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HOLE NOTES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MINNESOTA
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

KERRY GLADER

As I assume my new duty as President of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, I must express my sincere thank you for your trust and support. I am very proud and honored to have served as a director and an officer over the past few years and hope to continue in the direction that has been established for the association. I especially would like to thank Dale Caldwell for his guidance this last year and for his active support as ex-officio this upcoming year. Dale is a tremendous asset to this association and his fish stories will be a tough act to follow.

Another successful annual conference has smoothly progressed under the direction of Chris Hague, Tom Fischer and Lyle Olson. My congratulations to you all for all your hard work and dedication.

I look forward to the trek to Izaty's Lodge at Lake Mille Lacs on January 6th. I hope to see a great turn out for our host, Calvin Schmidt. This outing is becoming a tradition for us and I hope the fish stories continue for years to come.

The 1986 International Turfgrass Conference will be held in San Francisco Jan. 27 to Feb. 4. The educational benefits received are of tremendous value and I urge you to attend if possible.

The 1986 Executive Board is one that has high regard and dedication to this association. They all assume their positions as officers and chairmen with the respect and interest needed to serve you, our members. We are all as close as your telephone so please feel free to air your opinions and ideas. I wish you all an enjoyable and truly successful 1986 and look forward to working with the new board and the association.



TREES FOR MINNESOTA GOLF COURSES

by JOHN BALL and BRAD PEDERSEN
Horticultural Technology Department
University of Minnesota
Technology Department
University of Minnesota Technical
College, Waseca, Minnesota

Late winter is the time many golf course superintendents order the trees to be planted in the spring. Typically the selection is based upon price, availability or what the superintendent observes growing at other courses. But these trees will represent perhaps a 40 to 60 year investment, hence much care should be used in their selection. Primary consideration should be the tree's ability to thrive in the soil and the climate of the course. If the tree is not adapted to the site, it may become severely stressed. This will manifest itself as a slower growth rate, occasional dieback or frequent occurrence of pest problems. Maintenance costs will be higher and some situations the tree will need to be replaced.

Minnesota has a well earned reputation for cold winters. This can be quickly demonstrated by reviewing a list of trees that have a difficult time surviving our winter. Minnesota resides within two hardiness zones. Zone 3 (minimum winter temperature of -40 degrees F) covers roughly the northern third of the state while Zone 4 (minimum winter temperature of -30 degrees F) covers the southern areas. There is a limited amount of material that performs well in the southern areas, even less in the northern zone. Trees that are planted north of their hardiness zone may suffer reduced growth, occasional dieback or even death.

Even if the climate is favorable, there is still the question of adapting to the soil, both the soil moisture (dry or wet) and pH (acid or alkaline). People often

view the soil as something to hold the plant up rather than influencing growth. But if a river birch is planted in an alkaline soil, it may become chlorotic (yellow leaves). This is due to an iron deficiency. The soil may contain adequate reserves of iron but due to the alkaline soil, the iron is in a form unavailable to plants. Hence attention to soil pH is important to some trees. Growth may also be influenced by soil moisture, either too much or too little. Some trees such as Kentucky coffeetree are native to wet areas and have adapted to the low oxygen condition. These trees are excellent choices for wet soils.

Pest problems are another important consideration. Only a few trees, such as Ginkgo, can be accurately called pest free, most have some degree of pest problems. However, trees should be selected that have a minimum of pests. Keep in mind that this condition can change over time. Back in the 1950's honeylocust was considered a pest-free tree, now it suffers from a multitude of problems including canker and pod midge. The best advice is to select relatively pest-free trees but still limit the planting of any one species.

To help you decide what to plant next spring, the following is a list of trees for various site conditions. Notice that the same tree may appear on several of the lists. Also, while all these trees are available from Minnesota nurseries, some are easier to find than others. Please contact Dr. John Ball, University of Minnesota Technical College, Waseca. Phone 507/835-1000, ext. 285 for sources.

THE MOST COLD HARDY TREES (will do well in Zone 3)

- Amur cherry - *Prunus maackii*
- Amur maple - *Acer ginnala*
- Basswood - *Tilia americana*
- Black Hills spruce - *Picea glauca*
var. *densata*
- European larch - *Larix decidua*
- Paper birch - *Betula papyrifera*

TREES FOR DRY SOILS

- Gray birch - *Betula populifolia*
- Green ash - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
- Red oak - *Quercus rubra*
- Russian olive - *Elaeagnus angustifolia*

CONTINUED PAGE 4

TREES FOR WET SOILS

European alder - *Alnus glutinosa*
Green ash - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*
Hackberry - *Celtis occidentalis*
Kentucky coffeetree - *Gymnocladus dioicus*
Swamp white oak - *Quercus bicolor*

