

Woodhill Country Club Noted For Environmental Excellence

Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata, Minnesota has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, a program of the Audubon Society of New York and endorsed by the United States Golf Association. Woodhill Country Club is the fourth golf course in Minnesota and sixtieth in the nation to receive the honor.

Woodhill joined the program in 1993 which provides information and guidance to golf courses to help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

"Woodhill Country Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Marla Briggs, staff ecologist for the Audubon Society of New York.

"To reach certification a club must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas," explained Briggs. These categories include Environmental Planning, Wildlife and Habitat Enhancement, Integrated Pest Management, Water Conservation and Water Quality Management.

"Our goal," says Golf Course Superintendent Rick

Fredericksen, "is to provide a golf course that has an abundance of natural habitat to provide food and cover for wildlife. Several areas on the golf course grounds have been converted to prairie grasses and flowers that will provide this type of natural habitat. The sanctuary program assists us in developing these natural areas and provides information on environmentally friendly maintenance procedures.

Preventive Maintenance—

(Continued from Page 12)

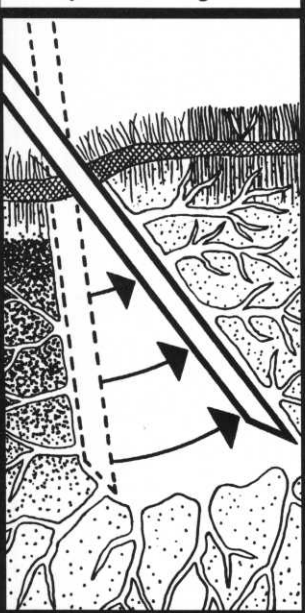
if your well efficiency has dropped 25%, from 40 to 30 for example from initial construction or from the latest well work, you should undertake some rehabilitation. If you let your efficiency deteriorate further, you run a significant risk of permanent damage to the well. As you can see, early recognition of a well that is losing efficiency is critical to returning that well to optimum production capacity at the least possible cost.

In the next issue of *Hole Notes*, I intend to discuss pump maintenance and what are some of the critical symptoms of a pump system that requires repair.

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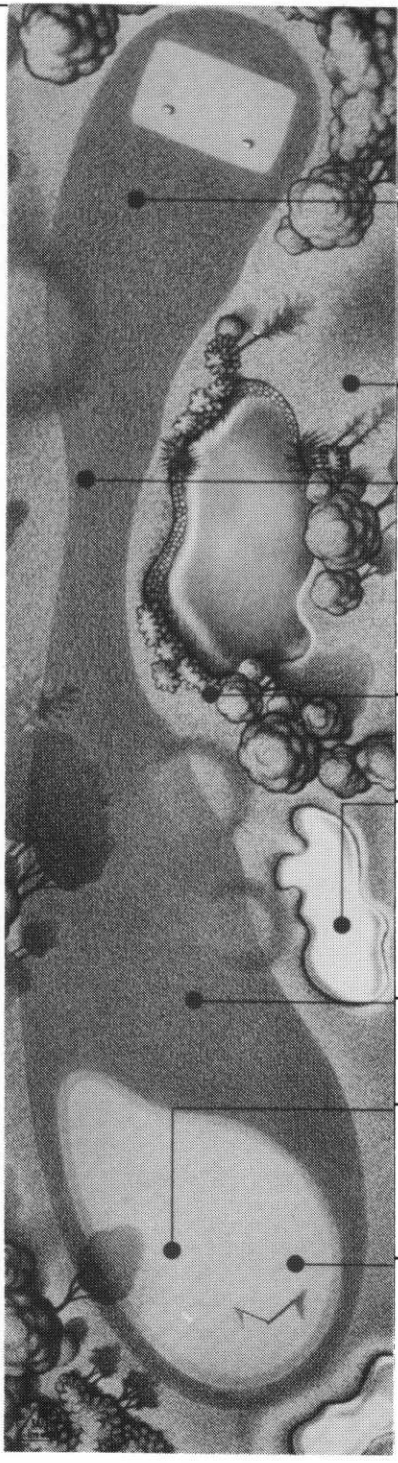
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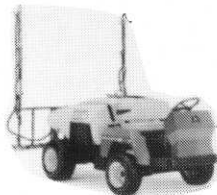


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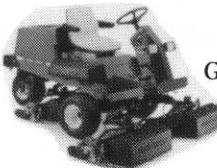
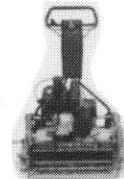


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Minnesota Superintendent Receives Professional Certification

R. Drew Demorest, superintendent of Marshall Golf Club, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Demorest has been superintendent of the Marshall Golf Club, Marshall, Minnesota, course since 1989.

