

With a hearty ho ho ho, I'm proud to announce that I'm finished with my Christmas shopping — and it's not

Dec. 24. So, please, gather around my big, red bag. It's time to pass out the goods.

To golfers: A big box of common sense to remind them to repair ballmarks and divots, and act responsibly while on the golf course.

To superintendents: A big box of tolerance to deal with the golfers who *don't* have the common sense to repair ballmarks and divots, and act responsibly while on the golf course. Remember, take a deep breath and count to 10 before "chatting" with them.

To superintendents: A scorecard to keep up with all the mergers, acquisitions and bankruptcies among equipment, seed and chemical suppliers. Who's on first?

To fungicide manufacturers: All the knowledge in the world to create a concoction to conquer gray leaf spot.

To insecticide manufacturers: All the knowledge in the world to create a concoction to conquer grubs and mole crickets — so they never return.

To Mark Wilson, CGCS of Valhalla GC and poster boy of a recent Tee-2-Green advertisement in industry magazines: A new pair of no-wrinkle slacks to wear while he's modeling for his next photo shoot. Mark, you have to don your Sunday best for these gigs and show the world that superintendents are *GQ* — and *never* wear jeans, like GCSAA says.

To the GCSAA powers that be (publishing division): Red, green and yellow crayons to go with the brown crayon they used to color Mark Wilson's blue jeans to make him appear more professional in the Tee-2-Green ad that appeared in *Golf Course Management*. Also to the publishing division's honchos: A prescription of anti-pious pills to help them lighten up.

To the GCSAA powers that be (career development division): A truckload of paper towels to wash the egg off their faces if PDI is voted down.

To Al Jansen, superintendent of Baraboo CC in Baraboo, Wis.: A new computer

To You, From Me, Happy Holidays

BY LARRY AYLWARD



TO GOLFERS: A BIG
BOX OF COMMON
SENSE TO
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REPAIR BALLMARKS
AND DIVOTS

equipped with high-speed DSL Internet access. Then the chat-room king can log onto the GCSAA Web site and post his messages with the utmost in speed and precision.

To each superintendent hosting a Major in 2001: A steady supply of No-Doz, Pepto Bismol and Stress Tabs to get through it, and a case of Heineken to celebrate each event when it's over.

To Texas superintendents, who endured the drastic drought of 2000: A normal summer in 2001 with sufficient rain.

To golf course mechanics: More recognition because you are highly underrated.

To assistant superintendents: More patience because your time will come.

To the women in this male-dominated industry: Continued moxie and grit. You go girls!

To David Fay, USGA chairman: Seven new bow ties, one for each day of the week.

To Kevin Smith, Mark Clark and other Arizona superintendents: A Santa Claus-sized salute for donating their time and muscle to build a playing field for youth living on an Indian reservation in the Arizona desert.

To kids and beginning golfers: Smaller and less-intimidating courses where they can learn the game and its nuances.

To Tiger Woods: All I can say is my gift isn't an endorsement contract.

To David Duval and Phil Mickelson: A Major title for each.

To Jack Nicklaus: One more appearance in one more Major.

To the good golfers: More birdies.

To the bad golfers: More pars.

To all of our readers: Peace and goodwill.

Larry Aylward, editor of *Golfdom*, is begging Santa for more pars. He can be reached at 440-891-2770 or lajlward@advanstar.com.