

Nesting Structures Very Successful On Golf Courses

By MICHAEL BROWER

Hillcrest Country Club

A recent project funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited and other conservation groups has found that artificial waterfowl nesting structures can dramatically increase hen mallard nesting success. The four-year study showed that the nest structures were readily accepted by hen mallards and that 77% of nests produced ducklings.

This past golf season, we placed two floating nest platforms in ponds on our golf course, at Hillcrest Country Club in St. Paul. Our success was dramatic, and clearly demonstrated to us what the study results showed. Mallards were quick to use the floating structures, and the production of ducklings was outstanding. The mallards stayed close to the nest, the pond and the shoreline, and were never a nuisance to golfers. It was actually the opposite, the golfers enjoyed watching the activities of the ducks. There's nothing cuter than a hen mallard moving along the water with six or eight itty-bitty ducklings close behind.

There are several sources that manufacture the floating nest structures, as well as many other songbird and waterfowl houses. My recent purchase was from Jim Savre, of Fridley, who calls his company *Nesters*. He typically makes them for the DNR, with goose nests over the top of the mallard tubes, but is open to making them right for you. We opted to have two additional mallard tubes on each of our structures rather than the goose nest. The platforms are made of cedar, with PVC floats underneath, and feature double-hay covered metal fencing cylinders on top. Geese,

by the way, showed no interest in our structures, but the turtles absolutely loved sunning on them almost daily.

Jim Backes of Sauk Centre manufactures 15 various structures including a floating duck nest. His floating nest structure weighs just 15 pounds and is made of maintenance-free, hand-woven fiberglass. He also makes snowshoes made of woven fiberglass at his rural Sauk Centre home and they have been a big hit with many outdoor enthusiasts because of their strength and durability.

David and Laurie Silewski of Valley City, N.D., also produce a floating nesting structure and would welcome a call from a golf course superintendent. In speaking with them over the telephone, it's easy to tell that they take great pride in their work and how well their products benefit wildlife. They have a wide variety of products, and utilize molded polyethylene in building their structures. Their products are used extensively throughout the Upper Midwest and Canada. In addition to their floating structure, they currently build what is called the *Duck Den*, the popular *Delta Hen House*, which can be mounted on poles.

* * *

To purchase nesting structures, contact:

Jim Savre, 144 Satellite Lane NE, Fridley, MN 55432.
Phone (612) 574-0771.

Jim Backes, Rt. 2, Box 55B, Sauk Centre, MN 56378.
Phone (320) 352-6457.

Dave & Laurie Silewski, 3471 Woodland Park, Valley City, ND 58072. Phone (701) 845-5457.



John Queensland wins drawing for impressive Wood Carving of the MGCSA logo by retired member Ray Hall.

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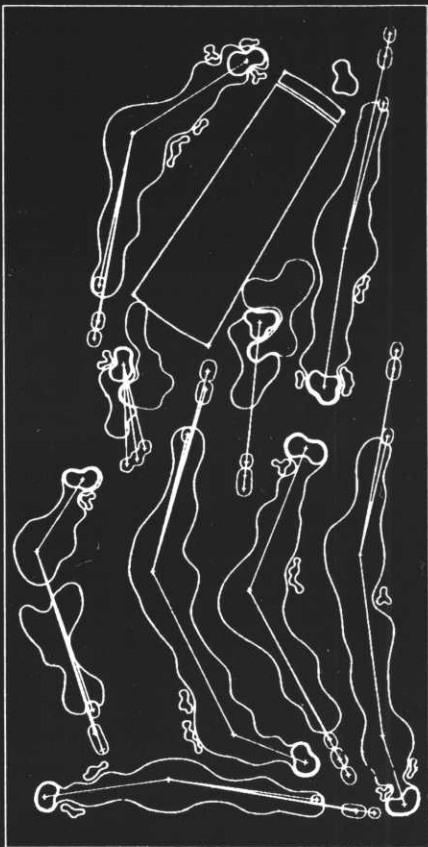
TURFGRASS ECOLOGY — DR. KARL DANNEBERGER
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

