Grand Traverse promotes Galligan and four others

ACME, Mich. — Grand Traverse Resort Director of Golf Mike Meindertsma has promoted five employees in the Golf and Grounds Department.

Paul Galligan has been promoted to golf course construction superintendent of the new Gary Player-designed golf course, Northern Knight. Galligan, former golf course superintendent of The Bear, designed by Jack Nicklaus, will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day construction of Northern Knight which began in May. Galligan joined Grand Traverse Resort in 1983.

Doug Kendziorski, former Superintendent of the resort’s Spruce Run golf course, has been promoted to Superintendent of The Bear. Kendziorski joined the Resort in 1990.

Jim Bluck, former assistant superintendent of The Bear, has been promoted to superintendent of Spruce Run. Bluck joined the Resort in 1995.

Bruce Cline, former assistant superintendent of Spruce Run, has been promoted to assistant superintendent of The Bear. Cline joined the resort in 1994.

John Stosio has been promoted to assistant superintendent of Spruce Run. Stosio joined the resort in 1996.

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Dennis McNally has been named superintendent at the Palm Beach County-owned Okeeheelee golf complex here by International Golf Management, Inc. (IGM), a Lakeland-based firm, providing turnkey golf course maintenance services on a contractual basis for public and private golf courses throughout Florida and the Southeast.

The 188-acre golf complex features 27 holes of golf on three courses and located within 900-acre, county-owned Okee-heelee Park. McNally supervises a 13-member staff and reports directly to Jimmy Witt, IGM’s South Florida regional manager.

Before coming to Okeeheelee, McNally served two years as superintendent at Wellington (Fla.) Country Club. His background also includes nearly eight years as assistant superintendent at High Ridge Country Club in Boynton Beach and six years in the same capacity at Atlantis (Fla.) Country Club.

GOLD CANYON, Ariz. — Stuart Penge has been hired as the new golf course superintendent at Gold Canyon Golf Resort, according to Bret Greenwood, director of golf.

Penge will oversee golf course and facility maintenance, budget planning and the daily work assignments for 36 maintenance staff employees.

Prior to joining Gold Canyon Golf Resort, Penge served as an assistant superintendent at Desert Highlands Golf Club in Scottsdale and Desert Forest Golf Club in Carefree.

QUANTICO, Md. — Billy Casper Golf Management, Inc. (BCGM) has named Charles T. Sheridan superintendent here at Green Hill Yacht & Country Club. BCGM was selected in December to provide complete turnkey management services to Green Hill. Sheridan is the former assistant golf course superintendent at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, where he participated in the regrassing of the course and an extensive irrigation upgrade in preparation for the 1995 U.S. Open. Sheridan also held the position of links superintendent at Waterville Golf Links in County Kerry, Ireland.

VERO BEACH, Fla. — Michael Rowe has been named superintendent here at Sandridge Golf Club, a club managed by Lakeland, Florida-based International Golf Management, Inc. (IGM). Rowe is responsible for complete maintenance of...
Longaberger GC uses chipper to fulfill credo to recycle its wooded wealth

By TERRY BUCHEN

HANOVER, Ohio — The Longaberger Co. is the world's largest wooden decorative basket manufacturer and has 5,000 employees working at its Dresden plant, which is visited by more than 500,000 tourists each year.

To give the tourists an additional reason to visit and stick around, the company developed its own course, Longaberger Golf Club, a public-access course designed by Arthur Hills and Brian Yoder. Built by Landscapes Unlimited, Inc., with Al Van Meeteren as job superintendent, the course is scheduled to open in 1998 and will feature bentgrass greens, tees and fairways, with bluegrass roughs. It will be maintained by superintendent Mark Rawlins, who spent the past 12 years at the Zanesville (Ohio) Country Club.

Still under construction, this course has also reflected the firm's philosophy that backs recycling wherever possible.

"When most people see the course for the first time, they assume a lot of clearing was done, when in reality, clearing was kept to a minimum. Fewer trees were removed than the architect's original drawings specified," Rawlins said.

"Most of the golf holes are located where openings in the trees already existed. The philosophies of Doug Schmidt (director of grounds and golf maintenance) and Mike Kaido (executive director of golf operations) from the beginning, were to leave as many trees as possible. Trees that were removed were chipped and sold to a local company that got some good use out of them as they weren't just buried."

The trees were chipped with a high-tech chipper, blown into a semi-trailer and hauled away to the Stone Container Co., that makes paper products. None of the trees were burned as The Longaberger Co. has a long-standing tradition of recycling everything wherever possible.

"The Longaberger Co. is already recycling, so we wanted to do our part on the new course as well," Schmidt said. "The wood chips are being used in a nearby business and we are building a new corporate office building where the interior will have cherry wood trim of which 17,000 board feet was taken from the golf course during the clearing process."

"We feel really good about the use of the chipper," Kaido said. "The wood chips will be put to a good use as all of the cleared trees will be recycled back into the local community."

Added Yoder: "The chipper is a viable and extremely promising option for many future golf course construction projects. Owners, architects, builders and superintendents feel really good about the end results."

On the Move

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Sandridge's two 18-hole courses — the 7,000-yard Dunes and the 6,300-yard Lakes. He supervises a staff of 23 and reports directly to Jim Wells, IGM's central Florida regional manager.

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DULUTH, Ga. — The new 18-hole executive course Peachtree Masters Golf Club has hired Scott Hales as its golf course superintendent.

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GRIFFIN, Ga. — The city of Griffin has hired Tommy Wood as superintendent of its municipal golf course. Wood was a representative for LESCO.

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HOLLYWOOD, Ga. — Hollywood Hills Golf Course has hired Tom Grundy as its new golf course superintendent.