

EDITOR'S CORNER

By John Harris
The Lafayette Club



The 62nd International Golf Course Conference and Show had a great deal to offer its membership, including a little insight on construction of a "no-holds barred" desert course and resort.

Yours truly attended the certification prep course and was pleasantly surprised that several other Minnesota superintendents also were on hand.

This just goes to show that the people in our association are ready and willing to further themselves and our profession. (Any one for a study group?)

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As the upcoming season approaches, all of us are or should be making final preparations for another successful year at our clubs. The general "buzz for '91" seems to be the crisis in the Persian Gulf, and how it will affect our economy.

Many of us have been asked by our greens committees to cut our operating expense for what appears to be a conservative spending year by our memberships and the general public.

Certainly communication with the greens chairperson is the key here. It's our responsibility to show the greens committee how budget reductions will impact the playability and/or aesthetics of our facilities.

Their responsibility would be an acceptance of a new standard in course maintenance. Actually, it's not all that unusual to see an out-of-the-way area go uncut or have a repetition cut-back and still come up with a very desirable playing surface. Acceptance of these standards will be a small sacrifice indeed, compared to the sacrifices asked of our men and women in the service.

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The January MGCSA meeting held at Woodhill Country Club was well attended. Host Superintendent Rick Fredericksen and his staff are to be complimented on what I feel is the best ice in town. However, winter sports were not the only game in town. Some took the opportunity to get the moth balls off their golf swings. Woodhill's video golf was intriguing to say the least. My only suggestion: How about some broomball for those of us who can't skate backwards?

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Howard Holland, superintendent at Slayton Country Club and a member of our association, passed away on February 9. Our condolences go out to his wife, Elaine, and the rest of the Holland family. Those of us who knew him personally realize that the golf course in Slayton, where his deeds reflect the man, will stand in silent tribute for years to come.

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The MGCSA has contributed \$2,000 to the GCSAA Research Fund and the Golden Tee Club.

It is important that our association supports these endeavors as they will encourage young men and women in our profession to further their education, knowing that funds, through hard work, are attainable.

In addition, being that research is an ongoing process, particularly in an environmentally political atmosphere, it must remain on the top of our priority list.

I hope to see all of you at the March Mini-Seminar at the Northland Inn. There will be a fine slate of speakers, and certainly the staff at the Northland will again be receptive to our needs.

—John Harris, Editor



REPRESENTING HOLE NOTES at the 1991 GCSAA Convention in Las Vegas were Editor John Harris, Lafayette Club, right, and Scott Austin, Midland Hills CC, co-editor.

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