SUPER -Virgil Range Aurora Country Club

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Chuck Ardell –N–



Chuck Ardell, wife, Jeannette and son Connor.

Indian Lakes Resort, located just 30 minutes from O'Hare on 260 acres in Bloomingdale, is the home of both Blackhawk Trace and the East Trail, 36 holes of championship golf. Blackhawk Trace has played host to three NGA Hooters Tour events and two local qualifiers for the 2005 and 2006 LaSalle Bank Open which is a Nationwide Tour Event. East Trail has its own reputation, hosting the 1995 U.S. Open local qualifier. The resort also features three putting greens, a warm-up area, two pools, a world class spa, four dining outlets, and four bars. The resort has 308 guest rooms with many hospitality suites and six penthouses.

Chuck Ardell has been Superintendent at Indian Lakes Resort since March of 2003. Chuck started his career in Detroit when he was 15 years old. After deciding that a career in the golf industry was what he wanted to pursue, he attended Michigan State University, graduating in 1996. Chuck's first official position was at Western Golf and Country Club in Detroit, where he completed one season while the course was under construction. In 1996 he moved to Chicago and took the 2nd Assistant's position at Wynstone Golf Club. In 1998 he became the 1st Assistant and worked there until he started at Indian Lakes Resort in 2003.

Indian Lakes recently completed an 18 hole renovation done by Jacobson Golf Course Design and Ryan Incorporated Central Golf Construction.

#11 Green Complex

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Chuck Ardell -N- Indian Lakes Resort (continued from page 7)

Then-superintendent Vince Dodge, CGCS who is currently superintendent at the Wilderness at Fortune Bay in northern Minnesota, started the renovation at Indian Lakes in 2002. After Vince moved on, Dan Charlton took over. When Dan headed up the road to Evanston Golf Club, Chuck stepped in and completed Phase Two of construction. Robert Bruce Harris is the original architect, but Doug Myslinski of Jacobson Golf Course Design decided to go with an Alister McKenzie-esque design. With fingered bunkers and fescue around all the bunkers it adds character to the course. They squared all the tees and surfaced them with Princeville bentgrass, and added four tees to every hole. Some of Chuck's ongoing projects are irrigation upgrades and establishment of native trees throughout the course.

Chuck is 34 years old and has been happily marred for five years to his wife Jeannette. Together they have a son Connor, age two, one cat, and one golden retriever. Chuck enjoys golf, family, travel and is on the landscape committee for his Homeowner's Association. Chuck has been a member of GCSAA since 1994 and is continuing his education in order to obtain certification soon. The most rewarding part of his job is the satisfaction of the golfers who play his facility. He conducts periodic surveys to help motivate the staff and to commend them on a job well done.

Chuck's unexpected on the job experiences include having an intoxicated hotel guest toss a cigar off the penthouse balcony during the dry summer of 2005. Subsequently, the cigar was thrown into a fescue hillside along #18 hole of the Blackhawk Trace course, which ignited the entire hillside. The fire department was called, and they did a nice job of extinguishing the area.

Overall Chuck loves working outdoors and enjoys the game of golf. He wishes to thank the people who afforded him the opportunities to learn and grow in the business that he has gained throughout his career, and looks forward to hosting the membership of MAGCS on April 30th.



Par 4 #15 looking back towards the tee

