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HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Looking Ahead To 1993



In a short four years I've made the transition from the back page of this fine publication as editor to the front page as President of our Association. During this time I've seen our Association go through many changes. We've added a new Executive Director, enlarged our annual conference and trade show, established an environmental guidelines book and immensely improved our scholarship program. *Hole Notes* has also seen a dramatic change over this period. During the next year I hope to return the confidence the membership has expressed in me by continuing our ever-broadening efforts to serve our membership as well as the golf industry. Remember though, that such progress relies upon the membership. Please let me now of any new ideas or old problems that you may have. An association is only as strong as its members, so please participate.

* * * *

Our journey through 1993 begins with two important issues. First, we will investigate our participation in a proposed Minnesota Turf Foundation under the guidance of Brad Petersen of the University of Minnesota. As stated at our last conference, this group, composed of leaders in the turfgrass management field, will explore common ground for responding to the environmental and regulatory issues of the day. It may also explore the establishment of a common conference and trade show to expand the educational opportunities of our membership. As leaders in the turfgrass industry, we chose to become involved with this evolution. Please contact Joe Moris or myself with your comments about this endeavor.

* * * *

Participation in this foundation is underscored by our second important issue at this time—pesticide application notification practices. We are currently responding, along with these same turfgrass organizations, to a request by the State of Minnesota for further information on our current notification practices. As evidenced by other states, further tightening of pre-application and post-application signing procedures may result. This response again continues our efforts to be a proactive rather than reactive organization in dealing with today's environmental issues. Contact Kevin Clunis or myself with your comments.

* * * *

I would like to welcome Tim Commers, Cary Femrite, Dick Grundstrom, John Harris, Tom Kientzle and Norma O'Leary to our Board of Directors. These people, along with our carryover Board members, are the key to new ideas and future success in our Association, and I'm looking forward to working with them in the coming year. Our heartfelt thanks go to retiring Board members Tom Fischer, Doug Mahal, Shane Andrews, Scott Austin, Dan Miller, Mike Olson and Dale Wysocki for their service and devotion to their profession. A special thanks is extended to Past President Rick Fredericksen for his outstanding effort over the past year. We owe these people a debt of gratitude for their fine work in the past.

(Continued on Page 30)

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Happy Holidays!

*At this time of year,
our thoughts turn gratefully to
those whose loyalty and goodwill
help to make our progress possible.*

*All of us at North Star Turf
would like to extend to you, your
staff and families, every good
wish for the most joyous of
holidays and a prosperous new year.*



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Annual Conference Was 'Right on Target'

Like a straight uphill birdie putt that hits the hole squarely, the 65th annual MGCSA Conference and Business Meeting was right on target.

Except for the first day, attendance was basically the same as a year ago. In addition, attendees were treated to excellent programs and presentations, a variety of awards were presented, new officers were elected, Associate Members had excellent exhibits and there was plenty of time to socialize, renew friendships and make new ones during the November 18-20 session at the Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park.

This was the second year that the annual pesticide licensing session was not held at the annual conference. It now is conducted in March.

Opening day attendance of 262 was considerably smaller than the 317 mark in 1991. However, attendance climbed on Thursday when 414 were on hand, compared to 405 a year ago, while the total was 299 on Friday, compared with 319 in 1991. Banquet attendance this year was 165, compared with 201 a year ago.

New officers elected at the business session were:

Greg Hubbard, CGCS, Manitou Ridge Golf Course, White Bear Lake, president;

Joe Moris, Tartan Park Golf Course, Lake Elmo, vice-president;

Jim Gardner, Rochester Golf & Country Club, Rochester, secretary.

Kevin Clunis, Stillwater Country Club, Stillwater, was re-elected treasurer.

Rick Fredericksen, CGCS, Woodhill Country Club, Wayzata, continues on the board as an ex-officio member.

Elected directors were:

Cary Femrite, Pebble Creek Golf Course, Becker;

Richard Grundstrom, Indian Hills Golf Club, Stillwater;

John Harris, Lafayette Club, Minnetonka Beach;

Norma O'Leary, CGCS, Silver Bay Country Club, Silver Bay.

Remaining on the Board from last year are **John Granholt**, Eau Claire Golf & Country Club, Eau Claire, Wis., and **Bill Whitworth, CGCS**, Northfield Golf Club, Northfield.

