



NOER CENTER NEWS



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Blue Mound Golf and Country Club, Monroe Country Club Say "Yes" to the NOER CENTER

Blue Mound Golf and Country Club, Monroe Country Club and a number of individuals have added their commitment to turfgrass research in Wisconsin since the last issue of *The Grass Roots*.

Jim and Lois Latham and Bob and Kathy Belfield made gifts to the NOER CENTER in the name of the late Joe Cannestra. Tom Schwab added to his initial gift. Thanks to each and every donor.

Most obvious from the HONOR ROLL is who *isn't* there — some of the state's biggest and most prosperous clubs. This editor still believes no official of an absent club is against turfgrass research. This makes the absence of those clubs even more incredible.

And embarrassing.

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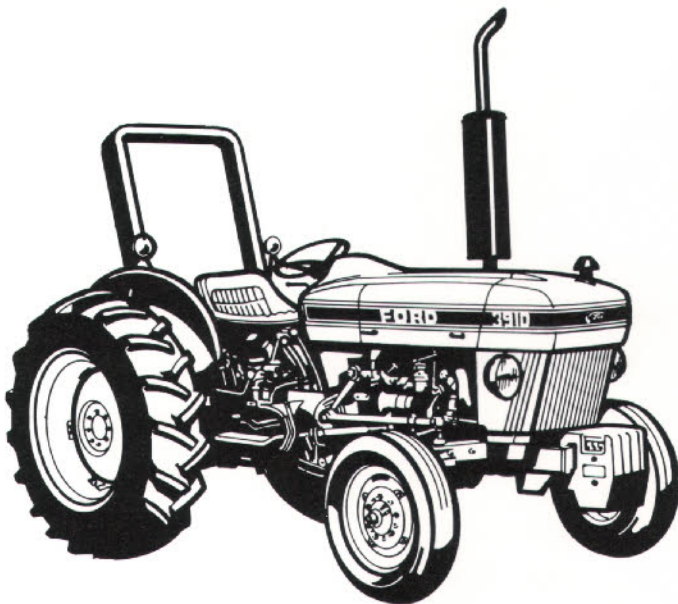
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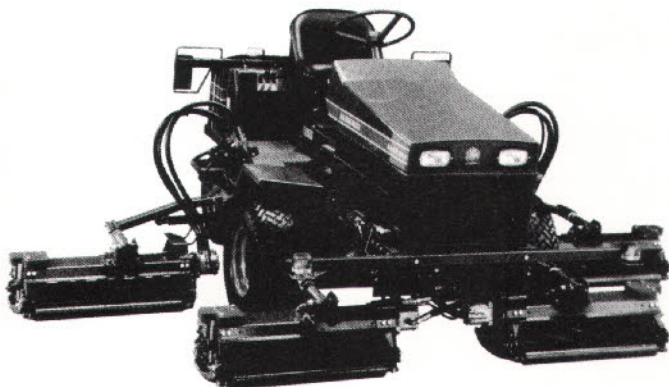
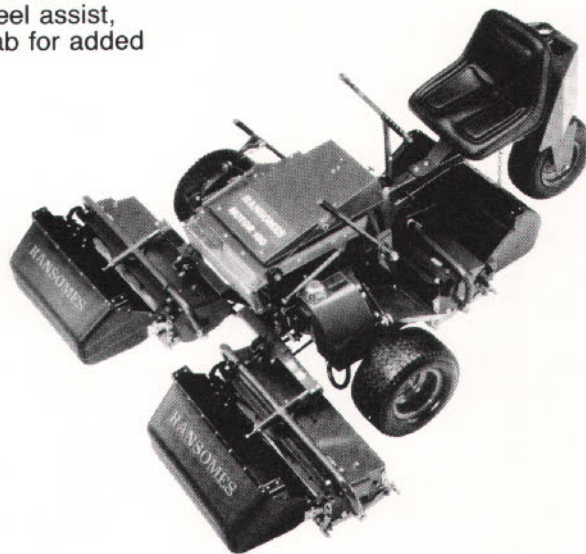
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Wisconsin Golf Course Trivia

By Monroe S. Miller

So you think you know a lot about Wisconsin golf courses, their history and that of our association? Lots of bits and pieces, odds and ends and trivia floating around in the far reaches of your memory?

