

Lines from Linda



By Linda Ayers Turner Knorr

Choices, or...

Into the Woods with Dan Musser

While most of the nation was scorched with temperatures reaching into the 100's and others were devastated with ravaging flood waters, I made a smart choice...I went into the Woods with Dan Musser! Okay, so another 180 of dogdom's most wise also made the same choice. We trav-

elled to Dog Days at Mackinac for Dan and Amelia Musser's now famous event at their Grand Hotel.

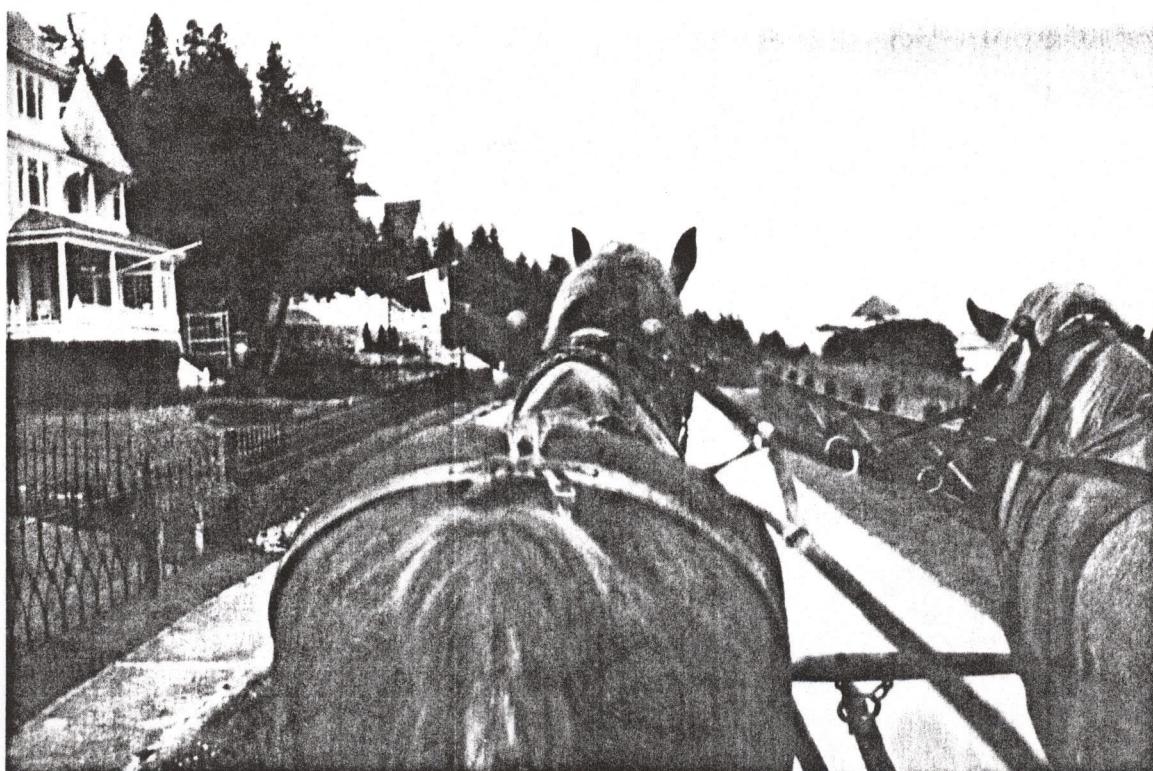
The faces were familiar but the topics of conversation were different...heavenly weather with highs in the low 80's, marvelous food, spectacular views, horses, and golf,

golf, golf!
Dan and Amelia (Roundtown Kennels) own the Grand Hotel at Mackinac Island. You already know that! But did you know it was named one of the Top 10 Summer Retreats in America by Travel & Leisure magazine and was a featured destination in Sports Illustrated's 1993 Swimsuit Issue. Yes, well the models in the swimsuit were also a highly discussed topic.