TREES FOR ALKALINE SOILS

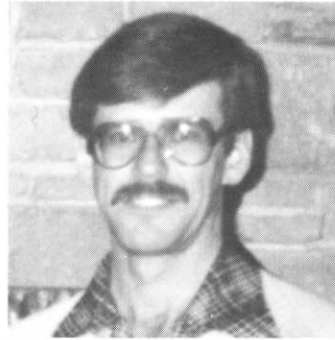
Amur corktree - *Phellodendron amurense*
Amur maple - *Acer ginnala*
Blue ash - *Fraxinus quadrangulata*
Japanese tree lilac - *Syringa reticulata*
Ponderosa pine - *Pinus ponderosa*
White poplar - *Populus alba*

TREES WITH FEW PEST PROBLEMS

Amur corktree - *Phellodendron amurense*
Blue beech - *Carpinus caroliniana*
Ginkgo - *Ginkgo biloba*
Ironwood - *Ostrya virginiana*
Kentucky coffeetree - *Gymnocladus dioicus*

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EDITOR'S CORNER

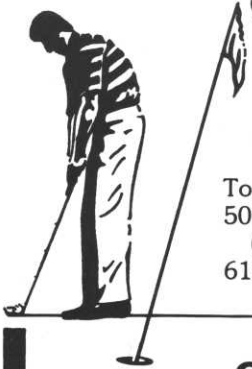
RANDY NELSON

Fred Anderson thought that his task was "awesome" replacing Doug Mahal as editor of the HOLE NOTES. Well, I must say I indeed have some BIG shoes to fill replacing Fred.

Before any new president of MGCSA makes his committee assignments for the coming year there is a great deal of anxiety and apprehension felt by each board member. Such was the case at Bunker Hills on December 16, 1985 as we directors all learned of our new tasks to serve the MGCSA. President Kerry Glader made the following committee appointments for 1986.

ARRANGEMENTS: Fred Anderson
Dan Hanson, CGCS

CONTINUED PAGE 6



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TURF CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



FULL HOUSE. Record attendance and an excellent slate of speakers were a winning hand for everyone.



SPIRITUAL LEADERS. Ron Steffenhagen and Karl Kassulke, right, were inspiring at the Prayer Breakfast.



NEW DIRECTORS. Jim Nicol, left, and Dan Hanson will bring a new dimension to the 1986 Board.



THE NATIONAL PICTURE. Jim Prusa, left, and Jim Latham enlightened the attendees on GCSAA and USGA future programs.



CONFERENCE CHAIRMEN. Left to right, Chris Hague, Tom Fischer and Lyle Olson present flowers to their wives who probably did all the work.



BOBBY GEE. A supreme motivator, she had everybody thinking right from Dale Caldwell down to the waiter filling the water glasses.

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

As Arrangements Chairman last year, I implemented a Meeting Site Reservation Form to streamline the finding of available meeting sites. This form serves the purpose to avoid the endless and sometimes useless calling being done by the previous arrangements chairman in hopes of finding superintendents who want to host meetings. This proved to be an excellent method to book ahead because I filled 1986 in a matter of weeks after the form came out, and 1987 is partially filled. Keep up the good work.

This year my responsibility has shifted to the HOLE NOTES publication. I again am asking for the support of you as members to make your newsletter HOLE NOTES the success it has been in the past. Fred informed me that time and again fruitless phone calls were made asking for member participation for articles to publish in the HOLE NOTES. This is a costly expenditure people which your association could be avoiding. As Fred stated last year at this time, you don't have to write a Pulitzer prize winning article before it can be published. All I would like to add this year is each of us NEEDS TO WRITE.

I believe everyone has an inner desire to write and see something of our own in print. Each of us has our own unique situations at our clubs. We perform our maintenance procedures in our own ways and no one can say our methods are wrong as long as we get our desired results. Many superintendents already contribute to their club newsletters with an article a month so why not expand on it and let your fellow superintendents know and learn from what you are doing. I believe if everyone who hasn't contributed before sat down and wrote one article this month the MGA office would have to establish a card catalog to keep track of them. Everyone has a subject they have been saving just in case "the call" came one day from the HOLE NOTES chairman. Well, gentlemen, I want to eliminate "the call".

Another new addition we are attempting to add to the HOLE NOTES this year is a series of articles dealing with the history of Minnesota golf clubs. You as superintendents may know of someone in your organization who has already researched your club's history. If you could obtain the information and send it to me, we will publish it giving the proper person credit for gathering the facts. This should be an interesting series of articles as we all learn about Minnesota's golf heritage. It may even turn out to be a challenge to some of you to find out the age of your establishment. Please take some time to talk to past presidents, club managers, or older club members about your club's history.

It is surprising to me the ease with which an article can be written after a person gets into the habit of it. And I believe it is a habit we all should get into. Please do not make me hound you for articles. It is embarrassing for us both. The following HOLE NOTES PUBLICATION FORM is a sheet for you as members to let me know you are working on an article. Just send this form with or without your article. I'll do the followup.

