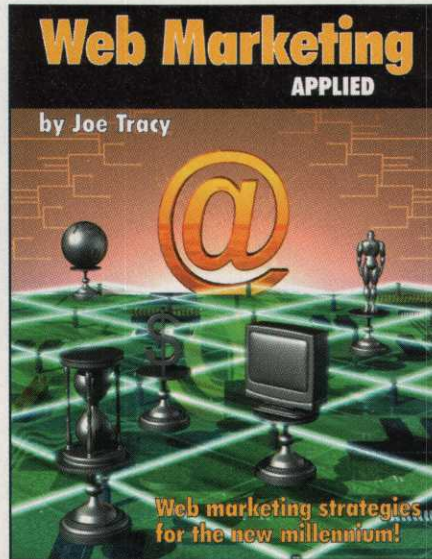


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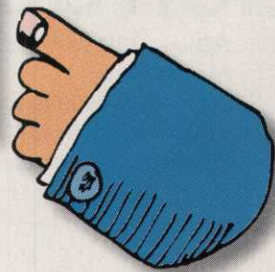
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The Company Line

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

► Aeration option

AerWay, which offers Shatterline turf grass aeration equipment, offers its new Sports-tine option — a 6-inch long, heavy-duty aeration tine for use on fairways. The new tine can be fitted into any AerWay frame from 4 feet to 15 feet wide. There is no cleanup required with the Sportstine and its use will not take the course out of play. Aeration depths can be adjusted up to 6 inches deep to suit the soil moisture and weather factors. *For more information, contact 800-457-8310 or*
CIRCLE NO. 200



Utility vehicle

The **Toro Co.** introduces the Workman 1100 (12 horsepower), which offers excellent traction and ride provided by the Active In-Frame suspension. This allows all vehicle tires to remain on the ground and to twist easily over the roughest terrain.

Additional features on the Workman 1100 include corrosion- and dent-resistant hood and bed, multiple integrated storage areas, quiet pedal-start Kohler Command Pro engine and a customizable bed. Floata-tion tires come standard on the utility vehicle.

For more information, contact 952-888-8801, www.toro.com or
CIRCLE NO. 201

Hybrid bluegrass

Reveille hybrid bluegrass, from **Gardner Turfgrass**, was developed by James Read, professor of plant breeding, forage and turfgrass at Texas A&M University. It's a cross of Kentucky bluegrass with Texas native bluegrass. It looks like bluegrass but it's hardy enough to stand the South's hot sun.

In tests, Reveille has shown heat tolerance, low water use and good insect and disease resistance. It also stays green in the winter and summer. *For more information, contact 303-252-1900 or*
CIRCLE NO. 202

► Walk-behind greens mower

The **John Deere** 180B/220B/260B Walk Behind Greens Mowers, available this fall, will become the newest addition to the company's line of walking greens mowers. Features include:

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- new bedknife-to-reel adjustment knobs for easier precision adjustments.



For more information, contact 800-537-8233, johndeere.com or
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Golfdom's
JAKE
of the month

traveling tips

Labor Day should be a day off, but superintendents know hackers will try to get in their last swipes before the clubs get parked in the garage.

If you're lucky, though, the holiday means you are that much closer to some well-deserved R&R. We at *Golfdom* aren't trained travel agents, but we do know a good getaway — and a great price — when we see one. So as you look forward to vacation, here are some intriguing Web sites that may help you find travel bliss.

If you are planning to stay at a hotel, your best bet is to start clicking hyperlinks. While Priceline.com didn't do so well with groceries and mortgages, it is still one of the best sites for booking last-minute airline travel and excellent for locating hotel rooms. The catch, of course, is that you bid what you want to pay — and if they match, you have to buy. The site sends you an e-mail to let you know whether your bid has been accepted, usually in about an hour. Bid low at first, and then gradually increase your bid until you get a match. Hotel rooms that normally go for between \$125 and \$150 per night can often be snagged for around \$50.

Two other sites offer solid information and often good deals. First, Travelocity.com allows you to customize arrival and departure times for airline flights and then gives you a comparative listing of fares. It also features a

USE THE WEB TO CHOOSE THE PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES THAT WILL CARRY YOU AWAY ON VACATION **BY MARK LUCE**



wonderful Last Minute Deal section. In addition, Travelocity.com offers a service that will e-mail low fares to you, so you don't have to spend all afternoon on the computer watching for them.

The other impressive travel site is Planetrider.com, which gathers easily navigable links from travel-related Web sites, allowing you to hone in on what type of vacation you want.

With gasoline prices back to more normal, driving may be an option. The America Byways program (www.byways.org) will help you plan a backroads tour filled with scenery, historic locales and culture. If you are looking for something off the beaten

path, proceed immediately to the site and order your free map. I personally like the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway on the coast of Washington and Oregon, and the New York Seaway Trail in upstate New York. Renting a convertible will enhance either of these drives.

Let's not forget about train travel. There is a splash of nostalgia connected with the click-clack of the rails, but there are also natural wonders you simply can't see any other way. The Montana Rockies Rail Tour (montanarailtours.com) is regarded as one of the most breathtaking rides in America, taking you from Spokane, Wash., to Livingston, Mont., in vintage cars with large windows. You only travel during the day, so you won't miss the scenery.

If luxury beckons, try one of the several journeys of the American Oriental Express (americanorientalexpress.com). It isn't cheap, but you'll be treated like royalty. Its October trip is an eight-day, seven-night tour of the National Parks of the American West.

So make those travel plans now. You have earned a vacation again this year.

Mark Luce flies, drives and books travel deals in his home of Lawrence, Kan. He can be reached at mLUCE@sunflower.com.

GOLFDOM, Volume 57, Number 9, (ISSN 1526-4270) is published monthly by Advanstar Communications Inc., 131 W First St., Duluth, MN 55802-2065. Subscription rates: One year \$30 (U.S. and possessions), \$49 (Canada and Mexico) and \$78 (all other countries). Air expedited service is available in countries outside the U.S. and Canada at \$45 per year. Current issue single copies (prepaid only) \$5 (U.S. and possessions), \$7 (Canada and Mexico) and \$8 (all other countries). Back issues (if available, prepaid only) \$10 (U.S. and possessions), \$14 (Canada and Mexico) and \$16 (all other countries); add \$6 per order shipping and handling for both current and back issue purchases. Periodicals postage paid at Duluth MN 55806 and additional mailing offices.



POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to GOLFDOM, 131 W 1st St, Duluth, MN 55802-2065. Canadian G.S.T. Number: R-124213133, Publications Mail Agreement number 1436694. Printed in the U.S.A.

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