

A Billy Goat Will Eat Anything.



Outback Brush Cutter

Clears Tall Weeds & Underbrush With Ease!

- 11 HP
- 24" Mowing Path
- Self - Propelled
- 3 Speed with Reverse
- Pneumatic Bar Tires for Traction

Model BC2401H

Power Rake

The Best Unit on the Market for De - Thatching!



- 5.5 HP
- 20" Raking Width
- Comfort Design Handlebars Fold for Easy Transport
- Adjustable Raking Depth
- Pillow Block Bearings for Added Durability

Model PR500H

Leaf & Debris Blower

Gets the Job Done With Hurricane - Force Winds!

- 5.5 or 8 HP
- Ergonomic Handle Design
- Industry's Quietest & Most Powerful Blower
- 14 Blade Fan
- Reduced Vibration Makes it Comfortable to Use.



Model QB553

Multi - Purpose, Silent Vac.

The World's Most Versatile Vac!

- 5.5 HP Honda
- 27" Intake
- Use on Turf or Hard Surfaces
- Picks up Leaves, Litter, Pinecones, Thatch, Cigarette Butts, and Much More
- Bag, Filter, and Liner Options Handle Solid Debris, Wet / Humid or High - Dust Situations.

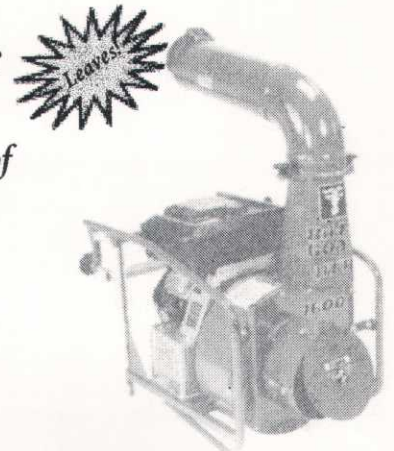


Model SV50H

Heavy Duty Truck Loader

Moves Mountains of Leaves in a Hurry!

- 16 HP
- 10" Intake
- Steel Frame
- Mounts Easily to Any Truck
- Includes Hose & Hose Boom
(not shown here)



Model HTR1600VN



CUSHMAN

E-Z-GO

RANSOMES

RYAN

CUSHMAN

CUSHMAN MOTOR CO., INC.

TEXTRON

2909 E. FRANKLIN AVE., MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55406 • (612) 333-3487 • TOLL FREE: 1-800-759-5343 • FAX: (612) 333-5903

TURF CARE AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

HOLE NOTES

Official Publication
of the
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association

1999 MGCSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President Tom Fischer, CGCS
Edinburgh USA
612/315-8582 • Fax: 612/315-8585
Vice-President E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS
Heritage Links GC
612/440-6494 • Fax: 612/440-6496
Secretary Mike Brower
Hillcrest CC
651/777-5186 • Fax: 651/777-7463
Treasurer Rob Panuska
Waseca Lakeside CC
507/835-2574 • Fax: 507/835-3472
Ex-Officio Jim Nicol, CGCS
Hazeltime National GC
612/448-3626 • Fax: 612/448-1726

Directors

Jeff Churchill North Star Turf Supply
800/592-9513 • Fax: 612/484-8257
Rick Fredericksen, CGCS Woodhill CC
612/473-5811 • Fax: 612/473-0113
Jim Johnson, CGCS Rich Spring GC
612/685-4322 • Fax: 320/685-3461
Mike Klatt, CGCS Elm Creek GL
612/478-8592
Tom Meier Worthington CC
507/376-9250 • Fax: 507/372-2597
John Queensland Cedar River CC
507/582-3595 • Fax: 507/582-3133
Steve Shumansky Perham Lakeside CC
218/346-6071
Bob Simondet LESCO, Inc.
320/327-2929 • Fax: 320/327-2929

* * * *

EDITOR

Steve Shumansky
E-mail: plcc@eot.com

* * * *

Editorial and Business Office

Scott Turtinen, Executive Director
Minnesota Golf Course
Superintendents' Association
240 Minnetonka Avenue South/P.O. Box 617
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-1617
Tel: 612/473-0557 • Fax: 612/473-0576
Toll Free: 800-642-7227



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

MTGF Approves \$20,000 Expenditure on PR Firm To Promote Associations



Mike Brower and I have been working on a proposal to have the MTGF share revenue with the MGCSA, which took most of this summer to negotiate. Our work was rewarded this month when the MTGF approved to spend up to \$20,000 on a PR firm to help promote the member associations. I would like to thank Mike for all his hard work representing us at the MTGF board meetings. The MGCSA board approved the committee of Jim Nicol, CGCS, and E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, to help the MTGF in choosing the PR firm. We will now be able to defend some of the negative press we receive for applying plant protection chemicals and other pesticides, along with publishing articles that help people understand our profession.

