

1990 Distinguished Service Awards Go to Carl Anderson, John Fuller and George Ostler

Carl E. Anderson, who first became interested in the turf side of golf when he was employed by a landscape company, can look back on an illustrious career that has spanned more than six decades.

His contributions to the turf industry in general and the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association in particular are manifold.

Born in Superior, Wisconsin on January 26, 1907, Carl attended grade school and high school in Superior as well as Superior State College.

Golf began to intrigue him a bit when he caddied at a private nine-hole course when he was 12 years old, and it was sparked further when he won a caddy tournament at age 14. But the thrust that put him into his lifelong career came when he was employed by the Moylan Landscape Co. in Superior to plant bent greens that were stolonized with Washington bent at this golf course.

Carl continued to work summers for Moylan on athletic fields, plantings of estates and private lawns. He also played considerable semi-pro baseball as a shortstop and third baseman with the Superior city team on the Iron Range and Twin Ports areas of Minnesota. A teammate of his was Harry P. Grant, father of Bud Grant, the former Minnesota Viking coach and, according to Carl, was "an outstanding outfielder."

He began his golf course career in 1930 with the City of Superior as construction foreman at Nemadji Golf Course under Stanley Pelcher, a Chicago architect.

After 22 years at Nemadji, he accepted a position at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata, where he remained for 20 years.

In 1972, following his retirement from Woodhill, he became a member of the grounds crew at Met Stadium in Bloomington, then retired in 1978. At the Met he did a lot of turf preparation for the Twins and Vikings, worked on the batting cage, set lines and often drove relief pitchers from the bullpen to the mound.

Through the years Carl has loved all sports, with golf leading his list but baseball and football ranking a close second and third.

A member of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America since 1933, he has held various MGCSA offices, including three years as president as well as editor and printer of *Hole Notes* for five years when he used to crank out the publication on a mimeograph machine.

Carl was honored by the national association in 1976 on its 50th anniversary as one of the 10 outstanding superintendents in the country at Sylvania Country Club in Toledo, Ohio, where the GCSAA had held its first national meeting in 1926. He also won the GCSAA Senior Tournament in 1972 at Miami and captured the MGCSA title several times. He still plays a lot at Woodhill, where he has a life membership.

Carl has been married to his wife Esther for more than 60 years. They are the parents of three children—Miriam, 57; John, 53, and Susan, 44—and have nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Now retired, Carl and Esther live in an apartment in Wayzata.



AWARD WINNERS Carl Anderson, left, and John Fuller at the 1990 Conference. George Ostler, the third recipient, was unable to attend.

JOHN FULLER

Completing high school at Mankato, Minn. in 1936, John Fuller enlisted in the Civilian Conservation Corps for nine months and was stationed in the State of Oregon working for the Department of Forestry.

After his discharge, he returned home to Mankato. Since these were the later days of the Depression (Spring, 1938), work for a single person was almost impossible to find. Fortunately, John's brother, Irv, was superintendent of Mankato Golf Club and was able to put John on the maintenance crew. This was the beginning of his golf course career.

In September, 1941, John married Evalaine Myers. When he received his next paycheck, he was very surprised to find out he was given a 20 percent raise in pay. This increased his weekly income from \$15 to \$18 a week. With the standard 57-hour week, he was now making slightly more than 31 cents an hour.

John and Evalaine became the parents of five children and now are blessed with ten grandchildren.

In September, 1942, John was drafted into military service where he served for three years, one month and one day. Induction took him into the Corps of Engineers, attached to the Eighth Air Force. His duties were construction, maintenance and repair of airfields. In the 30 months he served overseas, he was stationed in England, France and Germany. While attending service schools, he also traveled through Ireland, Scotland and Luxembourg.

Upon discharge, John spent one more season at the Mankato Golf Club. In the Spring of 1957, he accepted the position of assistant superintendent at the University of Minnesota Golf Course. He gained a tremendous amount of knowledge of golf course maintenance while working under Art Anderson and Herman Seneseth. During his 10-year stay at the "U," he was head superintendent the last year and a half.

In April, 1957, he took the position of superintendent at Midland Hills Country Club in St. Paul. He remained as superintendent for 27 years until retirement in 1964. John also worked for three years part-time for a total of 29 years, 9 months.

Many changes took place during those years: construction of

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a new clubhouse and maintenance building, two automatic watering systems and the construction of five new greens and tees. His son, Tom, came to work for John at age 16. After high school, Tom went to turf school and became his dad's assistant until John retired. He now works at Parkview in Eagan.

In January, 1987 the Fullers retired to northwestern Wisconsin at Voyager Village. He came down with a severe case of Lyme's disease and spent six days in the hospital and the rest of the summer recuperating, but, fortunately, he recovered very well.

Come January 1, 1992 John will have been a member of the MGCSA for 40 years. During that span he said he obtained much knowledge and gained many friends.

A member of the MGCSA Board of Directors for three years in the early '70s, he also is a 32-year member of the GCSAA. Next September he and his wife will be observing their 50th wedding anniversary.

GEORGE OSTLER

George D. Ostler, who retired in January, 1988 after 36 years of service as head superintendent at Hillcrest Country Club in St. Paul, began his career shortly after World War II ended.

Born and reared in California, he came to Minnesota with his wife and infant daughter.

From an economic standpoint, he needed to get a job quickly. He happened to notice a help wanted newspaper advertisement placed by Midland Hills Country Club in St. Paul. The late Wally Mund was head professional as well as greenskeeper at the time, and he hired George to work on the grounds crew under, as he says, "an old fellow who was in charge."

After about two months, "the old fellow" was let go, and George was asked to fill in until a replacement could be found. However, George became head superintendent and remained at Midland for about 10 years.

In December, 1955, George accepted the head superintendency at Hillcrest and held that position until his January retirement two years ago.

Succeeding George was his son, also named George, who had worked for his father at Hillcrest for several years, and now father works part-time for his son, which, he says, "allows me to keep up with the ever-changing methods of golf course maintenance."

George joined the MGCSA in 1949 and has been a member ever since. During the four decades that followed, he was elected to the Board of Directors. During his nine years on the Board he served as membership chairman, research chairman, treasurer, vice-president and, in 1979, he was elected president.

In 1957 he joined the GCSAA and attended most of the national conventions over the years. At two of them he was the voting delegate for the Minnesota association.

George now lives with his wife, Lorraine, in Oakdale.

Ransomes Appoints Cushman As Its Distributor

Ransomes, Inc., Johnson Creek, Wis., has announced the appointment of Cushman Motor Co., Inc., Minneapolis, as its distributor for Ransomes' reel products.

"Cushman has represented our sister company, Cushman of Lincoln, Nebr., for more than 40 years," said David Legg, national sales manager. "The addition of Ransomes will strengthen our position in Minnesota and western Wisconsin by providing our product through a strong, well-established distributor."

Questions or requests may be directed to Cushman Motor Company (612/333-3487) or Ransomes, Inc. (414/699-2000).

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