
A Day At the Mounds

By Tom Schwab
Monroe Country Club

Another gorgeous day was had by all 63 people in attendance at the May WSGCA meeting at Koshkonong Mounds. Our host, Mike Kactro, and the club officials with the Mounds saw to it that everyone was treated with top-notch hospitality. The golf course was really a pleasant surprise to many of us who hadn't played there before. The big hills, mature woods and interesting layout really challenged our games. To top the day off, there was a great prime rib dinner and interesting talk and slide show by Skip Wilms of Onwentsia.

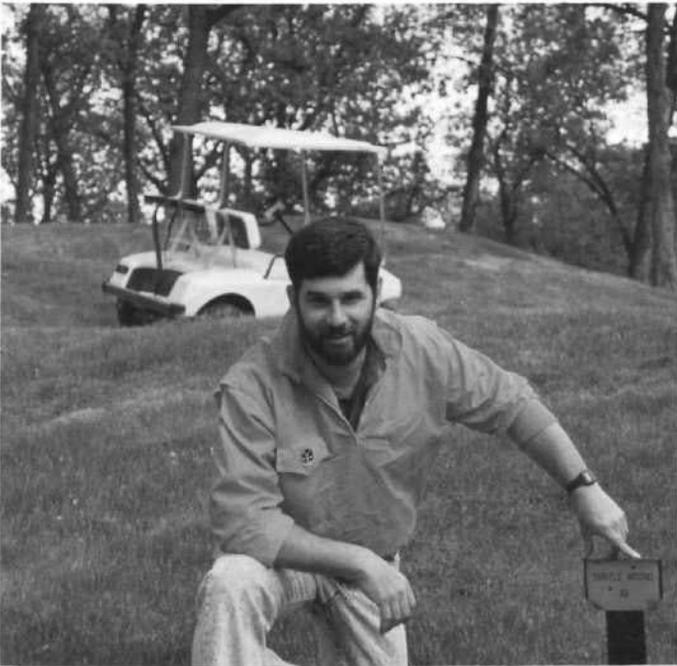
Skip's talk was about what it's like being a superintendent in Lake Forest, Illinois, an ultra-exclusive suburb of Chicago. Skip's descriptions of his new position made me wonder if he was describing a course on another planet, not just another state. He has a budget of \$130,000 earmarked just for the indoor and outdoor tennis courts. The golf course budget is over one-half million. One of his maintenance buildings is literally big enough to house a Chicago Bear indoor practice.

Some of the membership rules were also of interest. They are not allowed to use carts; it's caddies only. There is no golf allowed before 8:00 a.m. And no business activity can

be conducted at the club. Only leisure and recreation are allowed on the premises. Before you think about running right over and getting a membership, Skip told us it's very rare that one of the limited memberships is opened to the public. Just to get on the waiting list costs \$75,000. You can imagine what a yearly membership might be.

The skilled club handlers at Koshkonong Mounds for the day's skins golf event were Erv Graf, Jim Shaw, Butch Payne, Pat Shaw, Charlie Shaw, Tom Schwab, Joe Kessenich, Bill Douglas, Rod Johnson, and Dave Smith. The flag event winners were Tom Emmerich for the drive closest to the flag #1, Bruce Worzella for closest to pin first shot on #4, Kurt Reinicke for most strokes on #7, Bill Knight for long putt on #10, Darwin Anderson for drive closest to flag on #15, and Mark Hjortness for closest to pin third shot on #18. Congratulations go to the winners.

Kactro said he really enjoyed hosting the meeting and that he would like to do it again in a couple years. This generosity was felt throughout the day, and it's why we saw so many people leaving the Mounds with a smile on their face.



Host golf course superintendent Mike Kactro, kneeling at a turtle effigy mound.



A cheesehead turned flatlander — Skip Wilms, formerly of Racine C.C. and now Onwentsia's golf course superintendent.