

## Wayne Stiles Society Inaugural Event

With over 300 acres to admire, it's hard not to wonder how Norwood Hills Country Club got its start in St. Louis almost 100 years ago. In March 1922, Architect Wayne Stiles presented his design for 45 holes to be constructed on the recently purchased property. To complete the project, it took 250 men, 55 teams of horses and 5 tractors and included 45 loads of cinder, 50 loads of sand, and 150 loads of manure. On June 23, 1923, Norwood Hills officially opened with two 18-hole courses, the East and West Course, and a 9-hole course for the ladies.

Wayne Stiles not only built the courses at Norwood, but completed 35 original designs around the United States and consulted on an additional 145 golf courses. In 2008, the Wayne Stiles Society was created to honor the Architect and the work that he completed in what was noted as "The Golden Age of American Golf." This time period is generally recognized as the time between the end of World War I and the beginning of the Great Depression where quality and quantity of golf courses in America were taking a huge leap forward.



The Wayne Stiles Society held their inaugural event at Norwood Hills Country Club on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 with a little over 80 golfers. Norwood Hills is a part of the 23 initial members of the Wayne Stiles Society and hosted a beautiful day for a golf tournament. The purpose of the event was to honor the work of Wayne Stiles, the original architect of Norwood's East and West courses during a time period where some of the best known and influential golf courses around the country were being created. The gentlemen that participated in the event played 18 holes on the West Course, followed by a small reception and presentation. At the reception, Jack Krings and Robert Phillips presented a commemorative flag that displays the year of the Wayne Stiles Society's establishment, as well as the year of the inaugural event. In the middle of the flag are the iconic tools of Wayne Stiles, a reminder of how Norwood Hills began.

October 1st, 2015 will be an important day in both the history of Norwood Hills, as well as the history of the Wayne Stiles Society. The society plans to hold more events in the future with the intent to continue to honor the work that Mr. Stiles completed during his career.