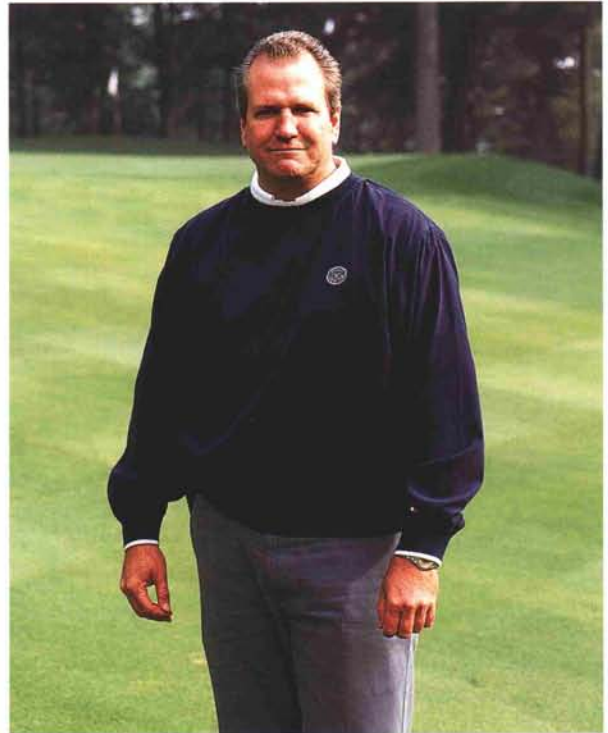


# Thomas Lively -N-

## Medinah Country Club



Thomas Lively, CGCS.

*The Midwest Turf Clinic and MAGCS Annual Meeting is held each year at Medinah Country Club. Medinah's new greenkeeper, Thomas Lively, CGCS, is this year's host superintendent. Tom joined Medinah as grounds manager in March 2001 when Dan Quast retired after 12 years of service. Forty-two-year-old Tom presently resides in Homewood with his wife Judy and three children: Melissa, 13, Tom, 10, and John, 9. Tom's hobbies include golf and helping out with little-league baseball.*

*The Midwest Turf Clinic takes place November 7. Its theme this year is the 75th anniversary of the MAGCS, and given Medinah's rich history, the setting is particularly appropriate.*

Tom began his career in the golf industry in 1972, working as a caddie at Idlewild Country Club. He then moved on to the grounds department, where he worked for Peter Voykin from 1975-1980. In the fall of 1980, Tom enrolled in the turf program at Michigan State University. From 1980 to 1986, Tom worked as first assistant superintendent under Oscar Miles at Butler National, then host site for the Western Open each year. Tom became superintendent at Ridge Country Club in 1986; from 1988-2001 he held the superintendent's position at Ruth Lake Country Club. Tom earned certification in 1992.

Tom says his greatest reward is the opportunity to work outside everyday. His biggest challenge at Medinah? Managing the 68 employees and directing them towards a common goal. Tom was emphatic about mentioning the four superintendents who report to the grounds manager: Brian Kimbrough on Course No. 1, Mark Kosbab on Course No. 2, and Mike Imgrund and Reynaldo Tijerina on Course No. 3.

*(continued on page 12)*



These four men are in charge of the day-to-day activities and duties on their respective courses.

Medinah's No. 3 Course, which is rated among America's best classical courses, is a 1928 design by Tom Bendelow that has been renovated several times, including work by Roger Packard in 1986 and Roger Rulewich in 1996. This venue has hosted the U.S. Open in 1949, 1975 and 1990. It hosted the PGA Championship in 1999 and is scheduled for the 2006 PGA Championship and 2011 Ryder Cup.

Prior to the next Major, Medinah is scheduled to undergo a \$3.5 million restoration, mapped out by architect Rees Jones. Course No. 3 will close in July 2002 and is scheduled to reopen in June 2003. The restoration plan includes the rebuilding of seven greens by September of

2002, rebuilding of 12 tee complexes, and rebuilding and deepening 64 bunkers while repositioning some. In addition to Jones' design work, the plan also includes a new irrigation system, major seawall and drainage work, and replacement of all the cart paths. The length of this par-72 layout, which measures 7,401 yards, will not change. A major restoration highlight is the slated movement of the green on par-3 no. 17. This putting surface was controversial during the 1990 U.S. Open because of its severe slope and location right over a steel bulkhead on the water's edge. In 1996, architect Rulewich moved the green 30 yards inland and up the hill. Rees Jones' plan calls for movement of the green back down to the water and to the right.

This fall, Arborcom is going to conduct an extensive study of the shade problems that exist on many of the greens on Course No. 3. Upon completion of this study, a decision concerning removals will be made. If enough sunlight can reach the 11 greens not being rebuilt, they may be regrassed during the renovation period. Other long-range plans include a new maintenance facility, all-new bunkers and new irrigation on Courses No. 1 and 2.

The Midwest Turf Clinic takes place November 7. Its theme this year is the 75th anniversary of the MAGCS, and given Medinah's rich history, the setting is particularly appropriate. Thanks to Tom for continuing a great tradition of linking Medinah and the MAGCS Annual Meeting.



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