

## Historical preservation for superintendents is vital

By TERRY BUCHEN ILLIAMSBURG, Va. — The historical preservation of everything that a golf course superintendent does, both now and in the future, is extremely important — not only for its influence on the world of golf, but for the professional historical record as well.

Witness the vast amounts of books, manuscripts, letters, reports, records, photographs, videos, equipment, et. al. that have been donated to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's (GCSAA) Historical Preservation Committee. They have been given by superintendents and their families, both young and old, living and deceased.

The exhibit of old equipment memorabilia has been on display at GCSAA headquarters for many months, which makes superintendents proud of their roots. This vital committee needs superintendents' further help and support to continue on with the many pieces of archival material still needed and wanted to make this "museum" the biggest and best in the superintendents' community.

A logical next step is to have a GCSAA Hall of Fame for living and deceased superintendent pioneer legends, to further capitalize on the many great advances that have been made in the profession. The GCSAA Hall of Fame could fill a void between the Distinguished Service Award and The Old Tom Morris Award by rewarding all of the superintendents who have been legendary in the highest form of professionalism that has existed since the association was founded in 1926.

Entering the Hall of Fame would be no easy task as any future inductee would have to earn it, plain and simple, by being nominated to the highest standards set forth during their entire career. The Historical Preservation Committee and, ultimately, the Board of Directors, would approve nominations.

Every good deed done by a superintendent would have to be well documented. And the Historical Preservation Committee would set the highest standards. The many state golf association halls of fame are starting to recognize superintendents who have contributed greatly to the game of golf. Why not have one for superintendents to honor their own?

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There are many good golf chat rooms on the Internet. An especially good one is www.traditionalgolf.com, which has a Golf Architecture and Design Forum. It is very lively, provocative and lots of serious and humorous fun for anyone who simply views its many daily postings, or who is a full-blown participant. Along with this architecture forum are a few home page short-cut listings for timely information on selected golf courses anywhere. There is even a Rules of Golf Discussion Group for any level of participation imaginable. Superintendents will also have fun on this one.

One of the many great ideas in golf course management comes from Florida, where a few select facilities have oncourse employees' restrooms. Many courses do not allow their employees to use the men's and ladies' restrooms out on the course, so a third unisex restroom is added for employee use only. It

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saves a lot of time going back and forth to the turf-care center to use the facilities and is a good idea that will hopefully catch on.