* * * *

Dr. Don White and Leroy Young will receive Distinguished Service Awards at our annual meeting in December. Dr. White has dedicated his life work to turfgrass research and receive a patent on a variety of *Poa annua* for putting green use. This means the University of Minnesota will receive money from other universities doing research on *Poa annua*. Leroy Young has been a name that superintendents have counted on when their irrigation systems have needed repair. Leroy has made many emergency calls over the years and seemed to arrive at all hours of the day whenever someone needed repair work completed. We would like to thank him for all his dedication.

* * * *

The Watson Award will go to Mike Brower for his article "Tie a Yellow Ribbon 'Round That Old, Old Pond" in our May issue of *Hole Notes*. This article was written about planting Ornamental grasses around ponds. The award is presented to the best written superintendent article in the past year's issues of *Hole Notes*.

* * * *

This will be the last President's Report I will submit. I have tried to serve in the best interest of the Association. I would like to thank everyone on the Board and the different committees for all the help you have given your Association over the past year. Anyone in our association that has not served on the Board or a committee should give it a try. The education is more than worth the effort you put into it.

— Thomas Fischer, CGCS, President



HOLE NOTES (ISSN 108-27994) is published monthly except bi-monthly December/January, February/March for \$2 an issue or \$20 per year by the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617. Scott Turtinen, Publisher. Periodicals postage paid at Wayzata, MN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HOLE NOTES, 240 Minnetonka Avenue South, Wayzata, MN 55391-1617.

Inside This Issue of Hole Notes

Advertisers

- 1** **Haroldson, Lanager, Peterson & Cohrs Capture Final Mixer**
By Scott Turtinen
- 5** **Delegates Discuss PDI And Other Issues**
- 9** **Habitat Enhancement For Water Birds**
— Audubon Society
- 11** **New Mulch Technology For Turfgrass Establishment**
By George Hamilton
- 15** **Managing Midwestern Naturalized Areas**
By Tom Voigt Ph.D.
- 21** **MGCSA Board Update**
By Mike Brower
- 23** **Ramona English Joins Fairway Foundation**
- 28** **Public Relations Initiatives** — GCSAA

Century Rain Aid	8
Classified Ads	26
Country Club Turf	BC
Cushman Motor Co.	IFC
Double Eagle Golf Construction	30
Glenn Rehbein Companies	20
Hartman	4
Herfort-Norby	7
Howrey Construction	25
Hydrologic	14
Hydrologic	24
J.D. Turf	27
Leitner Company	19
MTI Distributing Co.	6
MTI Distributing Co.	16
MTI Distributing Co.	17
North Star Turf Supply	12
North Star Turf Supply	IBC
Par Aide Products Co.	15
Paskvan Consulting	18
Plaisted Companies	29
Precision Turf & Chemical, Inc.	19
Prinsco	23
Tee Shot Marketing	13
Tessman Company	11
Turf Partners	10
Williams & Gill	28

Departments

- 3** **From Your President's Desk** By Tom Fischer, CGCS
- 28** **Membership Report**
By Tom Meier
- 30** **Editor's Corner**
By Steve Shumansky



MARK GRUNDMAN, Medalist America, gave an informative talk on creeping bluegrass at the Albion Ridge meeting.

HARTMAN

Est. 1972

****Sports Turf Specialists****

- High Tech Drainage Techniques & Design
- Renovation & Landscaping
- Excavating & Grading

Jeffrey L. Hartman
President

8011 Bavaria Rd., Victoria, MN 55386 • 612-443-2958 • Fax: (612) 443-3452



Delegates Discuss Proposed PDI And Other Association Issues

(Editor's Note: The MGCSA sent Jerry Murphy, CGCS, Somerset Country Club, St. Paul, to the 1999 Chapter Delegates Meeting from September 10-12. The following information was discussed.)

* * * *

Representatives from GCSAA's 101 affiliated chapters met at GCSAA headquarters, in Lawrence, Kan., Sept. 10-12, for the 1999 Chapter Delegates Meeting. The focus of the meeting was the Professional Development Initiative (PDI). Delegates listened to presentations and discussed the development of the PDI for six hours.

During the discussions, membership standards resource group (MSRG) members briefed delegates on the history of PDI and its developments since its inception at the 1996 Chapter Delegates Meeting. MSRG members also shared a proposed model for a new classification system, including potential Class A entry-level and ongoing requirements. These requirements would be integrated with education and certification programs to support members' professional development. (Franklin Covey Co. representatives are assessing GCSAA's educational offerings and identifying additional opportunities to deliver education to members.)

