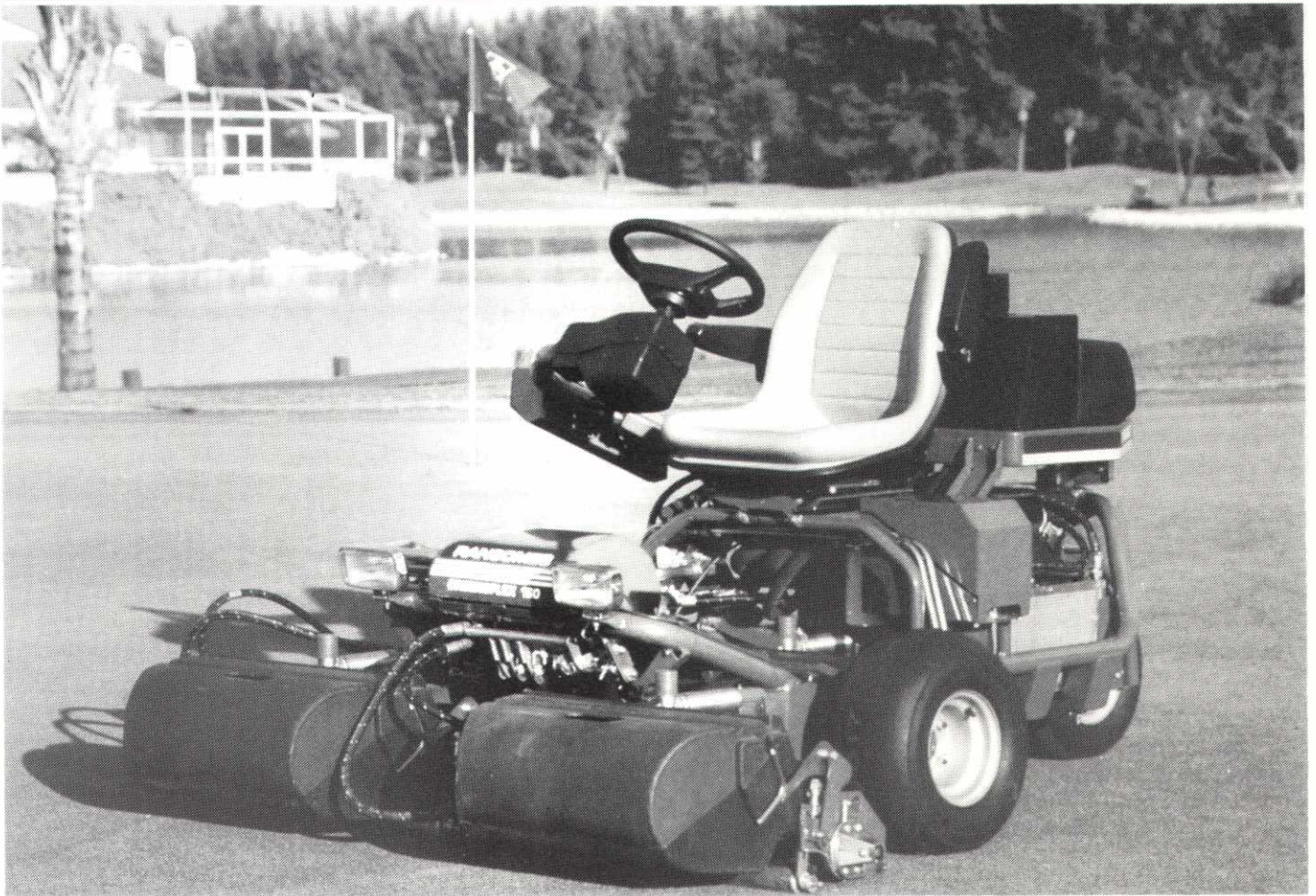


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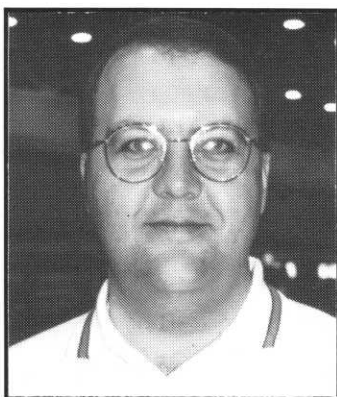
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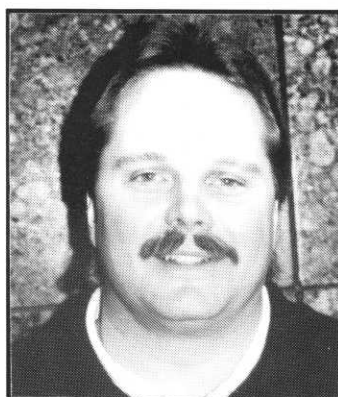
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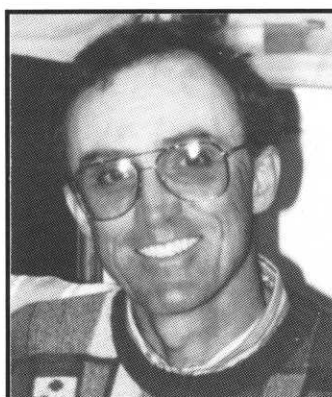
SCOTT SCHUNTER
Hazeltine National G.C.

"To take advantage of the tremendous amount of educational opportunities that are available. The trade show also provides the opportunity to see what is new in the industry and to look at various pieces of equipment that we are looking to purchase in the upcoming year."



ROB BARR
St. Cloud C.C.

"I feel it's important to attend the National Conference for its educational opportunities. With the speed and frequency of change in today's products and environmental concerns, it's extremely important to stay abreast of those changes. Attending the National Conference enables you to attend a variety of educational seminars on up-to-date topics and preview new product lines from the industries leading vendors."



DALE CALDWELL
Minneapolis G.C.

"I have attended every National Conference and Show since 1978. Every year I am most impressed with the trade show. It is exciting to see all the changes and innovations within our industry. I enjoy visiting and talking with the various manufacturers and distributors about their products and how they might fit my maintenance programs."



JEFF ANDERSON
Rochester G & C.C.

"This was my first time attending the GCSAA Conference. I would have to say that I attended the conference for the educational concurrent sessions and to walk through the trade show to see what new ideas have come out for the 1994 golfing season. And like the saying goes in Texas, everything is bigger in Texas and the GCSAA conference was no exception."



Golf Course Superintendents Warned of Cancer Risk

(Ed. Note: This is how the AP interpreted the 2/7/94 news release from GCSAA.)

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) - Golf course superintendents have higher rates of cancer than other people and should try to be more careful around pesticides, a University of Iowa study says.

