

**Rising to the top**

John Walsh's column ("Rising to the top, October, page 6) has sound advice for future superintendents. Here are four important factors superintendents should think about:

1. Knowledge. No one knows it all, but respect those who know more than you.

2. Leadership. Management skills are a must. Who will work with you and gain your respect if you don't have a sense of direction or a plan of objectives? To gain respect, one needs to show respect. Leadership and management practices take time. Some have management skills, others don't. They require personal and professional skills. Management is a big factor nowadays. Management companies lease or run many golf courses, and communicating with them is difficult sometimes.

3. Mechanical knowledge. Every superintendent has to have some.

4. Common sense. This, as well as paying attention to detail, goes a long way with daily operations. You'd be surprised about how many members or public players notice trash cans, foot scrubbers, divot containers, tee markers, etc. The list goes on.

Rick Douglas  
Golf course superintendent  
Harmon Golf Club  
Lebanon, Ohio

**A personal Web site**

*Editor's note: GCN columnist Jim McLoughlin responds to inquiries about personal Web sites:*

Some of you have contacted me asking for Web site development assistance and/

or a completed Web site that a superintendent has done well. I've been waiting, and now we have a model courtesy of Steve Renzetti, CGCS, at Quaker Ridge Golf Club in Scarsdale, N.Y.

Steve's newly developed Web site ([www.stevenrenzetti.com](http://www.stevenrenzetti.com)) is terrific. Steve paid a local Web-site developer \$900 to produce the site. The cost might be closer to \$500 outside a major metro city area.

No matter. Your job isn't to copy Steve's Web site but to reach for and match the quality of it. When you find your Web site developer, ask him to note the quality of Steve's and then be creative in mixing your format. Your links basically will be the same, but your use of photos and your career path will differ sufficiently to allow for a customized site.

Note Steve used photos well, but he didn't overuse them, which many superintendents have a tendency to do. Steve's advice to every superintendent is to take digital pictures all the time and then use the best. Steve certainly has.

Finally, because the scope of your career might not be as deep and broad as Steve's, don't pressure yourselves to expand your credentials artificially so you can put a lot into each link. Work with the credentials you have for the place you are now, and as your career expands, grow your site to match it. You'll note Steve has said his site is in constant motion. This means he knows he'll be constantly updating it.

Good luck and do well.  
JMCL

**Outstanding content**

This is a brief note to let you know I find your magazine content outstanding. I receive at least six industry magazines every month. I typically flip through them quickly, looking for items I need to know and to increase my knowledge. Your magazine is less cluttered, and the articles are often pertinent and helpful. I read the October 2006 issue. Great stuff. Thank you.

Bob Peterson  
General manager  
DarkHorse Golf Club  
Auburn, Calif.

**Correction**

In a letter to the editor written by Bob Mitchell in the October issue (page 8), the Franklin County Country Club mentioned is in West Frankfort, Ill., and the Southmoor Golf Course mentioned is in South St. Louis County, Mo. The locations stated were incorrect. GCN

**Readers with comments are invited to write to:**

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