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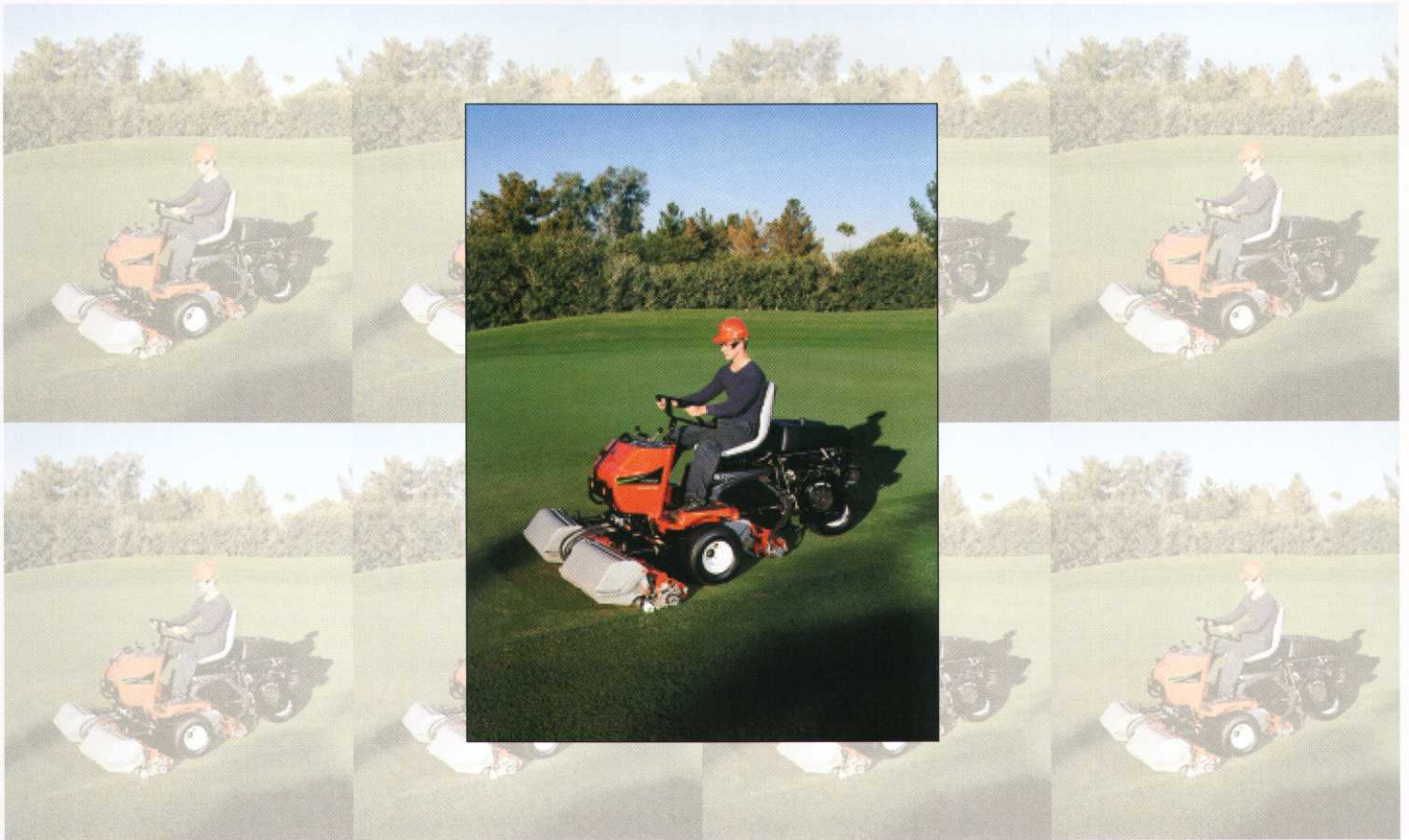
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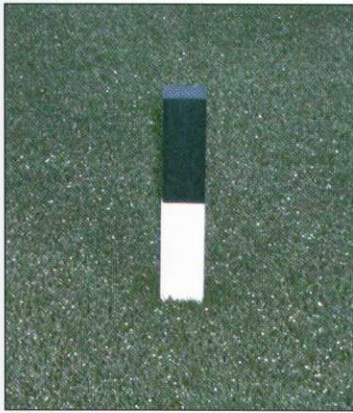
Green and Whites and Extended "Js"

By Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

Gosh how I hate ropes on a golf course. Besides being unsightly, they are a royal bummer to move and adjust for mowing and to keep straight. Also players have no regard for the appearance of a tightly strung rope and often step them down, defeating their purpose. But then again, they do help in the direction of traffic. After much consideration we have done away with ropes and rope stakes forever here at North Oaks Golf Club, and you can too on your course.

