



# The Surrounds

By Wayne G. Horman



Another growing season is just about over, and most of our attention is directed to the winter at hand. If the large number of acorns that are falling or the thickness of the black stripes on the woolly bear caterpillar are any indication of what lies ahead, we could be in for early heavy snows, and a colder than normal winter.

I just love the science behind each of these environmental forecasters. Every year I learn a new one, and maybe one has to be correct. I doubt it, since everyone knows the earth is warming. Well, maybe not in Wisconsin, but some place it was hot this summer!

One birth that I missed during the last issue was that of Sarah Judith Lyons. Dawn, wife of Mike Lyons, the superintendent at Old Hickory GC, gave birth to their second child on May 24th. Sorry about that Dawn! Mike really did tell me, I just forgot.

A couple of marriages took place since the last issue. Jennifer Eberhardt was married in on August 23 to Paul Samerdyke in her hometown of Grafton. Oscar Peterson and Missy McGuire were married in Madison on September 27. Jen is the cover artist for THE GRASS ROOTS, and Oscar is the assistant course manager at Blackhawk CC.

There are some employment changes going on in Wisconsin. Scott Thompson took over the northern territory for Reinders this summer. Thompson was formerly the superintendent at Greenwood Hills CC in Wausau. Scott Sann, who was the assistant this past year, will take over for Thompson.

Jake Renner left Trapper's Turn in Wisconsin Dells to become the new Superintendent at The Wilderness GC. Renner

won't have to go too far for his new job since it is also located in the Dells. Taking over for Renner at Trapper's Turn is Bruce Livingston, who has been the assistant for the last three years.

Mike Semler is also making a career change. Semler, who is in charge of three golf course maintenance projects managed by The Bruce Company (Bishops Bay CC, The Meadows at Six Mile Creek, and the new Meadow Springs GC project in Jefferson), is going to become the Scotts Rep in Southern Wisconsin. Semler will be replacing me.

I finally got fed up, and called it quits! I have been waiting for years to be featured by Ms. Lori Ward Bocher in THE GRASS ROOTS, and it never happened. Monroe Miller said there was nothing interesting about my life, so I am out to change that. I figure with a little work on my golf game, I could become a PGA Professional. