
In Memoriam-- O. J. Noer

"God does not always take away trials or carry us over them, but strengthens us through them."

"O.J." passed away July 12th, 1966 and to all of us, whether we were associated with the golf profession or not, we knew him or knew of him. He will be missed, we in our life times will not know another personality like O.J. Noer.

Mr. Noer was born in Stoughton, Wisc. Sept. 27th, 1890. He went through the elementary grades at Stoughton and went on to the University of Wisconsin in 1908, graduating with a B.S. in Soils and a minor in Chemistry in 1912.

Following graduation Mr. Noer became connected with the Soil Survey Service and in 1914 became State Soil Chemist for Wisconsin and assisted Dr. Truog in setting up the first soils testing lab in this country.

In 1915, 16, 17, he was an Instructor in General and Analytical Chemistry at the U of W. The next three years were spent in the Chemical Warfare Service, where he attained the rank of Capt.

In 1920, Mr. Noer married Miss Julie Anderson and the two moved back to Stoughton. After working three years for the Stoughton Wagon Company, Mr. Noer went on to graduate school under a partial fellowship created by the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission for research in Milorganite.

This started a 35-year-long association with the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission at the end of which he retired as sales manager and chief agronomist.

Since 1960 Mr. Noer was as active as he was the previous 35 years as a consulting agronomist, flying as much as 50,000 miles a year.

All of this history on Mr. Noer does not do justice to Golfing's "Mr. Turf." Many of Mr. Noer's innovations and ideas are now taken for granted as a means to fine turf. Surely "O.J." will be missed.

Reprinted from August 1966 Issue of WGCSA Newsletter

PAT NORTON AND THE SOUTH HILLS CLUB HOST JULY MEETING

Rainy weather cleared in time for Pat Norton to open his golf course and allow WGCSA members to tee off on schedule. South Hills' fast greens pleased everyone, and the results of the golf event are as follows:

Calloway System Low Net and Low Gross Winners

Low Gross — tie for first

Dewey Lack, Kettle Moraine G.C. — 79

Bruce Schweiger, Janesville Riverside — 79

Calloway System Low Net Winners

1st Dennis Robinson, Horst Distributing — 70

2nd Dewey Lack, Kettle Moraine — 71

3rd Bruce Schweiger, Janesville Riverside — 72

4th Dick Evenson, O. M. Scott — 72

5th Al Vrana, Meadowbrook — 73

6th Ed Devinger, Reinders Brothers — 73

7th Rich Thalacker, Thal Acres — 73

8th Mike Semler, Blackhawk — 73.5

9th Brad Wagner, Janesville C.C. — 74

10th Tom Schwab, Monroe C.C. — 74

11th Tom Kenfield, Clintonville Riverside — 74

Proximities

Closest to Pin on #4 — Pete Van de Hey, Mid-Vallee

Closest to Pin on #10 — Rich Thalacker, Thal Acres

Longest Putt on #9 — Ray Mertens

Although the speaker for the evening failed to meet his commitment, the 75 gathered members seized the opportunity to catch up on news and find out the kind of season everyone was having. The string of good WGCSA meetings remained unbroken!



Foursome of Pat Norton, Tom Schwab, Steve Erickson and Dennis Robinson at the South Hills Club. Also in picture are Bill Rogers and Mike Semler.

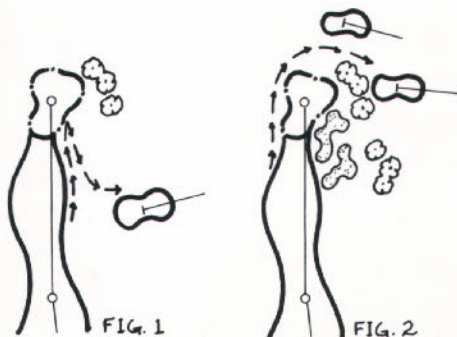
An Architect's Opinion
INITIAL IDEAS
ON GOLF
COURSE
CIRCULATION

By Bob Lohman

One of golf's great attractions is that it is played on natural terrain, or terrain that has been modified carefully so it seems natural. As an architect, I am always asked about the playability and strategy of a golf course. Most people never ask about circulation patterns or how they fit into the design of each golf hole.

With the increased amount of play and the heavy use of carts, as well as service vehicles, circulation patterns have become important elements of the total design. Safety for the players, natural flow of traffic, and maintenance of turf areas are items affected by the circulation patterns developed during the design or redesign of a golf course.

When designing a new golf course or remodeling an existing one, safety should always be considered. Even though it is practically impossible to stop people and carts from traveling all over the golf course, the proper use of design features can aid in circulation direction. One of the worst situations is where the layout of the golf hole forces players to walk back into the flow of play (Fig. 1). The best way to improve this situation is to remodel the golf holes so the tee is either behind the green or beyond and to the side of the green. With the addition of a bunker at the right front of the green, the natural circulation pattern is to the left and safely out of the play area (Fig. 2).



If the golf hole modifications cannot be made, then perhaps a series of mounds with heavy plantings can be placed along the right side of the golf hole to protect the players circulating from the green to the tee (Fig. 3). Safety is an important consideration and has precedence over the length of walk or ride from the green to the succeeding tee.



The easiest solution to any circulation problem is the one that allows for the natural movement of traffic. When remodeling an out-of-date golf course, it is critical to include circulation as part of the criteria that affects the final design of the golf hole.

In the case of new golf courses, and remodeling jobs alike, circulation is studied from the preliminary design studies and is included in the final plans in either actual cart paths or as traffic patterns that develop naturally due to the placement of the other design features.

By properly placing the design features, traffic patterns will never seem forced. This also eliminates worn-out areas between greens and tees and areas adjacent to

bunkers that are placed in the natural traffic pattern. Because of the concentration of traffic, the soil becomes compacted and worn-out, leaving bare spots that detract from the beauty of the golf course.

Cart paths should never dictate the design of the golf course, but circulation patterns should be part of the initial studies. In the intense-use areas adjacent to tees and greens, cart paths should be installed at the same time the feature work is being completed. This will minimize the cost and make the cart path seem an integral part of the total project and not an afterthought. Careful planning will ensure that the path is positioned properly to be functional and not detract from the aesthetic appeal of the golf hole or be a launching pad for a slightly errant golf shot.

Another practical application of cart paths is their use as service roads. When weather limits service vehicles from traveling on parts of the golf course, a good cart path system can provide access to all parts of the course at all times.

When planning the cart paths and/or service roads, thought should be given to location and use as well as structure, width, and curve radius. An attractive, durable, and functional path may be expensive to construct, but will save money in the long run on maintenance, cart upkeep, and path repair.

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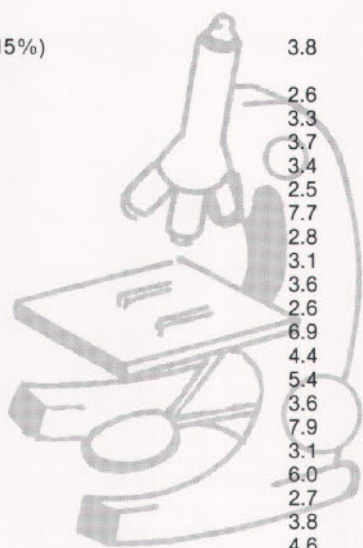
Turf Variety Evaluation Trials

By Dr. Gayle Worf

The primary objective of this experiment is to provide sufficiently large and replicated trials in a sod growing environment that will provide the opportunity for evaluating their reaction to various disease problems of interest to the turf industry. Special emphasis is upon "Patch diseases." Because such diseases often develop in irregular patterns of distribution, we have made these plots 10 x 50 feet in size, with three replications of each entry. However, other information is being obtained that should prove useful as well. These plots were seeded on September 16 and 17, 1982, with a Brillion planter. Bluegrass entries were seeded at the approximate rate of 50 pounds per acre, while the tall fescue and perennial ryegrass entries were seeded at twice that rate. Blends were prepared on a weight basis. Soil tests taken at that time were as follows: pH 5.7; phosphorus 170-280 pounds/A; potassium 365-465 pounds/A; soluble salts 48-55; organic matter 12.5%.

