

## **Norma O'Leary, Now CGCS, Leads Active Life While Managing Silver Bay CC**

Norma M. O'Leary obviously approaches her life and her career with enthusiasm.

For example, she has a private pilot's license and a Cessna 150 "that is just large enough for myself, my husband and our golf clubs."

She once jumped out of an airplane at 10,000 feet with a parachute and landed on the first fairway at Gunflint Hills Golf Course while she was employed at that Grand Marais course.

She has been manager and superintendent of Silver Bay Country Club since 1990.

**And now she has become the seventh woman to be designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).**

O'Leary, has eight years of experience as a superintendent—two years at Silver Bay, two at Gunflint Hills and four at Dahlgren Golf Course in Chaska, and four years as an assistant superintendent at Dahlgren and Elk River.

Born in Chaska, she grew up right across the street from Dahlgren, began playing the course as a youngster and developed her interest in grounds work by doing odd jobs at the course.

She also studied business and turf management at the University of Minnesota where she played on the women's golf team.

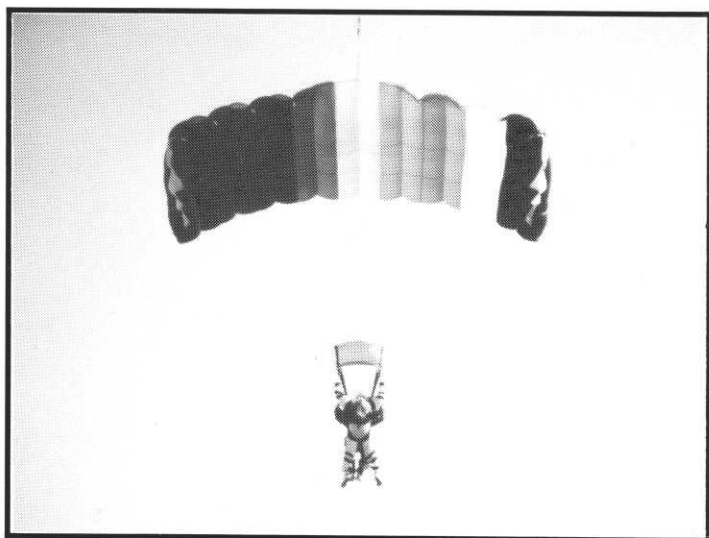


**Norma O'Leary**

O'Leary passed her examination at the GCSAA Conference in Las Vegas last February and had her course attested in May.

"It's important to commit oneself to staying informed and keeping up with advancements in the profession," she said.

Officially Norma achieved her certified status on June 5 and became one of 1,201 active GCSAA members who hold CGCS status.



**Norma skydiving at Gunflint Hills Golf Course**

**Certification by the GCSAA** requires the candidate to be a golf course superintendent a minimum of five years and to pass a rigorous, six-hour examination covering the rules of golf, turfgrass management, financial and organizational management and the history, ethics, purpose and procedures of GCSAA.

In addition, an on-site inspection of the candidate's golf course is conducted. At Silver Bay the review was done by two currently certified superintendents—Rick Fredericksen, head superintendent at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata and vice-president of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, and Dale Parske, CGCS from Lesco Corporation.

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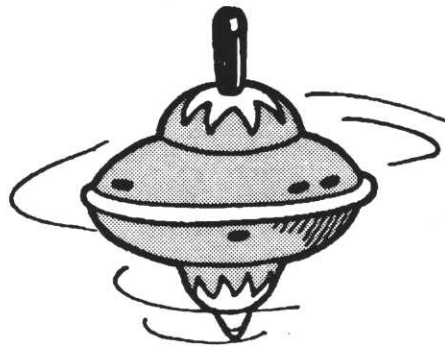
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# Tom Fischer Had Edinburgh in Great Shape for the LPGA

By DALE WYSOCKI

For some golf course superintendents it can be a once in a lifetime shot — to prepare your golf course for a USGA, PGA or LPGA Tour event.