HOLE NOTES PUBLICATION FORM

I hereby give the HOLE NOTES editor the authority to publish my article in the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association publication entitled HOLE NOTES."

WRITTEN BY: _____ PHONE _____

SUBJECT OR TITLE: _____

COMPLETION DATE: _____

Send this form with or without your article to: Randall Nelson, Owatonna Country Club, PO Box 446, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060.

BY-LAWS: Dan Hanson, CGCS
EDUCATION: Chris Hague, CGCS; Jim Nicol, CGCS; Scott Hoffman, CGCS
ETHICS: Kerry Glader, Doug Mahal, Scott Hoffmann, CGCS; Tom Fischer, CGCS; Gerold Murphy, CGCS, Parliamentarian
HOLE NOTES: Randall Nelson, CGCS
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS: Kerry Glader, Dale Caldwell, Ex-Officio
MEMBERSHIP: Tom Fischer, CGCS
NOMINATIONS: Dale Caldwell, Ex-Officio
RESEARCH: Doug Mahal, Keith Scott
TOURNAMENT: Fred Anderson, Dan Hanson, CGCS

I feel I express many others opinions when I say that our annual conference was a tremendous success. Even though we did not have as many technical speakers this year, we did give our members a wide assortment of topics. Our keynote speaker, Bobbie Gee, will long be remembered for her talk on "The Superintendent's Image." The "Thinking Superintendent" session Friday afternoon also set a record for attendance. You may have noticed that your lunch tables were a little more crowded than usual because the total meals served for each day were

255, 290 and 275. The Friday night banquet was also well attended by 192 people. All these figures represent the tremendous job done on our conference by Chris Hague, Tom Fischer and Lyle Olson. Thanks again, gentlemen.

Because our conference attendance has been increasing these past years, we have been forced to move our conference to a larger facility. Next December the conference will be at the St. Paul Hilton in downtown St. Paul. Being in the heart of St. Paul will give conference attendees many options for evening dining. The ladies will enjoy their shopping sprees more with the skyway system between buildings.

While we are speaking of conferences do not forget to attend the G.C.S.A.A. Turf Conference and Equipment Show in San Francisco, California January 27-February 3, 1986. This is a great educational opportunity and a good time to see what's new in equipment from our equipment manufacturers. Don't just kick a few tires, but express your feelings and ideas to the engineers and sales representatives. They want your input to provide better products for us and for use by the entire turf industry.

CONTINUED PAGE 8

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Our MGCSA chapter will also be well represented at the GCSAA golf championships in Palm Desert, California on January 27 & 28. Eight of us members have entered and if we shake off enough frozen cobwebs from our clubs maybe we can bring home the team trophy.

Do not forget to pre-register for the great fishing getaway at Izaty's Lodge on January 6th. It is a good time to relax for a day and enjoy a delicious steak dinner. The board also voted to make our ex-officio walk out to his fish house to give us others first chance at the big ones.

From all of us on the board, we hope to see you in San Francisco and HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY.

OOPS! WE'RE SORRY

On the January meeting flyer Wally Benson was listed as the host superintendent. Calvin Schmidt is the new superintendent at Izaty's Golf Club and he has been working in that capacity since May of 1985.

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MINNESOTA'S GOLFING HERITAGE



NORTHLAND COUNTRY CLUB

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by W. K. Montague
President 1936-37

The question of when golf was introduced into the United States has been a controversial one. However, the first generally recognized golf club in the United States, the so-called St. Andrews Club in Westchester, New York, was organized in 1888. In the next ten years, there were a few other clubs organized throughout the United States. According to Reidar Lund, the earliest mention of golf in Duluth was found in newspaper files of the late 1890's in which some visitors were quoted as saying that Duluth was "slightly on the 'jay' side for not having ground upon which to play this game called golf."

The first steps towards creation of a course in Duluth were taken in 1898 when several businessmen journeyed to St. Paul to inspect the Town and Country Club links in that city. They became enthusiastic about the idea and wasted no time considering sites for a course upon their return to Duluth.

Many years afterwards, Alfie Taussig loved to tell how he, D. G. Cutler, E. P. Towne and C. B. Woodruff rode their bicycles over the hill on East Superior Street and from a vantage point on a convenient hay stack, looked over the site of the first Northland golf course.

That was just ten years after the first generally recognized U. S. golf club was

established and gives some idea of the speed with which golf spread over the country.

On April 17, 1899 at a meeting in the office of E. P. Town, Northland Golf Club was organized. Articles of Incorporation were adopted and by-laws fixed dues at \$10 per year.

At the outset the organizers set the high moral tone which has always been characterized at Northland. The by-laws provided that: "No game for money shall on any account be allowed. *****. No intoxicating liquors will be provided, allowed, or paid for by the Club at any of their games or tournaments, and no profane language unbecoming to a gentleman will be tolerated on the grounds."

