

HOLE NOTES

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Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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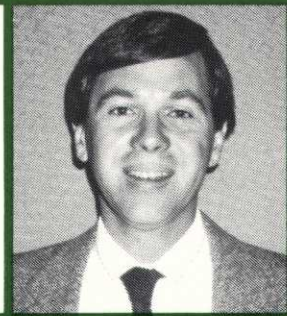
Ralph Turtinen

Editorial and Business Office

Ralph Turtinen, Executive Director
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association
240 Minnetonka Avenue South
P.O. Box 617
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-1617
612/473-0557
FAX: 612/473-0576

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Harold Stodola Inducted Into Hall of Fame



Great honor was bestowed upon the late Harold Stodola on July 16, 1991 when he was inducted into the Minnesota PGA/MGA Hall of Fame.

Harold was one of Minnesota's finest greenkeepers. He received the nickname "Hopkins Hurricane" because of his active status in the profession, serving on every committee and holding every office in the Minnesota Greenkeeper's Association between 1930 and 1942 while employed as head golf course superintendent (referred to as greenskeepers in those days) at Keller Golf Club.

Almost simultaneously from 1933 to 1940 Harold served at the national level on the Board of Directors for the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America. He was ultimately elected vice-president in 1940 and president in 1941. Harold served one of the longest terms as president, holding the Association together through the war years.

In 1977 Harold was presented the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America Distinguished Service Award for his contributions during World War II to the Association and exceptional leadership qualities at the state and national levels.

Even after retiring from Mendakota Country Club, Harold still attended meetings. He spent his remaining years at Somerset Country Club, working for Garold Murphy.

Accepting the award for Harold were his daughter, Sally Schoettgen, and his son, Bruce Stodola. In her acceptance speech Sally said that as a little girl she remembered her dad always coming home tired, emptying the grass clippings out of his pants and never taking a summer vacation. This exemplifies the dedication Harold had for his occupation.

I am very proud to have known Harold and to have witnessed just a handful of his numerous accomplishments. Harold was a great inspiration to many young superintendents and was always willing to help someone begin the profession he truly believed in.

There are two other 1991 Hall of Fame inductees. Warren Rebholz, executive director of the Minnesota Golf Association, has done more for the game of golf than any other person in our state. Warren was instrumental in organizing the 1991 U.S. Open at Hazeltine. He also served as executive director of the MGCSA before our association established its own office.

Bev (Gammon) Vanstrum is one of our state's best women amateur and professional golfers, climbing the ranks from caddy to golf champion to Hall of Famer.

* * * *

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, August 19, 1991 at New Richmond Golf Club, hosted by Tom Johnson.

— Tom Fischer
President, MGCSA

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