

Spreading the Breeze

By Rod Johnson



Ah, Spring! Hustle! Hustle! Hustle! Is this what we've been waiting for throughout this year's endless winter? From all reports Wisconsin's golf courses have fared winter's wickedness quite well. There has been very little ice damage reported, but some small amounts of snow mold are said to have dotted the fairways of the Fox River Valley. Early season ice accumulations and mid-winter ice expeditions had led to some pessimistic conversations. It seems there were as many ways employed to deal with the dreaded ice accumulations as there are boring days in March.

By the time your eyes fall on this, we will all be fighting our fierce May opponents — short crews — short days — fast growing bluegrass — and the bloodcurdling dandelion. You can spray the weeds, you can mow the grass, but most of us have a hard time dealing with the lack of man or woman power and a work schedule that involves more time than the daylight hours allow. In the rush of things, remember — "Let's be careful out there!"

Also by this reading the WGCSA Monthly Meeting Tour will have made its first stop. Back on April 25th a Superintendents Potluck Scramble will have been completed over the Blackhawk Golf Course in Janesville, Bruce Schwieger, Host. History will have repeated itself with a Prime Rib Dinner at the Janesville Elks Club. Will history have repeated itself with a Brewers' season opening win streak? Time will have by now told if the streak was at 19 by meeting time.

On Monday, May 23rd we will gather

on my home turf in what promises to be a special day. Special in that Bill Bengelfield, National Director of the USGA Green Section and Editor of the Green Section Record will be our evening speaker. Please be sure to pre-register and to take advantage of the invitation to include your club officials in the day. In accordance with Pine Hills policy and in fairness to everyone involved, all items listed in the meeting notice will be strictly enforced. Pre-registration will be an absolute must. Pine Hills will not be able to accommodate walk-ons. If this offends anyone, I apologize, but policy is policy and with advance notice it shouldn't be a problem.

For the Pete Dye Fans or other interested people, Black Wolf Run will not be open for play in May. To avoid a WGCSA traffic jam or interested observers outside their fences, contact Marc Davison, Golf Course Superintendent and Tour Guide. Marc informs me that he will entertain WGCSA sightseers at about 9:00 a.m. on the 23rd. Come early — stay late — have fun. I know I will, without the usual long ride home.

In June it's off to the "Land of the Swiss" and Monroe Country Club, Tom Schwab, hosting. With everyone's golf games in mid-season form it should be a pleasure to rifle arrow straight tee shots to the approval of these "Hillside Yodelers". Mark your calendars now for the 27th in what the "Bull" has declared 2-2-2 day. Three on the front and two on the back and get your billfold out, Buddy!

This issue's rerouting includes that the enthusiastic Pat Shaw is the new

Golf Course Superintendent at Tuckaway Country Club and is anxiously awaiting the opportunity to show his abilities to the PGA Tour at this year's Greater Milwaukee Open. Joe Fryman has assumed the duties of Golf Course Superintendent at Muskego Lakes Golf Club. In a somewhat belated announcement, Lora Ripp is the new Assistant Superintendent at Butte Des Morts. Best of Luck to all!

A rerouting that I'm sure everyone is aware of by now is that Bill Roberts has a new address. Bill has left Sentry World and is now employed east of here in Mo Town. Bill's new address is:

Bill Roberts
Lochmoor Club
1018 Sunningdale Drive
Grosse Point, Michigan 48236
(313) 881-8112

I know that I will personally, along with the entire WGCSA Membership, miss the frequent contact with one of the most talented people the WGCSA has known. At the forefront of the tremendous strides that our group has made in the past few years there was always Bill Roberts. We will all miss Bill, but I am confident that through the talents of all WGCSA members we can pick up the slack and continue the momentum.

In Houston, Bill was reelected to the GCSAA Board of Directors by a landslide. The vote total makes it seem only logical that Bill will become President of our National Organization in due time. All WGCSA members will be able to share in the glorious accomplishment of that day. Bill will want it that way.

Adios Amigo.

Monday, May 9	Manager/Pro/President/Superintendent	Merrill Hills
Tuesday, May 10	NEWGA Clinic	Butte Des Morts
Wednesday, May 11	WSGA Spring Meeting	Camelot
Friday, May 20	2 Man Bestball WTA Benefit	Camelot
Monday, May 23	WGCSA Meeting	Pine Hills
June 3-5	WSGA Bestball	Tumblebrook
June 13-16	WSGA Match Play	Ridgeway
Monday, June 27	WGCSA Meeting	Monroe C.C.

**Remember 1st Round Pair-a-Dice Cup
Matches to be played at either May or June Meetings**