

# Larry Flament



-N-



**STONEWALL  
ORCHARD  
GOLF CLUB**

The Flament family: back row, L to R, Larry's wife Lisa; Cristina, age 13; Larry; front row, L to R, Mary, age 9; Savannah, age 6; Ashley, age 12.

*In Larry Flament's hometown of Waukegan, it was every young man's ideal to "scoop the loop" around Genesse Street every Friday and Saturday night. Larry had a blue '64 Chevelle that could really get up and go.*

*Stonewall Orchard Golf Club is situated over 230 acres of gently rolling terrain so specially suited to the game that Arthur Hills moved only 150,000 yards for 18 holes; that's roughly a third of the amount of soil that is generally moved these days.*

In the summer of 1975, Larry went to work as a groundsman at Glen Flora Country Club, just two days after Randy Wahler began as superintendent. Under Randy's regimen, Larry quickly learned a new understanding and appreciation for "get up and go."

In 1980, Randy moved to Knollwood Country Club, and Larry came along as his assistant and right-hand man. The team of Wahler and Flament soon set the highest standard for golf course conditioning anywhere. And during all of this, Larry somehow managed to get an associate's degree in landscape and design, and his bachelor's in business administration.

In 1991, Larry made the move to superintendent of his own course at Hilldale Golf Club. From there, he moved to Eaglebrook Country Club. Then, in 1996, Larry's skills were employed by Crown Golf Properties as a construction supervisor and site superintendent for projects all over the country.

Larry values all of this construction and management experience for preparing him for his ultimate challenge at Stonewall Orchard Golf Club. And Larry has learned to especially appreciate

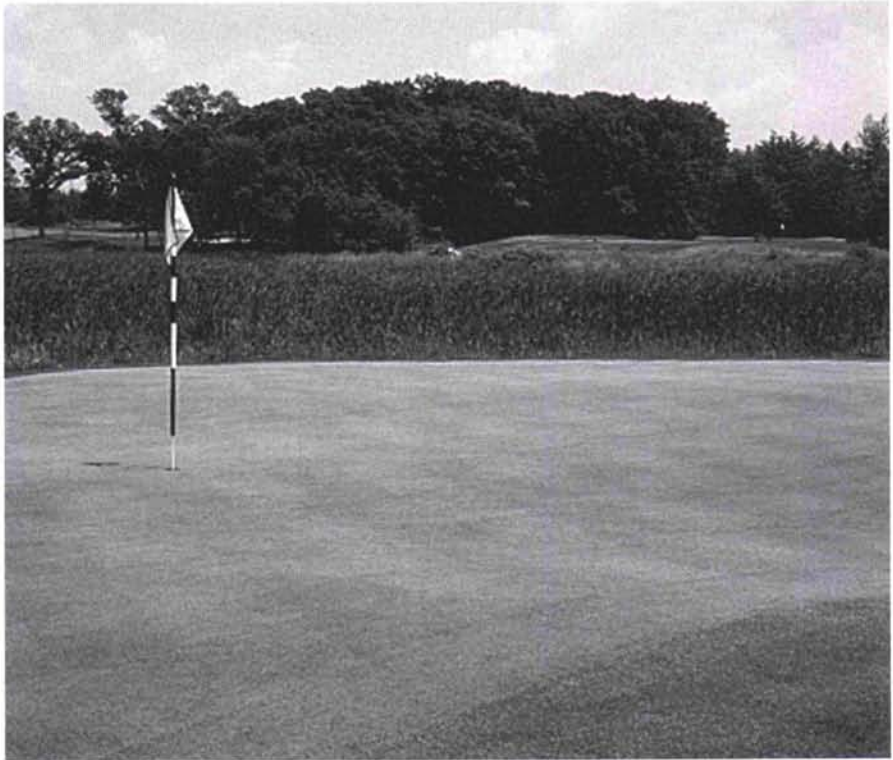
*(continued on page 17)*

the friendships that he has forged during the course of his career. During his Glen Flora days, Larry made the fortuitous acquaintance of the golf professional, Bob Malpede. Bob and Larry go way back, but they probably never guessed, so long ago, that they would one day build a golf course together.

For many years, Bob Malpede worked on his personal dream of giving the Chicagoland golfer a top-notch public golf club. After meeting landowner Ben Sargent, and walking the Stonewall Orchard Farm, Bob finally discovered the ground he was looking for. Securing one of the nation's top golf course architects, Arthur Hills, to do the design work, and then bringing Larry Flament on to oversee construction, grow-in and management, was all that remained to complete the triumvirate. And my, what a masterpiece they have created!