Several years ago my staff spent a good portion of a cold week in January cutting two inch by two inch treated pine to eight-inch lengths. Into predrilled set holes they drove six-inch pole barn nails and using a bolt cutter cut off the exposed heads. Then they carefully painted the stakes Essex green on the top four inches and white on the bottom four inches. The following summer these simply created posts were placed strategically upon the course at five-foot intervals wherever ropes used to be set.

Not only did they deter traffic, but also the posts were very easy to remove and replace for both players and staff alike. No more miles of brightly colored cord to drive through and step on. No more tangles or nylon rope slivers to mess with. Unfortunately, the posts had to be painted annually and occasionally wiped down to maintain a great look. They also deteriorated over time.



To remedy this problem I contacted By The Yard, a plastic deck and furniture company. The owner, Roger Anderson sent out some green and white two by two samples for me to mess around with. After a bit of gray matter application I devised upon a plan to cut the two colors into four-inch lengths and affix them together using a headless four-inch sheet rock screw place in the center

of the pieces. Pounding a six inch pole barn nail into the center of the white half produced a beautifully finished and never to be painted "green and white".

I was so pleased with the results that I ordered up many yards of yellow and red plastic as well for my hazard stakes. The cost per post ran from \$1.28 cents per green and white to under a buck for the solid colors. Also, using longer white posts and green caps we created stakes for use around ground under repair, flowerbeds and environmentally sensitive areas. Coated with a dab of Armor All, they look great and last a long time. No rotting out or painting! And the "green and white" concept fits in nicely with the "extended J" cart path ends we have created to disperse wear and tear from vehicle traffic

Ah yes, what to do about those unsightly, dangerous and rough cart path ends. Ten years ago we began ending our off tee cart path ends in an "extended J" fashion. Understanding that people are like sheep and follow each other in one direction, we would alter the egress from the black top using a piece of rope extended beyond the "J." We were however continually moving the aesthetically unappealing barrier to reduce end and side wear. What a pain!

Since doing away with the rope, we have begun placing "green and whites" along the outside edge of the paths. We do not border the whole path, but rather only enough to control traffic. Remember that people tend to follow the leader. Using the extended "J" cart path end and up to nine posts (use odd numbers as they are architecturally more pleasing to the eye) we can modify behavior and wear patterns on a daily basis.

When planning your "Js," drive the route several times and observe



where you go. Typically this will be an easy comfortable curve without sharp edges at the end exit. Anticipate egress along the whole perimeter so you can alter the traffic patterns. And use the green and whites on five-foot centers to redirect the flow.

North Oaks Golf Club no longer uses any ropes, except for marking the center of the fairway contests our women enjoy on their guest days. And we have incorporated green and white posts for the direction of play. Not only do they look better than miles of cord, they are so easy to adjust and move that wear patterns are a cinch to control. Heck, even I can manipulate them at a moments notice as I tour the course.

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GCSAA CLASS A

POINT CHART

Credit can be received for attending the same on-site seminar more than once within a five-year renewal cycle. Credit will not be awarded for repeating correspondence/self study courses (unless the course has been substantially revised or updated.)

After obtaining Class A status, renewal is required every five years. Within the five-year renewal period, Class A members will be required to obtain a total of five points, which can be a combination of education and service points. A minimum of two points must be education points. One education point is equal to 10 hours of classroom study.

Proof of pesticide license or completion of GCSAA IPM examination must also be provided by the end of each five-year renewal

al cycle.

Successful completion can be reported by an individual or by a chapter (on his/her behalf.) Visit the Documenting My Progress section for the online forms you'll need for reporting your education and service points. Providing false information constitutes a breach of the GCSAA Code of Ethics. Random audits will be conducted by GCSAA.

(Editor's Note: See the Class A Code of Standards (COS) for more detailed information on point values. All education points and service points must be earned within the renewal period to be applicable toward renewal.)