Well, try your skill and luck in each issue of *The Grass Roots*. From this issue forward, you'll have a chance to play a bit of "Trivial Pursuit" as it relates to our business. It's strictly for fun!

If you have a question (and the answer) that you think will stump your colleagues, send it to this editor. It is guaranteed to find its way into "The Wisconsin Golf Course Quiz"!

1. What is the oldest golf course in Wisconsin? How old is it?
2. Name a Wisconsin native and longtime Wisconsin superintendent who was a charter member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.
3. Which golf course had the first un-

derground fairway irrigation system in Wisconsin? Who was second? Third? When did this improvement to our golf courses in Wisconsin begin?

4. Which company was first to put an engine on a walking greensmower? When?
5. Who was the first president of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association? Who was his employer?

5. Paul Brockhausen, Blue Mound Country Club.
Some things never change!
tion, oil and gas on greens, etc.
dent's concerns about compac-
Knute Jacobsen noted superinten-
Curiously, in handwritten notes,
ously bentgrass.
cut "ground hugging grass", obvi-

1. Tuscumbia in Green Lake. It is 93 years old.
2. Harry Hanson. He grew up in La Crosse where his father was the greengkeeper at the La Crosse Country Club. He served Maple Bluff C.C., Blackhawk C.C., built Sun Prairie C.C. as well as Hickory Hills in Chilton. He spent a number of years in the business in Illinois, too. Harry passed away a couple of years ago at his home in Brooklyn, Wisconsin.
3. Blue Mound Country Club and Milwaukee Country Club in 1937. Blackhawk Country Club in Madison was the third in 1938 when a Stewart designed system was first used on July 10, 1938.
4. Jacobsen, in 1924 in Racine, Wisconsin. In 1921, they made the first lawnmower with an engine. It was called a "4 Acre" mower and was a 30" walk-behind unit. In 1923, they made an "Estate" engine driven mower for fine grooming. Then in 1924 they manufactured the first engine powered mower to

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It comes to you automatically with your GCSAA membership. And it also goes to club presidents, green committee chairmen and other golf course officials, helping to enhance your professional status with the people who count the most.

It's required reading for anyone who's serious about the big job of keeping golf green.

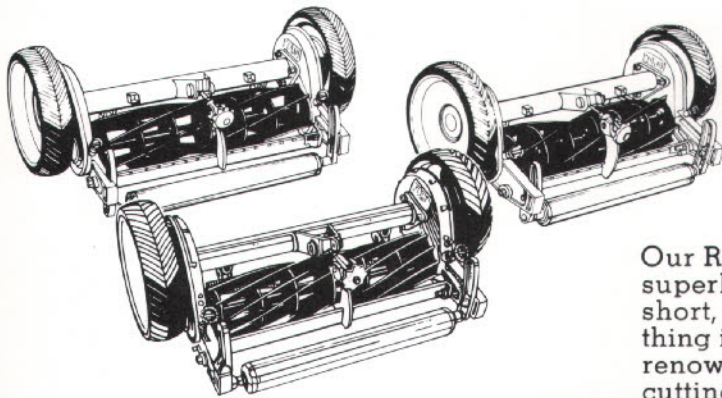


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Roberts Responds to “The Sports Page”

Mr. Monroe S. Miller, Editor
The Grass Roots
3809 Patrick Henry Way
Middleton, WI 53562

Dear Monroe:

I'd like to take this opportunity to respond to a couple of suggestions and comments forwarded by Mr. Rob Schultz in the July-August, 1989 issue of *The Grass Roots*. The constructive concepts for improving the image of GCSAA collectively and the Golf Course Superintendent individually have, in fact, been either implemented or considered over the past several years.

