

Most herbicides are stable in alkaline conditions. At pH values less than 5.0, they may precipitate out and the herbicide is ineffective.

The above data suggest a pH meter or a test kit would be a good investment for a golf course.



Jim Lathan continues the "wrap-up" tradition.

Two features are common to every symposium. Foremost is the wrapup and review by our region's USGA

Green Section Agronomist. Again, that was handled superbly by Jim Latham. We're fortunate to have such ready access to the man who has become one of the country's foremost turfgrass experts.



Keynote speaker Tom Sutton.

The luncheon each year features a keynote speaker of some note. This year, Tom Sutton from Channel 12 Sports in Milwaukee offered some insights to career in the world of sports. He's had the opportunity to deal with golf in his job and enjoys it tremendously. He encouraged golf course superintendents to communicate with media people like himself — they are always interested in good stories and newsworthy events. That kind of visibility can be a plus.

The 1989 Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium tackled a subject that has quickly moved to the forefront in our business. The speakers who accepted invitations to build the program did an excellent job of helping answer some of the tough questions being asked.

Next year is the 25th anniversary of the symposium. Anything is possible now to mark this quarter century of education in memory of O.J. NOER. Jim Spindler and the symposium committee anxiously await suggestions for the 1990 program.

Sketches by THE GRASS ROOTS illustrator Gene Haas.

## GCSAA BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

By Rod Johnson

GCSAA, our national organization, is on a roll. Membership numbers, membership participation, and membership services have experienced unprecedented growth during the past five years. Membership in GCSAA continues to be the most positive step a golf course superintendent can take.

The spiraling growth cycle of GCSAA and the expanded services it provides is not without its growing pains. The Board of Directors of GCSAA has approved the construction of a new headquarters building. The GCSAA Headquarters will remain in Lawrence, Kansas.

Do we need a new headquarters building? Yes, definitely without question! Not for image, not because new is better, we need a new headquarters building to continue to function. The expanding GCSAA membership roll and the services that we, as members, have come to expect have made the construction of a new facility a requirement.

In 1973 GCSAA moved from rented space in Des Plaines, Illinois to its present location in Lawrence, Kansas. A 9,600 square foot building was built on a 1.9 acre site on Alvarado Golf Club.

Through the years this building has been expanded to 12,000 square feet. The present building and the site have been expanded to its physical limits. This, coupled with the fact the GCSAA growth shows no sign of leveling off, makes construction a necessity.

The figures depicting GCSAA growth are staggering. In 1983, 16 staff people handled the workload while today 42 people are needed. In 1983, GCSAA had revenues of 1.9 million dollars. 1989 will see GCSAA revenues top 6 million dollars. Five years ago there were 5,000 members of GCSAA, now there are over 9,000. Education continues to be the hunger of GCSAA members. Six educational seminars were offered in 1983 and 72 in 1989. The merchandise program, virtually nonexistent five years ago, will gross more than \$150,000 in 1989. The numbers go on and on. The growth is staggering, phenomenal and unprecedented.

With these overwhelming facts in mind, GCSAA Board of Directors hired an outside firm to study our group, where we are heading and what our future needs will be. Announcing the conclusion of the study was that we

need to build for our present with the future in mind.

Hard facts in hand, GCSAA has purchased six acres in a research park west of Lawrence, Kansas. The three corner lots are part of a new development and will adjoin a golf course which is just beginning construction. The golf course is part of Alvarado Golf Club and is just down the road from our present headquarters. GCSAA has also purchased the option on the three adjoining lots bringing the total available land to 11 acres.

Plans have been prepared for a 40,000 square foot building. The building will be of four levels in two wings housing offices and classrooms. The plans show a very attractive design that includes a landscape befitting the profession. The floor plan that I have viewed is very functional, esthetically pleasing and included are exciting things beyond the norm. Space has been allotted for a visitors center, classrooms, and a state-of-the-art theater setting. Also included is a library and a board of directors room.

Do we need all of this? You bet! The tale of the tape is that when GCSAA

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staff was gathered for the news of the new building, the meeting had to be held elsewhere. There isn't enough room at our present headquarters to gather troops. We have an excellent staff that deserves the working environment that the new facility will provide.

The timetable is as such. Bid documents have been prepared for approval at the October board of directors' meeting. Bid openings are expected in December to select a general contractor. Construction is to start in

January of 1990, weather permitting. A June 1991 move-in date is projected.

How much you ask? The project has a four million dollar budget-building, land, furnishing, systems inclusive.

Our current building has been appraised at \$800,000. This building was originally purchased for \$125,000 and is free of mortgage and debt. The board of directors has authorized using one million of the three million that our treasury has in hand. The remaining 2.2 million will be financed through industrial revenue bonds. There are

numerous benefits of this financing not to mention a 50% tax abatement from the City of Lawrence. This abatement has an estimated value of \$900,000 over the next ten years.

John Schilling, GCSAA executive director, has projected that this debt load can be handled at our present organization size and zero growth. I'm sure that we all agree that GCSAA is not through growing — upward and onward and build for the future.

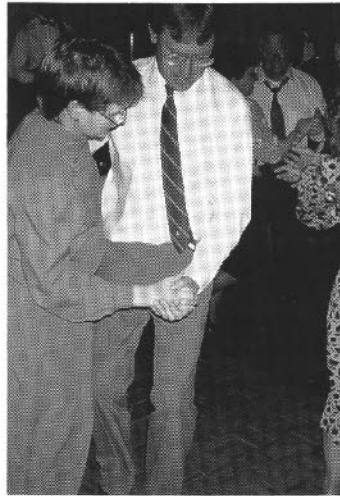
## THE WGCSA AUTUMN EXTRAVAGANZA: ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER SUCCESS

By Rod Johnson

The sixth annual WGCSA Autumn Extravaganza was held October 20th and 21st in "Beautiful" Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. Barefoot Bay Resort and Quit Qui Oc Golf Club proved to be the type of hosts that an event organizer dreams about. It couldn't have been better.

The 30-plus couples in attendance learned why I refer to it as "Beautiful" Elkhart Lake. The scenery of the area is only matched by the friendly hospitality of the people. Quite plainly, the locals know how to have fun and know how to make a group like ours have a memorable weekend.

Barefoot Bay Resort proved a varied setting from previous years' sites. By summer this resort is a busy, bustling place. By late fall it provided a quiet exclusive retreat for WGCSA. Lee Richards, resort manager, handled our group with the personal attention nor-



"Mark, if you step on my toes one more time I'm leaving!"



Hop-hop-hop



Someone dropped a nickel!

(Continued on next page)

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