

SUPER -N- SITE
Michael Heustis, Chicago Golf Club



Tom Lively, CGCS -N-



For Medinah Country Club's very own Tom Lively, Homewood, Illinois, is home. Located just 25 miles south of the Chicago Loop, the Village of Homewood is a quiet suburban setting with many educational, cultural, and recreational facilities. Not only is it a friendly, small "home-town," but it also offers many of the amenities and opportunities of a large city. Tom lives with his two sons, ages 15 and 16. He also roots for the Hoosiers of Indiana University, where his daughter is a sophomore.

Many of us know Tom as the golf course superintendent at Medinah Country Club, the same club that has hosted many well known golf tournaments, most recently the 2006 PGA Championship. If you read any golf course related publications, chances are you have read about Tom, his crew, and how they prepared for that huge tournament. Keep reading and you will learn not about Tom preparing for a big tournament, but about Tom and his life without the tournament.

Born and raised in the Chicago Heights area, Tom grew up with two brothers and sisters and a love for the game of golf. He spent several years of his teenage life caddying at the local golf course. There he gained a deep appreciation for the game and an understanding of all the hours and dedication a crew puts into preparing a golf course for play on a day-to-day basis.

It was this appreciation for turf management that led Tom to attend Michigan State University. Michigan State is consistently ranked one of the top Turf Management programs in the World. It competes with other schools such as Penn State and Ohio State University that dominate the top-notch turf industry programs. At Michigan State, Tom earned a two-year turf certificate in 1981 and later become an Assistant Golf Course Superintendent.

Since college, Tom's has lived in Homewood. From there he has commuted to and from various positions in the Chicagoland area. He spent seven years as an Assistant Superintendent and 21 years as a Golf Course Superintendent. Thirteen of those 21 years were at Ruth Lake Country Club. Since March 2001 Tom has overseen operations at Medinah Country Club.



*Tom Lively,
Certified Golf Course Superintendent,
Medinah Country Club*

When asked about his spare time, hobbies and favorite sports teams, the question had to be repeated due to Tom's not understanding what "spare time" meant. His mornings start at 2:30 a.m. After a forty minute commute to Medinah, his day begins with a desk full of administrative duties, daily meetings with staff and members, and, by the end of the day, maybe a ride around the property. This schedule continues seven days a week, April through October. Tom said balancing work and personal life can be very difficult during this time,

however, he likes the many challenges each new day brings.

Although he likes to play golf, Tom has only played once in the last two years due to tournament preparations. His hobbies include spending time with his family and working around the house. He was raised a Cub fan, but doesn't watch much baseball. He thinks that may change after this season.

Tom says the fondest memories of his life are of the 2006 PGA Championship and getting to work with so many friends in the business. He learned a lot about people. **-OC**

(photos on next page)



Above and below: Images captured of Medinah's #3 Championship Course during the 2006 PGA Championship.