Outgoing directors were **Shane Andrews**, Hudson Country Club, Hudson, Wis.; **Scott Austin, CGCS**, Midland Hills Country Club, St. Paul; **Mike Olson**, Golden Valley Country Club, Golden Valley, and **Dale Wysocki**, Faribault Golf & Country Club, Faribault.

Tim Commers, Cushman Motor Company, Inc., Minneapolis, was elected as an Associate member of the Board, succeeding **Dan Miller**, North Star Turf, Inc., St. Paul.

Continuing as an Associate Member of the Board is **Steve Garske**, Par Aide Products Co., St. Paul.

A variety of awards also were presented at the 1992 session.

The Distinguished Service Award this year went to Warren Rebholz, who will retire as executive director of the Minnesota Golf Association on December 31, 1992;

Scholarship awards went to Lee Horning, Pennsylvania State University; William Gullicks, Anoka Technical College; Jeffrey Johnson, University of Minnesota, and Mark Simeon, also a U of M student.

The Dr. James Watson Journalism Award was presented to Larry Vetter, Turf Management Products, Inc., Minnetonka.

Thirty-year service awards went to Russ Adams, University of Minnesota; James Lindblad, Wayzata Country Club, Wayzata, and Glenn Rasmussen, MTI Distributing Co., Plymouth.

Twenty-five year service awards went to Ronald Bloom, Fairway Architects, Inc., Miliona; Allen Gerdin, North Star Turf, St. Paul, and John Sternal, Enger Park Golf Course, Duluth.



Glenn Rasmussen, left, Jim Lindblad, middle, and Allen Gerdin display their plaques.



Larry Vetter receives the Dr. James Watson Journalism Award from newly-elected president Greg Hubbard.



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: Bill Gullicks, left, Judy Horning (accepting for husband Lee), center, and Jeff Johnson, right.

1992 MGCSA Annual Conference



We're Sorry, Minnesota Golf Cars

Minnesota Golf Cars, a Bloomington company that sells, services, leases and stores Club Car golf cars and utility carryall vehicles, responsibly had paid in advance for a booth at the 1992 MGCSA Conference at the Northland Inn.

Inadvertently, when this company's pre-registration materials were processed, a computer code that signifies the purchase of a booth was not entered.

As a result, when Tom Little came to the hotel, there were not booth spaces remaining. To say the least, it was most embarrassing.

Minnesota Golf Cars is an Associate Member of the MGCSA and has supported our association strongly.

Therefore, we take this means of sincerely saying, "We're sorry."

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'Minnesota Delegation' Makes 'Rewarding' Trip To GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas

By SCOTT AUSTIN, CGCS
Midland Hills Country Club



Have you ever thought about visiting the new GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas to learn "first-hand" about the many services that your national association has to offer? And to visit with those individuals responsible for its successful operation?

This is exactly what a group of Minnesota Superintendents and Associate Members did recently.

The three-day (October 20-22) trip began and concluded with a nine-hour excursion in a 32-foot Winnebago "dream machine," complete with a TV and VCR. The highlights of our trip through Iowa were the sighting of a bull moose and observing Kevin Clunis looking for the "Field of Dreams" during one of our roadside stops.

The "Minnesota Delegation"—which included Scott Austin CGCS, Jeff Backstrom, Kevin Clunis, Stan Kinkead, Paul Mayes, Dan Miller, Monty Montague and Joe Moris—received a "red carpet" hospitality reception by GCSAA Executive Director John Schilling and his impressive staff during their four-hour visit.

The various departments, such as membership, education, marketing, etc., were allotted time to present their guests with

an overview of their responsibilities and to answer specific questions. It was rewarding to hear that self-improvement and continued education still is the main focus of our association as the national membership exceeds 11,000.

Our GCSAA visit concluded with a "nickel tour" of the new, four-story, 40,000-square foot headquarters. This building is very impressive, something of which every member can be extremely proud. It projects our industry with an instant, professional image. Our GCSAA Board should be congratulated for its vision and creativity. The headquarters will be complemented soon with the construction of an 18-hole, championship course. . . immediately out the back door.

The afternoon in Lawrence was occupied with a "friendly" game of golf at one of the three courses at Alvarado Golf & Country Club, where a good time was had by all.

The "Linn" group—Mike Leitner, Leitner Co.; Stan Kinkead, National Mower Co.; Tim Neary, Neary Mfg.; Monty Montague, Turfco Mfg.—deserves a huge round of applause for organizing such a rewarding trip and for their constant support of our association. They are all "top class" individuals.

