



The Surrounds

By Wayne G. Horman



The arrival of spring brought more than the traditional weather. The employment market was filled with "Help Wanted" ads for superintendent and assistant positions.

At Brynwood Country Club in Milwaukee, Gary Johnson was hired as the new superintendent. Johnson, who is a UW-Madison graduate, was previously the assistant for Danny Quast at Medinah Country Club. He had previous experience at Tripoli CC and Blackhawk CC.

Jeff Kingsley became the former superintendent at Old Hickory Country Club in Beaver Dam and becomes the new golf course superintendent at New Berlin Hills Golf Course. New Berlin Hills is now being managed by Crown Golf, which is the former Greenvisions, Inc.

At Old Hickory CC, the new golf course superintendent is now Mike Lyons. Lyons, a UW-Madison grad, was the assistant at Pine Hills CC for Rod Johnson.

Pete Van DeHey, the owner of Mid Vallee Golf Course in DePere, hired John Tobie as the course superintendent. John worked for

Pat Norton at Cedar Creek CC and Nettle Creek CC and took over Mid Vallee in February. Mid Vallee is building a new nine and renovating their current 18 holes beginning this summer.

The new golf course under construction in Hartland, Bristlecone Pines, recently hired a superintendent. Tony Rzadzki was the superintendent at Cantigny Links Golf Club in Wheaton, Illinois. Cantigny Links is one of the best new public golf courses in the Chicago area.

A number of changes have also occurred with assistant positions throughout Wisconsin. Joe Kuta has hired Al Enters as his assistant at Hartford Country Club. Enters previously worked at Chenequa CC for Jim Shaw.

At Trappers Turn Golf Course, Jake Renner has hired Bruce Livingston as his assistant. Livingston, a recent graduate from Michigan State, had previously worked at Lawsonia for the last eight years.

Mike Wirth has taken the assistant position at Lake Breeze Golf Course under Jim Hasz. Wirth has previously worked at Lake Windsor GC and University Ridge GC.

Randy DuPont, golf course superintendent at North Hills CC in Menomonee Falls, recently hired Paul DeGeorge as his assistant.

DeGeorge is a recent University of Wisconsin-Madison graduate.

Scott Sann, a recent UW-Stevens Point graduate, was hired by Kris Pinkerton as the second assistant at Oshkosh Country Club. Sann has also worked at Lawsonia and Stevens Point CC.

Marc Davison at Green Bay Country Club has hired Brian Ferrie as his new assistant. Ferrie is a graduate from Hawkeye Tech and was most recently the assistant at Crow Valley in the Quad Cities.

Green Bay CC also opened for play in May and is one of the first private clubs in the state to prevent the use of metal spikes. It appears the soft spikes will become more than just a trend on golf courses. Bishop's Bay CC, which will open this spring in Middleton, is also requiring the use of soft spikes.

There are some other new additions this year. Randy Van Fleet (Merrill Hills CC) and his wife are the proud parents of a new baby boy. Jacob Scott arrived on January 30th and is the first child for the Van Fleets.

Randy Slavik is an excited father. One of his Brittany Spaniels is having another litter of pups. Not to confuse any of this, Slavik raises Spaniels and competes in National Field Trials with his dogs. 🌿



Ken Smith and Scott Thompson — 7th hole at Pebble Beach.



16th Cypress Point — Wayne Otto, Chad Ball, Skip Wilms and Rod Johnson.