

trators. Affordable and accessible education is the goal of the PDI program so all members can participate.

The Internet offers an ever changing venture and things are no different with the GCSAA. Soon 24 x 7 member service will allow us to receive information and make changes to our own files 24 hours a day through the Internet. Online education is available with three online courses and more are being planned.

Last spring GCSAA tested an online Golf Super Market that was not well received by members or vendors. Of concern was the possible sidestepping of the distributor/superintendent relationship. In response GCSAA will only offer The Online Mall portion to link superintendents with manufacturers and local distributors to obtain information about products online. It will be an advertising venture that protects the distributor/superintendent relationship rather than a buy.com.

The website is also undergoing changes with a new forum starting in December and work is underway on a Knowledge Management Program. This program will allow GCSAA.org to be a one-stop shop with personalized information on weather, agronomic conditions, etc., much like MSN can be customized to your requested information.

The Limited Budget Outreach Program started last year to help smaller or lower budget courses and has been revised beginning with a new name. The "new" Technical Assistance Network will be less formal and not force itself upon a course. Instead it will have a simple brochure offering no-obligation help if you want it, along with information on contacting extension agents, the GCSAA and the local chapter. The revised program will allow a chapter to adapt it to their local needs and desire.

Most of what GCSAA has to offer is on the website and can be accessed there. If you do not have Internet access or want personnel help, call the association. We have staff who are there for us in areas including environmental and governmental relations and watchdogging, turf research, environmental stewardship, education, career advancement, chapter relations and public relations.

Last but not least we met and interviewed the candidates for the GCSAA board. All of the candidates are very qualified and willing to give time and efforts to the association. Choosing who will best serve the association in the future is a challenging venture. Information on candidates can be seen online or from mailings sent by GCSAA.

Overall, the trip was very educational for me and I would encourage all our members to use the resources GCSAA has to offer. Anyone with questions on the delegates meeting or the candidates can contact me at 920-929-3185 to discuss them.✿

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Integrated Turfgrass Management: Coming to You Soon!

By Dr. R. Chris Williamson, Turfgrass and Ornamental Specialist, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

In a proactive response to the proposed and anticipated legislative mandate (NR-151), the turfgrass faculty and staff at the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Agricultural Life Sciences (CALS) and Extension (UWEX) are in the final stages of development of an Integrated Turfgrass Management (ITM) program. The goal of the ITM program is to provide the necessary training, education, and outreach (consulting) to turfgrass managers. Such information will enable turfgrass managers to develop practical turfgrass management

programs that are cost-effective, agronomically and environmentally sound, without compromising ecosystem quality, yet are in compliance with relevant local, state, and even federal regulations.

Aside from conceiving the original idea for the ITM program, the initial, and likely the most important step was obtaining funding for the program. As you might expect, this is often the most difficult and sometime frustrating part of the process, especially when you think you have a great idea. Nonetheless, thanks to Drs. Geunwha Jung

(Dept. Plant Pathology), John Stier (Dept. Horticulture), Wayne Kussow (Dept. Soil Science), Mr. Jeff Gregos (Turf Diagnostic Lab), and myself, we were awarded a grant from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate School. This particular grant was made available as part of the Wisconsin Idea Initiative whereby resources are made available to ideas, concepts, and programs that bring together the University of Wisconsin and the people of Wisconsin.

Now that we have secured the

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financial resources necessary for the ITM program, our second step, which we are currently involved, is to interview and hire an ITM specialist. This person's responsibilities will include advising, assisting, educating, and supporting turfgrass managers in developing and managing both plant and pest management programs. The ITM specialist will work closely with university faculty and staff that comprise the turfgrass extension and research working group. We anticipate having the ITM specialist on board no later than the mid-February.

The third step of this process is the development of the ITM manual. The ITM manual will be a comprehensive tool that will contain information on: 1) turf growth and development, 2) turfgrass species selection and adaptation, 3) turf soil characteristics, 4) primary cultural practices, 5) secondary cultural practices, 6) concepts of integrated pest management (IPM), 7) sample IPM plans and record-keeping logs, 8) pest and nutrient management laws and regulations, 9) simple turf math calculations, equations, and conversion factors, and 10) reference lists. Our goal is to have the manual available by late-March.

Finally, the last step is to implement the ITM program. If our plans materialize as designed, we expect to begin enrolling turfgrass managers into the ITM program as early as this spring (2002). Since the ITM program is essentially a self-funded (fee-based) outreach program, subsequently a modest program fee will be associated with participation. Enrollees will be entitled to the ITM manual, full-scale training and educational workshops, an annual on-site consultation, turfgrass diagnostic services, and access to an interactive turfgrass web site.