GCSAA Class A Point Chart				
Point Sources	COS Section	Point Values	Verified	Recorded
Education points				
Chapter meetings with education (must be pre-approved)	1.1.1	0.1 per hour	Education pt. affidavit	Within 30 days after event
Non-GCSAA education programs (pre-approved)	1.1.2	0.1 per hour	Education pt. affidavit	Within 30 days after event
State/Regional Turf Conferences (pre-approved)	1.1.2	0.1 per hour	Education pt. affidavit	Within 30 days after event
IACET Accredited programs - golf course mgmt. related	1.1.2	Varies 0.1 minimum	Education pt. affidavit	As occurs
GCSAA Seminars, Correspondence & Online Courses (view note)	1.1.3	0.1 per hour	Completion of evaluation	As occurs
Teaching - turf or business subjects	1.1.4	0.15 per hour or 1.5 per semester hour, max 2.0	Letter from sponsor	As occurs
College credit hrs.- golf course management related classes	1.1.5	1.5 per semester credit hour	Transcript	As occurs
Professional Development Resource (PDR) self-assessment	1.1.6	0.1 per year, up to 0.5 per renewal cycle	By GCSAA	As occurs, once/cycle
PDR Developmental Action Plan (DAP)	1.1.7	0.5 per renewal cycle	By GCSAA	As occurs, once/cycle
GCSAA National Conference Attendance	1.1.9	1.5 per year (Full pack registrants only)	GCSAA conference registration	As occurs
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	1.1.10	0.1 per hour/max. 0.7	Copy of wallet certificate	As occurs, once/cycle
First Aid	1.1.11	0.1 per hour/max. 0.7	Copy of wallet certificate	As occurs, once/cycle
GCSAA Board LRP Meetings	1.1.12	1.0 per meeting	By GCSAA	As occurs

Service points				
Point Sources	COS Section	Point Values	Verified	Recorded
Giving informative speech (must submit lesson plan for ed points)	2.1.1	0.25 per presentation	Service pt. affidavit	As occurs
National Committee or Resource Group Service	2.1.2	0.5 per year/max 1.5 per renewal cycle	By GCSAA	At completion of service
GCSAA Board of Directors	2.1.3	1.0 per year	By GCSAA	At completion of service
Chapter/allied/golf/turf officer/board of directors or First Tee board service	2.1.4	0.5 per year/max, 2.5 per renewal cycle	Service pt. affidavit	At completion of service
Chapter/allied/golf/turf committee member (non BOD)	2.1.5	0.25 per committee/max 1.25 per renewal cycle	Service pt. affidavit	At completion of service
Chapter Delegates Meeting in Lawrence	2.1.7	0.5 per year	By GCSAA	As occurs
Published education articles in trade or chapter publications	2.1.8	0.25 per article/ 0.5 in GCM	Service pt. affidavit	As occurs
Completion of ACSP Program for Golf Course	2.1.9	1.0 initial/ 0.25 recertification/ 1.5 max	Service pt. affidavit	As occurs
Individual participation in ACSP for Schools	2.1.10	0.5 per school	Checklist signoff by school	As occurs
Completion of Audubon Signature Program	2.1.11	2.0 per course	Service pt. affidavit	As occurs
Mentor in Technical Assistance Network (TAN) Program	2.1.12	0.75 per facility (No maximum)	Complete checklist & follow-up	As occurs
Chapter meetings without education	2.1.13	0.1 per meeting	Service pt. affidavit	As occurs
Completion of Performance Measurement Survey	2.1.14	0.25 per year upon completion and submittal	By GCSAA	As occurs
Community Service (non-paid, voluntary)	2.1.15	0.1 per 5 hrs/max, 1.0 per renewal cycle	Service pt. affidavit	As occurs

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2003 Turf and Grounds Field Day

By Brian Horgan
University of Minnesota

Boy have I been lucky. Somehow, whenever I host an event that takes place outside we manage to get great weather and July 24 was no different. Participants at field day this year had to choose between two separate tours, a turf tour or a grounds tour. Both were filled with useful information, current research projects, new undergraduate academic programs and lots of socializing amongst friends.

