

## // AWARD GOES TO..

### GCSAA AND GOLF DIGEST BESTOW ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

Steven Tierney, superintendent at Golfpark Nuolen in Wangen, Switzerland, and his course, are the big winners of the GCSAA/ Golf Digest 2012 Environmental Leader in Golf Awards.

According to the GCSAA, Tierney earned accolades for overseeing a water-farming project that "featured seven miles of drains to divert runoff into irrigation ponds." Consequently, the course has saved \$20,000 in annual electricity costs.

Those in the United States who earned environmental honors include Matt Shaffer, superintendent at Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, Pa; John Anderes III of Queenstown Harbor (Md.); and Joshua Kelley of the Ritz-Carlton Golf Club in Orlando.

## // GREAT GRANTS

### WATSON FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

The GCSAA has chosen three doctoral students as the newest recipients of its Watson Fellowship Program.

The \$5,000 post-graduate grants went to Diane Silcox of North Carolina State; James McCurdy of Auburn University; and Joshua Friell of the University of Minnesota. The fellowships are funded through a partnership between the Toro Co. and the EIFG.

## // GOLFDOM WISDOM

**It's OK if the course dog is your best friend. It's not OK if the course dog is your only friend.**  
#Golfdomwisdom



# The Goosinator

BY BETH GERACI // Senior Editor



Chris Habeger, assistant superintendent at Alvamar CC, Lawrence, Kan., was talking with coworkers about how hard it is to control geese at the club. Cosmically, 15 minutes later, Randy Claussen was driving through the neighborhood looking to demonstrate a goose control tool called the Goosinator, a remote-controlled device that chases off geese.

"I couldn't believe he was in the neighborhood right after we were talking about our geese problem," Habeger marveled.

Alvamar, a 36-hole facility, has six ponds. Habeger long has battled the influx of geese that often migrate from ponds to greens.

"Geese land on the pond next to the No. 3 green and come up and destroy it," he said. "All it takes is a few little pieces of feces to interrupt a guest's round of golf."

Habeger said that after testing the Goosinator ([www.goosinator.com](http://www.goosinator.com)) for just a few minutes, he was sold.

"I was really impressed that it got around so well on the ice, the water and the turf. To have one device work on different terrain, I can't think of anything else outside an animal that could get around like that."

Claussen said the Goosinator has gotten similar reviews from many courses. "Once you have it, you don't have to clean up after geese anymore," he said.

Habeger knows now is not the time for Alvamar to buy new equipment, but when that time comes, the Goosinator will be top of his list, he says.



PHOTO BY: SETH JONES

## READER JOKE

AS TOLD BY **Damon Di Giorgio, Fieldstone GC, Wilmington, Del.**

Got a good golf joke? Send it to [golfjokes@northcoastmedia.net](mailto:golfjokes@northcoastmedia.net). If we publish yours, we'll send you a \$50 gift card!

One day a golfer accidentally overturns his cart. Elizabeth, a very attractive former LPGA golfer who lived in a villa on the golf course, heard the noise. She called out, "Are you okay? What's your name?" "It's Jack, and I'm OK," he replied. "Jack, forget your troubles. Come to my villa, rest a while, and I'll help you get the cart up later." "That's mighty nice of you," he answered, "but I don't think my wife would like it." "Oh, come on," Elizabeth insisted. She was very pretty and persuasive. "Well, okay," he finally agreed, and added, "but my wife won't like it." After a restorative brandy, and some driving and putting lessons, Jack thanked his host. "I feel a lot better now, but I know my wife is going to be really upset." "Don't be silly!" Elizabeth said. "She won't know anything. By the way, where is she?" "Under the cart!"