

Fun & Facts Feature Somerset Meeting

The monthly meeting of the M.G.C.S.A. held on May 3 at the Somerset Country Club had a little different twist from the normal meetings held throughout the year. Not only was there a chance for an enjoyable recreational day by playing the championship caliber Somerset Golf Course, but it was also the time for the opportunity to view the construction of an extensive drainage system being installed this year. This made it an educational day as well. Somerset Superintendent Gerry Murphy, who proved to be an excellent host, and his staff are laying a 36 inch tile line as well as creating several holding ponds around the course. This provides an extremely fine drainage channel for the tons of water that pass through the course after every rainfall. When the system is finished the bill will run around \$150,000, once again magnifying the large amount of work being done at Somerset this spring. Throughout the day one could see almost every one of the some one hundred superintendents who turned out looking at this project and, hopefully, learning a little something to take back with him to his own course.

The golf, cards and socializing were followed by the Membership Meeting in which M.G.C.S.A. President Dean Sime brought up several important items of business. Scott Hoffman of Madden's Pine Beach Inn Golf Course in Brainerd, Minnesota was accepted by the general membership and is now a Class B1 member of our organization. We would like to welcome Scott into M.G.C.S.A. at this time and we are sure that he will find the time he spends with this organization extremely worthwhile in furthering his skills as a golf course superintendent. Four other applicants were eligible for membership at this meeting but were unable to attend. Therefore, they will not be able to join for several months when the next meeting allowing new members' acceptance is held. Three long time members of M.G.C.S.A. were granted Life Memberships. Ray Hall, Larry Graves and Oscar Bergman are the new life members and we would like to congratulate them and also thank them for being such a vital part of our organization for so many years.

Jim Lindblad reported that the M.G.C.S.A. Research Fund totals only \$265.00 toward the goal we have set of \$2,000. Several superintendents mentioned the fact that their courses were unable to contribute because of certain laws governing contributions by municipalities. However, several personal donations were received at the meeting and Jim mentioned that all these personal donations are tax deductible. Let's not forget to keep hustling these donations because with the EPA and Mother Nature working as a team, we all know only too well what an important project this really is!

The meeting was followed by an excellent buffet steak dinner as only Somerset can provide. We would like to sincerely thank Gerry Murphy and the entire staff at Somerset for all the hospitality and courtesy shown to us that day.



NEW MEMBER. Former President Larry Vetter of the Minikahda Club greets new member, Scott Hoffman of Madden's Pine Beach Inn and Golf Course.