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HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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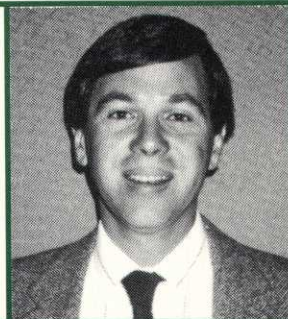
Ralph Turtinen

Editorial and Business Office

Ralph Turtinen, Executive Director
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association
240 Minnetonka Avenue South
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-1617
612/473-3722
FAX: 612/473-0576

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Membership Gives MGCSA Board Vote of Confidence



A vote of confidence was given to the MGCSA Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting when dues were raised \$40.00 per year by a unanimous vote of the membership.

For those not in attendance, the increase was necessary to cover a \$17,000 shortfall caused by the MGA asking us to find a new Executive Director. The Edina office had outgrown itself.

This past summer a committee was formed to seek a new director. Turtinen Communications was selected. The difference in operating costs was about \$13,000 which included expenses that the MGA did not pass along to our Association. We are now paying the true cost of running the organization.

The remaining \$4,000 will be used to cover expenses, such as the hospitality tent at the U.S. Open. We plan to have this tent located near the clubhouse, a place for us to gather for refreshments and rest while we watch the tournament. Another expense will be sponsoring hole-in-one insurance at the LPGA tourney.

Monies that are raised by the Research and Scholarship Committee cannot be used for our regular operating expenses. When these costs are subtracted from our assets, our balance in reserve funds is about \$20,000 to be spent for operation purposes. The increase that was voted in will help us give our membership the best service possible and keep intact our reputation as one of the finest associations in the country.

* * * *

The 63rd Annual Turf Conference was a great success. The Northland Inn is by far the finest facility at which we have held a conference. There were virtually no complaints and the service from the Northland Inn staff was outstanding. The speakers covered some very timely topics on water quality and how our chemicals affect the environment. These issues are hurdles we will be facing in the near future.

I especially would like to thank Kevin Clunis, Joe Moris and Jim Nicol for organizing this great conference and to Scott and Laurie Turtinen for handling registration so well.

Our next meeting is at Woodhill Country Club on January 7. Please join us in this always enjoyable event.

Happy Holidays.

—Tom Fischer, CGCS
MGCSA President



KEVIN CLUNIS

Stillwater Superintendent Chaired Great Convention
(See Page 6)

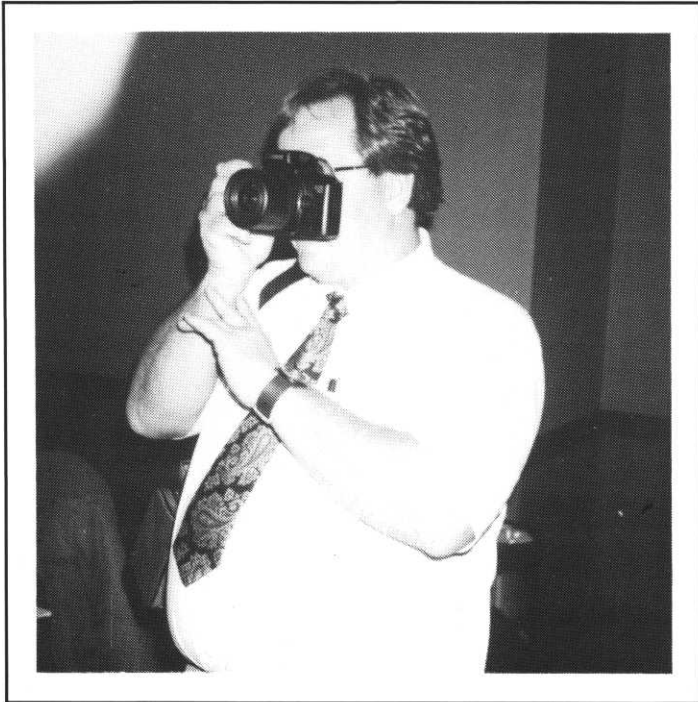
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Dale Wysocki Wins 2nd Annual Watson Journalism Award

Dale Wysocki, course superintendent at Faribault Town & Country Club, is the winner of the 2nd Annual James Watson Journalism Award presented by the MGCSA.

Wysocki's stories and photographs on underground storage tanks at the Faribault course were rated as the top contributions during the past year to *Hole Notes*, the official MGCSA publication.

