

Summer school's in session — right at the golf course

Teach students what they won't learn at the universities

BY TERRY BUCHEN

I have had the pleasure of employing university turfgrass students during the summers and most have progressed as assistants and superintendents throughout the country. Over the last few years, I have had from four to eight students each season,

either gaining further experience or serving their internship, and one thing has stood out in my mind — I have not been spending enough time with these future agronomists, mainly because of the day-to-day administration demands.

Last summer, I started a Turf Club at our course, similar to what many universities have for their students. But ours is a little different. The main focus is to teach a class at our Turf Club called: *Everything They Don't*

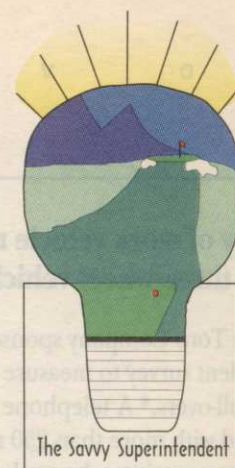
Teach You at College. It's amazing the response we have had.

We meet usually on Wednesdays after work in my office. The students DO NOT get paid for attending and it is strictly on a volunteer basis.

We have never had a student miss a class yet and the enthusiasm is exciting. We usually choose one topic each week which is supposed to last 30 to 60 minutes, but usually lasts 90 minutes to two hours.

Wide-ranging topics include

personnel management, rules of golf, USGA recommendations for hole locations, irrigation programming, government briefings, pesticide licensing, magazine article filing, member relations, club official relations, tournament specifications and preparation, photography, pesticide compatibility, community relations, native prairie grasses, irrigation water suitability testing, record keeping, bunker maintenance philosophies, equipment purchasing/leasing guidelines,



lightning rod installation, construction check lists, bridge construction, reports to club officials, Audubon Society Certification guidelines, reel and bed-knife sharpening, wildflower/perennial flower maintenance, state well water usage reports, drainage installation techniques.

I make photocopies of pertinent information from my files as hand-outs so they can start their own filing systems. It is always fun to ask the students what "they" want discussed each week and they usually resort to the items mentioned above. Having a round-table discussion about personnel management and resume/how to find a new position is always lively and usually results in much longer sessions.

I relish the experience, and it's another good way to stay in tune with the next generation of superintendents. Plus I really learn a lot from them.

IRRIGATION CONTROLLER REPAIR

We have 10 back-up irrigation field satellite face plates in stock for obvious emergencies and the turnaround time to have the defective ones repaired is sometimes four to six weeks at best.

A few years ago, I started to research to see if there were any controller repair companies (other than going through the usual manufacturers' distributors) who would respond in a timely fashion to our needs.

I found the fastest and best controller repair company for Toro irrigation equipment.

Wally Moore, of W. Moore Service, has done controller repair for me for the past five years with outstanding results.

He will repair our controller **the same day** that he receives it and will ship it back to you the same way that he receives it, unless instructed differently, i.e. next-day air before 10:30 a.m.; next day air by 3 p.m.; second-day air economy, the same.

It is refreshing to send out a controller, next-day air by 10:30, on a Monday, and receive it repaired and checked out by 10:30 Wednesday morning. Moore does **warranty** work also, and I suggest that you discuss this with your Toro distributor prior to sending controllers for repair to work out the invoicing arrangements, etc.

Moore can be reached at: W. Moore Service, Commercial Electronic Repair, 140 East Illinois Ave., Southern Pines, N.C. 28387; telephone 910-695-8800.

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