A uniform stand was established during the fall of 1982 on the Long Island Sod Farm, and it wintered through quite well. Helminthosporium, density, color and root depth ratings were taken in 1983. The perennial ryegrass entries did not winter through well in 1983-84, and are only now showing some recovery. This will be an important consideration as the 1984 readings of blend responses are examined. The entries are listed in the table below, along with data that have been taken to date in 1984:

Entry	Helminthosporium (May 31)	Color (May 31)	"Patch" (July 13)
1. Palmer perennial ryegrass*			
2. Diplomat perennial ryegrass*			
3. Regal perennial ryegrass*			
4. Elka perennial ryegrass*			
5. Yorktown II perennial ryegrass*			
6. Adelpia (85%) + Yorktown II (15%)*	2.9	(7)	0
7. Vantage (85%) + Regal (15%)*	5.5	(5)	0
8. Ram I (90%) + Jamestown r.f. (5%) + Diplomat (5%)*	5.3	(6)	1.5
9. Ram I (70%) + Jamestown r.f. (15%) + Diplomat (15%)*	3.8	(6)	
10. H-7	2.6	(5)	0
11. I-13	3.3	(5)	0
12. Haga	3.7	(5)	0.3
13. Merit	3.4	(7)	0.2
14. Eclipse	2.5	(7)	0
15. Wabash	7.7	(5)	0
16. Nassau	2.8	(6)	0.8
17. N535	3.1	(7)	0
18. Birka	3.6	(5)	2
19. Midnight	2.6	(10)	0
20. Ram I	6.9	(6)	1.3
21. Sydsport	4.4	(5)	1.3
22. Newport	5.4	(6)	1.7
23. Columbia	3.6	(5.5)	1.5
24. Park	7.9	(5)	0
25. Georgetown	3.1	(6)	1.3
26. Vantage	6.0	(6)	0
27. Adelpia	2.7	(8)	0
28. Glade	3.8	(7)	0
29. Mystic	4.6	(6)	0
30. Baron	3.2	(7)	0.3
31. Merion	2.8	(5)	0
32. Tranpas	4.0	(6)	4
33. Park (29%) + Dawson r.f. (29%) + P. distans (25%) + Pennfine ryegrass (17%)*	6.4		1.0
34. Rebel Tall Fescue	2.2		0
35. Rebel T.F. (80%) + Sydsport (20%)	3.2		0.2
lsd .05	0.4		



* The Ryegrasses did not survive well in the winter of 1983-84.

All readings are an average of three replications except the Long Island Sod Farm color reading, which was of only the first replication. Rating system for Helminthosporium: 0-3.7 = "acceptable"; 3.7-4.3 = marginally acceptable; 4.4 or greater = disease notice-able, and turf was thinner as the numbers increased. Color rating system: 5 = light color; 6 = moderately light; 7 = moderately green; 8 = moderately dark green; 9 = dark green; 10 = very dark green.

Note: A similar plot has also been established at the William and Lois Kempley Sod Farm. We appreciate the contributions of both the Huggetts and the Kempleys to this project. Special appreciation is also due Mr. Egon Herrmann (Lofts Seeds), who obtained the seed for us, and to members of the Turf Seed Industry who donated the seed.

RANSOMES, INC. WELCOMES DISTRIBUTORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Ransomes, Inc. hosted a meeting of their international distributors this past July. The distributors, representing fourteen countries, were in Wisconsin to visit the North American manufacturing facilities at Johnson Creek. It gave them the chance to meet the factory personnel in Johnson Creek and afforded them the opportunity to see new products soon to be introduced into the marketplace.