Franklin Covey representatives demonstrated software that assesses the knowledge, skills and abilities superintendents need to be successful. Following the demonstration, MSRG members facilitated a question-and-answer session to gather members' input and ideas on the direction of the initiative. Delegates were also informed of a plan to communicate the goals and concepts of the PDI with members. Presentations with affiliated chapters are scheduled from October 1999 to May 2000 in order to collect feedback about the PDI that will be used to help construct the final proposal to be discussed at the 2000 delegates meeting next September. Information about the PDI is available on GCSAA's Web site at www.gcsaa.org.

The following issues were also discussed at the meeting.

GCSAA's Mission and Vision

President David W. Fearis, CGCS, and Chief Executive Officer Stephen F. Mona, CAE, presented a draft of GCSAA's vision and mission for 2005. The statement focuses on strengthening the association's relationship with the golf community, environmental community and public policymakers.

The GCSAA Foundation

Vice President R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, and Mona provided an update on The Foundation's programs, such as an online auction and continuing the "Investing in the

Beauty of Golf" campaign. The Foundation's board of trustees, established in 1998, is identifying new opportunities for GCSAA to secure financial support for these and other research and education programs.

Voting Delegate and Candidate Relationship

Secretary/Treasurer Tommy D. Witt, CGCS, shared ideas on how candidates running for the 2000 board of directors and chapter voting delegates can strengthen their communication throughout the campaign and election process. For the second year, a listserv is available for candidates and voting delegates to discuss campaign issues.

Chapter Meeting Attendance And Member Participation

Delegates discussed the lack of participation and attendance at chapter meetings. A number of success stories and potential opportunities to strengthen chapter involvement were identified.

Limited Budget Outreach Program

Delegates learned about a proposed program designed to support superintendents at limited budget facilities. Members and chapters are being encouraged to support superintendents at limited budget facilities by mentoring them and inviting them to chapter meetings.

Media / Public Relations Opportunities

An update on GCSAA's public relations activities was provided, and opportunities for members and affiliate chapters to become involved in local public relations efforts were presented.

Membership Growth Strategy

GCSAA has a goal to increase its membership to 30,000 members by 2005, which includes a focus on recruiting members from golf courses not currently represented. Delegates shared ideas on how affiliated chapters may become involved in recruiting members and participating in this strategy.

GCSAA's 75th Anniversary

Plans are under way to celebrate GCSAA's 75th anniversary in 2001. The year-long celebration will begin at the 2001 conference and show in Dallas, include a ceremony prior to the 2001 Chapter Delegates Meeting and conclude with a celebration at the 2002 conference and show in Orlando. Throughout the anniversary year, affiliated chap-

(Continued on Page 7)

Announcing...

MTI UNIVERSITY

March 6, 7, 8, & 9, 2000

*“ Continuing Education...
for today’s demands and
tomorrow’s success in the
turfgrass industry”*



There will be 40 classes in all offered at the 2000 MTI University

Presented by...

MTI DISTRIBUTING CO. **TORO**

For more class & enrollment information call Cindy Norlander at
612-475-2200 ext. 226 or 800-362-3665, ext. 226 by January 28, 2000

GCSAA Redirects Television Public Relations Strategy

After a successful six-year run, GCSAA's "Par for the Course" television show will not return for a seventh season. Instead, the association is looking to expand GCSAA's television presence through video news releases, television commercials and short 30- to 60-second informational segments designed for networks such as ESPN.

For the last two years, GCSAA has worked with Mullen, a Boston-based public relations firm, to develop a strategy to reach golf enthusiasts and the general public with the message that superintendents have an effect on golfers' enjoyment of the game, and that they play an integral part in maintaining and increasing the economic viability of golf course facilities. Mullen's research determined that the 30-minute magazine-format of "Par," while effective during its run, had served its purpose and was no longer a cost-effective public relations tool.

"GCSAA is refocusing its public relations efforts," says Ken Mangum, CGCS, communications committee chairman. "Par for the Course" gave GCSAA a foothold and television presence that we hadn't had before. With the new public relations and professional development initiatives, the association will be taking different avenues to maintain its presence and move to the next level."

For instance, to extend GCSAA's television reach, the association plans to continue looking for opportunities to air television commercials such as the one shown during the PGA Tour's John Deere Classic last July.

"The message was good and I think any time we can get in front of that many people it has to be positive," Mangum says. "We didn't have that much exposure with The Golf Channel."

