learn the intimate details of financial management and fiduciary responsibility. All the while starting a family. Two active girls kept Rick and Jackie as busy away from the course as Rick was when he was on the course. Their daughters, Jodi and Sandy, enjoyed then -- and still do today -- horses, skiing, boating and track.

And as though maintaining a country club and being an active father were not enough, Rick felt obligated to participate in the management of a growing professional turfgrass organization, the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association. During the 1980’s, Rick attained a position on the MGCSA Board of Directors with the goal to improve upon the advancement of the turf management profession.

Rick’s diligent support on the Membership, Scholarship and Research Committees paved the way for his becoming Secretary, Vice-President and finally President of the MGCSA in 1992. During his first stint upon the BOD, he saw unprecedented growth, improved funding in research, the development of an environmental awareness program and a visible push "to the next level of professionalism."

About the time Rick was Secretary of the MGCSA, the Superintendent’s position became available at Woodhill Country Club. Encouraged by his maturing family, Rick pursued and accepted the opportunity in 1990. Although his clientele was a bit different than those he had catered to at Rolling Green, growing turf and grounds management was still of utmost importance.

For the last 13 years Rick has provided his membership at Woodhill only the very best of social experiences and recreational opportunities. Venues include paddleball, ice-skating, tennis, swimming opportunities and, of course, golf. Although pressed by an outdated irrigation system and a multitude of irrigation challenges, Rick has historically surrounded himself with a very competent staff. Former assistants and upwardly mobile professionals in the industry under Rick's fine leadership is apparent in the product they create.

From the first tee in the spring to the ice between the nets in the winter, Rick and his staff keep the grounds at Woodhill in exceptional condition.

Managing a prestigious golf club and raising two teenage girls wasn't enough for Rick so he reinvested himself back into Association politics in 1999. Last year, after climbing back through the ranks, he began his second term as President of the MGCSA and instigated a year of celebration dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the MGCSA. On December 3, 2002, Rick hosted an exceptional dinner party, which brought over 220 members and their spouses together to celebrate the achievements of distinguished guests as well as the association.

Currently his concerns center around the long-term funding of the TROE Center at the University of Minnesota and committing to a permanent research and teaching facility on the site. Rick is also interested with the membership and their needs during this ever-changing economy.

Beyond work and family, Rick has been very active with his community, particularly as a member of the Long Lake Volunteer Fire Department. His skills as a past member of the Trollhaugen ski patrol and Emergency Medical Technician prepared him well for his current position as both a Captain of the Fire Department and a Training Officer as well.

Could our president's life be any busier? Probably not! However, between his management of a pre-eminent golf course, his commitment to family life and rescuing his neighbors from burning buildings, Rick is always available to his constituents. Always willing to embrace new ideas and challenges, Rick maintains an open line policy and welcomes your input into the association's continuing prosperity.

"Rick is a great cook, all around handyman, EMT and volunteer fireman, and somehow he always finds time to spoil me rotten!"

-- Emotes Jackie Fredericksen of her husband.