The group headquartered at the Olympia in Oconomowoc. Their trip included a visit to the Briggs & Stratton factory in Milwaukee where many of the engines used in Ransomes grass machinery are manufactured. They obviously had interest in North American distribution and spent time with Neil Ricker at Hanley Implement in Sun Prairie. Equally obvious was their interest in golf courses. In addition to counting golf courses among their customers, some of the distributors are golf club members. They spent some time at Blackhawk Country Club in Madison for refreshments and a few words from staff members about the golf industry in Wisconsin.

This marks the first trip by Ransomes' international distributors to Johnson Creek. North American distributors visited England in 1981 and will return there in 1985. Dick Lehman, Executive Vice-President of Ransomes, Inc., expects to invite the same group back to Wisconsin in another five years.

In addition to those individuals noted below, the meetings were also attended by Mr. John Wilson, Director of Sales for Ransomes LTD., Mr. Brian Mitchell, Director Engineering for Ransomes LTD., and Mr. David Legg, North American Turf Manager for Ransomes, Inc.



Ransomes' visitors at Blackhawk Country Club.

International Grass Machinery Distributor Conference

Delegates and their Ladies

Mr. Charles Chance
Robert H. Andrews Ltd., Sunningdale, Berkshire, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Bird
R. S. Bird Ltd., Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, Wales.

Mr. Len Breakwell and Mr. Ted Breakwell
E. T. Breakwell Ltd., Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands, England.

Mr. Noel Broderick
Broderick Grass Machinery Ltd., Harolds Cross, Dublin 6, Republic of Ireland.

Mr. Robert Bridges and Mr. Johan Louw
F.B.C. Industrial, Chloorkop 1624, Transvaal, Republic of South Africa.

Mr. Bill Farquharson
Frews Tractors Ltd., Perth, Tayside, Scotland.

Mr. and Mrs. Karel Boers
Landre Milieu B.V., 4130EB Vianen (Z.H.), Netherlands.

Mr. Harold Overton
Lawnmower Service (Lincoln) Ltd., Wellingore, Lincolnshire, England.

Mr. Roy Bailey
Leicester Horticultural Engineering Co. Ltd., Blaby, Leicester, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Atkins
McKenzie's, Camden Quay, Cork, Republic of Ireland.

Mr. and Mrs. Joergen Wulff
Maskinfabrikken Avnsø A/S, DK2620 Albertslund, Denmark.

Mr. and Mrs. John Huyton
J. Mealor & Sons Ltd., Ness, Wirral, Merseyside, England.

Mr. Alan Mountain
W. Mountain & Son Ltd., Morley, Leeds, Yorkshire, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Paice
Paice & Sons Ltd., Felbridge, East Grinstead, West Sussex, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Carter
Paice & Sons Ltd., Maidstone, Kent, England.

Mr. Vic Maynard
Paice & Sons Ltd., Maidstone, Kent, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hallberg
Park & Grasvards Maskiner AB, Torvingegaton, 582 73 Linköping, Sweden.

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Revestam
Park & Grasvards Maskiner AB, Torvingegaton, 582 73 Linköping, Sweden.

Mr. and Mrs. George Parker
T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd., Worcester Park, Surrey, England.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dame
Ransomes Deutschland G.M.B.H., D-4400 Munster (Westf.), German Federal Republic.

Mr. Guy Valdelievre
Ransomes France S.A., 77820 Le Chatelet-en-Brie, France.

Mr. John Rickerby
Rickerby Ltd., Carlisle, Cumbria, England.

Mr. Don Reeder
Rogers Engineers Ltd., Great Barford, Bedford, Bedfordshire, England.

Mr. John Taylor and Mr. I. Savory
D. Rowe & Co. Ltd., Chichester, West Sussex, England.

Mr. Jacopo Sgaravatti and Mr. Pier Luigi Rovaris
Sgaravatti Egis Sp. A., 00184 Rome, Italy.

