlarge and enhance our profession."

Gruber Ohio's Man of Year

Coldstream Country Club superintendent Calvin Gruber was hailed as Man of the Year and Hinckley (Ohio) Country Club superintendent Jean Esposito was presented the Professional Achievement Award by the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation at its Conference and Show in December.

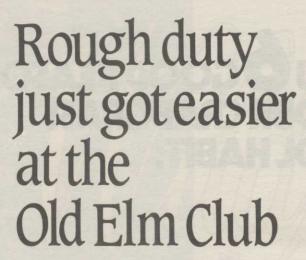
Meanwhile, the OTF installed a new slate of officers including President John Fanning of Cincinnati, a sales representative for the Kentucky turfgrass and seed supply firm of George W. Hill Co.; President-elect Joe Motz, owner of Motz Inc. lawn-care firm in Cincinnati; Vice President Paul Jacquemin, who owns Jacquemin Sod in Marysville and works at Morral Chemical in Plain City; and Treasurer Bill Pound of the Ohio State University Department of Agronomy Extension.

Gruber has been superintendent at Coldstream since it opened in 1960 and has kept the Cincinnati course in condition to maintain its Top 100 standing from Golf Digest every year since.

Cited by Fanning as a national leader in golf course groundskeeping, Gruber is known as the originator of lightweight mowing on

Esposito, the long-time superintendent at Hinkley, was honored for her active work for the Northern Ohio Golf Course Superintendents Association, which she has served as president, and for her civic work in the community.

OTF also honored outgoing President Jim Sharp, an irrigation specialist with Century Equipment in Pemberville, and presented service and appreciation plaques to outgoing Directors Bruce Augustin, Ted Pasko and Richard



Nearly all the elms are gone now. But that doesn't mean the Donald Ross and H. S. Colt designed Old Elm Club outside Chicago doesn't have its share of trees. Oaks have taken their place over the last 75 years—mature additions that make the John Deere F935 the perfect choice for mowing its roughs.

"We purchased our F935 with a 72-inch deck three years ago for mowing our roughs," says Ed Fischer, superintendent here for the last nine years. "It's the only way to go when you have as many trees as we do. Since then, we've also purchased a flail mower that we use on the F935 to break up aeration cores in the fairway.

"Ease of operation is one of the F935's biggest advantages. We get more work done with the F935 because our operators don't mind sitting on it for eight hours a day. They stay productive longer.

"It's the same story with our John Deere greens mowers. We have 10 John Deere 22s that our operators accepted immediately because they track easier, handle better and are easier to transport than anything we've ever had. Plus, they're easy to adjust and work on and do a beautiful job on our greens.'

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