

# Jim McNair/Harry Lovero



*Jim McNair and Harry Lovero.*

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ORCHARD  
VALLEY

*Jim McNair is a veteran host of MAGCS monthly meetings. He greeted his Midwest colleagues at Orchard Valley Country Club in July 1994 and July 1997. Jim will host his third July meeting on Monday, July 2, 2001.*

On the grounds of Orchard Valley, you may notice the new clubhouse on the Ken Kavanaugh-designed golf course. However, pay particular attention to the landscaping surrounding the clubhouse; Jim and his staff recently devoted considerable time to performing the finishing touches.

Jim's resume in the golf business traces back to the early '60s, when he began caddying at Glen Oak. After paying his dues as a caddy, Jim went to work with his brother at Wadsworth Construction. When Wadsworth's Fox Bend opened in 1967, he worked on the grounds crew. In 1970, after graduating from Bradley University, Jim assumed the head job at Fox Bend. Jim moved over to another Wadsworth product, Orchard Valley C.C., in January 1993; he opened that Fox Valley Park District course for play in July of that year. Now in his eighth season at Orchard Valley, Jim has taken on a new title: director of golf course



*Hole #16, a par 5.*

maintenance operations. Jim is happy to have an experienced staff led by superintendent Harry Lovero, who has been with Jim at the course since March 1993.

Harry came to Orchard Valley from Oak Brook Hills. He had started in the golf business in November 1975, working as a mechanic for Harry Fredrickson at Edgewood Valley. Harry went on to earn his degree in ornamental horticulture from the College of Du Page before becoming an assistant and then superintendent at Oak Brook Hills.

Over the last two years, Jim and Harry have been busy resurfacing and adding mist heads to some bunkers. The crew also built new tees, realigned other tees and planted new trees in an attempt to save the adjacent houses. Ironically, these houses are one of the two things Jim would remove from his course if he could, geese being the other.

Harry is proud of the high level of maintenance Orchard Valley has been able to maintain year in, year out. Indeed, Orchard Valley is regularly ranked among the top five of Chicagoland's public golf facilities. Harry resides in Glendale Heights with Judy, his wife of 11 years. Harry and Judy have two children: Jimmy, who is a senior at Illinois State University, and Crystal, who works for UPS.

Jim is an Aurora resident with three children. Dan, his oldest, resides in Las Vegas. His daughter Kerry is working towards her Master's degree in Bloomington. His youngest, Matthew, just recently began working for dad on the golf course.

The MAGCS is a long-time benefactor of Jim's service. Besides hosting the aforementioned monthly meetings, Jim served on the board of directors from 1996-



*Hole #5, a par 4.*

1999. During those years, he chaired several committees, including those devoted to our magazine, public relations and long-range planning. Presently, Jim still serves on the Editorial Committee.

In his free time, Jim remains outdoors, enjoying downhill and cross-country skiing, rollerblading, biking and kayaking. Jim reports that he recently purchased a new kayak that he can't wait to use in his down time. On that

note, Jim has a 17-foot aluminum canoe that he would like to pawn off on a fellow MAGCS member for the low, low price of \$250.

When we visit on July 2, Jim and Harry will have Orchard Valley set up to reflect how fun and challenging it is. Be sure to thank them for hosting us at this quality venue. 