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Skeen
B. Skeen (Horticultural Machinery) Ltd., Billingham, Cleveland, England.

Mr. John Miller
P. A. Turney Ltd., Weston-on-the-Green, Bicester, Oxfordshire, England.

Mr. Danny Verbeke
A. Verbeke & Sons N.V., Industriepark Noord, 8880 Tielt, Belgium.

Mr. Gordon Watson
Victoria Limited, Milperra, New South Wales 2214, Australia.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Craber
Wega Maschinen U. Werkzeuge AG, CH6210 Sursee, Switzerland.

Mr. John Snell
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40	0.42	3.4
50	0.30	28.0
60	0.25	25.9
70	0.21	23.5
100	0.15	18.0
140	0.10	0.2

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Field Notes

**THE NIGHT WATERMAN:
Dedicated To
Everyone Who Has
Worked The Silent
And Lonely Shift
Of Night Watering!**

By Pat Zurawski

Thus ends another exciting and adventurous, but lonely, night of watering. The greens, tees and fairways glisten in the moonlight from a refreshing dose of life blood. A solitary figure glides across the

golf course for the last time of the night. He opens the shop door and caringly brings in his loyal companion, The Cushman, for the night. He slowly shuffles into the silent lunchroom — his office for the night. He winces slightly as the pain still lingers from that one pop-up sprinkler head that just happened to be aimed at a young man's most sensitive area. He hangs up his rain gear and wonders why he even wears it, because somehow the water still seems to find its way through.

The waterman's tools of the trade are scattered about on the table: The now empty quart bottle of Coke that kept him alert and quick to react to any problems that might have come up, the empty pouch of "Red Man" which kept him from seeing too many menacing shapes in the shadows of the night, and finally, a few "Doritos" left laying about, remnants of junk food that keep the night waterman from running down a rabbit, raccoon or ferret in order to have a decent meal.

The solitary waterman heads for home knowing that, although there will be no one there to greet him, there will be something just as good — a warm and dry comfortable bed. He drops into bed exhausted and loses himself in his dreams. He dreams of the day when he can once again wake up and walk out into the sunlight and see actual human beings. Perhaps, if he has not been severed from normal life too long, he can actually hold a conversation with someone. But for now he can only dream of such things, for there are many more nights of solitude for the night waterman. Perhaps one day the boss will come to the waterman's rescue and install one of those new-fangled automatic systems. The night waterman is a dying breed, but we would much rather be extinct.

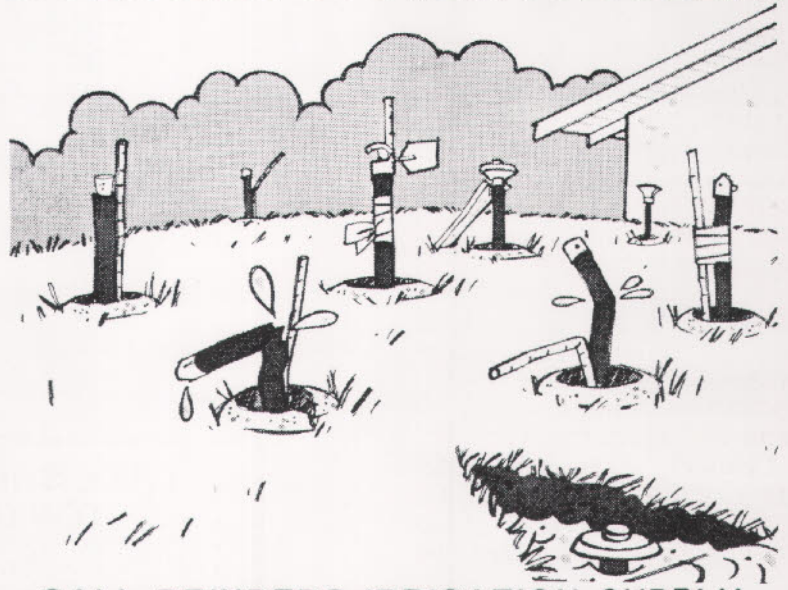
Editor's Note: Pat Zurawski spent many summer nights of 1984 as the night waterman at Blackhawk Country Club. He is currently a member of Skip Willms' staff at Racine Country Club. Could it be because Skip has one of those "new-fangled" automatic irrigation systems?



