

New year, new model for paper

Happy New Year and welcome to the 1991 model of *Golf Course News*!

If you haven't noticed, there are significant changes in this issue — all in the design of the publication. This redesign is so that you can get more out of *Golf Course News*.

You will be getting quite a bit more from our editorial product in 1991. The features our editorial staff have planned will be informative and designed to help you do your job better. The features for 1991 are as follows:

January: GCSAA Conference Preview, Architect and Builder of the Year (1990)

February: GCSAA Show Issue

March: Equipment Report: Greens Mowers

April: Chemical Report: Pesticides

May: Equipment Report: Golf Cars

June: Special Report: Grounds Maintenance at 30 Top Courses

July: Turfgrass Report: Bluegrass Sod

August: Special Report: Golf Course Management Companies

September: Chemical Report: Specialty Chemicals

October: Equipment Report: Irrigation and Pumping Stations

November: Special Report: Architects and Builders

December: Special Holiday Report: "All I want for Christmas Is..."



C. von Brecht

What do superintendents want?

I'm pleased to report that the primary reason we're able to offer a stronger editorial

product is due to the significant planned increase in our advertising base.

We forecast an increase of approximately 130 advertising pages. This means at least 130 more editorial pages; timely and valuable information for your business reading.

This issue has some good information regarding the upcoming GCSAA conference in Las Vegas. The floor plan for the show and this issue's advertisers can be found toward the center of the issue.

Congratulations to the winners of our recent surveys ... The Fazio design team for best golf course architects; Wadsworth Golf Construction Co., the best builder of the year, and the winner of our newest survey for the best-conditioned PGA Tour course of 1990, Mike McBride of Muirfield Village.

Once again, thanks for all your support, and I wish you all a happy and prosperous 1991!

Charles E. von Brecht
Publisher

Making resolutions

New years bring new resolutions, re-resolutions, and "I'd-better-be-resolute-this-time-utions."

The golf industry could perhaps make a corporate resolution just as you and I make our own. Then, again, aren't we all part of that corporate body?

OK, let's resolve to:

- Continue to investigate methods of good land management, from pest management to disease control, wildlife protection practices, and runoff and ground water control. (Accolades to Pete Dye and others for their innovative designs at such places as Dye's Old Marsh and the Ocean Course at Kiawah Island.)

- Support the United States Golf Association's multimillion-dollar research effort into chemical use and its effects on turf management. (Thanks to the many who have given toward the initial \$3.8-million outlay.) More millions are needed, and the end result will benefit all segments of the industry, from the superintendent to the developer.

- Be less suspect and more understanding of "those dreaded nemeses" — the government agencies that regulate zoning, the environment and ecology. They're human, just as people in the industry are. (Outdoorsmen, including golfers, are on the staffs of these agencies. And U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Associate Administrator Lewis S.W. Crampton told the Golf Summit 90 crowd in



M. Leslie

November that "there are friends of golf" at the EPA. If so, let's find and nurture them.)

- Be straight with the public, whether they be neighbors of a planned development or "environmentalists" itching for a fight. More than one architect have found that spelling out the problems, proposing solutions, and generally being bendable, are an immense help in public hearings and negotiations.

- Join those groups that have been opposing golf courses. Discover their real motives and their education on the issues. You may find many are simply misinformed, and when presented with the truths, will be supportive.

- Help give those non-golfing segments of America the chance to play golf. Many people lack the time, money or inclination to get out on the course and play the game. In the entire country there is only one course designed for the handicapped player, and that is by a hospital (Edwin Shaw in Akron, Ohio).

Greens fees are most often prohibitive for the young players. Hey, even eight bucks is a lot for a teenager. That young person would be the adult golfer of the year 2000 —

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LETTERS

Designate ASGCA members in listing

To the Editor:

I appreciate and endorse the position that *Golf Course News* has found in the industry. The November issue, however, was disturbing because of the special listing that was published delineating golf course architects. I don't find it equitable or just to be listed with individuals who have not met the standards and requisites of the American Society of Golf Course Architects without somehow discerning the difference in the individuals.

Membership into the ASGCA requires that stringent criteria be met, and sponsorship by three existing members is mandatory. The list listed numerous individuals who have not and probably will never meet the requirements. Do you really think it is fair to those members of the ASGCA that have made commitments and sacrifices to earn the credential, to list them with individuals that have not been qualified accordingly? Don't you think that this credential should be added to discern the difference somehow?

I would hope that in the future you will not make the same mistake that was made in your November issue.

I would suggest that your publication might start monthly inter-

view or biographies of the qualified architects in this country.

Continued success with your outstanding publication.

Sincerely,
Craig Schreiner, ASGCA
Kansas City, Mo.

Ask superintendent for irrigation specs

To the Editor:

Another interesting issue — your *Golf Course News*, October 1990.

I am taking this opportunity to respond to the irrigation article on new products, "Let your fingers do the watering."

I am a golf course irrigation consultant with over 30 years in the irrigation business. Most of our projects are in the Southeast and Hawaii. We try to specify the control system to the user's request. The problem is, generally the owner doesn't have a superintendent on board when the system is designed and little input is given us on what to use.

My intent in writing this letter to you was to give you a feeling on how I took your comparison of the five major suppliers of computer-operated centrals. First, I strongly feel there are major differences in each. I do understand some of the major differences, but don't pre-

tend to be an expert in the operation of each. I am encouraging you to do this concept again in the near future. By making direct contact to each company, have them give you the most positive or advantage they have over their competition. A lot of misunderstanding is out there today as to what each one really will do.

The salesman, of course, says his will do everything that the other one will do.

I feel this is something that the industry really needs. It is a very important exposure.

Best wishes to you for a continuing good publication.

Sincerely,
Don K. Burns
Irrigation Consultant

Try high rates of potassium

To the Editor:

Your November '90 publication of *Golf Course News* carried an article on page 3 about the problem of lack of water for California courses. Ironically, the same issue also had articles on too much water in the Southeastern states.

Golf course turfgrass faces a multitude of problems and many of the more difficult for superintendents to address relate to STRESS (drought stress, heat stress, cold/winter stress, wear

stress, etc.). High potassium rates with a safe source such as sulfate of potash will help turfgrasses survive and recover from nearly all types of turf stress!

I am aware of several turfgrass research universities currently involved in work to determine the relationships between high potassium sulfate rates and reduced turf stress, but I would like to hear from superintendents about their "in the real world" experiences on this topic.

Sincerely,
Dan Nason
10703 West 124th St.
Overland Park, Kansas

Need single information source

To the Editor:

We are all sincerely enjoying your publication — except for the omission of my name from your list of golf course architects in November.

The sky's the limit for you, it would seem, since our industry is in such need of a publication like yours. In particular, we need so much more information on how certain areas are dealing with wetlands legislation, and with limited maintenance materials (chemicals, etc.).

I wish you continual good luck.

All the best,
Ron Prichard
The Woodlands, Texas

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