The grounds portion of the tour started in the homelawn demonstration area on campus. Within this area are 50 different turfgrass species, mixtures, and blends subjected to three different mowing heights (1.5 in, 2.5 in, and 3.5 in) and three different fertilizer application rates (0, 1, 3 lbs N/m/yr). The tour then moved to the potted landscape tree and shrub nursery where Dr. Gilman introduced new cultivars of woody plant species and fertilizer programs for potted plant production. The final stop was the landscape design studio where Brad Pedersen discussed basic design principles and showcased the newly renovated design studio.

The turf portion of the tour took place at the TROE Center and included eight stops.

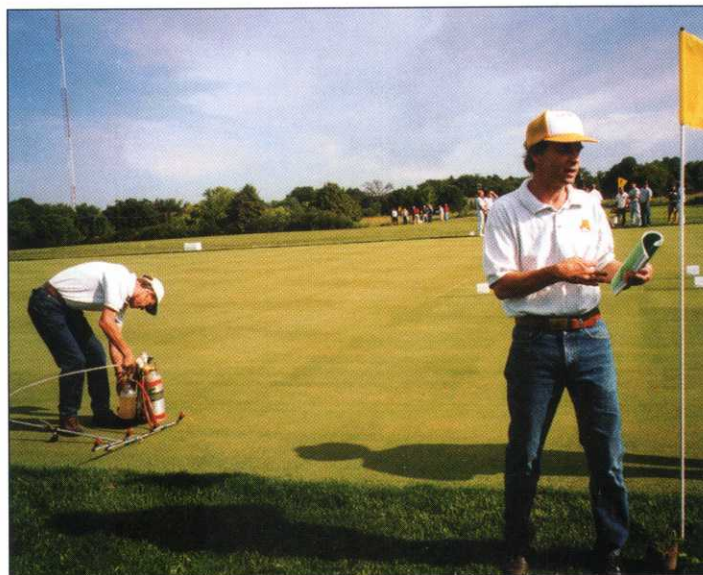
They were:

- 1) Effect of clipping management on nutrient runoff from Kentucky bluegrass - *Dr. Brian Horgan*
- 2) Soil sterilization with Basamid - *Troy Carson*
- 3) Effect of irrigation rates on nutrient leaching from a newly seeded USGA bentgrass putting green - *Dr. Martin Burger*
- 4) Foliar iron applications for summer color with and without various surfactants - *Dr. Carl Rosen and Peter Bierman*
- 5) Soil moisture sensors used to define water conservation practices for turf - *Jon Sass*
- 6) Pesticide runoff from creeping bentgrass fairways - *Dr. Pam Rice*
- 7) Developing new Kentucky bluegrass varieties - *Dr. Nancy Ehlke*
- 8) New and old pesticides for turf insects - *Dr. Vera Krischik*

In addition to learning about current research projects taking place at the University of Minnesota, participants were able to see the progress made on the development of the TROE Center which now includes: a USGA putting green (22,000 ft²), native soil putting green (22,000 ft²), bentgrass fairway runoff facility (12,000 ft²), Kentucky bluegrass runoff facility (10,000 ft²), perennial ryegrass breeding area, native plants and no-mow grasses, and 25 maple trees planted that will be used for shade research.

Our goal for next year is to add 2 acres of irrigated Kentucky bluegrass, a creeping bentgrass fairway (30,000 ft²), a colonial bentgrass/fine fescue fairway (15,000 ft²), plant a new variety of perennial ryegrass that has spreading characteristics not typical of the bunch type grass, plant the NTEP creeping bentgrass putting green trial, plant the NTEP creeping bentgrass fairway trial, and plant the NTEP fine fescue trial.

This year's field day started a new era for the University of Minnesota Turf Science Program where research projects that affect your day-to-day turf management were presented and discussed by a team of researchers. In addition, an afternoon



Carl Rosen spoke about foliar iron formulations and turf quality. Peter Bierman, left was preparing to apply an application of iron to the turf.

Phosphorus Fertilizer Training Program made this a day-long educational event for some participants.