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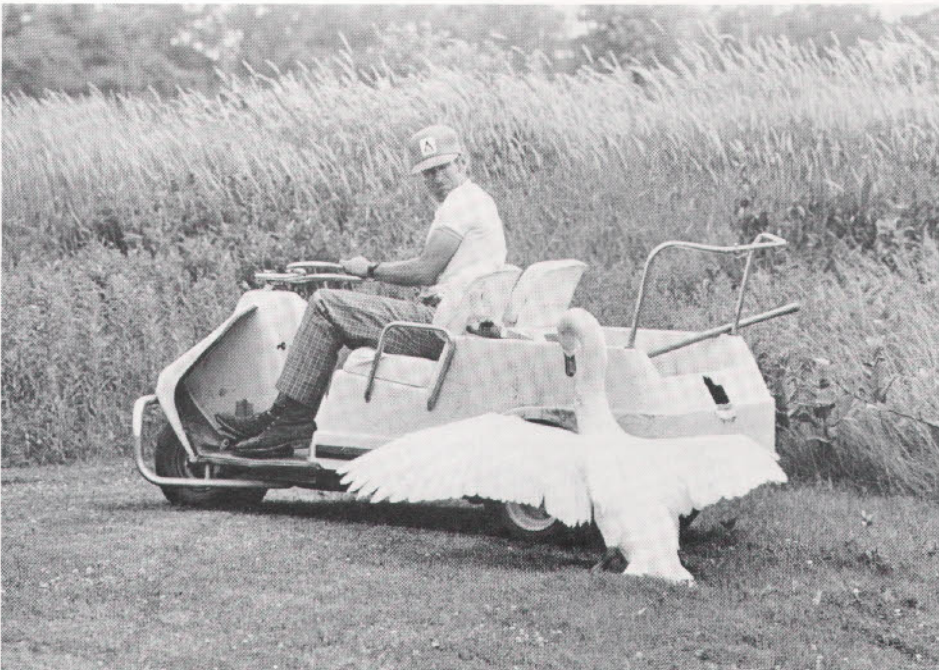
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HAZARDOUS DUTY

Ray Knapp, Golf Course Superintendent at Tuckaway Country Club, has an interesting problem to deal with on his 13th hole. It seems a family of swans has taken up residence in a pond near the 13th tee. They are beautiful birds and certainly add to the natural beauty of the golf hole. But . . . there are some problems. The male swan very aggressively protects his family from golfers, from Ray's employees, from golf carts and from golf course maintenance equipment. The first photograph shows Ray under attack and in serious trouble! Ray reports that some of the members even avoid the hole to prevent a confrontation. The second photograph shows the mother of the brood with her cygnets when they were six weeks old.

Photos are courtesy of the Milwaukee Journal.



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WISCONSIN GOLF TURF SYMPOSIUM
October 24, 1984

Morning

- 8:00 — 9:00 Registration and Coffee
9:00 Opening Remarks
Monroe Miller — President, WGCSA
Blackhawk Country Club — Madison, WI
9:15 Keynote Address — Research & Development and the University
Dr. Leo Walsh — Dean of Agriculture
University of Wisconsin — Madison
9:45 Coping with Regulators & Activists
Dr. John Harkin — Professor of Soil Science
University of Wisconsin — Madison
10:30 Short Break
10:45 Directions: Herbicide Development and Golf Turf Improvement
Dr. Ray Freeborg — Professor of Agronomy
Purdue University — Lafayette, Indiana
11:30 Luncheon Recess
Featured Speaker: *Frank Hannigan*, Senior Executive Director
United States Golf Association
Golf House
Far Hills, New Jersey