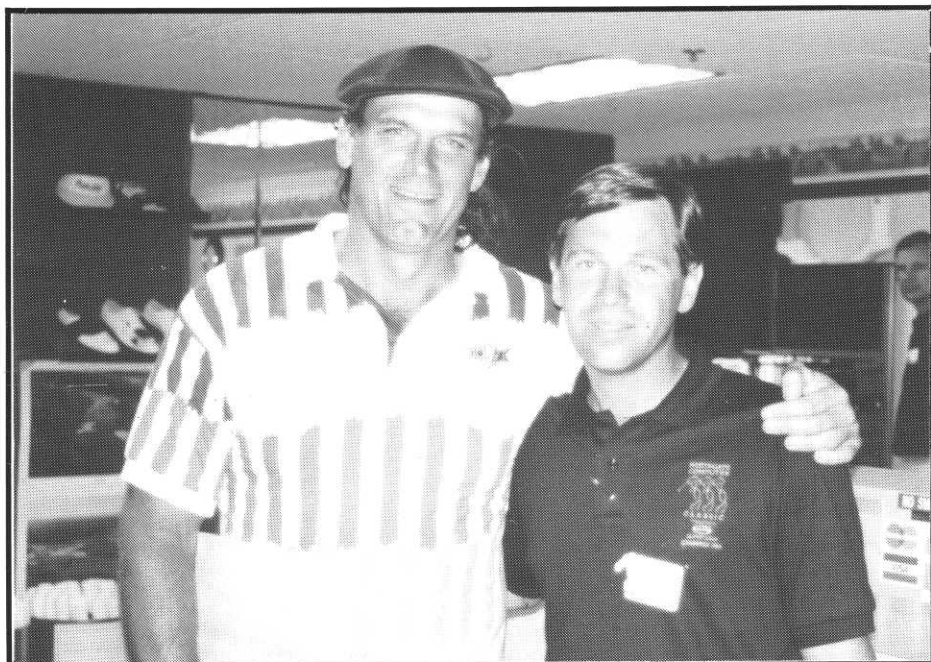
Imagine getting an event that will be a regular stop on the tour for three years. Imagine having 45,000 rounds of golf at this facility per year. Imagine having a staff of 22 that is responsible for setting up leaderboards, roping off galleries, trash removal and all the little or major gremlins that pop up before, during and after the event. Oh yes, the staff also does the teardown, too!

**Tom Fischer, CGCS**, has been at Edinburgh USA since 1984, and these are just a touch of his responsibilities during the LPGA Northgate Computer Classic.

The tournament was in its second year at Edinburgh in August, and playing conditions, as always, drew raves from tournament participants.

If you happened to be at Edinburgh USA during the event and were able to see Tom, the first thing that you would have noticed is that he does not have one radio. . . but three radios. One for the LPGA, one for IMG and one for his staff. He was running a solid second place in air time; Michael Sterns, tournament director, had the honor of the most air time.

The golf course was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., and it is a mag-



Jesse "The Body" Ventura with MGCSA president Tom Fischer

nificent layout with its signature bunkers and the famous seventeenth hole that requires a perfectly placed drive or your ball will join the ranks of the experienced golf ball jar inside the golf shop.

**Tom is very modest** about his accomplishments at Edinburgh. Sometime in the future it might be recorded that the golf course was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. and Thomas Fischer. Tom has developed a keen eye for detail.

When golfers did not like using the cart path on seventeen, Tom designed a walking path using keystone retaining wall products and Agri-lime.