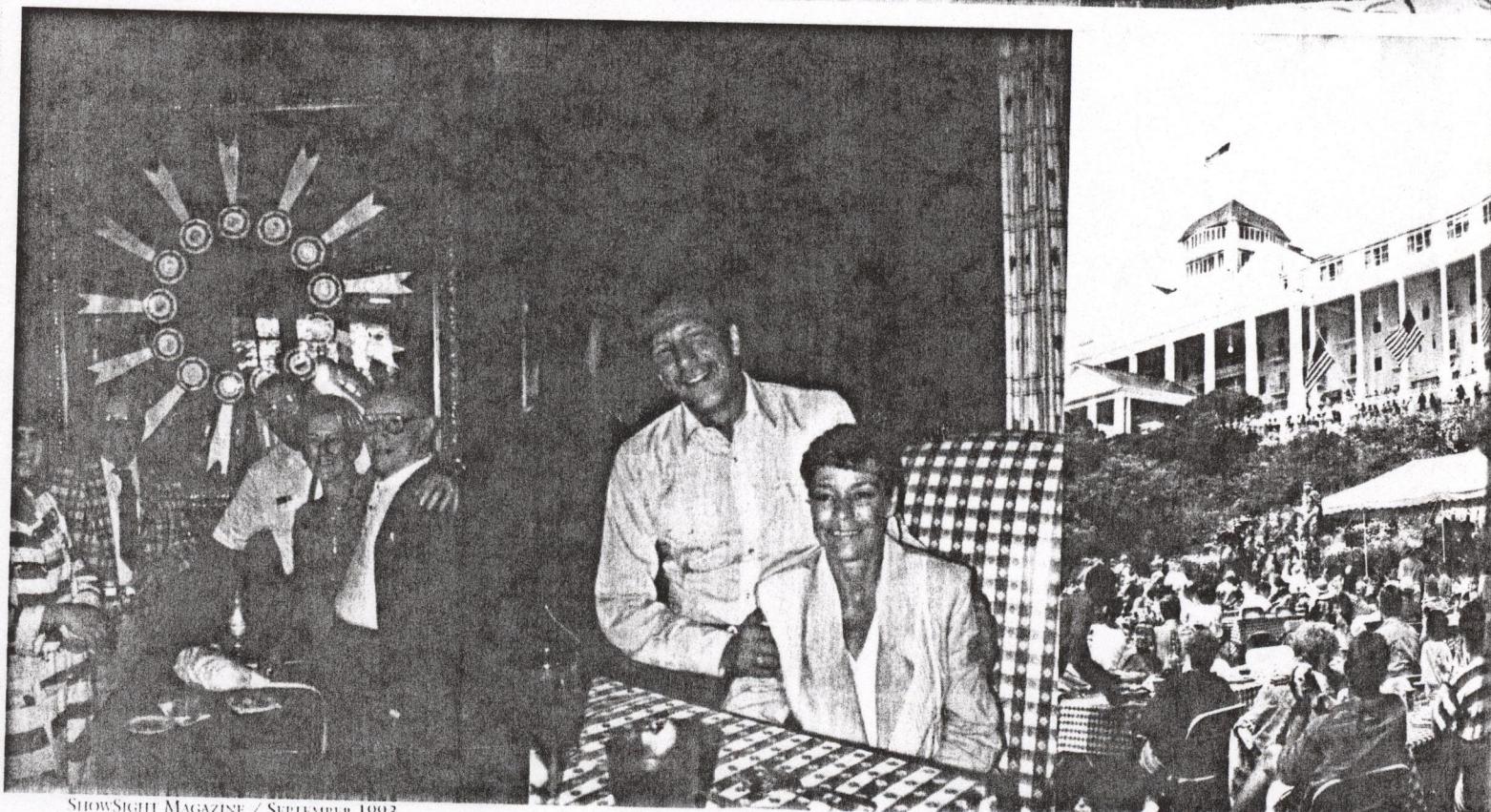
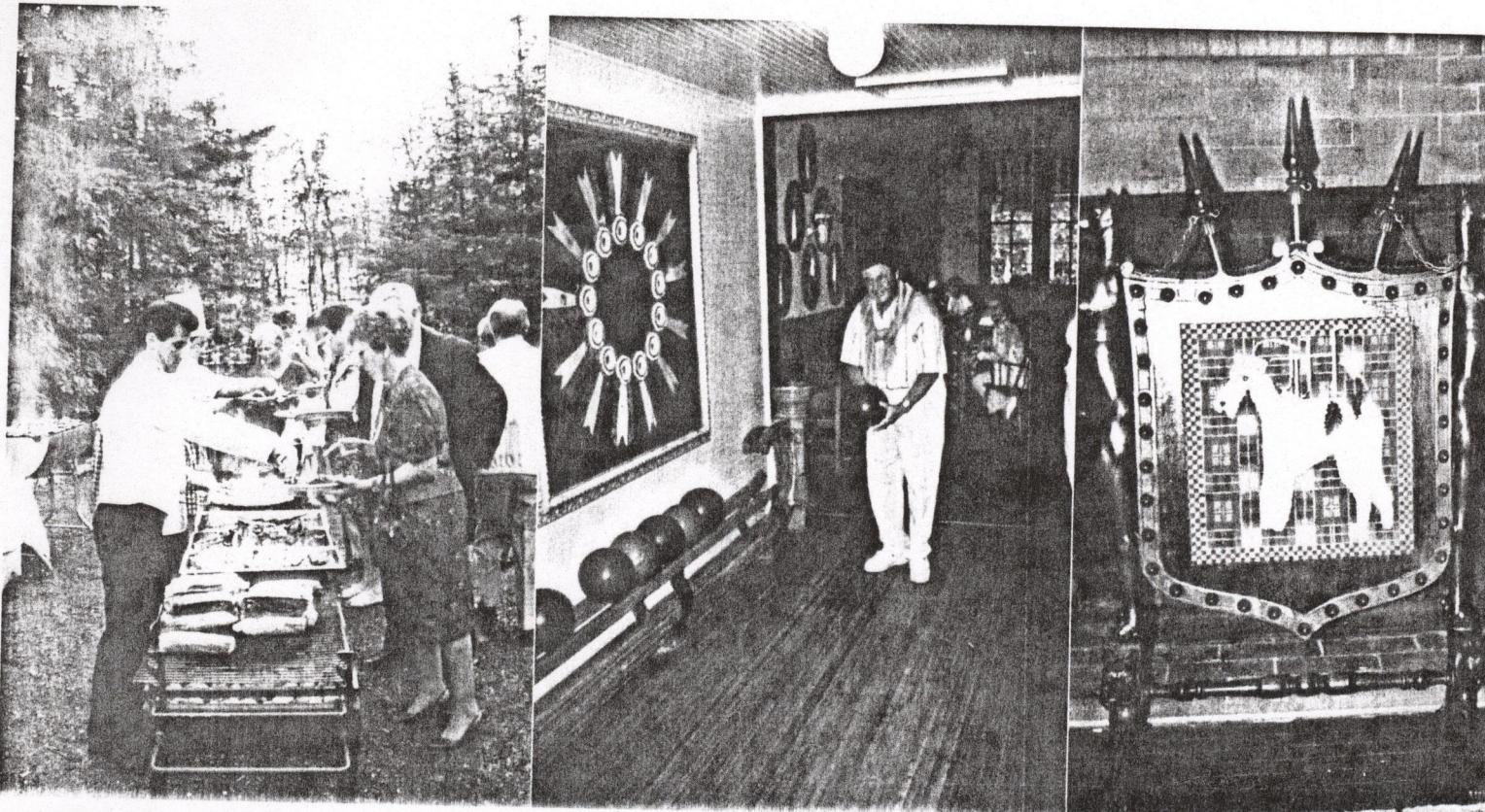
This year's attendees were given a very special treat...A trip into the Woods with Dan Musser!