Introducing Greg Hubbard, Our New President

It's rather natural that Greg Hubbard, newly-elected president of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, became interested in golf. He grew up at Galls Golf Club (now known as Manitou Ridge) where his father, Merrill, was the head golf professional.

Greg began playing the game at the age of five, and now after more than 20 years of handling various responsibilities at Galls/Manitou, Greg leases the course from Ramsey County. During those two decades-plus he has filled all department head positions, including managing the pro shop, overseeing food and beverage service, heading administration and, of course, serving as head golf course superintendent.

Born on March 29, 1950 in St. Paul, Greg was graduated from White Bear Lake High School in 1968, then earned his B.A. in economics at the University of Minnesota. He took over as manager/superintendent of Galls in 1971. (The name was changed to Manitou Ridge in 1980.)

Encouraged by superintendents Bud Larson and Jerry Bibbey, Greg joined the MGCSA in 1983 "to fill a void in my education."

Since then he has been an active member. He served on the Research Committee from 1987-1992, was the editor of *Hole Notes* in 1988-89, led the Membership Committee in 1989-90 when he also directed the Executive Director Search Committee, was elected Secretary in 1991, then Vice-President in 1992 before taking over as President at the association's annual meeting in November.

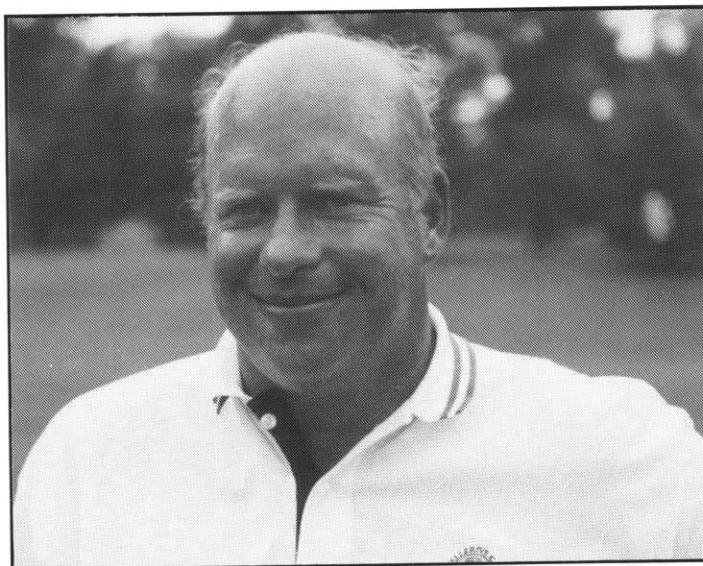
"I strongly urge superintendents to become MGCSA members, primarily to continue their education, both formally and informally, in their pursuit of quality playing conditions," Hubbard said.

"During the past decade our association has experienced significant achievements," he said, while noting "improvements in the Annual Conference, a better quality of *Hole Notes* publication, the move to hiring an executive director and having our own association office, expanding our scholarship efforts and producing the Environmental Guidelines booklet."

Looking ahead, Greg sees three major challenges:

- 1) Environmental and regulatory concerns;
- 2) Enhancement of the professional image of superintendents;
- 3) Integration of management skills with maintenance skills.

During his forthcoming year as president, he would like to further coordination of the Board and the Executive Director, investigate activity with the Minnesota Turfgrass Foundation, expand membership classes, if warranted, and have golf course



superintendents become recognized as friends of the environment."

A member of the GCSAA since 1984 "when Boots Fuller and Keith Scott signed an unknown kid's application," Greg earned his CGCS in 1988 and has renewed it through 1998.

"Golf course superintendents should strive for this certification," he said. "It's a symbol of excellence in our field, it fills an educational void and there is considerable personal satisfaction in attaining certification."

The time-consuming demands of his responsibilities at Manitou Ridge don't allow much time for golf. He plays about once a week while maintaining an 11 handicap. He has been a Sunday School teacher in White Bear Lake for five years and also is a member of the Optimists' Club. In addition, he occasionally finds time for hiking, canoeing, swimming and playing chess.

Greg and his wife Bonnie are parents of daughter Elizabeth, 11, and son David, almost nine.

And what do you like most about your profession?

"The satisfaction of seeing a well-maintained golf course," he said.

For some 37 years he's been admiring golf courses. In his case, it certainly was neat to see summer jobs lead to a lifetime avocation.