Superintendents not only are encouraged to submit stories and photos to *Hole Notes* for this competition, but they also are reminded that the MGCSA pays \$50 for stories published in the magazine.



WATSON AWARD WINNER—A familiar sight at the Annual Meeting as well as all of the monthly MGCSA gatherings is Dale Wysocki, superintendent at Faribault Golf & Country Club. His camera work and his articles on underground storage tanks at Faribault earned him the 1990 James Watson Journalism Award. Virtually all of the photos in this issue also were shot by Wysocki.

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The Readers Write

Cudos to the Board of Directors for the progressive achievements over the past year.

Expanding membership demands required proactive action. Our association leaders have done an admirable job in meeting these needs through the addition of Turinen Communications and the organization of committees concerned with future golf course operations.

Although our directors have given their time free of charge, physical expansion and information assimilation and dissemination requires money.

Realistically speaking, our membership has had the best deal in town. The excellent services provided by the MGA were incredibly inexpensive. Direct membership participation has also kept association costs down. However, as we are all well aware, the golf industry is expanding at a dramatic pace.

Our association must keep up with this growth in order to maintain our integrity. Recent dues structure increases reflect the inherent need to continue the promotion of our profession as leaders in the Green Industry.

Surely, as concerned members, we must question this 100 percent increase and justify its necessity. Foremost is the addition of an executive director and business office. By having a professional management team focusing on our specific needs, we should all benefit. Turinen Communications will be our hub for the gathering and sharing of information pertinent to membership requirements.

Recent formation of special concerns' committees necessitated the budgeting of funds for anticipated and unanticipated costs. We will need financial resources to educate the public about our concerns. Our sponsorship of a hospitality tent at Hazeltine National during the U.S. Open is a fine example of progressive response to the challenge for improved public relations.

Also, at times, as in the past, we will have to purchase the services of recognized consultants and lobbyists to support our side of current and future issues. We must be in the financial condition which will enable us to react rapidly to issues concerning our profession. Being prepared for unforeseeable events will enable us to control the consequences and therefore control our destiny.

Our newly-elected representatives will continue to be pressed about new issues. Their job is cut out for them. With the increase in dues structure, membership expectations have also risen. Many new ideas are being generated by interested members. The board will have to continue to address outstate membership concerns. Public relations will also be a primary issue as will the creation of a resource center.

Unfortunately, the Board cannot devote its undivided attention to promote the causes of our association. It is therefore necessary for everyone to become involved. Participation, be it filling out a survey or attending a business meeting, is imperative to the progressive existence of our association. Contact your directors, and let them know your concerns. Only with membership input can they continue to support our association in a representative manner.

—John K. MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

1991 MGCSA Turf Conference Was A Smashing Success

From practically any way you want to measure it, the 63rd Annual MGCSA Turf Conference and Business Meeting was a smashing success.

There truly was an aura of happiness permeating the Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park, where the 1990 session was held November 28-30.

Part of it, no doubt, was the setting, since the Northland was completed about a year ago specifically for meetings like this. There was more than adequate space to put attendees and vendors at ease, whether it be in a business session, on the trade show floor or listening to speakers.

Part of it, too, was the convivial attitude of the persons who registered, and the obvious camaraderie in the educational sessions, during coffee breaks, at food functions or during various sources of entertainment.

Associate members were pleased with the upscale booths as well as more than adequate space to accommodate exhibit viewers.

As newly-elected MGCSA President Tom Fischer of Edinburgh USA said: "There were virtually no complaints, and the service from the Northland Inn staff was outstanding. The speakers covered some very timely topics on water quality and how our chemicals affect the environment." (*See President's Message on Page 3.*)

Although he was quick to share praise for a successful conference with committee members, MGCSA staff and others who helped, Conference Chairman Kevin Clunis of Stillwater Country Club was "the quarterback who engineered a great game plan, then executed it."

As so many board members declared, Kevin simply did a superb job all the way through.

Said Clunis: "I can't say enough about the cooperation and great assistance from committee members Jim Nicol (Bunker Hills) and Joe Moris (Tartan Park), the staff at the Northland, which was most helpful right from the beginning and throughout the entire conference, and all the other Board members who pitched in. In addition, a lot of credit should go to Dan Miller, Glenn Rasmussen, Dave Krupp, John Wiley, Steve Garske and Larry Thornton, who offered great suggestions and advice in the early stages, and Scott and Laurie Turtinen, who handled pre-registration and on-site registration so well."



YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Members of the 1991 MGCSA Executive Committee, from left, are Greg Hubbard, Manitou Ridge Golf Course, secretary; Rick Fredericksen, Woodhill CC, vice-president; Tom Fischer, Edinburgh USA, president, and Jim Nicol, Bunker Hills, treasurer.

"We also appreciate the tremendous support shown by all of our associate members," Clunis said. "The exhibits were outstanding, and I want to thank Andy Lindquist of Anoka Tech for arranging the irrigation seminar."

A well-balanced program attracted excellent attendance at the educational sessions.

A major feature on Wednesday was the training session for pesticide applicators. Principal speakers were Wayne Dally and Steve Poncini, Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Dean Herzfeld, Minnesota Extension Service; Steve Aunan, Fike Spray Systems; Bob Mugaas and Ward Stienstra, University of Minnesota; John Barten, Hennepin Park District, and motivational speaker Ernie Larson.

On Thursday, following a fellowship breakfast that featured Dan Croonquist, 1990 Minnesota Golf Association champion, as principal speaker, the morning sessions offered another excellent group of speakers: Van Cline, Toro, Inc.; Joseph Baidy, vice chairman of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America; Dr. Richard Cooper, University of Massachusetts, and Dr. Tom Watschke, Penn State University.

The Trade Show opened at 10 a.m. and continued throughout the remainder of the day.

Thursday afternoon speaker was Jim Latham, United States Golf Association. Returning to the podium on Friday morning were Dr. Cooper and Dr. Tom Watschke. They were joined by consultant Howard Kaerwer. Speakers Friday afternoon were Barten; Chris Hague, superintendent at Hazeltine National Golf Club, who spoke about preparations for the 1991 U.S. Open and four "Thinking Superintendents"—Kevin Clunis, Stillwater CC; Dale Wysocki, Faribault G&CC; Greg Hubbard, Manitou Ridge Golf Course, and Kerry Glader, St. Cloud CC.

The well-attended concurrent sessions also were held on Thursday and Friday mornings. In the mechanics' service session on Thursday, the speakers were Roger Bentsdahl, Champion Spark Plug; Brian Lein, Rich Acres Golf Course, and Allen R. Olson, Central Power District. On Friday the irrigation program featured Bob Reihe and Leroy Young of MTI and Tim O'Connor of Rainbird.

Wrapping up the three-day session was a superb banquet, which attracted a fun-filled crowd of 254, and delightful entertainment by Alex Cole.



NEW DIRECTORS elected at the Annual Meeting were, from left, Scott Austin, Midland Hills CC; Shane Andrews, Hudson (Wis.) Country Club, Irwin (Boots) Fuller, Mankato Golf Club, and Mike Olson, Golden Valley Country Club.

Dues Increase Approved At 63rd Annual Meeting

Elections, by-law changes, the approval of a dues increase and award presentations featured the MGCSA's 63rd Annual Business Meeting at the Northland Inn.

With President Kerry Glader, St. Cloud Country Club, leading a well-organized session, the MGCSA membership elected Tom Fischer, Edinburgh USA, president; Rick Fredericksen, Woodhill Country Club, vice-president, and Greg Hubbard, Manitou Ridge Golf Course, secretary. Jim Nicol, Bunker Hills, continues as treasurer.

Fischer, who was vice-president during the past year, succeeds Glader, who remains on the Board as an ex-officio member. Glader was praised for his dedication and service to the profession during his second term as president.

Fredericksen last year served as secretary while Hubbard, a director, was membership chairman.

New directors elected were Shane Andrews, Hudson Country Club; Scott Austin, Midland Hills Country Club; Mike Olson, Golden Valley Country Club, and Irwin (Boots) Fuller, Mankato Golf Club.

They join holdover directors John Harris, Lafayette Club, and Joe Moris, Tartan Park. The board now has seven directors instead of six, plus the four officers, following approval of a bylaws change which allowed the addition of one more director.

Associate Board members are Glenn Rasmussen, MTI, and Dan Miller, North Star Turf, Inc.

Other by-law changes involved a "housekeeping change"

TREASURER JIM NICOL gave a clear, concise picture of the MGCSA's financial history and future projections.



regarding assessments, a \$10 subscription price for *Hole Notes*, being set as part of a member's dues, conduct of members, selection of dates for regular and special meetings and the use of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised.

