

Audubon Highlights Spring Business Meeting

By Kris Pinkerton

Seventy-five members attended this year's spring educational and business meeting held in Fond du Lac, Monday, February 28.

The speakers for the session were Ms. Jean McKay, Mr. Phil Bailey, and Mr. Carl Stenbol.

Jean McKay, staff ecologist for the New York Audubon Society, led off the morning program with good background information on the "Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses." Jean stated that, "The New York Audubon Society, non-affiliated with other Audubons, takes a pro-active approach of working with golf courses in improving the quality of the environment." Not all other Audubons do!

The Audubon Program currently has 900 golf courses involved; 19 are from Wisconsin.

Jean also enlightened attendees in the process of joining the Audubon Society and the various requirements for becoming a Certified Cooperative Sanctuary.

Phil Bailey, from Ozaukee Country Club, took to the podium next. Phil's topic, "Ozaukee Country Club's quest for becoming a Certified Sanctuary."

"Showing the public that golf courses are necessary and safe green spaces in an ever growing community was one of the reasons why Ozaukee C.C. joined the Audubon Program," stated Phil. From public involvement to recycling, Phil shared with us the steps taken for certification in the various categories.

Currently Ozaukee C.C. is certified in 6 of the 7 categories and on their way to being the first fully certified golf course in our state. Job well done!

Carl Stenbol finished out the morning session in an informative matter. Stenbol, a compliance specialist for the State Emergency Response Board, began by describing the goals of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), also known as Sara Title III. After brief discussions on the various sections of the EPCRA, Carl spent most of his time on annual reporting requirements for extremely hazardous substances.

While asking the audience, "How many of you have filed your Wis. Tier Two Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory due March 1?", Carl turned and covered his eyes!

After lunch, the spring business meeting was called to order. Highlights were as follows:

1. President Michael Semler spoke of the completion of funding for the 10,000 sq. ft. putting green at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Center. Mike added that, "WGCSA is on the verge of funding our own research study for Wisconsin Superintendents."

2. Vice-President Mark Kienert, also reporting as a chapter delegate, gave a short summary from the GCSAA annual meeting held in Dallas, Texas on February 7. Only two of the proposed 15 bylaws amendments failed. They pertained to new classifications for Class D members and Club Officials. Mark also reported that Scott Woodhead, Tommy Witt, and Paul McGinnis were elected to the board of directors.

3. Treasurer Pat Norton handed out the 1993 financial statement and reviewed the proposed budget for 1994.

4. Joe Kuta recognized twenty-five year members Dale Marach and Don Steinmetz. Hats off to these gentlemen!

The S&R committee presented the 1994 scholarship and research proposals for membership approval. After some discussion, membership passed the following disbursements as follows:

Agri Business Dues	\$200
F/RoW/T.....	\$800
J.R. Love Scholarship.....	\$500
O.J. Noer Foundation	\$500
Robert Trent Jones (GCSAA).....	\$500
USGA Foundation.....	\$500
WISE.....	\$500
WTA Research Fund.....	\$10,000 *
TOTAL	\$13,500

*Represents a four year commitment at \$10,000/year. ♣

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