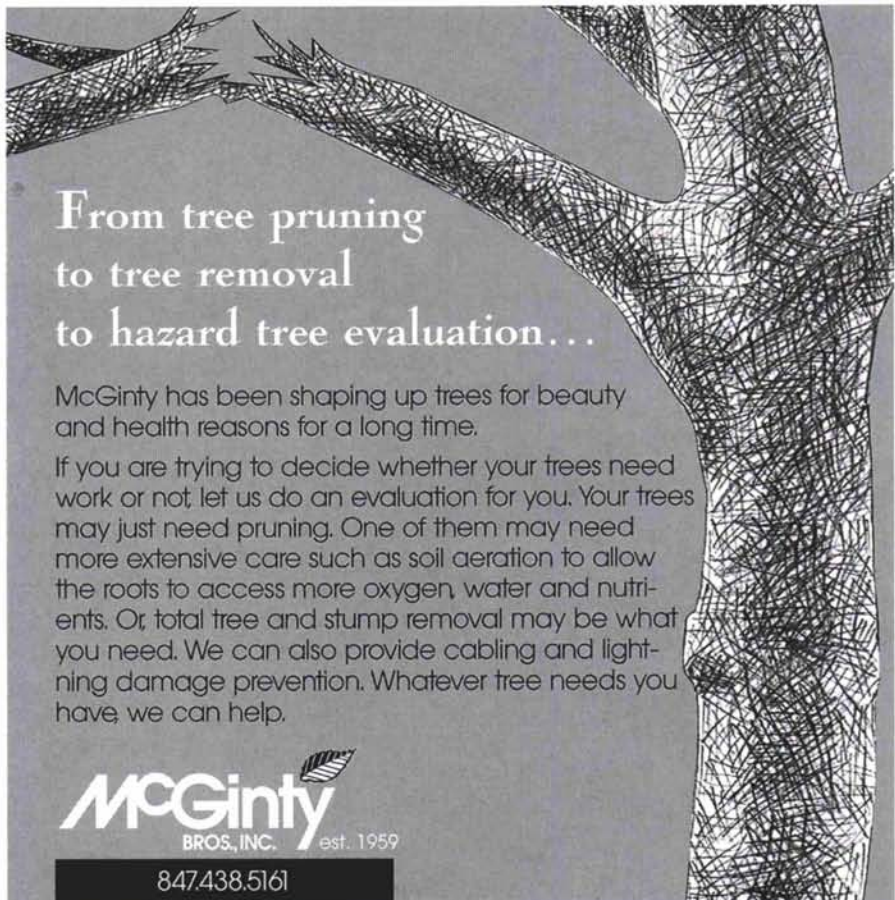
To begin with, Stonewall Orchard Golf Club is situated over 230 acres of gently rolling terrain so specially suited to the game that Arthur Hills moved only 150,000 yards for 18 holes; that's roughly a third of the amount of soil that is generally moved these days. At every turn, grand specimen trees greet the eye, ranging from clusters of old native oaks to literally thousands of pines all over the property. Moreover, virtually no pesky housing development cluttered the landscape. So the golf course was generously allowed the middle ground; the high ground was preserved as woodlands, and the low ground was left undisturbed as habitat for herons, egrets, wildflowers, swans, dozens of different species of duck and even sandhill cranes.

(continued on page 34)



Hole #13 at Stonewall Orchard.

(photo by Jim Trzinski/compliments of Waupaca Sand & Solutions)



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thing to the membership that we ourselves do not buy into 100%. We all know what has happened to some of the fixed costs of doing business over the past five years (postage, utilities, printing, etc.). I would, however, like to list but some of the recent expenses added to the Association.

- *On Course* at its current level of publication quality.
- MAGCS Web page.
- Annual certified financial audit.
- Monthly bookkeeping for financial numbers required by the government.
- Hospitality room that has increased in size and quality.
- Affiliation with the Midwest Golf House Complex at Cog Hill coming in 2001.
- Monthly meetings at a reduced cost to the membership.
- Added staff, personnel and expenses.

- 30% increase in the number of our members.
- Greater responsibility for turf-grass research support.
- Scholarship programs for our members' children.
- Increased and more current education for our members and staff.
- Computers and office supplies.
- Small miscellaneous items that add up.

The above list represents only some of the added expenses to the Association over the past five years, with more to follow. We have advanced our profession greatly in the past 10 years with very little cost to our membership. The MAGCS has been very fortunate to have received the support of our commercial members, whenever asked. I would like to even out the funding of our pro-

grams through our dues structure. This will actually allow our commercial members to receive a bigger bang for their dollar with a new sponsorship program next year. Currently, our dues structure pales in comparison to many other large superintendent chapters throughout the country.

I sincerely hope I can count on your support upon the announcement of a new proposal in October. Discussion and approval will be conducted during the Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club in November. I am always available, as are the rest of the Board of Directors, for comments and suggestions concerning this or any other topic. God bless, and enjoy the colorful onset of fall.



Larry Flament -N- Stonewall Orchard Golf Club (continued from page 17)

If you bring your binoculars to Stonewall Orchard Golf Club for our September meeting, you will find a vast array of nature's best, but you had better bring your best game as well. This course is a thought-provoking layout, with strategic flat sand bunkering, and some of the most interesting putting contours that you will ever encounter. It's a fair but chal-

lenging test of golf that can play to 7,049 yards, and several tees require a sure carry over water and marshland.

Larry Flament has a lot to be proud of, and even more to be thankful for. He feels especially blessed to be married to Lisa for 12 years. They have four lovely daughters: Cristina, 14, Ashley, 13, Mary, 9, and

Savannah, 6. As a family, the Flaments enjoy their home in rural Richmond, going to Great America, bowling and playing an occasional round of golf together.

Now if Larry could just get his hands on a blue '64 Chevelle.



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