GCSAA instituted the certification program in 1971 to recognize outstanding and progressive superintendents. More than 1,400 active GCSAA members currently hold "CGCS" status.

To become certified, a candidate must have five years' experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet specific educational requirements

of college credit or continuing units. The candidate must then pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering knowledge of GCSAA and its certification program; the rules of golf; turfgrass management; pest management, safety and compliance; and financial and organizational management.

As part of the certification process, an on-site inspection of Demorest's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course superintendents: Tedd Evans, CGCS, of Brookings Country Club, Brookings, South Dakota, and Steve Harrer, CGCS, of Minnehaha Country Club, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



1996 MGCSA MONTHLY MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 13
MINI-SEMINAR
Ramada Plaza—Minnetonka

Monday, April 15
SOUTHERN HILLS GOLF CLUB
Host Superintendent: Martin Terveer

Monday, May 13
BENSON GOLF CLUB
Host Superintendent: Dave Sime

Monday, June 10
HEADWATER'S COUNTRY CLUB
Host Superintendent: Mark Fossum

Monday, July 8
IZATY'S GOLF & YACHT CLUB
GARSKE SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE
Host Superintendent: Steve Schumacher

Monday, August 12
ST. CROIX NATIONAL
MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP
Host Superintendent: Kevin Clunis

Sunday, September 15
MADDEN'S ON GULL LAKE
STODOLA RESEARCH SCRAMBLE
Host Superintendent: Scott Hoffman

Monday, October 7
FOX HOLLOW GOLF COURSE
Host Superintendent: Chuck Molinari

Wed.-Fri., December 11, 12 & 13
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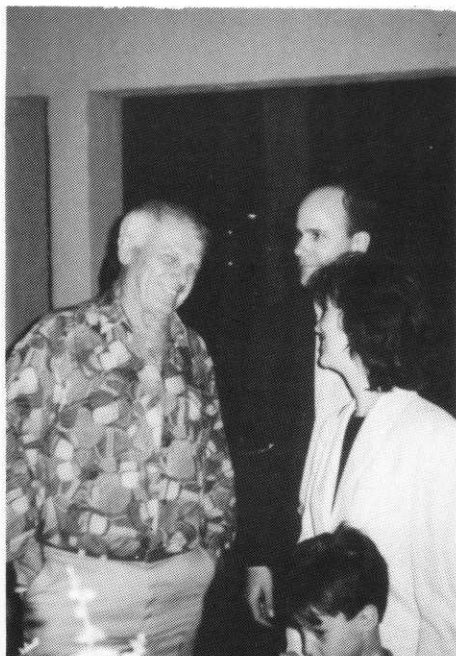
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS—JANUARY 16, 1996

Class

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David Sime, Membership Chairman



Bob and Leah Distel talk with Boots Fuller at the Minnesota gathering in Orlando.

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Human Resources and Public Relations Committee Updates

By Rob Panuska
Waseca Lakeside Club

I have been appointed the chairman of both the Human Resources and Public Relations committees of the MGCSA board for 1996. While these two committees are treated separately, they are both closely related in their functions and purposes. Human Resources includes issues that affect our jobs and people and public relations involves issues that affect how others view us and our jobs.

We will continue the work that was started last year by Bill Cox on the MGCSA member survey. The first information from that survey on salaries and budgets was presented at our January meeting at Woodhill. Those results are available by calling Scott Turtinen at the office. Our goal this year is to computerize the entire survey to make the information more accessible and meaningful. If you are a class A or B superintendent and did not return a survey, please call Scott and fill one out. Only those who send in a completed survey will be able to receive the complete results.

The major work we will bring to the board this year is regarding health insurance for our members. Kevin Clunis has been working with this over the past year and will continue to gather information and work with the program. We know there is strong interest on this issue from the survey you filled out last year, so watch your *Hole Notes* for further details.

Public Relations Hits the Ground Running

On January 12, Fred Taylor from Mankato Golf Club and myself had the opportunity to represent the MGCSA at a Minnesota PGA section crackerbarrel session at the Mendakota Country Club. About 45 golf pro's and assistants were in attendance. Fred and I concentrated our discussion on the working relationship between a pro and superintendent. You might ask "what relationship," our point exactly. Communication and understanding can lead to respect for each other and reduce conflicts in our daily work. The group was enlightened about our perspective on their jobs, and they learned from us where our pressures come from. Look for more joint education in the future from both groups.