In light of this study and other health-effect research about pesticides, a prudent strategy for golf course superintendents and their workers is to minimize their exposure to pesticides," said Dr. Burton Kross, associate professor of preventative medicine and environmental health at Iowa.

Kross and his team of researchers say in their study that people who manage golf courses appear to have a higher mortality rate from certain cancers, particularly lung cancer, than the general population.

The study was commissioned by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, or GCSAA, which is hold-

ing its annual meeting in Dallas.

Although the results are preliminary, they still provide the GCSAA with a scientific basis to encourage stop-smoking programs and improved pesticide handling practices among its members," Kross said.

The statistical mortality study reviewed death certificates for 618 former GCSAA members between 1970 and 1992 and compared those rates to the general population.

The study found a higher-than-usual number of deaths from lung cancer. Other types of cancer, including brain, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, large intestine and prostate, also occurred more often in the group.

From a public and occupational health perspective, the excess number of lung cancer deaths is a primary concern," Kross said.

Kross said that because it was a statistical study, "you can't establish any cause-and-effect relationship from the data.

"It is also important to stress that these results cannot be interpreted to mean that golfers are at risk," he said.

GCSAA Announces Next Phase of Health Research Program

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has announced plans to implement the second phase of the association's planned in-depth study of occupational health issues. GCSAA will launch a new series of health research projects and expand its commitment to chemical applicator education.

The new series will advance a preliminary statistical study conducted by an independent research team from the University of Iowa (UI) College of Medicine. The results of the study, which was commissioned by GCSAA Scholarship & Research, were announced Feb. 6 at the association's annual conference in Dallas.