Afternoon

- Session Chairman — *William R. Roberts*, CGCS
Sentry World Golf Course
Stevens Point, Wisconsin
2:00 Trends in Golf Course Design
Mr. Geoffrey Cornish — Golf Course Architect
Fiddler's Green — Massachusetts
2:45 Directions: Insecticide Development and Application Management
Dr. Roscoe Randell — Professor of Entomology
University of Illinois — Champaign
3:30 Break
4:00 Directions: Fungicide Development and Agronomics in Disease Control
Dr. Noel Jackson — Professor of Plant Pathology
University of Rhode Island — Kingston
4:45 Cocktails and Conversation

October 25, 1984

Morning

- Session Chairman — *Roger Bell*
North Shore Golf Course
Menasha, Wisconsin
9:00 Opening Remarks
9:15 Corporate and Multi-Course Management
Mr. Joe Yuzzi — Director of Golf and Landscape Maintenance
The Palmaire Corporation
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
10:00 Coffee Break
10:30 Directions: Management of Sand and Soil Support Systems
Mr. Stan Zontek — Midwest Director USGA Green Section
Crystal Lake, Illinois
11:15 Questions/Comments/Discussion
Noon — The Great Getaway

Lake Wisconsin Country Club

JOSEPH PITTNER: A Golf Course Memorial

By Bill Rogers

All of us, at some time in our career, have had to sit back feeling frustrated and unappreciated. We have listened quietly as members have raved about the food served in the clubhouse or how well a tournament was organized. We wonder if the same gracious things are being said about the job we are doing, if we are appreciated in the same way. We wonder if our members realize the amount of work required by us to maintain and improve our golf course.

Well, I have a story to share that should make all of us feel proud about what we do as professional Golf Course Superintendents. It is a story of a young Superintendent who concentrated his energy and love for the profession into a golf course and a country club. It is the story of a man who was appreciated. It is about Joe Pittner.

He was the first Golf Course Superintendent at Lake Wisconsin Country Club who had formal education and training in turfgrass management. He had vision and was capable of seeing the total picture. He knew that there was much more to managing a golf course than just mowing the grass. Through his dedication and hard work he moved the club forward down the right path. He was a patient man, and in three years he had convinced the club that they needed improvements, helped in the planning of those golf course improvements, and got many of them started.

The tragedy is that Joe Pittner was killed in an automobile accident last fall. Members at Lake Wisconsin Country Club were grief stricken that this young man had been taken from them at such a young age. They felt that a permanent memorial should be erected in his honor and in his memory. After much discussion, it was decided that we would reconstruct our second tee for this project. This site was chosen because it was a favorite slope of Joe's. He

had actually laid out a new tee on this site shortly before his death.

This new tee will cover approximately three thousand square feet and will be a free-form, off-set, figure eight design. The new tee will stretch the yardage on this par-five hole from 519 yards to 540 yards. It will require a strong tee shot for even the longer hitters on this dog-leg left hole.

In addition, there will be a permanent marker placed on the site designating it as a memorial project. It will be a large natural stone with one side sawed flat, bearing a bronze plaque stating information about Joe and his dream.

The hole has been aptly named "The Overlook Hole" because of it's location high above the rest of the golf course and Lake Wisconsin.

sin. From this point many of the holes on the golf courses can be seen.

The project has been funded entirely through donations from Joe's family and friends along with our members. We tried to create a lasting memorial to Joe's dedication to his profession and his love for this golf course.

Upon completion of this project this fall, there is a dedication ceremony being planned. It will create a tribute to a young man who put so much time and effort into improving this country club.

I have a dream of my own. It has been an honor for me to follow in Joe's footsteps, and I will do my very best in picking up where Joe left off and improving the golf course in a way he would have approved of.



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Jay Powell

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