For example, GCSAA has produced a variety of television and print ads over the past two years which include the central theme that “We Keep Golf Green”. While this theme may not have quite the exposure or impact of General Motors’ “Mr. Goodwrench” campaign, I believe it has had an effect in raising the level of awareness regarding the Superintendent’s critical role in the game of golf and we are continuing to look at ways to enhance that effort.

Golf Course Management magazine has experienced a subtle evolution over the past several years in terms of both content and presentation. With substantial input from the Communications/Awards Committee and the Technical Resource Advisory Committee, the magazine staff has been able to maintain the technical/educational integrity sought by a conscious consensus of the Board of Directors. The magazine addresses issues ranging from, yes, “turfgrass” and “pesticides” to golf course architecture, construction, financial and personnel management, purchasing, public relations and other business skills, environmental and governmental relations issues, safety and training, computers, irrigation, weather, tournaments, golf personalities and much more. In my opinion, this approach serves, not only the direct information of GCSAA’s 8,000 members but, also, helps to acquaint “GCM’s” 20,000 other readers with the issues that face today’s Golf Course Superintendent. The magazine is, in short, eminently successful and meets its educational and public relations goals.

Two years ago I chaired an informal internal study group that explored the possibility of publishing a second magazine aimed at the golfing public. It was decided that while the concept has some merit in terms of public relations value, at this point in time, GCSAA’s membership would be better served by continuing to direct those substantial resources that would be required for such a venture to-

wards the enhancement of existing programs and the establishment of new programs such as our government relations efforts.

Regarding Rob’s encounter with the “head of an extremely successful course operation who was looking for a new superintendent” it would seem to me the fact the “wag playing in a \$2 Nassau” could inform his playing partner about GCSAA may be precisely the point. It wasn’t too long ago that the “wag” would not have known of GCSAA or of the Golf Course Superintendent.

I think GCSAA knows about “golf and golf courses” and we are not only responding to the needs of the industry in the 20th century, but are positioning the Association to serve our members, and by logical extension, the game of golf in the 21st century. The success of the magazine speaks for itself. Participation in GCSAA’s educational opportunities is at an all-time high. Our annual Conference and Show experiences record attendance year after year. The Certification program becomes more exacting and more sought after at the same time. We are providing a credible leadership voice in the area of environmental affairs. We provide support and perspective in the research arena. The list goes on and on but I think the point is that Golf Course Superintendents are, increasingly, being recognized for the substantial contribution they have been making to the game of golf all along because we have raised educational levels through numerous avenues and we are addressing the issues central to golf.

Beyond that recognition however, is a deep appreciation and a professional respect for the Golf Course Superintendent by those who know the game and the industry. That appreciation and respect translates to an employment environment for Golf Course Superintendents that has never been better and, in my opinion, is a result of a collective effort by GCSAA’s membership through measured, focused programs and participation.

Monroe, thanks for the opportunity to respond to Mr. Schultz. We are always looking for substantive input and *The Grass Roots* has a terrific tradition for providing a forum for the discussion of such input.

Sincerely,

William R. Roberts, CGCS
Director, GCSAA

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Jacobsen ushers in a new age in heavy-duty 84" triplex mowing with a truly lightweight, highly maneuverable package. So now you can say goodbye for good to those costly, one-ton monsters the competition turns out.

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A TRIBUTE TO JOE CANNESTRA

By Wayne Otto

Joe was a walking encyclopedia of knowledge about plant material, particularly anything pertaining to trees, shrubs and flowers. He loved birds and wildlife and would easily name a certain variety of bird that was seen. I tried many times to test his knowledge, even trick him, but Joe knew the common names along with the genus and species.

Joe was a self-taught man, learning all he could from books, publications, trade journals, and working with the man who Boerner Botanical Gardens at Whitnall Park was named after, Alfred Boerner.