Our next event took place in mid-February at the Metrodome. The MGCSA was represented at the Minnesota Golf Show. This is a premier opportunity for us to reach out to the general golfing public and explain the importance of our role in their game. A special thanks to the MGCSA members who helped out manning the booth over the three-day show.

Other PR information of interest, this being the political season, not for hunting, but for communicating to your

legislators your concerns at the local, state and national levels. It is important to keep informed about the issues before the various levels of government. The Minnesota legislature has been in session since early January. If you would like information about committee schedules and agendas, legislators' names and phone numbers you can call the House information office at (612) 296-2146 or 800-657-3550 and the Senate information office at (612) 296-0504. I encourage you to write, call or better yet visit your legislators at the capitol and express your concerns. Volunteer to provide them with information about our work and industry; you never know when a "hot" issue may arise

If you would like more information or help with a public relations effort, please do not hesitate to call me. I would be glad to help you out. My goal is to have some information regarding human resources and public relations in each edition of *Hole Notes*. If you have done some things at your course along these lines, please let me know so that we can let others know what works and what doesn't.

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- Lebanon Dylox 6.2G
- Lebanon Oftanol 1.5G
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Tree Survey—

(Continued from Page 16)

deface or kill the tree. If the larvae are treated when small, Malathion or Sevin are effective chemical controls. If the larvae have eaten for 3-5 days, they are resistant to the chemicals. Thus, the three day window of opportunity occurs at a time when golf course personnel are already stretched with work responsibilities. The need to scout and spray for one more problem is unappealing. My advice. If someone offers you a truck load of 6' black hill spruce for **FREE**, point them down the road.

8) *Populus tremuloides* - **Aspen** is a fast-growing tree with widespread distribution throughout the United States. The short life of the tree creates a non-stop task of tree removal and replanting. Particularly when a new golf course has been carved into mature forests of aspen, the maintenance can be exhausting and expensive. Trees that were once shielded in the forest are exposed to strong winds. Every storm delivers branches and trees to the ground. The solution is to admit that the aspen are a temporary tree stand and interplant with higher quality, more ornamental, trees.

9) *Malus cultivars* - **Crabapples** provide vivid color at a time when Minnesotans are craving spring. Some of the older varieties become almost defoliated by mid-summer due to disease. Improved cultivars have substantially reduced this problem. Interplant an assortment of new varieties to insure future success.

10) *Tilia cordata* 'Greenspire' - **Greenspire Littleleaf Linden** is a nice shade tree that has consistently performed well. No major problems have surfaced to date. However,

the numbers of greenspire lindens being planted are so great that when, and if, an epidemic should occur, the monoculture will be impacted.

11) The nursery industry has established criteria for determining the quality of a young tree. The price breaks offered for poor quality plant material can be a fiscal temptation too great to resist. Everyone loves a bargain! However, a poor quality tree after fifty years of maintenance, is just a poor quality tree. A premium grade tree with the same attention, yields a specimen tree. The "I saved \$50!" is short-term thinking.

12) **Question 12 is the most important one of the survey.** If the responses to 1-11 are perfect, all of the time, work and money can be negated by a bad answer to number 12. Insects, diseases, fertilizer, deer, water and more are blamed for plant material attrition. But all of the specialists in the world cannot cure the number one reason for tree fatalities on golf courses - damaged bark.

Some golf courses are equipment rodeos. Rodeo description: *Riders* on expensive *horses* are judged on the speed and closeness that they can navigate around *barrels* on an *obstacle* course. Substitute the underlined words with these replacements: *drivers, mowers, trees, golf.* In both scenarios, if the barrel or tree get hit enough times, replacement will be necessary. The situation is preventable. On new plantings add a 5' ring of mulch at the base of trees. (The mulch is free . . . chop the dead trees.)

With so much attention given to turf maintenance, it's easy to forget the trees on the course. But remember, they're an important component of the play of the course, and the natural beauty so important to golfers. Any questions or comments? Call 1-800-626-6429.

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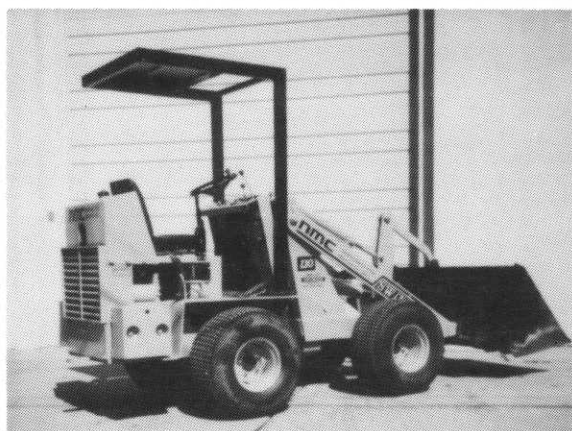
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Ice Alert—

(Continued from Page 9)

ice" is exposed to sunlight, it would probably be prudent to break up the ice or melt through it to create avenues for air exchange.