The study was a statistical analysis of death certificates among 618 former GCSAA members who died between 1970 and 1992. The Iowa researchers found that the group had a higher rate of mortality from lung cancer than the general population. They also found higher-than-average mortality for a number of other cancers, including brain, large intestine, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and prostate.

The UI research team was led by Dr. Burton Kross, UI associate professor of preventive medicine and environmental health. Kross is associate director of the UI's Institute of Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Health.

"From a public and occupational health perspective, the excess number of lung cancer deaths is a primary concern," Kross said. Lung and other head and neck cancers have been strongly associated with cigarette and cigar smoking, but Kross strongly cautioned that no cause-and-effect relationship to any illness can be determined by this statistical analysis. According to researchers, a statistical study cannot be interpreted to link any particular factor to cause of death.

Stephen F. Mona, GCSAA executive director/CEO, said, "GCSAA initiated and financed this study because we needed to establish a baseline for future research. We now have that baseline and can better identify what merits further investigation."

"Our mission in funding this independent mortality study was to begin the first phase of an overall look at occupational health and safety issues that affect our members," Mona continued. "This is a long-term commitment to ensuring that superintendents work in a safe and healthy environment."

The next phase of the overall effort could include helping association members stop smoking, expanding GCSAA's current education and training programs, and completing a statistical mortality ratio study to put UI's preliminary data into context.

"We also think this gives us an opportunity to forge new partnerships with groups that can help us accomplish our mission," Mona said. "For example, the chemical manufacturers have made great strides in packaging and formulation over the past decade. This is one more reason to work closely with them in their efforts to develop new technology in products and packaging. Another example could be

working with an organization like the American Cancer Society on the smoking issue. This also gives GCSAA the opportunity to continue to strongly encourage and support the Environmental Protection Agency."

Headquartered in Lawrence, GCSAA is a 13,000-member international professional association dedicated to promoting responsible golf course management. Its members are the men and women who manage and maintain golf courses throughout the world.

(Editor's note - GCSAA's contact team consists of: Stephen F. Mona, CAE - Executive Director/CEO; Pat Jones - Director of Development; Scott Smith - Public Relations Manager; Kirk Kahler - Government Relations Manager.)



GCSAA Mortality Study Key Points

- 1) The study results are preliminary. The study has yet to go through the scientific community peer review process and be formally published before the results are "final."
- 2) The study is *only* a statistical analysis of mortality. It does not address what caused the deaths. *No cause and effect can or should be drawn from the study.*
- 3) The scientists said specifically that golfers are not at risk. The study also does not address or conclude any possible relationship to wildlife.
- 4) GCSAA initiated and financed this study because the association has an obligation to its members to help ensure their health and safety. GCSAA and the University of Iowa together released this information to the public and to the media.
- 5) Once the results are final, GCSAA will have a baseline to decide what merits further investigation.
- 6) This is only the first phase of a long-term commitment by GCSAA to study overall occupational safety and health for its members.
- 7) GCSAA will work closely with the golf industry, health organizations and the EPA throughout the process.

For more information contact:

GCSAA (913-841-2240)

Stephen F. Mona, CAE—GCSAA Chief Executive Officer

Joseph A. O'Brien—GCSAA Chief Operating Officer

Pat Jones—GCSAA Director of Development

Scott Smith—GCSAA Public Relations Manager

Kirk Kahler—GCSAA Government Relations Manager

The Religion of Golf

Is it my imagination or has there been a movement out there by a select number of golfers who actually believe the GAME of golf is more than just a game? These fanatics who insist that under all circumstances putting greens should be maintained at or above 10 feet, that fairways should be maintained both firm and uniformly green, that bunkers should be maintained such that bad lies are never a possibility, and that tees should be maintained perfectly flat and mowed to a height that only a military barber can appreciate!

At the same time, they also want roughs at 2", or higher and that the golf course be set up for championship competition. Oddly enough, these same fanatics seem to completely forget that most golfers have handicaps of 16 and above.