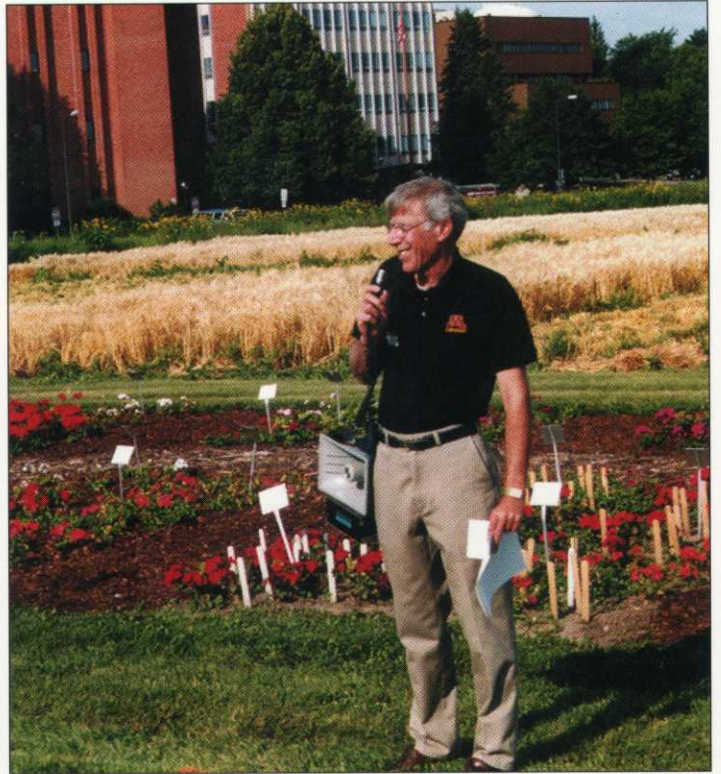
I hope you will take advantage of next year's Turf and Grounds Field Day. If you are interested in reading more detailed reports from the research projects presented at field day, please visit www.turf.umn.edu and click on research.



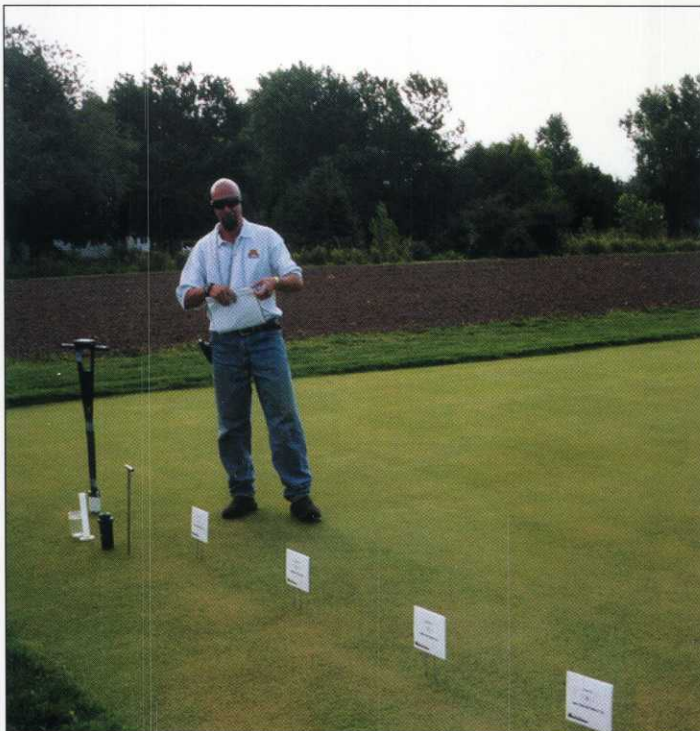
A gathering of 100+ people attended the Turf and Grounds Field Day at the University of Minnesota

Pictured at the right is MTGF Executive Director Larry Vetter welcoming attendees to the University of Minnesota's Turf and Grounds Field Day on July 24.

The University of Minnesota's Nancy Ehlke, pictured below, spoke about the development of New Kentucky bluegrass varieties.



The U of M's Troy Carson, above, gave a demonstration on Soil Fumigation with Basamid.



Pictured at the left is Jon Sass who enlightened attendees of the use of soil moisture sensors for water conservation.



In Bounds

By Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

Last weekend while cutting cups I found some interesting and very characteristically identifiable tracks upon my first green. A pattern I call, "knees 'n toes and knees n' toes n' palms." With a hearty laugh I couldn't help but consider all of the possibilities an amorous couple enjoyed upon my course. It also brought back memories from my teenage years and earlier.

The White Bear Yacht Club was my stomping ground from my fifth birthday until the middle of my 23rd year. Growing up on a course has many rewards and offers a wide variety of lessons to be learned. And educated I became through my trials and tribulations as a neighbor on the golf course. Discipline, patience, stealth and mischievous fun describe several events that have shaped my life.

Perhaps my earliest golf course memory relates to winter activities, and more specifically, ice-skating. My siblings and I used to enjoy many hours of skating upon the frozen pond to the west of the 6th hole. Tag was a favorite game, as was pick up hockey when our distant neighbors the Gearmans came over. Living to the north and east of the 6th green meant that the shortest route from back door to the pristine sheet of ice was directly across the green. Being kids, we quickly disregarded our father's words of wisdom to skirt the golf course on the path through the woods to our destination. He also suggested we carry our skates to the pond edge and put them on there.

Well, to make a long story short, we soon found that totting our skates all the way around the golf course was just too much. So unknown to him we put our skates on, sans guards of course, because they always got lost during the trudge through the snow, and proceeded upon the shortest route, right across the green.

Winter soon changed to spring and the lesson of discipline caught up with me. It seemed that we actually were ahead of our time when it came to linear aerification, for covering the sixth green were hundreds and hundreds of slices created from the many trips to and from the pond wearing our guard less skates. Although the WBYC membership suffered a temporary green well into June that year, my siblings and I had to endure my father's wrath and the ensuing lessons in discipline for the rest of the summer. I learned to listen to my father for sometimes he has good ideas. As I aged my interests expanded.

Long before Prairie Dog hunting was popular in the Dakota's,

My older brother Rob and I were honing our rifle skills by harvesting the Thirteen Stripe Ground Squirrels that inhabited the golf course. In the evening we would creep on our bellies over the berms and through the fescues with our trusty Sheridan Blue Streak pellet guns. Cautiously we would peek over the hills and sight in on our quarry. At first we often missed our shots and sent the creatures chirping and racing down their burrows, but soon our patience and practice paid off with a harvest of carnage.

What to do with the bodies? Well, of course we just had to bury them heads up in the bunkers, line the putting cups with their bodies and sometimes give them a final bath in the ball washers. Much to the surprise of the crew in the morning we were sure! I learned that patience and perseverance would enable me to do great things in life. Other evening events with brothers Rob and Curt involved the irrigation system.

Back in the old days, golf courses used to be watered using large impact irrigation heads capable of shooting a thick stream of water over one hundred feet through the air. The force behind the spray was called pressure. In an effort to cool down on warm nights we would trek out to the fairways and have all sorts of fun with the master blasters. Lesson learned included: 1) liquid propelled under high pressure hurts, especially if said liquid happens to inadvertently blasts a young lad's private part. 2) Wet grass upon a steep slope is very slippery and one should approach the irrigation head cautiously from the bottom of the hill so as not to fall into previously mentioned steam of water. 3) Never trust brother Rob when he is calling you over to "look at this cool thing" while he is in control of the direction of the irrigation head. Ah, youthful education!

At the age of seven I had my first personal driving experience in a sun recharged electric golf cart. Often times the old style electric carts would seemingly run out of juice during the warm afternoons, only to come back to life after setting a bit. Of course it was Curt and my mission to locate these abandoned vehicles and attempt to advance them toward the pro shop. Most of the time they were keyless, but once in a while luck was with us and we had our own autobahn opportunities. It was on one of these outings that I learned you should not trade drivers as the cart is moving down the fairway.

The electric carts we drove were equipped with automatic brakes that locked up the vehicle when the seat is vacated. Fortunately for me I was the driver in this instance and only bruised my chest when I moved off the driver's seat in an attempt to trade steering position with my brother. Unfortunately for Curt, he was the passenger and was sent literally flying multiple yards through the air and onto his head. Talk about a face plant! Lesson learned, stay seated when driving a vehicle.

I could go on about that I discovered how to fly a gas powered model airplane upon the sixth green (talk about spilt gas and crash landings, but what a great air strip!). Or expand upon the virtues of swimming for and selling golf balls back to the players who had lost them, my years of caddying and burning out ground hornet nests with gasoline, but those stories are fodder for other pressing editorials.

As I grow older I will continue to enjoy my time on the course. There are so many new experiences to witness. And through this education I will try my best to laugh at the fun stuff, learn from the challenges and when I really need a smile I will remember my own youthful attempts at "knees n' toes and knees n' toes n' palms" at the WBYC.

-- Jack MacKenzie, CGCS
Editor



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