*Remember, the soil thaws from the top down and from deep in the soil up toward the surface. The most crucial time is when there is a residual zone of frost between 4" and 8" below the soil surface. This usually results in the top few inches above the frost layer being saturated and can result in problems unless the water has run off before the soil surface thaws.

Please do not hesitate to call either Brad Pedersen at 624-7407 or 507-835-3620, or Don White at 624-9206 or Troy Carson at 624-4907 if you think we can help.

Best wishes for a good year and please keep us posted as to how things go.

Spring Bull Session

The Spring Bull Session, usually taking place at Alexandria Golf Club, will be held this spring at Detroit C.C. in Detroit Lakes on Monday, March 18.

An informal meeting will start at 9 a.m. and run until 2 p.m. Coffee and doughnuts available with lunch on your own. Come with questions and be ready for a good "round table" discussion.

All superintendents are invited. Contact Brad Klein at 218-847-8070 for more information.



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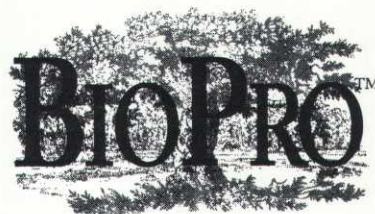
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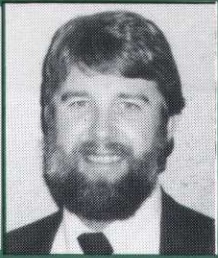
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EDITOR'S CORNER

By Tom Parent
River Oaks Golf Course



I want to take this opportunity to thank the membership for electing me to the MGCSA Board of Directors. I am honored by your support. In my role as editor I will strive to bring you a magazine that will help you in the day-to-day management of your golf courses. My main goal is to increase the number of original articles written for our magazine. We will still reprint materials from other newsletters that the committee feels are pertinent. To accomplish this goal, we need input from you. If you have information that you feel would be useful to the membership or have learned something in discussions with members of the academia, write it down! Don't worry about syntax or spelling and commas; that's what editors are for.

* * * *

In talking with many of you I have the impression that you feel that the working of the board is a mysterious lofty tower. In fact it is fairly routine. I do feel that there needs to be more communication of what the board actually does. In the future we will try to keep you abreast of the activities of the various committees. In the two board meetings I have attended, it rapidly became clear to me the time spent on our behalf by the members of the board that I, for one, was never aware of.

The executive committee, in particular, is involved with representing our profession in state government and the GCSAA. Many hours are spent away from their jobs and families to represent us as a group for which they receive little credit. This is in part due to lack of communication of their activities to you the membership. In the future we will try to keep you up to date. Please feel free to call any of us if you have any questions.

* * * *

Over the last two years I have spent considerable time researching the role of beneficial microorganisms in the soil. This has been a fascinating subject and a lot of fun. In doing so I have made many contacts, some of which have resulted in my involvement in the sale or formulation of products used in our industry. I feel that there could be some perceived conflict of interest in my desire to share what I have learned with the membership.

As a result, some of the articles I have written for future issues could be seen as self-serving. I have strived to keep my articles as generic as possible to prevent this impression. If you, the membership, feel there is a conflict, I will stop.

I would also like to institute a monthly article entitled "One Guy's Opinion," a title changed for gender correctness as necessary. There are many ideas in our industry that have been around so long that we don't take a second

look at them. This column is intended to spark a debate. This month's article is on sand topdressing native soil greens. Most likely it will not be looked on favorably by top dressing suppliers. It is not intended to anger anyone, and if it does, I apologize in advance. With any luck it will stimulate someone to write a rebuttal on the benefits of sand topdressing native soil greens and rip my opinions to shreds. That is what this column is for. I hope you will not get tired of my opinion because of the flood of articles written for this column.

Again, thank you all for your vote of confidence.

Member-Generated Articles

Articles written by members are the key to the success of a publication such as *Hole Notes*. We listen to each other's ideas and trust each other's common sense and advice, aso why not share it?

An experience of a superintendent at one golf course may be of use to a fellow superintendent at another course. *Hole Notes* needs you to put down those thoughts on paper and welcomes your suggestions for articles.

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