"Par for the Course," which originally aired on the Prime Network in 1994, moved to ESPN for the 1995-96 seasons and to The Golf Channel in 1997. During its run, the show received several honors, including selection for the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) Associations Advance America Awards honor roll.

1999 Delegates Meeting—

(Continued from Page 5)

ters will be invited to participate in the celebration.

Association Naming and Positioning Study

Delegates participated in an exercise to identify a list of criteria for selecting a potential new name for the association, the profession and a title that best represents and identifies superintendents.

Compensation and Benefits Survey Coordination

Delegates discussed ways to increase participation in completing the compensation and benefits survey to ensure that it is statistically valid and best represents superintendents' compensation levels.

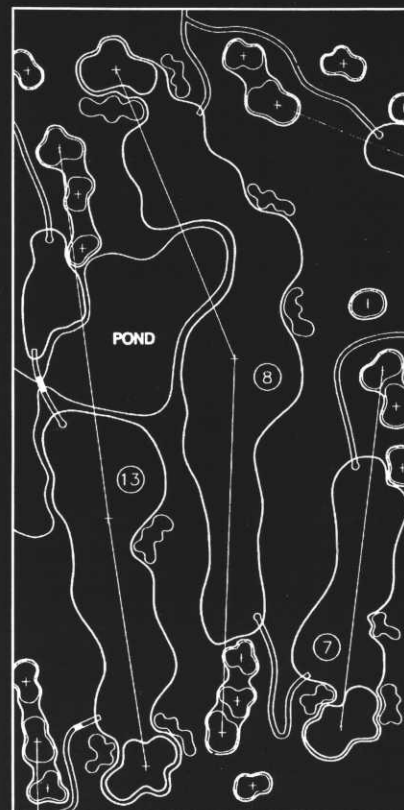
Food Quality Protection Act

Delegates learned about a grassroots campaign that is encouraging members and affiliated chapters to send letters about pesticide use on golf courses to their state senators and representatives in Congress.

Leadership Institute

Delegates supported the implementation of a Leadership Institute in 2000 at headquarters. This 15-month intensive program will train and prepare superintendents for future local and national leadership positions.

HERFORD • NORBY



GOLF COURSE
ARCHITECTURE

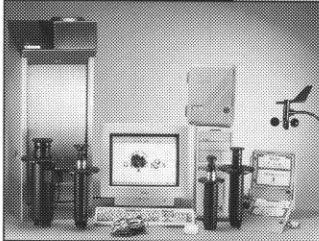


(612) 942-0266 (612) 944-5888

A Successful Season... Starts with Century Golf Course Services



Century offers the complete line of Legacy Golf products to help you control water, labor and energy costs. Featuring Legacy rotors, valves, Genesis central satellite and Viking decoder control systems.

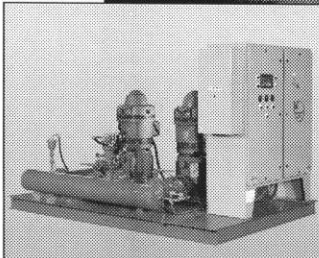


Legacy Golf System



SyncroFlo, Inc.

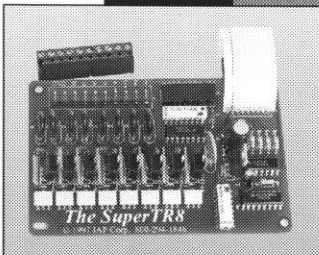
Efficient and economical, SyncroFlo pumping stations are the solution to many golf course irrigation problems.



SyncroFlo Eagle Pumps

BoardTronics™

Repair or upgrade your Rain Bird or Toro golf controllers. Replacement boards can be shipped from the Century National Service Center within 24 hours. Call 888-855-9132.



Controller Board Repairs



Improve water quality with an aerating fountain, or create water features from existing golf course streams and ponds.



Aqua Master Fountains

CENTURY RAIN AID

Sprinklers • Valves • Controllers • Pump Stations Controller Board Repairs • Fountains

An inviting, well-maintained course means challenging play...and a profitable season. As a golf superintendent, you can achieve this success with Century Golf Course Services. Century's team of professionals can help you solve irrigation or drainage problems and show you what's new in clubhouse lighting, water features and more. Call today for a free catalog and on-site consultation.