On April 18, one day later, the Directors held a special meeting and set an example of speed and efficiency that must be unique in golf annals. These motions were adopted: "It was moved and seconded that C. B. Woodruff be appointed a committee of one to take charge of and build a lodge for Club. Carried." "It was moved and seconded that D. G. Cutler be appointed a committee of one to arrange and procure a lease of grounds at rent not to exceed \$150.00 per year. Carried". "It was moved and seconded that E. P. Towne be appointed a committee of one to lay out the grounds and links. Carried." "No further business, meeting adj."

Except for the election of a temporary chairman, that's all there is to the minutes of that meeting. But, believe it or not, at the next meeting, six weeks later, the minutes of the Board of Directors show that: "All committees heretofore appointed reported their work completed and were discharged of their duties with thanks."

The DULUTH HERALD of May 10, 1899 contained an announcement that a permit had been issued to the Northland Golf Club to build a clubhouse to cost \$560 on the Howell estate near Lakeside.

Ward Ames, Jr. who joined the Club on September 5, 1899 has sketched the layout of the first nine hole course. The lodge was across the ravine in front of the present first tee. The first hole was laid out from that side of the ravine down

to a location near the present first green. Then the second hole played back up towards the present fifteenth. The green of the third hole, a 385 yarder, called the "Mosquito Nest", was up near the present practice tee. Apparently it was well named, for the only score card of those days that I have seen shows Herb Warren, in September of 1905, taking 15 strokes to his opponent's 11. The fourth fairway crossed the first fairway and the green was down near the present eighteenth tee. From there the fifth hole, a 300 yarder, crossed Superior Street to the present Ordean Field. Three holes in that territory led you to the ninth, another shot across Superior Street to the green (the outline of which can still be seen), just at the foot of the slope in front of the present eighteenth.

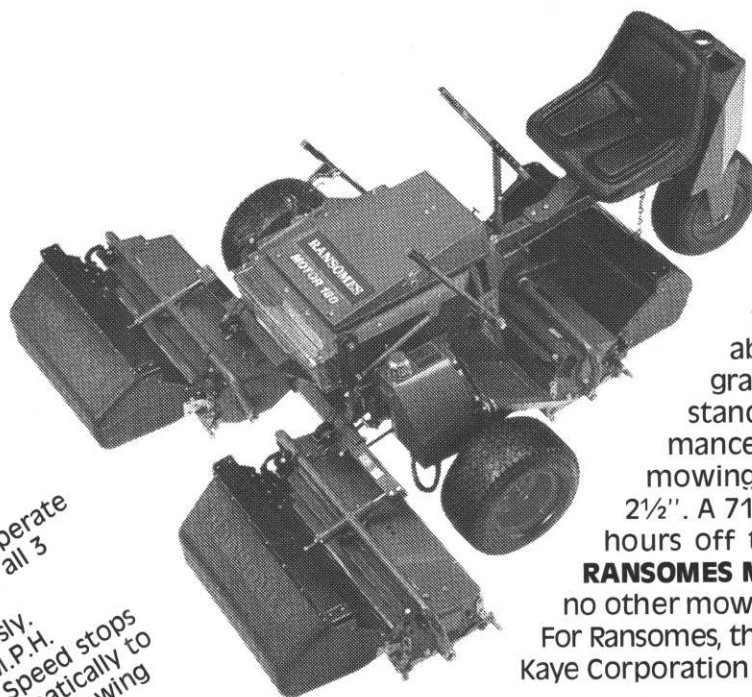
Those shots across Superior Street must have been quite an adventure. The local rules gave you another shot if your ball hit the electric wires, but if you happened to conk a passing pedestrian, I suppose that there was nothing to do but try to beat him to the club house. Even after 1912 when the course was expanded to eighteen holes, the crossing of Superior Street remained. As late as 1923 the Board considered suggestions for protecting the traveling public in the play of the two holes crossing Superior Street, but, except for posting signs, nothing seems to have been done about it. It wasn't until 1927 that the present course, all on the upper side of the street, was ready for play.

On the old eighteenth hole course the shot across the street to the green below the present eighteenth was partly blind. One day as John Mullin, then Secretary of the Oliver Mining Company, was leaving the green, a ball rolled up quite close to the pin. Thinking to give some poor player a thrill, Mullin rolled the ball into the cup. It turned out that it belonged to W. H. Olcott, President of the Oliver, and, incidentally, the man who donated the present practice green. Olcott was Mullin's rather autocratic boss. He was so thrilled over his hole-in-one and bragged so long and so loudly about it that Mullin was afraid to let him know that he was the butt of a joke. He swore to secrecy everybody there, and for years lived in fear that someone would tell his boss what had happened.

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