



Chief, braves and squaws, painted at eye level in fiberglass, give warning that there is a plate glass door ahead in Big Foot's dining room.

Art with a purpose . . .

Big Foot Finds Way to Keep Hazards Out on the Course

A waitress who walked into a glass door and spilled a trayful of dishes really started something at Big Foot CC.

The accident led to the adoption by the Fontana, Wis. club of a unique warning technique that has virtually turned the main dining room into an art gallery. But it's not conventional art and no gallery yet has seen paintings that are seemingly suspended in midair like Big Foot's colorful Indian head designs.

A thorough survey of the nationwide "glass door problem" by club directors — and the coincidental development of a new art medium which is a translucent fiberglass paint — has given Big Foot members a new, triple-barreled attraction.

It's A Talking Point

First, the glass-door illustrations give members and visitors a new talking point — an art exhibit hanging in midair. Second, the art panels perform a safety function, telling everyone nearby: "Glass door — don't walk through!" Third, being created of a paint you can see through, the designs do not obstruct the magnificent view that is one of the club's prime attractions.

To make doubly sure of an unobstructed view, the eight Indian heads were all painted at eye-level. Thus they do one job while visitors are standing, warning of the presence of the panel doors, while leaving a clear view to anyone who is seated.

The relief side of the paintings is on the inside of four double doors, eight feet

high, all leading from the main dining room to the veranda. Viewed from inside, with the night light shining through, they give a completely different effect to the viewer, similar to that of much more expensive stained glass windows.

"Everybody who has seen the new panels," says club president Edward W. Kempf, "has commented favorably on them. Members are especially grateful that we have managed to remove a safety hazard while at the same time we have enhanced the appearance of the clubhouse."

Fiberglass Paint

The new painted panels constitute a world's first for Big Foot, which is the first country club to be protected by the new fiberglass paint, called Resilene. It was invented by a Chicagoan, Don Browne. A commercial artist, Browne has formed his own company, Inlay Design, Inc., Franklin Park, Ill., to do custom art assignments with the new three-dimensional "paint you can see through."

The paint consists of a patented resin compound containing milled fibers of glass. Translucent, it captures every change of natural or directed light, creating a continuous color change. At the same time it conveys a stained-glass-like image through the medium it is applied to, whether fiberglass, plexiglass, or plate glass.

The club board of directors chose the new medium after a discussion of various

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Hazard Reduced at Big Foot

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ways to prevent mishaps similar to the waitress's encounter with the glass door. They were especially concerned with the increased national publicity given to the hazards presented by the new ceiling-high glass doors similar to those at Big Foot. More and more people have injured themselves simply by walking into a closed glass door which, because of its immaculately clean finish, gives no hint of its presence.

While members were surveying conventional methods of preventing further accidents, former club president, Louis E. Nelson, suggested a solution which offered an added inducement of minimum interference with the panoramic view through the doors. He had already seen the effectiveness of the new painting medium as applied to murals in his own architectural award-winning bank.

The directors called in Browne, who presented sketches of eight separate Indian chiefs, braves and squaws to be applied in the new glass paint on the eight door panels. They received the directors' hearty approval, and were rendered within a few days.

Members are now doubly appreciative

of their magnificent view through the panels to the seven man-made waterfalls beyond and the surrounding course. All hazards at Big Foot are now out on the course — not indoors.

March 18 Is Deadline in Richardson Voting

The deadline for voting in the Golf Writers Assn's William D. Richardson trophy award is Mar. 18. Ballots should be mailed to Charles Bartlett, GWA secretary, Chicago Tribune, Chicago 11.

Seventeen officers and directors recently nominated ten principal candidates for this year's award. They are:

Tom Crane, executive dir. of the PGA; Margaret Curtis, donor of the Curtis Cup; Jim Demaret, three-time Masters champion; Joe and Herb Graffis, publisher and editor, respectively, of *Golfdom*; Maurie Luxford, Crosby Pro-Am tournament chairman; Tom McMahon, of equitable stroke control fame; Cliff Roberts, Masters tournament chairman; Gene Sarazen, past champion and now the announcer on Shell's Wonderful World of Golf; Ronald Teacher, sponsor of PGA Senior events; and Glenna Vare, six-time women's amateur champion.

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