MARCH 10

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT — DR. RAYMOND S. SCHMIDGALL
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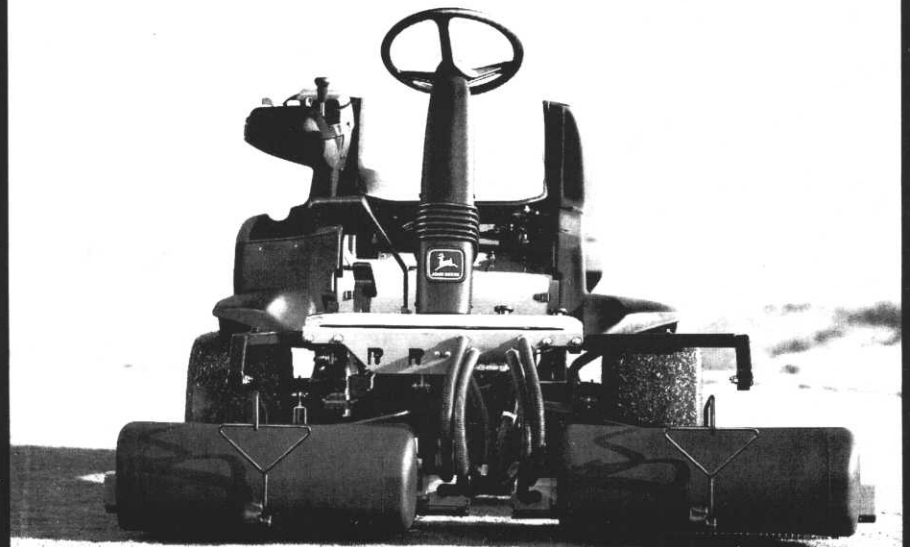
	Course Superintendent	Clubhouse Manager
Base Pay	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
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Interested persons with questions should contact Sol Bernhardt at (320) 286-2007 or send your application to: SOL BERNHARDT, Cokato Town & Country Club, P.O. Box 506, Cokato, MN 55321

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Julie Sprau Succeeds Ross Galarneault As MGA Executive Director, COO

Julie L. Sprau, a 36-year-old attorney, has been selected as the new executive director and chief operating officer of the Minnesota Golf Association.

She succeeds Ross Galarneault, who will be leaving in the near future after 15 years of service.

Sprau was named after an Executive Search Committee, headed by Past MGA President Bill Bohmer, spent several months evaluating more than 90 applicants. Other members of the committee were MGA President Dick Bennett, Past President Roger Gordon and First Vice President Cal Simmons and board members Loren Hegland, JoAnn Hernandez, Mary Jahnke and Jan Nelson.

"Julie is extremely well qualified," said Bohmer, "and the MGA will be in excellent hands for many years to come."

Current secretary-treasurer of the MGA, she has submitted her resignation to take over her new position.

A 1980 graduate of Hopkins Lindbergh High School, Julie was graduated in 1984 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Iowa State University. She was employed by General Mills as a financial analyst for the next four years. During that time she earned her Master of Business Administration with honors at the University of Minnesota, then received her law degree in 1991 at

William Mitchell Law School.

She worked for the Minneapolis law firm of Dorsey & Whitney for three years before establishing her own firm in 1993 to pursue a career in the areas of corporate and international law.

Sprau has competed in amateur golf throughout her life. She played high school golf for Eisenhower High School and competed in the Minnesota State High School tournaments as well as various state amateur competitions.

At Iowa State she was a member of the varsity golf team and played in the AIAW national golf tournament, now known as the NCAA national golf tournament.

Julie also has been active with various Minnesota golf organizations. During her college years she helped conduct various junior golf tournaments and camps held by the Minnesota PGA. She recently completed her term as Long Range Planning Director of the MWGA. She became a director of the MGA in 1986 and served as chair of the Bylaws and Legal Affairs Committee, was a member of both the Executive and Management Committees and was named Secretary-Treasurer of the association in 1996.