Guess who's caught in the middle of this? You guessed it, the golf course superintendent. Regardless of the physical state of the irrigation system, topography, weather conditions, turfgrass species, amount of play, size of greens, soil type and countless other circumstances, they are expected by this vocal minority to perform miracles in turf care.

To this minority of vocal players, I wish you would remember one thing. That is, golf is a game that is supposed to be fun! Sure it is exasperating and difficult, but it is not a matter of life and death. If your ball lands in a wet spot - play it! If your ball is buried in a bunker - hit it and continue on your way! If your ball does not roll far enough on the first green - adjust your putting stroke for the rest of the round!

There are far too many golf course superintendents whose livelihoods are being threatened by those that look at golf as a religion, rather than a game. For those of you that have still not gotten the message, allow your superintendent to do the following:

Maintain greens at a moderate speed that puts the turf first and speed second. Most golfers truly prefer smoothness over speed with an 8'6"-9' Stimpmeter reading being entirely acceptable for normal play.

Maintain conditions in the fairways such that large areas of turf are not lost due to deficit irrigation. Remember, the superintendent's main function is to keep players from messing up their own golf course!

Let us realize that golf course superintendents have an entire staff and family that rely on their decision-making skills. While golf should be a game to golfers, it is a livelihood to the superintendent. We should all try to remember this fact the next time we explode after missing a four footer and immediately blame everyone but ourselves! It truly does put the GAME of golf in its proper perspective. Hallelujah!

—Larry Gilhuly



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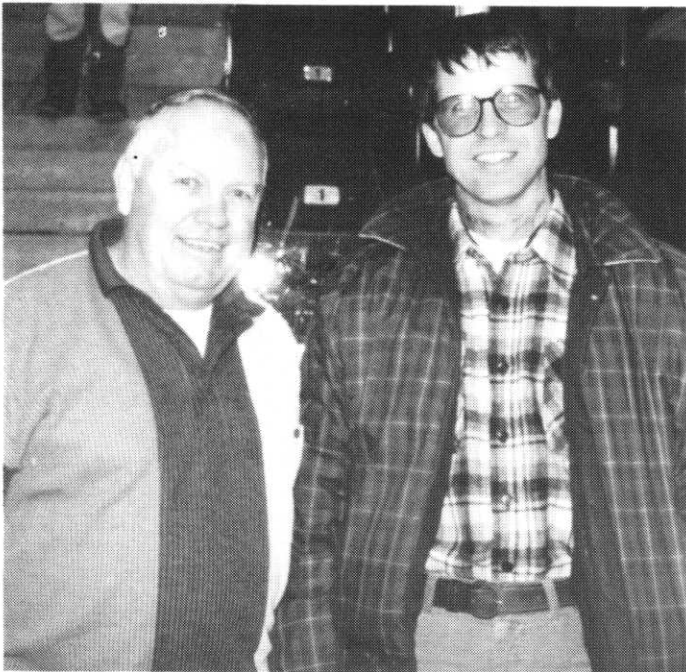
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MGCSA Hockey Club Plays The New Mariucci Arena

Amid chants of “Hey you, you’re outta here, you hack” and before a SRO crowd of 6, the MGCSA hockey club set its site on the big sheet of ice at the new Mariucci Arena. Under the watchful eyes of Russ Adams and Charlie Pooch a tour of the WCHA’s finest hockey facility was the first order of business before the game was to be played. The Golden Gophers home rink offers some of the nicest

amenities to both the players and the fans. During the game blistering slapshots, wicked wrist shots and of course spectacular saves took place, and that was just during the pre-game warmup. Special thank you’s go to Gary Coulson of the Toro Company and to Tom Haberman of MTI Distributing for organizing this athletic outing.



Tour Guides Russ Adams and Charlie Pooch gave the MGCSA Club a tour to remember.



Riding the pine during the Mariucci game.



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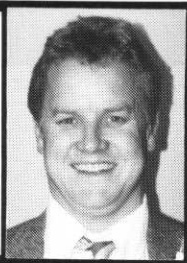
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TEE TALK

By
Scott Turtinen
Executive Director, MGCSA



Attending my first national GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Trade Show in February was, to say the least, a very worthwhile experience.

