

# STAN ZONTEK "COMES HOME" FOR A VISIT!

By Mark Kienert

ONLY two days after a heavy wet blanket of snow covered much of Northern and Central Wisconsin, the last of the WGCSA headed South to the warmer climates of Janesville to play Supt. Bruce Schwiegers "third nine" on a very windy, sunswept day.

Those rumored not wanting to attend this meeting because, "it's only a nine hole track" missed out on some of the most unique greens in the state. Built using the construction techniques found in an earlier day, that featured terrain changes that an alpine skier would fondly call moguls. Bruce had the course in fine shape for our group, as always, and promised to have us back sometime after the turn of the century or just after the "other Blackhawk" hosts a meeting.

Scramble event winners on this windy day were: First place was the team consisting of A. Jeff Bottenzek (continuing the winning easy of a recently departed turncoat, "What was his name Roberts"), Dick "The automatic Pilot" Evenson. (Did you ever notice the glasses he wears? I can't prove it, but I swear all the data needed to one putt greens is projected up onto those lenses just like the flight data used by some hot F-16 flight jockey.) Listen for the sound of computer chatter the next time you're near Evenson, or was that the sound of "Heavy Metal" in his pockets as he collects another bet? I need TEN Shots a side, Dick! The local knowledge was provided by Brad Wagner, a not so likely fourteen handicapper, and Mr. Jon Gallus. Second place winners were Wayne Otto, Myron Seavers, Bob Belfield and local Pro Ken Johnson. Third place winner were the Portage Pro Ray Shane, Bob Stock, Joe Deschler and recently retired Bob Welch.

Our friend for life, Mr. Stan Zontek of the United States Golf Association's Green Section, gave his usual, excellent overview of problems found around the country and in our backyards. For those who were there, it will be very difficult to forget the memory of Stan, serving as auctioneer, raising monies for the O.J. Noer Center in Houston.

Zontek spent six years serving as the USGA Agronomist for Wisconsin (and



Former Great Lakes Region Agronomist Stan Zontek.

the rest of the Great Lakes Region). The thrust of his remarks focused on the differences between golf turf management in Wisconsin and in the mid-Atlantic region transition zone he now serves. In the final analysis, stress related problems impact most significantly in both areas. Ours are frequently winter related problems—desiccation, crown hydration, low temperature kill and snow mold. In the mid-Atlantic states, the most serious troubles come

in the summer months—they normally experience between 30 and 35 days with a high temperature over 100° F. Spring dead spot is a problem in that region, and even though their winters are mild, they can lose bermudagrass in the winter. The South suffers from pythium, dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, summer patch and soil born pythium. They also have to deal with serious insect problems and have difficulty controlling crabgrass and goosegrass.

Stan flew into Milwaukee over the preceding weekend and spent that time with his close friends Wayne Otto and Dan Quast.

Thanks, Stan. Many thanks to Bruce and his staff for drawing foursomes and arranging prizes. It's a great golf course, one of the secrets of golf that can be found "Only in Wisconsin".

Thanks to Mike Semler and his Education Committee for inviting Stan for a visit home. And special appreciation to Stan for taking time from his busy schedule to travel to the Midwest. It was all our pleasure!

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Tuesday, Oct. 25th and Wednesday, Oct. 26th

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