THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Don Lindblad, Chairman Education Committee



In starting another golf season the things that normally give us fits are shaping up to be the same. Snow, ice, water, drainage, thawing and freezing. Taking a stab at looking into the future, we as grass growers can look forward to the best spring we've had in many years.

In keeping with our theme to provide quality education in as professional a manner as possible, we can all look forward to the "Educational Meeting" or Mini-Seminar in March. The program has been carefully thought out and should be well worth the trip to Majestic Oaks.

Being chairman of the Educational Committee is proving to be very interesting to say the least. The survey that the Board of Directors sent out to you has helped make some changes in our format for the monthly meetings. Results of the survey showed that 25 approved of the monthly meetings on the present format while 44 favored a business meeting at 11:00 a.m., lunch at noon and golf at 1:00 p.m. with nothing scheduled after golf. The Arrangements Committee will try to follow this plan as much as possible this coming year.

On the question of the Stag Party, 50 voted in favor of retaining this event and 19 voted no. Therefore, the Stag Party will remain but probably will be renamed a Smoker and the entertainment will be toned down.

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On the Annual Conference the members selected Plan II with 28 votes. This is the two day plan - all day Thursday, Business Meeting and Stag. All day Friday with banquet that evening. This will be the format for 1980. The site will be the Sheraton Northwest as it has been the last two years. Plan I Present Schedule got 22 votes. Plan II all day Wednesday, Business Meeting, Stag - All day Thursday, banquet, 1/2 day Friday only got six votes. Plan IV 1/2 day Wednesday Business Meeting, Stag, All day Thursday, banquet - 1/2 day Friday got 14 votes.

We had many fine comments on this questionnaire and are very happy with the fine response we got from the membership.

JOB OPENING

Year around Golf Course Maintenance Man Should have turf background Salary dependent on qualifications Larry Mueller Minnesota Valley Club-Phone 884-1074

Should You Retire At Age 62?

The question of whether to retire at age 62 or wait until age 65 is one which becomes increasingly knotty for those approaching that time of life. When you retire determines to a large extent the amount you will receive in social security benefits and several variables determine which will be best for you.

If you retire at age 62 your basic benefit will be reduced to make up the extra three years of payments. At age 62 your reduced benefit will be 30 percent of the age 65 rate, but the closer to age 65 you retire, the smaller the reduction.

The reduction in benefits is permanent, but several other factors can raise or lower the actual payments you will receive. For example, you will be entitled to cost-of-living and other general increases. If you return to work before age 65 you will lose some benefits while you are working, but your benefit check the month you turn 65 will be higher

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because you received fewer payments before 65 than originally anticipated. If you work anytime after retirement and earn enough to increase your lifetime average earnings, your benefits also will increase.

While you may work and still collect social security payments, you are limited in the amount you may earn without forfeiting some portion of your benefits. However, at age 72, you will receive your full monthly check no matter how much you earn. Only earned income, earnings from a job or self-employment is counted, not investment income, moving expenses, sick pay or standby pay.

Arranging your retirement to collect maximum benefits is a complicated matter which requires a great deal of planning. Be sure you get adequate advice from a professional in this field before you take the big step. It could pay additional dividends in the years to come.

Reprint "FORE FRONT"



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Consulting Service for Golf Courses. Need help with short and long range planning? Tree plantings? Starting a sand top dressing program? Renovating tees and greens? Water problems? Equipment? I will be available to travel and help you solve some of these problems this coming season. Write Jerry Heckler, Box 352, Redwood Falls, Minn. 56283 or call 507/637-2351.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By Dick DeSplinter

The historian's committee's plans for the coming year include a short article each month depicting interesting information on the history of this association.

We know that our original association was called the Minnesota Greenkeepers' Association and the annual dues were \$3.00. Our first president was Charlie Erickson, 1928, Mini-kahda Club. Leo Feser was the second president, and here is where I need help. We do not have dates for many of the names listed below:

Charlie Erickson1928 Leo Feser	Carl Anderson
Arthur Anderson	Richard McLaughlin1960-64-65
Joe Rush1941-42	Robert Feser1961
Vic Larson	Kurt Erdman1966
Mike Sanko	Ray Hall1968
Stan Graves	William Johnson1969
Emil Picha1946-47	Russ Adams1970
Harold Stodola	Gerold Murphy1971
Erick Pahl	Dean Sime1972-76
Roy Nelson	Larry Vetter1973-74
Ed Nohava	Rich Rannells1975
Len Bloomquist1940-52-53-55	Jim Lindblad1977
Frank Chellis1950-51	Keith Scott1978
Gil Foster	George Ostler1979
Irv Fuller	

We are trying to complete this list by the end of April so that it can become a part of our roster. We would appreciate any help in filling in dates or possible deleted names from the above list. Even if you can only help with one date, it would help. The only dates we are positive of are 1968 and later. Send any information you have to Dick DeSplinter, 6567 Bluebird Drive, Maple Grove, Minn. 55359 or call me at 537-1149 or 425-3063. Did you know that Maynard Erickson was the designer of the HOLE NOTES masthead?

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Glencoe Country Club in Glencoe, Minn. has an opening for the position of golf course superintendent. This club has nine holes and is daily fee. The course is irrigated manually and the crew has one full time and two seasonal men. Fringe benefits are hospitalization, life insurance, expenses paid to Minnesota Association and mileage. Should have some formal turf education and must have work experience.

Send resume to: Mr. John Kress

Plato, Minnesota 55370

SPRING?



LOOK FAMILIAR? Greens with two inches of ice under a light snow cover! Temperature above freezing in the day! LOT'S OF LUCK!