Ultimately, we are confident that the ITM program will provide valuable information, education,

and resources, as well as aid turfgrass managers in their continually increasing need to justify management plans, policies, and procedures. Participation in the ITM program may also enhance the frequently perceived public opinion or misconception that turf is

potentially an environmental hazard. Moreover, this program has the impetus to potentially reduce unwarranted or unjustified inputs, thus saving monetary resources, and providing agronomically and environmental sound management practices. ✓

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The History of Golf Course Architecture, Construction, and Planning

By Jason M. Grode, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The game of golf evolved from the links of Scotland. Early golf courses in Scotland would forever influence, in many ways, the golf courses that would follow. The design, construction techniques, and planning have been varied over time, but the standard measure came from these early golf courses. As the interest in the game grew, the need for more golf courses increased as well. Soon, golf spread from Scotland throughout the British Isles and eventually to North America and is now played throughout the entire world.

In order to understand the history of golf course architecture and construction, one must start at the beginning—the early Scottish links. These early Scottish links were largely influenced by the environment in which they were constructed. The wind and weather (including precipitation) played a major role in the way the game was played and how golf course design developed. The landscapes in the early Scottish links courses were devoid of trees and water features characteristic of most modern golf courses. The winds often drove the livestock grazing on the land to trample grass in certain areas

resulting in sandy scars on the land which eventually became known as “bunkers.” Early courses only had a few to maybe 5 golf holes. These golf holes consisted of a starting point or tee and an ending point or cup. Eventually, early golf courses were designed so players left the clubhouse playing “out” for 9 holes and then they returned to come “in” for 9 more holes. Most of these early golf holes were located right along the sea.

The grass was predominantly bentgrass and fescue, which generally grew well on the sandy soils commonly found near the sea. The maintenance of the course was rarely considered in the early designs of golf courses and it is evident today as golf course maintenance involves a more “natural” low-maintenance method; including non-irrigated fairways and long grass areas that are rarely mowed. In fact, man had very little to do with the management of these early links, and it is believed that bird droppings and periodic rains contributed to the health of the turf.

The preeminent golf course in early Scottish links was



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St. Andrews. Records show that it existed in a somewhat primitive form as early as 1414. Many changes in design and the game of golf happened at St. Andrews, including putting greens being instituted as early as the 1700s. Eventually, particular attention was given to these areas and the need to keep these greens adequately covered with turf.

Expansion of the British railway system led to expansion of the game of golf throughout the British Isles. Allan Robertson (1815-1859), an early professional golfer of St. Andrews, is believed to be the earliest known golf course designer. Some of his projects included work on his home course at St. Andrews as well as various links throughout Scotland. Other professionals who became designers included Tom Morris and Tom Dunn, who would lead the early designers following Robertson. "Old Tom" (Morris) did considerably more in the area of golf course design and management than his predecessor Robertson and staked courses throughout Scotland, Wales, and Ireland; while Tom Dunn designed golf courses located inland to compensate for the dramatic increase in the number of golfers. This change from links style courses to inland golf courses didn't occur until the end of the 19th century. Modern golf course architecture would forever be changed by this move away from the sea as designers began changing fields of clay to satisfactory fields for golf by moving the earth and constructing various features.

By the late 1800s, the game of golf spread to North America. For the most part, Scottish green keepers and professionals designed the early "links" throughout America, yet it could not compare to the true links of Scotland and England. It would be up to various American and British designers such as C.B. Macdonald, Donald Ross, A.W. Tillinghast, and Alister Mackenzie to create a different standard for golf course design for North American golf courses in the early part of the 20th Century. Canadian born Charles Blair Macdonald was the first to coin the term "golf architect" and is known as the father of American golf course architecture. The 1920s are considered to be the "golden age" of golf course architecture due to the high number of superb layouts that resulted. During this time of great expansion, funds were available, real estate costs were relatively low, and ideal land was open for development.

Following the difficult economic times of the 1930s and the Second World War, a golf course architect by the name of Robert Trent Jones led the charge of modern golf course design and began creating many masterpieces across the world; eventually he would design over 400 courses. He is considered to be the most influential person in golf course design. However, this period has been viewed by some as being a bland or uninteresting period in golf course design, because of a relatively low number of advances or creative changes in design. In the

late 1960s and early 1970s this would change when Pete Dye began creating golf courses from nothing by moving great amounts of earth. He introduced golf course concepts that still exemplified the influence of early links courses including the use of pot bunkers characteristic of Scottish courses; furthermore, he introduced the use of railroad ties and created nontraditional amphitheaters for spectators to view golf competitions more easily.

Today, modern golf course architects consist of many different people from various educational and training backgrounds. There are still a large number of trained landscape architects who design golf courses, but there are also many golf course architects who are simply golf professionals who give a player's perspective to the design of a golf course layout. However, all modern golf course architects face new challenges that the early architects did not face including recreational water restrictions and environmental issues and groups. These challenges will continue into the future as golf course design grows exponentially with the growth in the number of those who play the game of golf.

Editor's Note: Jason M. Grode is a December 2001 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison turf management program.

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WGCSA Loses A Good Friend

By **Tom Schwab**, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Richard Beutel lost a battle to Melanoma of the liver and lungs on November 2, 2001. That was almost two months to the day of when he was diagnosed with a reoccurrence of the disease that he thought he had beaten eight years earlier, when it affected one of his eyes. I suspect that he may have felt something earlier but being someone that never complained, he didn't get concerned about the pains. And since it was such a fast moving cancer it may not have stopped the progression. Dick is survived by his lovely wife Linda, children Brian and Marci, and children from an earlier marriage Julie, Joel, and Jeff.