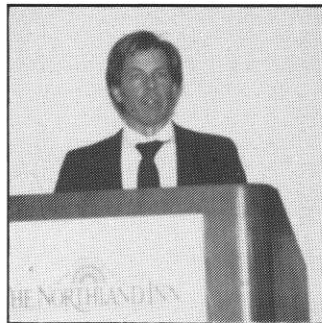
Treasurer Jim Nicol was the focal point of a discussion regarding the dues increase, which added \$40 across the board for every membership classification.

His calm, deliberate presentation of the association's financial history and the reasons for the dues increase plus his direct responses to various questions led to a resounding voice vote approving the increase.

Service award recipients announced at the Annual Meeting were Irv Novak, Brooktree Golf Course, Owatonna (30 years), and Don Herfort, Don Herfort, Inc. (25 years). Novak was in attendance to receive his plaque.

Verbally presenting reports were President Glader, Treasurer Nicol, Membership Chairman Hubbard, Education and Conference Committee Chairman Kevin Clunis and Research Committee Chairman Fischer. Other reports, printed in the Annual Meeting booklet, came from the Nominating, Arrangements, Editorial and Scholarship Committees. A list of honorary members presented by Hubbard also was approved.

PROPOSALS for changes in the MGCSA bylaws are presented by Chairman John Harris.



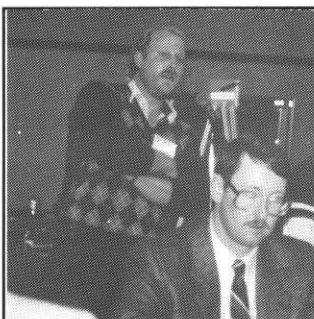
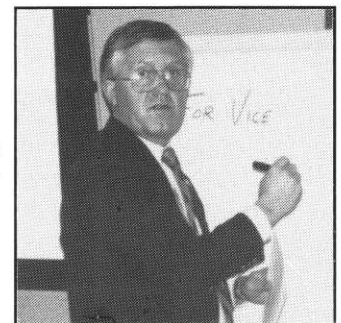
Prize Winners

Six attendees at the 1990 MGCSA Conference went home with a few more dollars than they expected.

Winning the \$250 gift certificates at the 63rd annual business meeting were Dick Grundstrom, Indian Hills Golf Club, Stillwater, and Dick DeSplinter, New Hope Village Golf Course. They were the lucky ones at the drawing conducted after the adjournment of the Annual Meeting.

Four other superintendents won \$50 "winter survey prizes." Everyone who responded to this survey had his name placed in a drawing. The winners were Scott Hoffmann, Madden Inn & Golf Course, Brainerd; Don Egeberg, Clifton Hollow Golf Club, River Falls, Wisc.; Kevin Shockman, Dahlgreen Golf Club, Chaska, and Richard Kolter, Westfield Golf Club, Winona.

KEITH SCOTT, chairman of the Nominating Committee, conducts balloting.



ADDRESSING A QUESTION during the Annual Meeting is Dennis Owen, Terrace View Golf Club, Mankato.

Thank You All

Thank you, Associate Members, for your outstanding cooperation and your excellent exhibits at the 1990 Turf Conference;

Thank you, Speakers and Presenters, for your excellent programs;

Thank you, Northland Inn staff, for your superb service from beginning to end . . . and the excellent meals;

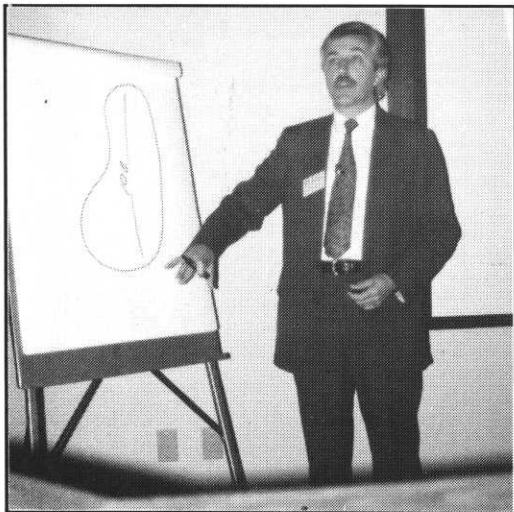
Thank you, Committee Members, other MGCSA Directors and MGCSA Staff, and Other Special Persons who provided such remarkable assistance in every category.