Perhaps my most vivid memory of my visit to Dallas was the size and scope of the trade show exhibits. The Dallas Convention Center is approximately twice as large as the one we have in Minneapolis.

More important, from my standpoint, was the three-hour seminar that focused on association management, which I attended with MGCSA President Joe Moris. This, basically, was an informal gathering of chapter presidents, executive directors and executive secretaries.

After a variety of topics were suggested for discussion by the group at large, we broke up into small groups to focus on topics like membership, finances, conventions, etc. Joe went to the membership group and learned, among other things, that the MGCSA is about in the middle as far as dues are concerned nationally.

I wound up in a "financial group" with persons from the Carolinas, Ohio, Virginia and Florida. Investment of available cash was a major item reviewed. It was interesting to find out that the Carolina Association, for example, has

Merrill Lynch invest its money, rather than have that association earning a comparatively small return on certificates of deposit.

I also attended a Cart Path Seminar, which was all right but not as illuminating as the association gathering, and it was enjoyable to participate in the "Minnesota Hospitality Night" put together in excellent fashion by Steve Garske and other Minnesota associates.

Perhaps the nicest part of conferences like this is the opportunity to chat with a variety of people from all around the country. Just a tip here and there can make attendance worthwhile.

In comparison with our Minnesota Conference, the national, of course, is about 10 times as big. However, I don't think we have to take a back seat as far as the quality of our program is concerned.

Aside from attending the GCSAA show, about 30 superintendents and I took a break to watch the North (whoops) Dallas Stars play in the attractive Reunion Arena. It was fun to see a pro hockey game again, even though the Stars got clobbered by San Jose 7-1. The Dallas fans still have some learning to do, like the players sit on a bench and not in a dugout.

Overall, the Dallas conference will be long-remembered, but it was nice to get home, even though the temperature difference was nearly 80°.

Congratulations to Bob Distel and Tim Mihalko of Wayzata C.C. on their bungee jumps.

The renewal of your Pesticide License will take place during the 1994 Annual Conference December 7, 8 and 9th.

Rerouted

By Dick Morey
Southern Golf Magazine

There's an old adage in this golf course business that says that superintendents never unpack their bags! They are always awaiting the next "board meeting" or the next Green Chairman to see if they are still on the staff. What a pity, what a shame, what a waste of talent! The assignment of a superintendent's job is very involved and with all the new environmental "twists" becomes more and more so every day. It's no wonder superintendents "split" from the current position and seek another try at a different facility. But, will that change bring about more satisfaction and a better feeling of security in the job? My guess is it may not. My guess is that the assignment of the average golf course superintendent is so diverse that not many can breach the gap. So, what are some of the pitfalls we as course superintendents must overcome?

Maintenance Pitfalls

When all the "smoke" clears away from the GCSAA euphoria about our being "golf course managers" and we get down to the "nitty-gritty" of our job, we are "caretakers" of our golf facility. Experts in such a multitude of maintenance assignments, that it's no wonder we often consider

a "re-routing" and "greener fairways" elsewhere. The November/December issue of the *USGA Green Section Record* presents and summarizes some 20 "pitfalls" we as superintendents encounter. What a list! What a challenge! This list is so complete in delineating the responsibilities of the superintendent, and since it is probably not seen by too many of our working superintendents, *SOUTHERN GOLF* would like to list these 20 "Maintenance Pitfalls." Then we would like to make one summarizing statement at the end of this listing on why superintendents very often consider a "new assignment" and move to a supposedly better situation at another course. Here they are:

- 1) Communications & PR
- 2) Overwatering
- 3) Fast Green Speeds
- 4) Excessive Use of Pesticides
- 5) Continuity of Course Officials/Green Chairperson
- 6) Pesticide Storage and/or Maintenance Buildings
- 7) Tree/Landscape Management
- 8) Amount of Pay
- 9) Labor: Not Enough/Under Qualified

(Continued on Page 30)



UPDATE



SUBJECT: SALES AND USE OF CALO-CLOR AND CALO-GRAN

Grace-Sierra has received a letter from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture today. The letter states that Calo-Clor and Gran are legal to sell and use after July 1, 1994 provided they are not manufactured after that date. Grace-Sierra stopped all manufacturing of Calo-Clor and Gran effective June 25, 1993.