Dick was the superintendent of

Edelweiss Chalet Country Club since 1992. Before that Dick started his golf course management career as my assistant at Monroe Country Club. He had farmed his whole life previous to that and decided to get out of the business when farming couldn't make ends meet. Two big impressions I remember about him at Monroe were how the crew liked him and how organized he always kept the shop. I knew he would go places in the golf business when he decided to go back to night school and get a technical diploma in Landscape and Turf Services from Blackhawk Technical College in Janesville. He arrived at work pretty tired some days from doing night school, commuting to Janesville,

and working full time, but still never complained. Soon after getting his diploma he applied at Edelweiss, and they were very fortunate to hire him.



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Edelweiss hosted many Wisconsin State Golf Association and high school tournaments under Dick's tenure and I always heard great reports about the conditions, as I did whenever I talked to friends or members that golfed there. He also hosted a WGCSA meeting that likewise received praise. In fact that is where most of you probably know Dick. He was very active in association activities. Even though he was from a smaller budget operation, he was a very regular attendee at monthly meetings. He rarely missed the Symposium, WTA EXPO, Summer Field Day, and industry gatherings. Continuing education and dedication to the job were very important to Dick.

Dedication to his family was even greater. He stopped by the Noer Facility to visit often and would always have a twinkle in his eye

when he'd talk about his children. Jim Krieger from a neighboring golf course told me how Dick brought his kids over to play golf once in awhile and always was so proud of them. He was a good person that thought about others before he'd think of himself.

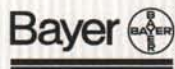
Many people in our business would call me, because they knew we had worked together, to see if I knew how Dick was doing after they heard he was sick. They would tell me what positive impressions they had of him. Kind, gentle, caring, concerned, smart, dedicated, and hard working were some of the adjectives I heard them mention. But since he went so fast, I don't know if Dick got the message about what people thought of him. He certainly touched a lot of people.

In one of the last conversations I had with Dick, he mentioned how

he wanted to get the message out to other people in our business about protecting themselves from the sun. He was pretty sure that his cancer first started in his eyes from being a farmer, spending untold hours in the sun, and not wearing sunglasses. In his earlier days he also rarely wore sunscreen like so many of the rest of us. He remained positive about his illness, believing to the end that he could survive it. He wanted so badly to write an article for the Grass Roots about wearing sunglasses, sunscreen or long sleeved shirts, and protective caps so that the rest of us could lessen our chances of going through the treatments he was going through. He would still want that message to get out. Dick; thanks for touching our lives. 🌱



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New President Emphasizes the Importance of Communication

by Lori Ward Bocher

It probably won't surprise anyone, but the new president of the WGCSA enjoys the challenge of working with people more than working with turf. That ability to work with people should come in handy in his new role as president.

"What I think is most important in our job today is communication," says Pres. David Brandenburg, general manager at Rolling Meadows Golf Course in Fond du Lac. "It's very difficult to be successful at being a manager of anything – not just golf – if you don't like dealing with people.

"In our jobs we have to communicate with staff, we have to deal with management, and we have to communicate with the customers. That's three distinct groups of people," David continues. "If you can communicate, you're going to be successful."

David believes that he is a good communicator. "My weakness is probably turf management," he admits. "My strength is communicating and working with people. I'm honest. I'm not afraid to approach people and let them know what I'm thinking. I try to let people know what's going on."

Presidential goals...

One of his goals as president is to improve communication between the board and membership. "I want to make sure that communication stays open and that all the people feel it's open," David says. "Sometimes I hear from people that the board just does what it wants to do – that it doesn't really care what the members are doing.

"But this is not an exclusive board," he emphasizes. "This is a volunteer organization. That's how I got on the board. A few years ago I just said that if they needed someone to work on a committee, I'd be glad to help. Here I am, 10 years later, serving as president. If you want to help and be involved, we'll find a way for you to be involved. I want to make sure the membership understands that. Feel free to offer your help and we'll make you a part of the organization."

David was elected to the WGCSA board of directors in 1994. He served on various committees, organizing summer golf events and educational programs. He was elected secretary, treasurer, and vice president before being elected president in November of 2001.

Another goal of the new president is to determine who will do the "busy work" of the association. "As individual members running golf courses, we don't have the time to do much of the busy work, like putting

together the directory, getting mailings out," David explains. "Right now we work very closely with the Wisconsin State Golf Association, and we have a great relationship with them. But we're to the point where we have to decide if we're going to ask them to take on more responsibility and pay them for that, or if we're going to hire somebody as a part-time employee."

More a business, less a game...

In what direction does David think his profession is heading? "Golf is quickly becoming more of a business and less of a game. I think all superintendents are going to have to recognize that," he answers. "Some years you're going to be asked to make financial cuts in order to help the whole club, especially at the daily-fee clubs. In the past, private clubs may have been able to spend what they planned and then have the member-

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