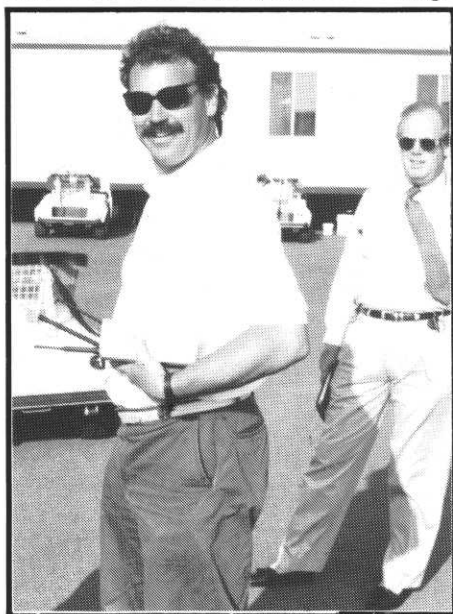
The green on seven was just a tad small and those incoming 4-iron shots were having a tough time finding their target. Along comes Tom and the green is enlarged to help those incoming shots find the dance floor.

**The sixteenth tee was increased** five-fold and now has four tiers, which made for some very interesting placements during the tournament.

About the only difference concerning maintenance at Edinburgh was the greens. They were double cut with Toro Triplex mowers with a bench setting of 9/64". This gives the greens a stimp-meter recording of 10' - 10'6" — just what the doctor ordered.

What happens the Monday after the tournament? It's business as usual. . . no closing the golf course for tear down or repair. Tom and his fine staff go on keeping this public golf course in very "private" playing conditions.

Edinburgh USA — a golf course with private playing conditions for the public.



LPGA Commissioner Dave Stearns



The 9th, 18th and putting green at Edinburgh USA

# John Nylund Wins Championship at New Richmond

John Nylund, head superintendent at Braemar Golf Club, is the 1991 MGCSA golf champion.

John posted a 2-over-par 74 to win the title at New Richmond Golf Club in New Richmond, Wis., on August 9.

He finished two strokes ahead of Shane Andrews of Hudson Country Club.

Defending champion John Katterheinrich of Interlachen Country Club placed fifth with an 8-over-par 80.

Third place honors went to Tom Meier of Worthington Country Club.

Senior Flight winner was Jerry Bibbey of Goodrich Golf Club, who shot an 83.

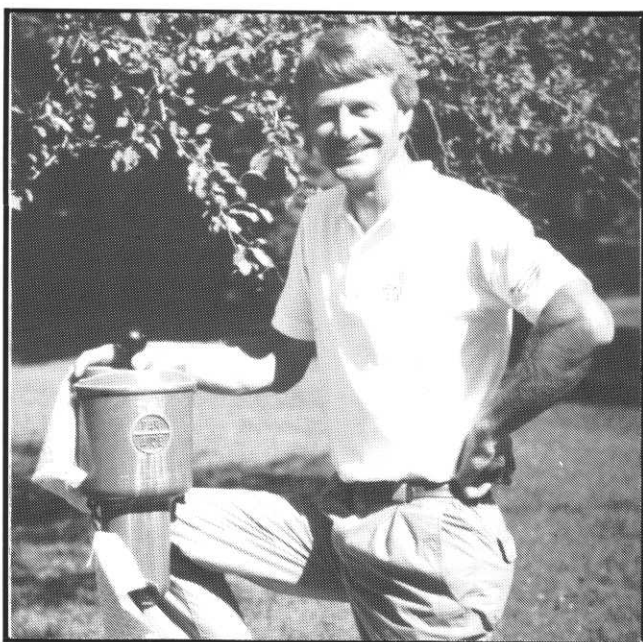
George Norman, New Richmond Golf Club, won the First Flight with a 79 (-11) for a net 68. George won a scorecard playoff with Cliff Reynolds of Lake City Country Club.

Second Flight winner Was Dick Grundstrom of Indian Hills Golf Club with a 88 (-2<sup>1</sup>) for a net 67.