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“Traps,” Waste Areas and Bunkers

A pet peeve of mine is the misnomer “traps,” used by golfers and television announcers to refer to sandy depressions on golf courses. “Traps,” as often stated in Rules seminars that I have taught, are what we use in New Jersey to catch mice in our garages during the wintertime. I also began to take a mousetrap to these seminars and pass it on to each person who said the word “trap” for “bunker”; the person holding the trap at the conclusion of the seminar receives some type of penalty, in addition to becoming the owner of the trap. It’s no big deal, but, as with the incorrect substitution of “pin” for “flagstick,” knowledgeable golfers should know the correct terms.

According to the Rules of Golf, the Definition of a bunker is “a hazard consisting of a prepared area of ground, often a hollow, from which turf or soil has been removed and replaced with sand or the like; grass-covered ground bordering or within a bunker is not part of the bunker. The margin of a bunker extends vertically downwards, but not upwards.”

Oakmont, site of the 1994 U.S. Open, is famous for its church pews (grass-covered areas) in bunkers. If a player’s ball comes to rest in a church pew, by Definition, the ball is not considered in the bunker.

A new term on the scene is “waste area” or “waste bunker.” The USGA has received numerous phone calls and letters on this very subject. What are waste areas, and does a player have different options in playing a ball from these so-called waste areas? Not in the eyes of the USGA.

The Definition of “through the green” is as follows: “the whole area of the course except (a) the teeing ground and putting green of the hole being played; and (b) all hazards on the course.”

Thus, by declaring an area that should be a bunker (hazard) as a waste area, players can now treat it as through the green and do such things as ground their clubs and remove loose impediments. Again, the USGA disagrees with areas that meet the Definition of bunkers being called “waste areas.”

We send the following to those who contact us regarding waste areas:

“Under the Rules of Golf, there is no such thing as a ‘waste area’ or ‘waste bunker.’ By Definition, a bunker is a prepared area of ground from which turf or soil has been removed and replaced with sand. There is nothing in the Rules under which a prepared area of sand (bunker) may be categorized as not a hazard, through the green, by terming it a ‘waste bunker.’ On the other hand, a natural sandy area is not a hazard, and a player whose ball lies in such an area may ground his club lightly in, or remove loose impediments from the area.”

Individuals and clubs, to support the Rules of Golf and the history of our great game, should refrain from treating such areas as through the green. Play them as bunkers, please!”

—Tom Meeks, USGA

Rerouted

(Continued from Page 28)

- 10) Equipment: Not Enough/Poor Quality
- 11) Time Spent on Course
- 12) Documentation
- 13) The Bandwagon Concept (The Leadership CC is doing it)
- 14) Rules Of Golf/Marking The Course
- 15) Lack Of Outside Interest (No Time For Rest Or Family)
- 16) Test Plots
- 17) Staying Current With Technology
- 18) Long Range Planning
- 19) Training & Delegation
- 20) Managing Carts & Cart Paths

Wow! What a list. No wonder the superintendent “leaves home!”

How To Keep Us!

I’m sure most of us superintendents can handle these various and diverse assignments. However, there are two great big obstacles in the way of making our job more tenable. The “low handicappers” and the “Green Chairperson” are

the major problems at most courses.

The severity of the Green Chairperson problem varies with the type of operation. The Private Club is the worst of all because the Green Chairperson along with the elected board change yearly, or even more often! Most Green Chairpersons are the least qualified to handle the management of the superintendent, and most are too stupid to admit that they are out of their territory.

The other major problem area plaguing superintendents is the “low handicapper” who insists that the green be shaved down to “mud” in violation of all good agronomy practices. Close clipping of the green is one of the worst problems afflicting the game of golf today. Greens were meant to have some turf, and the so-called “fast” green is the ruination of more superintendents than any other one factor!

Let’s not “throw the baby out with the bathwater.” Let’s find a way to keep the fine superintendents we have and give them the much needed confidence they deserve. They may even unpack their bags! And we won’t see their names on the “Rerouted” list!