

GCN JANUARY

New group fights for the right to walk

WASHINGTON, D.C. — It's a classic golf story for these times. A story with legs.

Graham Whatley, a former Clinton administration appointee now working as a consultant, has launched the Walking Golfer's Association to promote and advocate the rights of golfers who prefer to walk while they play. The non-profit association will fight to keep walking an essential part of the game of golf.

"This is political movement in the golf world," said Whatley, a 39-year-old attorney who plays to a 12 handicap — while

walking — at his local course, the Redgate Municipal Golf Course in Rockville, Md. "We're quite serious about this."

The idea of a walking golfer's association would have seemed ridiculous 30 or 40 years ago — and might still seem so in most parts of the world where walking golfers dominate. But golf in the United States in the late 1990s is another matter. The industry's heavy reliance of golf cart rentals to increase golf course revenues and the growing number of golf courses in the United States that force golfers to rent and ride carts has led to a grass-roots resentment among those who prefer to walk when they play golf.

"There's nothing worse than being forced to take a cart," Whatley said.

Whatley and his partner in the venture,

Keith Pickford, are currently working to enlist people from different areas of the game to serve on the WGA's Board of Directors. One of the first to sign on is golf course architect Dr. Michael Hurdzan.

"I really think walking a golf course is an essential part of golf," said Hurdzan, who grew up caddying, then later became superintendent at a public course in Columbus, Ohio, where walking was a natural part of the game.

The main target of the association will be the growing number of high-end daily-fee courses that require golfers to take carts at all times or during peak hours. Whatley said a first positive step would be for these courses to allow golfers who prefer to walk the option of walking but paying for the cart fee.

GCN MARCH

WOODHEAD HEIR APPARENT TO GCSAA THRONE

ANAHEIM, Calif. — R. Scott Woodhead will take to the podium as president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America two years from now following his election as secretary/treasurer of the national organization during February's International Show and Conference here.



Scott Woodhead

Woodhead, superintendent at Valley View Golf Club in Bozeman, Mont., bested Tommy Witt of Wynstone Golf Club in North Barrington, Ill., in the election for the secretary/treasurer post. Witt will continue on the board as director, completing the second year of his two-year term.

"While golf is a social sport, many financial executives believe it's an excellent forum for business networking with colleagues and clients without the distractions of the office," said Max Messmer, chairman of Accountemps.

GCN JANUARY

Golf is the choice of chief financial officers

MENLO PARK, Calif. — When they're not in the office planning financial strategy, the nation's financial executives prefer to spend their time on the fairways, according to results from a nationwide survey.

Twenty-one percent of the chief financial officers (CFOs) polled said their favorite leisure activity is golf.



The game is even more popular with CFOs of large corporations (500+ employees), where 40 percent cited it as their favorite pastime.

The survey was developed by Accountemps, a major temporary staffing service for accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. It was conducted by an inde-

pendent research firm and includes responses from 1,400 CFOs from a stratified random sample of companies with more than 20 employees.

Respondents were asked: "Which one of the following best describes your favorite leisure time activity, other than being with friends or family?"

Their responses were: golf (21 percent); reading (14); team sports (10) working out (9); movies or theater (9); adventure sports (9); music (5); surfing the Internet (4); tennis (3); fishing/hunting (2); other (12); don't know/no answer (20).

Otterbine Aerators

Enhancing Waterways...

Otterbine Barebo offers a complete line of custom water features; including ornamental 1/2 HP Instant Fountains and High Volume units that dramatically increase the flow of oxygen throughout your body of water. From golf courses to residential housing, we can meet all your water quality management needs. Each Otterbine aerator is made to the exacting standards that have given Otterbine products their reputation for high quality, longevity, safety and ease of installation.

Inquire today and let an Otterbine representative show you how!



Otterbine®/ Barebo, Inc.
3840 Main Road East
Emmaus, PA 18049
1-800 AER8TER

