

## Wadsworth

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Wadsworth said that since he formed his company in 1958, the cost of new courses has risen from \$100,000 to millions.

"These past 50 years have brought many opportunities," he said. "Proof of that is right here in this room tonight. This great game is fundamentally why we are here. It is the foundation of our existence. It is wonderful that so many people can play this game throughout their whole lives. It's an intensive game, a devoted game..."

Wadsworth, who once called architect's renderings "cartoons," added a couple of good-natured digs at architects.

"Builders now have to accept a new meaning for the word 'responsible,'" he said. "It means 'pin everything you can and anything you can on the builder.'"

"But we need them and we need each other," he added. "Think of it this way: They are designing today's golf courses that are going to be tomorrow's rebuilding opportunities."

Asked recently what was needed to start a course construction business, Wadsworth joked that he answered, "Four things: a ruler to measure an owner's pockets for his ability to pay for the work; a level to make sure the grades are uneven so architects can tell you what you are doing wrong; a crystal ball to know when to run for cover from a natural disaster; and a pocketful of cash to cover the losses you are going to incur regardless of all the trust you put into people's intentions."

Wadsworth cited the GCBA's original organizers, whom he called "bold people who understood a need for a growing industry." He singled out Jim Kirchdorfer, the one remaining founding member in the 28-year-old organization, and Perry Dye, who financially kept it alive when it was in trouble in the late-1980s and early 1990s.

And he thanked his employees who, he said, are the best. "Your long-standing devotion to my business principles are recognized, and I will always be thankful to you," he said.

"Most importantly," he said, "please remember: first, the game of golf, support it. Second, the builders association, support it. Third, be patient, be persistent and be what the game is all about — perform in a gentlemanly manner. If we follow those thoughts we have a bright future." ▶

## Arnold's last hurrah at GCBA

NEW ORLEANS — The Golf Course Builders Association of America dinner here marked the last major function for outgoing Executive Vice President Phil Arnold, who is leaving to start his own golf photography business, Golfscape Photography, in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Outgoing President Bill Kubly of Landscapes Unlimited credited Arnold as the driving force behind the GCBA's growth, over the last nine years, from 60 to 280 members and from a revenue of \$50,000 to \$500,000 per year.

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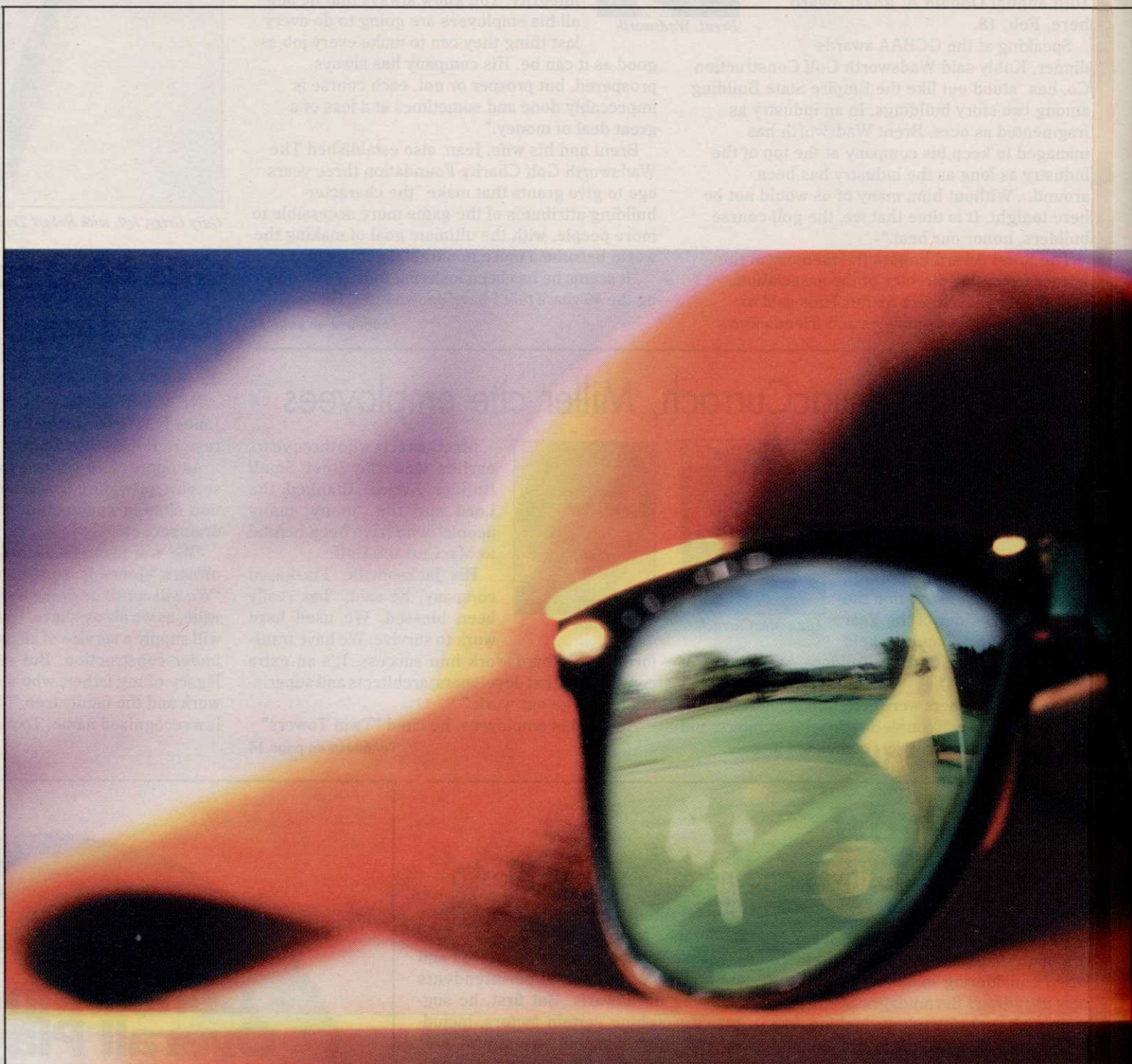
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Brian Almony, the general manager, and Tom Webber, a project superintendent, along with senior construction superintendent Chris Lapanto and superintendents Doug Seldon, Jeff Tourangeau and Chris Kleinsmith.

Meanwhile, Louisville, Ky.-based Miller said, "This is just an incredible honor from *Golf Course News*."

He paraphrased astronaut Chuck Yeager as saying, "If you like to do a job, some day you get to be real good at it."

And he added that his "inspiration from the beginning came from Brent Wadsworth," president of Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. ▶



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