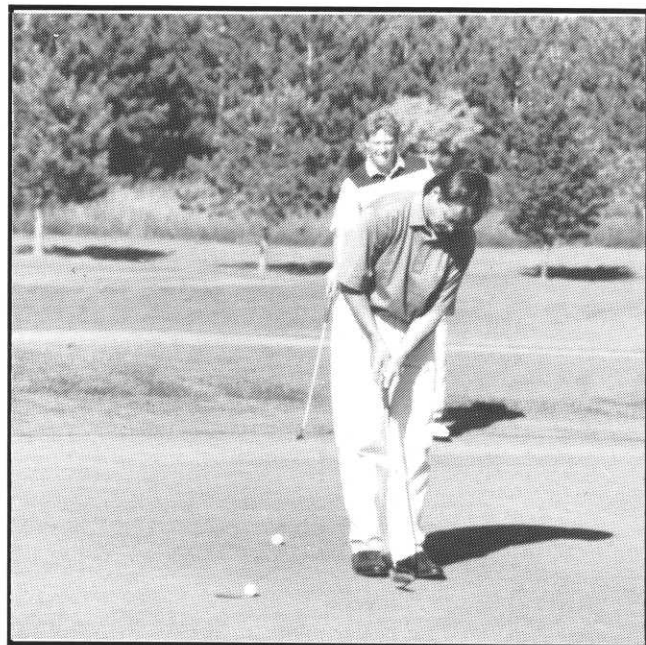
Associate Flight winner was Steve Busch of Long Lake Ford Tractor with a 75 (-7) for a net 68.

Associate Callaway Flight winner was Scott Thorne of the Lesco Company with a 91 (-16.5) for a net 74.5.

Dan Augdahl won the Calloway Flight with a 97 (-21) 76.



Host Superintendent Tom Johnson



Runner-up Shane Andrews of Hudson C.C.

## Superintendents Championship at New Richmond, WI

### CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

1st	John Nylund	74
2nd	Shane Andrews	76
3rd	Tom Meier	77
4th	Pete Mogren	79
5th	John Katterheinrich	80
6th	Mike Brower	81
	Chuck Egeberg	81
	Tom McCann	81

### FIRST FLIGHT

1st	George Norman	79-11-68*	Scorecard Playoff
2nd	Cliff Reynolds	84-16-68*	
3rd	Chad Belland	86-18-68*	
4th	Dan Raskob	84-12-72	
5th	Mike Olson	87-15-72	

### SECOND FLIGHT

1st	Dick Grundstrom	88-21-67
2nd	Bill Larson	89-21-68
3rd	Jerry Kline	97-27-70
4th	Marlow Hansen	91-20-71

### SENIOR FLIGHT

1st	Jerry Bibby	83-14-69
2nd	Fred Anderson	
3rd	Russ Adams	

### ASSOCIATE HANDICAP

1st	Steve Busch	75- 7-68
2nd	Don Belkengren	98-27-71

### ASSOCIATE CALLAWAY

1st	Scott Thorne	91-16½-74½
2nd	John Skidgel	92-17-75
3rd	Tom Haberman	101-25½-75½

### CALLAWAY

1st	Dan Augdahl	97-21-76
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# Keep Informed And Keep Involved

By Don Bretthauer  
Government Relations Manager, GCSAA

As manager of government relations at GCSAA headquarters, I try to keep up-to-date on state legislation that will affect superintendents. Superintendents across the country play an important part by informing me of recent state legislative developments. Keep it up!

Although GCSAA headquarters is quite active in submitting comments on regulations and legislation at the national level, it's up to state groups and individuals to do so at the state level. Today, many important environmental enforcement activities and regulatory matters are being delegated to state governments and agencies by federal agencies. This fact makes it especially important for your chapter to keep informed of state legislation and regulations and for you to keep involved with the legislative process so that you have a voice in state government decisions.

## Target State Legislative Committees

All state legislatures, except Nebraska's, are bicameral. Bicameral legislatures, as you probably know, consist of a house and a senate, each with its own committee structure. Most state legislative bodies usually have both an agricultural committee and an environment committee that may introduce legislation that will directly affect your operations.

Your chapter needs to identify the chairs of these important committees and keep in touch with them or one of their staff members. The better the rapport and consistency of contact, the better the chance your chapter will have to submit comments and to participate in hearings.

