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For immediate release

Raymond Hearn, ASGCA selected for Midlothian Country Club Renovation / Restoration Master Planning

MIDLOTHIAN, Ill. – The award-winning design firm, Raymond Hearn Golf Course Designs, Inc., has been selected for a renovation and restoration master planning project at the historic Midlothian Country Club.

“To be selected to work with one of America’s most celebrated and historic private country clubs is a tremendous honor,” said Hearn, a Holland, Mich.-based golf course architect who has been awarded Golf Magazine’s “Best Renovation of the Year” twice in the last four years.

Midlothian Country Club was opened in 1898 by noted golf course architect Herbert J. Tweedie and has connected with the legends of golf through a rich history. In 1913 celebrated architect Donald Ross made course improvements for the United States Golf Association to prepare the course for the 1914 U.S. Open, and legend Walter Hagen won that championship by one stroke over the world renowned amateur, Charles “Chick” Evans, the founder of the Evans Scholarship. The club plans on celebrating the 100-year anniversary of that historic tournament in August.

“We are very excited to announce that Raymond Hearn has been commissioned to prepare a Master Plan for our club,” said Tom Finucane, selection committee chairman for Midlothian CC. “His company portfolio includes numerous national awards for design excellence. He is especially impressive in his understanding of balancing classic golf course architecture with modern day wants and needs.”

Hearn, armed with a deep appreciation of golf history and classic design, has developed a strong national reputation for his restoration and renovation work. His “Best Renovation of the Year” awards resulted from projects at Illinois’ Flossmoor Country Club (Private 2009) and Mistwood Golf Club (Public 2013).

“I am extremely proud to work with yet another distinguished club,” Hearn said. “The foundation for the course at the Midlothian Country Club is the course routing and the incredible green designs.”

Hearn, who is starting the master planning process, said his job will entail some tree removal, bunker work, additional tees, slight modifications to a few greens, drainage work, and practice and short game area improvements. At the same time he plans to increase the shot value, strategy and playability on each hole so members with all levels of golfing ability will enjoy the changes.

“Restoration of certain Tweedie and Ross features that have been lost over time will be another one of my goals,” he said. “I will be reporting directly to the club’s ground’s committee and board of governors, who will have the final say on all of my recommendations. I look forward to starting work this month. It is a great honor to work for such an outstanding membership.”

Notes:

*Historic images, including original course routing drawings, are available upon request.

*Attached is a photo of Raymond Hearn, president of Raymond Hearn Golf Designs, Inc., Holland, Mich.

*Learn more about Midlothian Country Club at www.midlothian.org

*Learn more about Ray Hearn at www.rhgd.com

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