Julie and her husband, Joe, also an attorney, are the parents of two daughters, Lauren, 5½, and Nicole, 3.

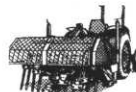
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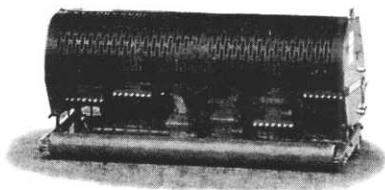


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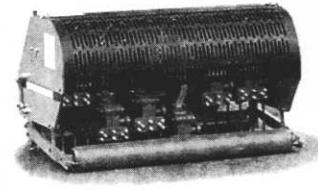


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NEW MEMBERS: DECEMBER 9, 1998

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Curtis J. Helget
 New Ulm Country ClubC
 R.R. 2, Box 198 B, New Ulm, MN 56073 • (507) 354-6510

Britton J. Mattson
 Giant's Ridge Golf and Ski ResortC
 130 Anderson Dr., No. 10, Virginia, MN 55792
 (218) 865-4143, Ext. 438

Alex J. Stuedemann
 Bunker Hills Golf CourseC
 1890 127th Lane N.W., Coon Rapids, MN 55448 • (612) 755-4150

James Ball
 Anoka Hennepin Technical CollegeStudent
 7012 Unity Ave. N., Brooklyn Center, MN 55429 • (612) 566-9725

Christopher J. Rust
 Mendakota Country ClubD
 81 W. Kraft Rd., West St. Paul, MN 55118 • (612) 454-1441

Ruth Anderson
 Anderson Nurseries, Inc.Associate
 Rt. 1, Box 88, Wentworth, SD 57075 • (605) 489-2582

Dale WesselmanGCSAA - Assoc.
 3525 E. 27th St., # 102, Minneapolis, MN 55406
 (612) 729-4706

Rick Keller
 Site DesignAffiliate
 7810 Brink Dr., Horace, ND 580847 • (701) 232-8440

RECLASSIFICATIONS

Eric Charlson
 Pinewood Golf CourseC to B
James Johnson, CGCS - MGCSA Membership Chairman

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS: DECEMBER 17, 1998

Jon Sundvold Class
 Beverly Country ClubC
 1518 W. Belle Plaine #2, Chicago, IL 60613
 Bus: (708) 636-8700

John Toso
 Spring Creek Country ClubD
 4809 East Hanover Ct., Sioux Falls, SD 57110
 Bus: (605) 743-2000

James Johnson, CGCS - MGCSA Membership Chairman

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

NEW MEMBERS: NOVEMBER 17, 1998

Donald W. Davidson Class
 Fairway Shores Golf CourseGCSAA - A
 13209 - 285th Ave. N., Zimmerman, MN 55398
 (612) 856-3334

Mark R. ReganGCSAA - A
 French Lake GolfGCSAA - A
 9516 Rosewood Lane N., Maple Grove, MN 55369
 (612) 428-4544

Robert A. TraverGCSAA - B
 The Links at NorthforkGCSAA - B
 12315 Jonquil Street N.W., Coon Rapids, MN 55433
 (612) 441-7430

Steve JegtvigC
 Cragun's GolfC
 3954 Ojibwa Park Rd., #2, Brainerd, MN 56401
 (218) 825-8485

Michael KellyC
 Thunder Hawk Golf ClubC
 8136 W. High St., Franklin, WI 53132 • (847) 746-5024

Mike RhodeC
 Majestic Oaks Golf ClubC
 8941 Syndicate Ave., Apt. 213, Circle Pines, MN 55014
 (612) 755-6530

James B. RiekemaC
 City of Bloomington (Dwan Golf Club)C
 4419 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington, MN 55437
 (612) 948-8851

Amy D. BerquistStudent
 Cragun's ResortStudent
 2823 Lexington Ave. N., #223, Roseville, MN 55113
 1-800-272-4867