You might circulate a roster of the members of relevant committees at your next chapter meeting so that golf courses can initiate contact with local representatives who serve on these important committees. It is important to inform these committees about what a superintendent does, the level of professional and educational expertise that most superintendents hold and, most importantly, the differences between applications of pesticides to golf courses as compared to agriculture and lawn care.

## Keep Informed

Stay alert and keep informed. If you find an article in your local newspaper concerning state legislation that affects superintendents, make sure you inform the appropriate officer within your state or local chapter. (Most of your associations have government relations liaisons and you can keep these individuals informed.) If you are a GR liaison, you may want to consider subscribing to the major newspaper of the capital city in your state. Often this newspaper will carry state legislative developments when others won't. Many states also have a legislative services division that provides legislative updates for free or for a small charge; some even have a toll-free hotline.

## Stay Active

Even if you are not an officer or government relations liaison for your local chapter, there are still many things that you can do to get involved. Start by writing your state representatives and senators, introducing yourself and offer them information about your course. Tell them about your local or state chapter organization—not only about how many members it has, but also about how many golf club members your association's members indirectly represent. In addition, many state legislators have newsletters that you can receive.

Find out if any state legislators or their staff members belong to your club or golf at your course. After clearing permission with your green committee or other appropriate officials, introduce yourself and let them know what you do and how your chapter has been involved in state issues.

## It Takes Time and Patience

Those of you who have participated in state government realize that it takes time to make a difference. You may lose more battles than you win, especially at first. However, if you don't keep informed and stay involved, you may not ever have a chance to get into the fight.

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# Use of Wetlands for Golf Courses Discussed at Environmental Forum

Healthy, thriving ponds and wetland areas are complex ecosystems capable of supporting an almost limitless variety of microorganisms and wildlife. Protection of wetlands and other valuable aquatic habitat has become an important part of golf course management.

The forum "Government Relations, Golf Course Management and the Future," sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), provided an in-depth discussion of this controversial topic.

The wetlands issue has heated up in the past few months with the anticipation of the soon-to-be-released wetlands delineation manual, as well as the introduction of a House of Representatives bill that would drastically change the wetland classification and permitting system.

**The wetlands portion** of the forum featured three speakers involved in the wetlands issue: John Meagher, director of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Wetland Office; John Studt, chief of enforcement for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Congressman Jimmy Hayes (D-La.), sponsor of House Resolution 1330, the new wetlands bill.

Meagher explained that wetlands are protected in order to preserve plant and animal life, reduce flooding (wetlands often hold floodwaters) and to filter and improve water quality.

"In recent years, the loss of wetlands has been reduced from 450,000 acres to about 300,000 acres a year," Meagher said. The population of some species of animals, especially birds, have been reduced by 60 percent to 70 percent because of loss of wetlands habitat, and some species have become extinct, Meagher said.

"Delineation is a scientifically complex issue," Meagher said. "Wetlands are typically transitional areas between open water and dry upland." They are zone areas that gradually change and there are no great lines or boundaries."

He said that he hoped that the new manual would clarify how wetlands can be accurately identified, noting that the 1989 delineation manual allowed non-scientists to determine what constituted a wetland.

Meagher added that he hoped the new manual will help trained EPA personnel to make more accurate determinations.

**Studt encouraged** the integration of existing wetland areas into plans for golf course construction.

"Incorporating these areas as open green space and hazards is something you should strive for," he said.

Commenting on efforts since 1980 to streamline the wetlands permitting process, he said, "We need to go further. Streamlining the program and making it run better and getting decisions for applicants sooner is something we are trying to strive for."

Studt stated that the Bush administration has made efforts to get the EPA and the Corps of Engineers to work together. He said the renewed cooperation has improved the effectiveness of the wetlands program.

**GCSAA Director** Charles T. Passios, CGCS, said, "As reconfirmed by John Studt's comments, incorporating wetlands into the design of golf courses is one answer to the wetlands problem. However, clarifying the definition of what is or isn't a wetland would greatly assist in the protection of true wetland areas."