800-347-4272

www.rainaid.com

CENTURY GOLF PROFESSIONALS ♦ MINNESOTA

> DON CHELMO ☎ 612-509-9290

> JOHN MARKESTAD ☎ 608-742-0377

Habitat Enhancement For Water Birds

Audubon Society of New York State

Loss and destruction of water bird habitat represents the largest problem facing water bird populations today. Pollution and development in wetland areas has had severe consequences for the many species of shorebirds, ducks and geese who stop at wetlands across the country on their long spring and fall migrations. In addition, an abundance of predators (such as mongooses, cats, dogs, pigs, rats and bullfrogs) has helped to push many water bird species into extinction or threatened status.

The nesting success or number of water birds produced each year depends on the amount of quality habitat available on the breeding grounds. Areas for migration and wintering are also critical for ensuring the survival of sufficient numbers of water birds for breeding the following spring.

The value of wetlands or ponds as water bird habitat mainly depends on the number and kinds of plants present. Not all aquatic plants are alike in their usefulness. While certain plants provide both food and cover, many offer only one or the other. Cover plants are needed for protection from predators and weather, and as nesting sites. Most water birds prefer cover that grows in and along the water edge.

Water birds eat a variety of foods which include all parts of aquatic plants from the roots to the seeds. Insects, small animals and agriculture crops including turf, rice, corn, wheat, barley, milo, safflower and soybean represent part of the diet of many waterfowl and other water birds.

What You Can Do

Habitat management or enhancement for water birds involves creating, maintaining or improving wetland or pond habitat to provide the essential elements of water, food, cover and protection for water birds. The following suggestions will help you to maintain or improve water bird habitat on your property:

- Keep the water level of a pond stable to encourage the growth of aquatic vegetation.
- Provide food, cover and nesting areas for water birds by planting aquatic vegetation and wet site tolerant plants at the pond edge and on the banks.
- Fence edges of ponds with sensitive nesting areas or sensitive plant materials to keep golfers from disturbing nesting species or trampling important habitat area.
- Do not let ponds or marshes be drained for repair or other purposes during important migration times (winter) or breeding season (spring).
- Provide resting sites for water birds, such as bare spots on the shore, floating logs, rafts or islands.
- Build a pond or marsh to create habitat for water birds.

Remember to provide a shelf no greater than 18" deep as most water birds can't feed in water or greater depth. Ponds with steep banks also inhibit vegetation growth, important for food, cover and nesting areas.

Mallards

Mallards prefer to breed near shallow ponds, lakes, marshes or flooded fields. Their nest is usually near water and consists of cattails, reeds and grass, and is concealed by vegetation. Mallards are seasonally monogamous, but switch mates each year. Their diet consists of sedge, grass and aquatic vegetation, as well as aquatic invertebrates and insects.

American Black Ducks

American Black Ducks range from southern Texas to northern Canada, but declining numbers have been reported due to aerial spraying for spruce budworm, habitat destruction, acid rain, over hunting, competition and hybridization with mallards. However, black ducks continue to be common in most water habitats including wetlands, ponds, lakes and rivers.

Northern Pintails

Northern Pintails eat about 90% vegetation, including seeds, aquatic plants and sedge. They usually raise one brood of six to nine young per year, and the male deserts the female early in incubation. Pintails rank third as a game bird species after Mallards and American Black Ducks, in both abundance and distribution.

Wood Ducks

Wood Ducks verged on extinction in the early 1900s due to loss of habitat through forestry practices and development. Fortunately, they have made a comeback and readily use nest boxes. They prefer to breed in wooded swamps, flooded forests, ponds and marshes, and usually raise only one brood per year. Wood ducks eat seeds, acorns, berries, grain, aquatic and terrestrial insects and other invertebrates.

Mute Swans

Mute Swans are not native to North America, but were introduced from Europe for their "ornamental" value. However, they are now well-established in the wild in lakes, ponds, marshes and slow-moving rivers. Mute swans eat primarily aquatic vegetation, and nest on the ground near water. Their reproductive success improves with age

(Continued on Page 25)

**TURF
PARTNERS**



*Leading the industry in turf
and ornamental management*

2001 WEST CTY. RD. C2
ROSEVILLE, MN 55113

NEW WAREHOUSE NOW OPEN

STOCKING

**SCOTTS
TURF PARTNERS**

OTHER PRODUCTS STOCKED

***AgroEvo
Bayer
W.A. Cleary
Dow Elanco***

***Riverdale Chemical Co.
Rohm and Haas
Zeneca Professional Products***

***Monsanto
Novartis
Rhone-Poulenc
Uniroyal***

Chris Hoff
***TURF PARTNERS
OPERATIONS MANAGER***

Leif Erickson
800-728-0354

Cary Femrite
877-242-3100

Chris Quinlan
***800-484-9555
Ext. 8539***

Toll Free: 1-888-828-5354 • Office: (651) 633-6251 • Fax: (651) 633-6779