Brandon SchindeleStudent
 Edina Country ClubStudent
 318 8th St. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414 • (612) 922-9012

Christopher R. Lidle, Jr.D
 City of Bloomington (Dwan Golf Club)D
 7401 W. 101st St., Bloomington, MN 55431 • (612) 948-8851

Scott SonterreD
 Majestic Oaks Golf ClubD
 18017 Macon St., Elk River, MN 55330 • (612) 755-6530

David HacklemanE
 Jefferson High SchoolE
 415 Jefferson St., Alexandria, MN 56308 • (320) 759-2383

Don ChelmoAffiliate
 Century Rain AidAffiliate
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Irene M. KellyAffiliate
 Redwood SignsAffiliate
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Neil McKeownAffiliate
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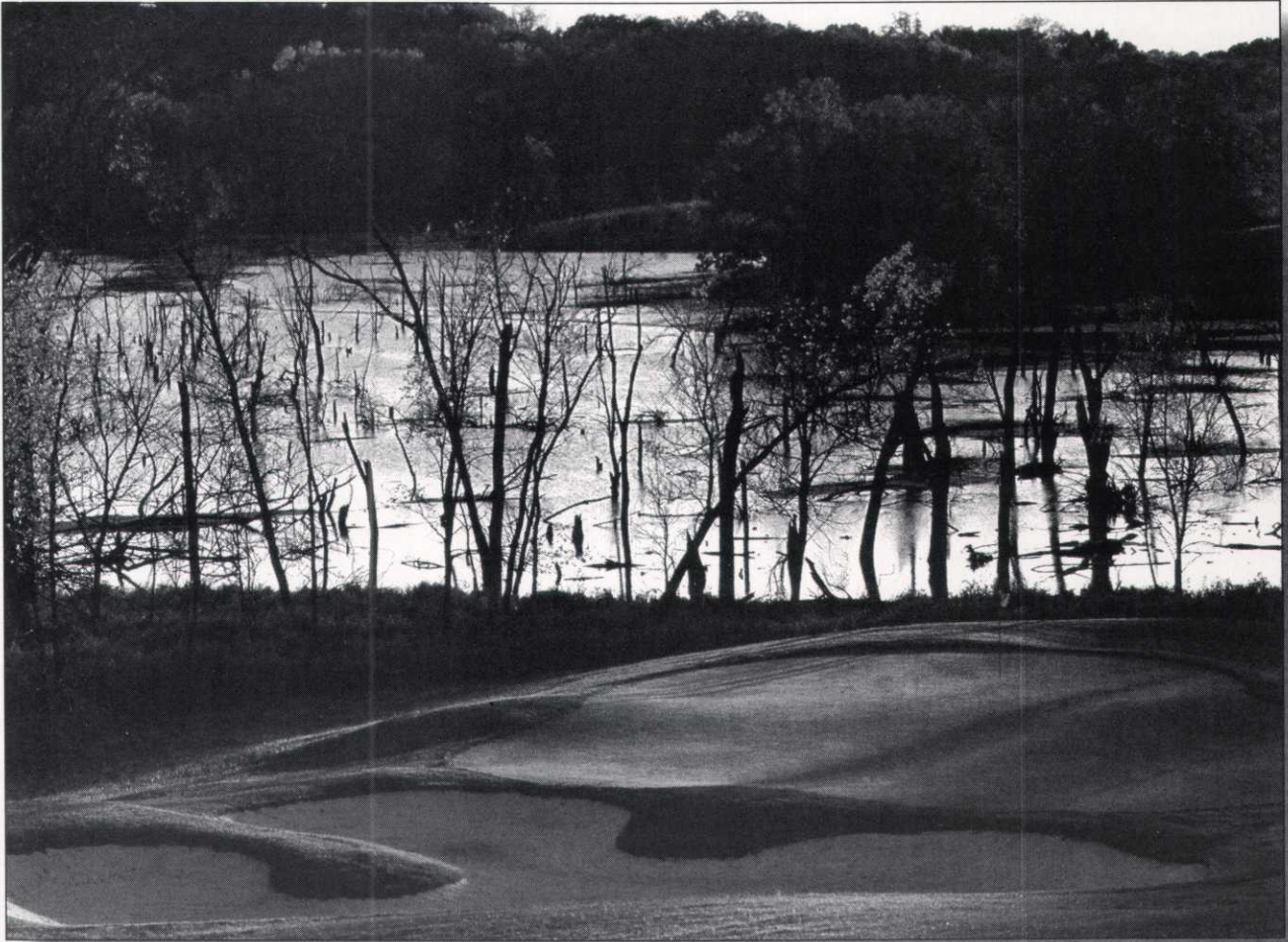
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EDITOR'S CORNER