Horse-drawn carriages swept us away from the front entrance of the Grand Hotel and took us into an enchanting wooded forest where we discovered we were being treated to a sneak preview of the Musser's newest addition to their already perfect resort. Dan is adding an additional nine-holes of golf to his Jewel Golf Course for a total of 18 holes. The New Woods Nine will join the existing Grand Nine to become the new 18-hole Jewel in the spring of 1994.

The Woods Nine will feature bent grass tees, greens and fairways as well as woodlands and water, including nearly five acres of new ponds.



Into the Woods with Dan Musser



Photos by the author..



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Award-winning golf course architect Gerald Matthews, who redesigned the Grand Nine of the Jewel in 1987, designed the new course to be a challenging, well-manicured course.

Matthews has high hopes for the new course, which will be 3,005 yards long and a par 34. The course, carved out of the woods, will have several doglegs with water coming into play on a number of holes. Of particular note is the number one green with a spectacular view of the Mackinac Bridge which links Michigan's upper and lower peninsulas. The Woods Nine also offers breathtaking vistas of straits of Mackinac, St. Ignace and Mackinac City.

When completed in 1994, the course will go in the history books as the first to transport golfers from the front nine to the back nine in horse-drawn carriages, complete with golf bag racks and refreshments. (Motorized vehicles are not allowed on Mackinac Island.) The design of

Woods Nine is complete, the tees and greens have been formed and Dan has also renovated an existing restaurant at the new course. The new restaurant, Woods, is a Bavarian-themed establishment offering a casual dining option to golfers and guests alike. During the winter, top designer Carleton Varney of Dorothy Draper New York redesigned the restaurant interior.

Not only did Dan give us a tour of the unfinished Woods Golf Course, we enjoyed being treated to the ambiance of his new Woods Restaurant along with its Bobby's Bar. Decorated with every dog lovers favorite possession...scores of framed Best In Show ribbons, prestigious trophies, etc. My personal favorite furnishing is the needlepoint fireplace screen of a Wire Fox Terrier.

One of the highlights of the trip for me was getting to be with Julie Gasow and Dick Cooper at the same time. Just imagine the conversation as they

relived their years in dogs. They are still on cloud nine since he was inducted in the The Quaker Oats Hall Of Fame at the same time she won her first Best In Show at the Garden.

Just to prove that Dog Days is strictly for fun...George Ward allowed people like me to play in his golf tournament. Tom Glassford and Bill Pace are still wondering what they ever did to deserve having me as a teammate. Just remember, everyone is a novice sometime!

The invitation to Dog Days was open to all...if you weren't there this year, you probably made the wrong choice.

LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR