2019 Contributor to Women’s Golf Honoree

MIAMI VALLEY GOLF CLUB

In celebration of the Miami Valley Golf Club’s 100th Anniversary, the committee thought it appropriate to break from tradition and recognize the golf club and their contributions to women’s golf.

Miami Valley Golf Club has a long and rich heritage and several of their ladies where instrumental to the Formations of the DDWGA more on that in a moment, first a little history on the Clubs Formation.

The land on which the club sits was originally used for farming, a gypsy camp, and a church through the mid and late 1800’s. It was owned by the Mumma family and then the Sellars family during that time.

The club founders Georgeana & Walter Kidder, were successful business owners and purchased the 154 acres with three farms on the property in 1914. The land was just north of Dayton View, the most prestigious neighborhood in Dayton at the time, where the Kidders lived at the corner of Grand Avenue and Arnold Place. There was enough continuous land to create Dayton’s first 18-hole golf course designed as a single unit. In 1916, the Kidders commissioned the most renowned golf course designer of the day, Scotsman Donald J. Ross (1878-1942), to design the course. They also engaged the foremost landscape architects, The Olmstead Brothers, to create a park-like setting of the club grounds.

Prominent Dayton area citizens became early investors in the new club, notably Charles F. Kettering and Colonel Edward A. Deeds. The Opening Day ceremony on June 3, 1919 was attended by notable dignitaries including Governor James M. Cox and John H. Patterson. Miami Valley has remained in continuous use as a golf club since that time. Where we are right now is a Jacobethan Tudor style clubhouse built in 1931 replacing an earlier temporary clubhouse. The Clubhouse was designed by local architect Rollin Gebhart and the general contractor was the H.R. Blagg Company.

The clubhouse and golf course were both listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2015. The listing is not only the historic clubhouse but the actual golf course which is not typically included.

Miami Valley has been the site of countless DDWGA golf tournaments through the years and countless Ladies who are/where members have steward the DDWGA through the years.