

Tools of the Trade...at Bellers' Stonebridge GC

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Richard "Rick" Bellers was just a kid when he started in the golf course maintenance business in the spring of 1978. For him, it was an "occupation of choice" rather than a summertime pay check.

He experimented with work as a carpenter and yard foreman for a building supply company in California for a few years, but eventually Bellers returned to his home state to enroll in a two-year turf maintenance program at Michigan State University.



Rick Bellers

It was in 1990 that Bellers was hired to oversee the grow-in here at the Stonebridge Golf Club. The Arthur Hills-designed layout is part of a 655-acre real estate development. "I've been given a lot

of freedom to use my talents here," said Bellers.

CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT: COMPETENT CORE STAFF MEMBERS

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nity," he said. Bellers maintains more than just the golf course. He also handles the landscape maintenance and construction of all the common properties within the de-

"The biggest challenge of maintaining the course is getting around it, strung out as it is through the residential community"

— Rick Bellers

velopment as well.

The facility has a fair amount of construction equipment, such as a backhoe, skid steer loaders, tractors and dump trucks. "It allows us to tackle almost any problem that may confront us," said the superintendent.

ers, laser printer, scanner, fax, copier

Primary herbicides: Confront, Trimec

Primary insecticide: Proxol

Primary fungicide: Daconil

Primary slow-release fertilizer: Nature Safe

One thing you could not live without: Competent core staff members

Oldest piece of equipment: 200-gal-

lon sprayer

Total square footage of maintenance

building(s): 6,000 sq. ft.

Annual rounds of golf: 23,000

Normal green speed: 8'

Greens mowers: 2 Toro Greensmaster 3100, 5 Jacobsen 422 walk behinds

Tee mowers: 1 Toro Greensmaster 3100

Fairway mowers: 2 John Deere 3215

Rough mowers: 2 Ransomes AR250

Riding bunker rake: Toro Sand-pro

Bellers makes extensive use of heavy equipment in landscaping projects.



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The course has 24 acres of Penncross bentgrass fairways, 140,000 square feet of Penncross tees, and 110,000 square feet of very undulating greens. The layout winds its way through many scenic waterways, ponds and wetland habitats.

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of freedom to use my talents here," said Bellers.

Turf utility vehicles: 2 Toro Workman, 3 Jacobsen 1110, 1 ClubCar II, 3 Red Riders

Verti-cut reels: Toro

Aerifiers: Jacobsen Aero-King

Topdressers: Dakota

Reel grinder: Supreme

Bedknife grinder: Bernhardt

Irrigation pump station: Flowtronex 1200 GPM

Irrigation system: Rainbird

Golf car fleet: 80 E-Z-GO gas carts

Computer & accessories: 2 comput-

IGM contracts with Indigo Lakes, former host of Hooters Tour

DAYTONA, Fla. — International Golf Maintenance has landed Indigo Lakes Golf Club, further padding the portfolio of some 80 courses now being maintained by the company.

Indigo Lakes, here in Daytona, was once the host of the Hooters Tour and the LPGA Sprint Championship. It also held LPGA qualifying rounds in 1991, '92 and '93.

The semi-private, 18-hole championship layout, designed by Lloyd Clifton in 1976, runs to 7,168 yards.

Course superintendent Fred Rich said he's pleased to have IGM on board. "They've been nothing but great for Indigo Lakes," he said. "All the promises they made to me and my crew have been fulfilled. My staff is really pleased with how things have been going.

"IGM has re-established maintenance procedures and brought in a whole new fleet of equipment to help us restore this beautiful course," he added.

"Our SyncroFlo pump station is a really great piece of machinery, I can rely on it completely."
Sean Duffy — Golf Course Superintendent

The Golden Bear Club at Keene's Point is just one of over 16,000 SyncroFlo pump stations worldwide. Founded in 1965, our success stems from our commitment to sound engineering principles and a team dedicated to quality manufacturing. That formula has made us not only the biggest in the industry, but has also given us an unequalled knowledge of packaged pumping stations. SyncroFlo and our employees are proud to be the Official Supplier of Pump Stations to **The First Tee**.

The Golden Bear Club at Keene's Point

Backpack blowers recalled due to fuel-tank leak

WASHINGTON — In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, five firms are recalling approximately 50,500 backpack blowers because their fuel tanks can leak, posing a fire hazard and risk of burn injuries to users.

• Carswell Import and Marketing Associates Inc., of Winston-Salem, N.C., has received 159 reports of leaking fuel tanks on the blowers. Carswell's recalled blowers have the serial No. FL500 and were sold from December 1996 through June 2001.

• Makita U.S.A. Inc., of La Mirada, Calif., has received 55 reports of leaks. Makita's recalled blowers have the serial No. RBL500 and were sold from March 1997 through January 2001.

• John Deere Consumer Products Inc., of Moline, Ill., has received five reports of leaks. John Deere's recalled blowers have the serial Nos. UT26113, UT08093 or UT08104 and were sold between January 1998 and April 2001.

• Both Husqvarna Forest & Garden Co., of Charlotte, N.C. and Tilton Equipment CO., of Rye, N.H. have not had reports of leaks. Husqvarna blowers have the serial Nos. 155BT or 155BF and were sold from June 1998 through June 2001. Tilton blowers have the serial No. TB50 and were sold from August 2000 through May 2001.

According to the recall, users should stop using the recalled blowers immediately, and contact the manufacturer to have their blowers repaired free of charge. For more information, contact: Carswell, 1-800-929-1948; Makita, 1-800-625-4828 extension 112; John Deere, 1-800-537-8233; Husqvarna, 1-800-438-7297; or Tilton Equipment, 1-800-447-1152.