

MARTTY GOLF ADDS TWO TO FOLD

FAIRHOPE, Ala. - Martty Golf Management has inked agreements with two golf facilities. Martty will manage Jennings Mill Country Club, an 18-hole Bob Cupp-designed course in Athens, Ga. The Alabama firm has also signed a consulting agreement with Chantilly Manor Country Club in Rising Sun, Md.

NGP ACTIVE IN SEATTLE, SAN JOSE

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SANTA MONICA, Calif. — National Golf Properties has acquired Summitpointe Golf Course in Milpitas Calif., and Lake Wilderness GC in Maple

Valley, Wash., from Japan's Sumitomo Bank. The acquisition gives NGP its second course in the Seattle



area and first in San Jose. NGP plans renovations and upgrades of both facilities. NGP also recently purchased The Golf Club at El Dorado Lakes in Gilbert, Ariz. American Golf Corp. will manage all three facilities. NGP's portfolio now includes 55 golf facilities.

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR AT PALMER

ORLANDO Fla. - Arnold Palmer Golf Management Co. has appointed Beth Sargent as director of membership and affiliation services and Jon DePriest as general manager/director of golf for Spencer T. Olin Community Golf Course near St. Louis. Sargent was most recently director of membership for Palmer's Bay Hill Club and formerly with Club Corporation of America. DePriest, a 14-year golf-industry veteran, was promoted from head golf professional at Spencer T. Olin.

COUNTRYSIDE ADDS DUNBARTON NINE

DUNBARTON, N.H. — Countryside Golf Inc. recently purchased nine-hole Valley View Country Club here. Countryside plans to begin design and permitting of an additional nine holes in 1995. Improvements to the existing nine and the clubhouse are currently underway. J.A. Canfield & Co. of North Conway represented the seller.

VIRGINIA OAKS, HURDZAN TAP GPA

HARRISBURG, Pa. — HP Companies recently retained Golf Property Analysts of Harrisburg to provide appraisal and analysis services for the Virginia Oaks Golf Club in Gainesville, Va. Hurdzan Golf Course Design has also employed GPA to provide feasibility analysis services for a proposed golf course community near Athens, Ohio.

Course photography adds to image, bottom line

By MARK LESLIE

A picture says a thousand words — and can sell hundreds of golf club memberships or thousands of golf rounds, for that matter. So, taking the best photograph at the best time takes on crucial dimensions, say world-known photographers Mike Klemme and Tony Roberts.

"The power of the picture" can make or break a golf course, said Klemme, whose Golfoto, Inc. is located in Enid, Okla.

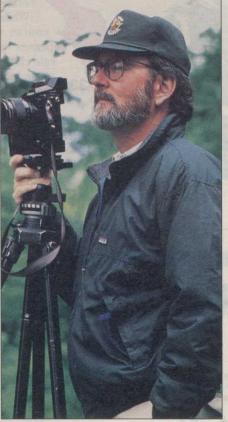
When Interfive Co. Ltd. of Nagoya, Japan, hired Klemme to photograph its World Woods Golf Course in Florida, Interfive paid his fee for two days but reaped many times that amount in free advertising.

"We got photos in 25 different magazines. Six calendar companies ran photos. And it didn't cost [Interfive] a dollar," Klemme said. "We kind of turn into a marketing partner."

"I can oftentimes make a marginal-looking place look good," Roberts said. "Sometimes there's not one good hole to photograph. Then you have to pull a rabbit out of the hat."

Real or conjured, photos are necessary for many areas at a golf course: on scorecards, in yardage books, marketing materials, advertisements, and elsewhere.

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May trains lens on life after Dye Designs

Ken E. May, formerly of Dye Designs, Inc. of Denver, Colo. has formed Rolling Greens Photography, located in Aurora, Colo.

May had been Dye's marketing and advertising coordinator and photographer for more than five years. Some of his most notable work has been the Dye Family Golf Course Calendar, awarded the Bronze Award for Most Creative Marketing Application in 1993 by the Calendar Marketing Association. May takes with him to Rolling Greens the Dye Designs photographic collection covering more than 80 Dye courses in various stages of completion, along with more than a decade of images of the Dye family, all of which he offers through a stock agency.

For more information, contact May at 303-366-4915; or write Rolling Greens Photography, 12246 East Second Drive, Aurora, Colo., 80011.

The Trophy Club in Houston, one of the new Cobblestone additions.

Cobblestone making strides in Sun Belt

"We like to think of ourselves as getting a Mulligan in this business. Because of the experiences we've all had, we get to throw out the bad and keep the good.'

That's how Cobblestone Golf Group President James 'Bob' Husband, explains the success of the 18-monthold company founded by he and financial partner Brentwood Associ-

Since October 1992, Cobblestone has purchased or leased 10 Sunbelt courses. The most recent was February's acquisition of Pecan Grove Plantation Country Club, a private facility that marked the San Diegobased firm's entry into the Houston market. Plans are to add approximately five clubs a year in the foreseeable future.

Toward that end, Husband has assembled an experienced manage-





ment team. Husband is a 20-year golf industry veteran and former chairman of chief operating officer of GolfCorp, ClubCorp International's public golf subsidiary.

He oversees an executive staff that includes Vice President of Operations Gary Dee, former head of operations for the PGA Tour; Vice President of Golf Operations Robert West, a former golf course owner and director of golf at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.; Vice President of

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American Links, with you every step of the way

By PETER BLAIS

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Four partners with extensive experience as owners, lenders, course designers and contractors have formed a company that can guide a course developer from initial planning through actual opening and operation of a golf facility.

"We impart to any project the unique ability to incorporate all these perspectives in our service to our clients," said American Links Consulting (ALC) President

"This combination of experience enables us to guide a client from the initial concept to a fully operational facility. Our services will include assistance in developing a concept, determining objectives, selecting the right designer and planning well-functioning facilities.

"Not only can we provide construction management during the project, we can also extend our services to implementing programs for the operation phase and longterm management of the facility."

While many management companies claim to offer developers similar conceptto-operation services, Trull said many are simply too small in scope and too inexperienced to be truly effective.

"I felt a need for a company that could offer a wider range of services while still providing detailed, efficient management," Irull said. "I believe we've put the right team together to do just that."

The team includes:

 Trull, President/General Manager — Trull spent the last 10 years with Wadsworth Golf Construction Co., starting as a shaper at Barton Creek Country Club in Austin, Texas, and working his way up to project superintendent. At Wadsworth, he was involved in more than 20 courses, nine of which appear in Golf Digest's most recent

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Paloma revives Tan Tara

NORTH TONAWANDA, N.Y. - Tan Tara Golf Club is reportedly on the road to economic recovery. Last October the Paloma Golf Group purchased the 18-hole course and clubhouse at acourt-imposed foreclosure sale for \$2.6 million. Paloma's was the only bid for the property. Membership had dropped to less than 300, down from a peak of 600. PGG Marketing VP Pamela Smith launched a campaign aimed at keeping existing members while using advertising and public relations to attract new ones. Over the first 60 days, the club retained 98 percent of existing members while adding 110 new ones. A grand re-opening is scheduled for this spring.

A Fla. power savings

MIAMI - Courses can save on electric bills and earn cash incentives by taking advantage of Florida Power & Light Co.'s Off-Peak Battery Charging Program.

By installing approved, pre-programmed controllers in the cart barn the battery chargers will be automatically activated during offpeak hours when energy demand is low. The rebatereportedly is equivalent to approximately \$60 per participating charger.

Course managers can call 800-FPL-5566 to meet with an FPL representative.



CIRCLE #140

ORLANDO (FL) MEMPHIS (TN) RENO (NV)

American Links

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list of America's Best Courses.

· Jack Parker, Business Development - As chief executive officer of Club Consultants Inc., Parker has more than 40 years experience managing golf facilities. He owns Tapatio Springs Resort & Conference Center outside San Antonio and is managing partner of The Quarry, a critically acclaimed Keith Foster design that opened last fall in San Antonio and has been nominated for Golf Digest's best new public course.

· Bill Ellis, Planning/Development - Ellis was chiefly responsible for developing The Quarry and specializes in golf development and project management.

• Jay Eddy, Planning/Finance - Eddy is an international banker with 22 years experience in realestate finance and development. His firm financed The Quarry.

"We can hold an owner's hand and protect his interests from start to finish," said Trull, whose main strength is 20 years of engineering experience.

"I stress value-engineering, presenting a developer with all the options during construction, detailing the costs and letting him decide. For instance, that might entail the benefits of surface drainage versus underground piping or perhaps retaining elevation changes versus blasting to level the landscape."

The growth of golf has led to a proliferation of development-related firms, Trull said. Helping an uninitiated developer or greens committee select the right designer, construction firm, product vendors and the like can save the developer thousands of dollars, he added.

Since the extent of ALC's participation in any project will vary, "our fee schedule is dependent on the intensity of our involvement,"

the company president said Since forming ALC in early February, Trull and his partners have been approached by several groups and entered negotiations with some in the United States and Mexico.

For more information, contact American Links Consulting, 200 Concord Plaza, Suite 750, San Antonio, TX 78216; or telephone 210-828-2885.

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