Congressman Hayes blasted existing wetlands regulations and the new delineation manual.

"Something as important as a national wetlands policy should not be written by a half dozen people without public debate as a draft (amendment) to a 20-year-old water bill," said Hayes. "Such decisions about public policy should be left up to the 435 members of the House of Representatives and the 100 members of the Senate and reviewed by the executive branch, all of whom are elected."

The present wetlands policy, according to Hayes, is confusing, unclear and might not let landowners know for years whether they are in violation of a wetlands law.

Under the Hayes bill, value and functional use would determine which of three classifications a wetland site would fall under. Class A, valuable in function and in use, would be heavily protected. The types of wetlands included under Class A would vary in different regions of the country because of this "value and use" determination.

"What may be valuable in Nebraska may not be considered valuable in Louisiana," Hayes explained.

Class C wetlands would include some existing residential areas and lands that are not considered valuable or environmentally important. A landowner would not need a permit to build on or to fill these types of wetlands. Class B would fall in between, but the landowner would need a permit to fill or develop these areas.

## 1991 MGCSA Monthly Meeting Sites

Date	Location	Sponsor
Sept. 16	Golden Valley CC & Oak Ridge CC Research Tournament (dinner at Oak Ridge)	
Oct. 7	Hastings CC (lunch)	R & W Golf Cars
November (first wk.)	Weather permitting, Golf at Faribault G&CC	
November 20-21-22	Annual Conference Northland Inn	

## Advertising Claims Under Scrutiny

Chemical companies as well as lawn-care providers are coming under fire for false or misleading advertising. This scrutiny focuses on claims that products or services are "non-toxic" or completely "safe."

While FIFRA does not regulate lawn-care company advertising, it does prohibit advertisers of chemical products from making claims as part of a pesticide's distribution and sale that differ substantially from claims made on the label. Superintendents should be knowledgeable and candid about the toxicity of golf course chemicals when talking to the media about the use of those chemicals.



## Golf Course Accessories

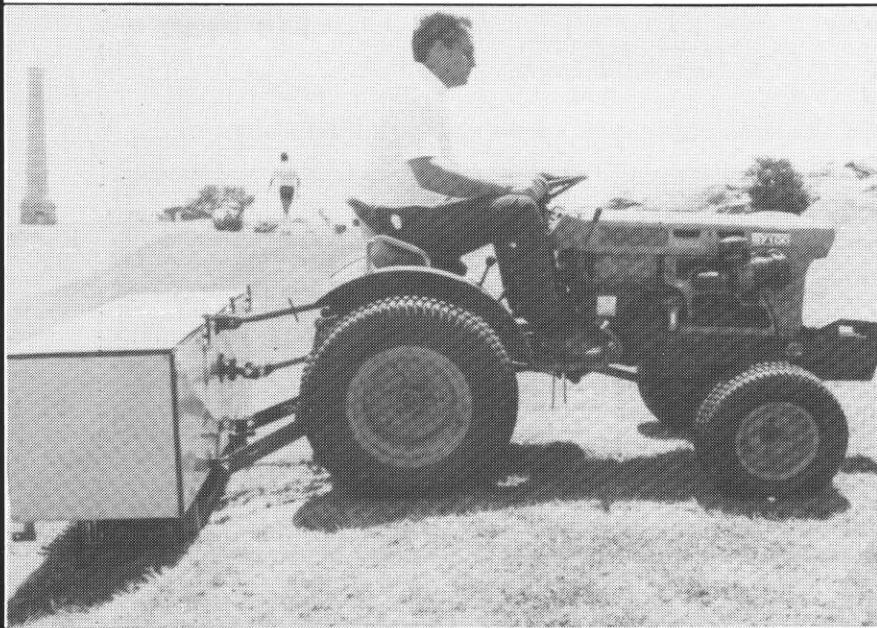
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