

Larry Flament -N-



Some of you may recall that back in September, 2000, when Stonewall Orchard Golf Club had been open for just a year, Lawrence E. Flament hosted a MAGCS monthly meeting. It has now been seven years, and we get to experience this beautiful course again.

Stonewall Orchard Golf Club is nestled in the western portion of beautiful Lake County. It is Arthur Hills' first course that he designed and built in Illinois. The par 72 course plays to 7,074 yards and has a private, secluded atmosphere that challenges golfers at all levels. Since opening in 1999, it has hosted the 2005 Local U.S. Open Qualifier. For the past three years they have held the Illinois PGA Section Championship there. ESPN also comes out once a year with roughly 300 people and so many prizes that they fill up the driving range!

Long before Larry grew grass at Stonewall Orchard, he began his career in Waukegan, Illinois, as a crew Foreman at Glen Flora Country Club. With Randy Wahler as his guiding light, Larry made the move to Knollwood Club in 1980 to be the Assistant Superintendent. As he moved on, his first Superintendent's position was at Hilldale Golf Club. A short year later, he signed up with Crown Golf as their Project Manager/Site Superintendent for new course constructions. A couple of the courses that Larry worked on were Eagle Brook Country Club and Settler's Hill Golf Course. When May 1998 rolled around Larry joined forces with Arthur Hills and Ryan Central to build Stonewall Orchard Golf Club. Since then he has been the club's first and only Superintendent and has enjoyed every bit of it.



Stonewall Orchard's Golf Course Superintendent, Larry Flament.

Larry manages Stonewall Orchard with the help of 19 staff members. His Assistant Superintendent, Mike VanDeVelde, has been with him for four years, his mechanic, Juan Rojas Duarte, for the past 11 years. Since opening day, Larry and his staff haven't made any big changes to the course. In addition to the typical bunker re-dos, they did add a tee to hole 13 (with Arthur's help of course). Future projects include another tee on hole 16 and re-shaping the brutally challenging green surround on hole 18 (pending Arthur's approval...of course).

Although native to Waukegan, Larry currently lives in Richmond, Illinois, with his fiancé Deanne, daughters Savannah (13), Mary (16), and Ashley (20). Savannah is in high school, Mary is starting to drive, and Ashley attends College of Lake County. Larry also went to College of Lake County, where he got an Associate's degree in Turf. A few years later he attended Loyola University at Mundelein College where he graduated with a B.S. in Business. A GCSAA and MAGCS member since 1985, Larry is a true professional who takes pride in his work. He loves working at Stonewall Orchard, which is evident from the condition of the course. **-OC**



*Above: The 8th, par 5 at Stonewall Orchard is a test off the tee.
The player must tee it up and carry a sea of cattails to a hidden landing area.
Below: A short par 4, the 16th is home to a majestic oak on the left, water on the right and a small sloping green.*