By Steve Shumansky
Perham Lakeside Country Club



December

Tiz the season, for golf??? This is supposed to be the tiime for snowball fights, skiing and snowmobiling. Seems weird, could we be in a midst of a wimpy winter? Here's one, early December I'm putting up my Christmas lights around my house. That same evening I decided to have a bonfire because the weather was so nice. There I sat staring at an unfrozen lake and wearing a flannel shirt. This is Minnesota, right??? People play golf in December all the time, but not usually in this neck of the woods. But after looking at the forecast for the next week or so, below zero temps are on the way. I think the fun is over. Back to reality!!

The Hunt

For those of you that have followed my previous articles on hunting and fishing. Well.....deer hunting for me.....let's just say the weather was great for watching all the animals in their habitat was fun, too. If you haven't figured it out yet, I along with a few others got skunked this year. Hmmmm, it's Bambi 1 and me 0. I do look forward to doing a little ice fishing in the next few weeks. With the cold weather coming it shouldn't be too far off. Guaranteed to be a good time, too!! It's been a while since I've had a fresh walleye dinner.

Conference

This year's MTGF conference has come and gone. From an educational side, I thought it was o.k., not great but o.k. Next year, trust me, will be a lot better!! I had a few people comment on some of the speakers and what have you, but every year things can't be perfect. The attendance showed that. I know from sitting in board meetings and all that this coming year the conference will be much better. I'll try to keep you posted on what we can look forward to this upcoming year. The Mini-Seminar will soon be upon

us and I hope to see all of you there. As always it's a blast to see your friends and sit around and shoot the bull. Have lunch together and maybe dinner and drinks, too. For me, I didn't get a chance to see everyone I wanted to see. I didn't get a chance to spend the time I wanted to spend with most of them either. It seems sometimes you get caught up in everything and there just isn't time to do all the things you want to do.

Thanks

I want to take this time to thank you, the members, for your comments, articles and compliments you've given me this past year as editor of *Hole Notes*. The feeling I got whenever someone would come up to me and say they liked what they're seeing and reading made me feel really good. Really, I appreciate it!! I would normally be passing on my duties to someone else this year as editor, but guess what, you get me for another year!! I'm looking forward to serving as your editor again. I hope I can do as well or better this upcoming year than I did this past year. All I know is, I couldn't do this without you, the members' participation, and Scott, Jeff and Ralph Turtinen. With out this combination our *Hole Notes* wouldn't be what it is. Thanks to all of you. For those of you that said you were gonna write me something and never did last year...you'll be getting a phone call from me!!!!

With that I'll close. I hope your holidays were spent with much cheer!!!

See ya next month,

— Steve Shumansky
Editor

MGCSA HOSPITALITY NIGHT IN ORLANDO

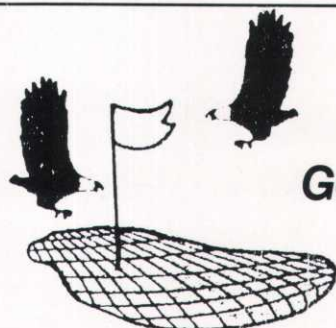
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