And, most of all, Thank You, Attendees, for coming. I'm confident you enjoyed yourselves, learned something and were treated well. After all, you're the key reason for the Conference and what makes it all possible.

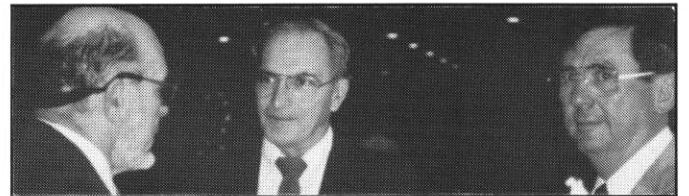
—Kevin Clunis
1990 Conference Chairman



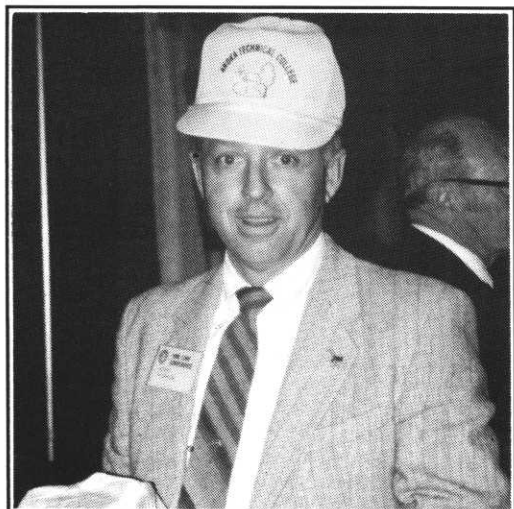
REGISTRATION FLOW is reviewed by Conference Chairman Kevin Clunis, right, Stillwater Country Club, with Scott Turtinen of the MGCSA staff. With them is Scott's wife, Laurie Turtinen, registration coordinator.



SPRINKLER SPACING described by Bob Reihe, MTI.



COMPARING IDEAS, from left, are Howard Kaerwer, consultant; Dr. Don White, University of Minnesota, and Jim Latham, USGA Greens Section.



HAT SHOPPING is Joe Moris, Tartan Park GC.

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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.

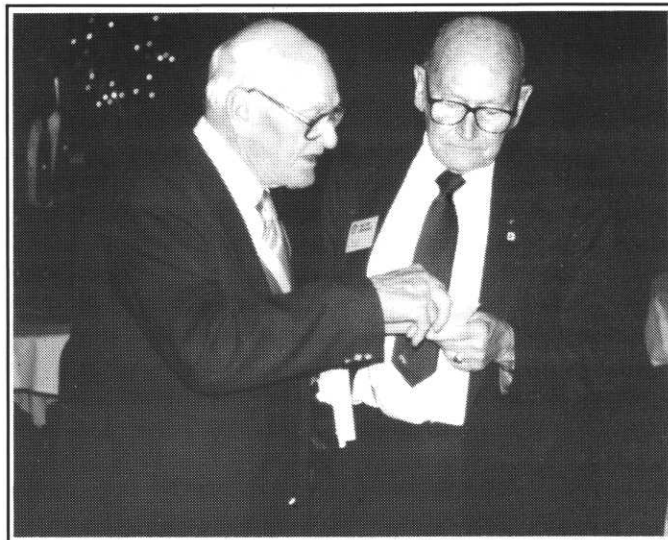
Through the years Carl has loved all sports, with golf leading his list but baseball and football ranking a close second and third.

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

(Continued on Page 9)

Distinguished Service Awards—

(Continued from Page 8)

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

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Wilbur-Ellis

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Sometimes Water Can Be a Problem...

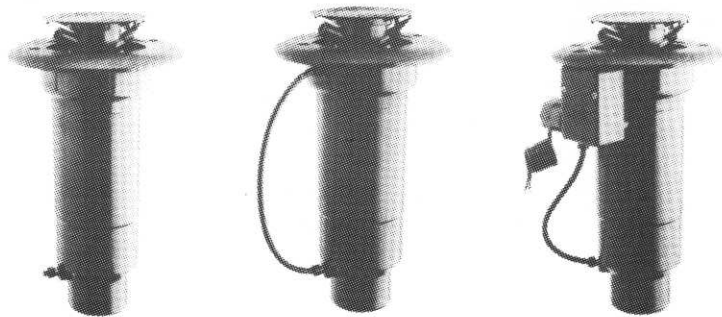
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