Joe was a first class golf course supervisor at Brown Deer Park Golf Course, which hosted the USGA Publinks Championship for the third time in 1977. I remember much praise coming from USGA officials like Frank Hannigan, as well as congratulations on the fine condition of the golf course from the players who sought Joe out after their matches. I believe Joe had an extraordinary talent for obtaining ex-



cellence and high productivity from his maintenance crew. This was evidenced by the condition of the golf course, as well as the breathtaking flowers around the clubhouse.

Joe loved creating floral masterpieces and while he was still superintendent at Brown Deer Golf Course, came over to Ozaukee and helped us design annual flower beds. Since 1979, Joe literally did all the designing, order-

ing, planting and caring for our annual flowers, helped us maintain our trees, and supervised the locating and planting of more than one thousand trees on the golf course. (Joe always maintained that you must have vistas and not just a solid wall of trees.) He also designed and supervised the construction of ornamental concrete work and wood creations such as wood rounds for steps on a lookout on our eleventh hole and carved wood mushrooms near number two tee.

Anyone who knew Joe Cannestra loved him for his jovial personality and his tremendous knowledge. He was a very shy individual who never seemed to get the credit he deserved. Wes Eisenhower from Milwaukee County Park Commission told me one night during the USGA Publinks Championship that Joe was a maverick, meaning that he did his thing the way he thought it was best to do it.

Joe Cannestra died May 29, 1989, at the age of 64, after a long battle with kidney failure. I'm sure they broke the mold after they made Joe. Wherever he is, I know the birds are singing and the flowers are blooming more brilliantly than they ever have before. We really miss him.

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THE FIRST OF TWO WGCSA FOX RIVER VALLEY MEETINGS HELD AT NORTH SHORE

By Tom Schwab

For the second time in four years, our extremely busy WGCSA president, Roger Bell, hosted a monthly meeting at the beautiful North Shore Golf Club. This year's meeting was held on June 19, 1989. The view of their clubhouse perched on a bluff overlooking Lake Winnebago is a sight you would not soon forget. You weren't likely to forget the flawless shape he had his golf course in, either. Although it was quite a hot, humid day, none of the 60 golfers seemed to mind. They all enjoyed the great golf course, exquisite dinner and ever present priceless comradeship.

The day's golf event was divided into four groups. There was a special class of affiliate members and three classes of superintendents divided according to their handicaps. Each class was divided again into a low gross and low net winner. Those winners were:

AFFILIATE CLASS

Low Gross Ed Devinger
Low Net Greg Kallenberg

0-14 HANDICAP

Low Gross Mark Hjortness
John Feiner
Low Net Skip Willms

15-23 HANDICAP

Low Gross Bob Musbach
Low Net Bob Stock

OVER 23 HANDICAP

Low Gross Keith Gasch
Low Net Dave Murgatroyd

THE FLAG WINNERS WERE:

Closest to pin #7 Ed Devinger
Long Putt #9 Bob Stock
Closest to pin #14 Bill Knight



Despite a beautiful day at the North Shore Golf Club...



...Rod Johnson wasn't happy with his golf game!

1989 SYMPOSIUM PLANNING IS NEARLY COMPLETE

The Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium, 1989 edition, will focus on the topic of "Optimizing Pest Control". This has become an especially timely topic for those of us managing golf courses. The lectures will range from how stress affects pests to alternative pest control methods to how cultural practices affect pest control.

As usual, the Symposium will feature

some of the best speakers in the industry. The program has received confirmation from Dr. Robert Sherman from the University of Nebraska and Dr. Clinton Hodges from Iowa State University and Dr. Mike Villani from Cornell University.

Oscal Miles, one of the finest golf course superintendents anywhere will speak. So will our own Jim Latham,

USGA Green Section Director from the Great Lakes Region. Tom Sutton, WISN (Milwaukee channel 12) sports reporter, will speak to us. There will be other speakers as well.

The Symposium will meet on October 25th and 26th at our favored and traditional site, the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. Make plans to be there.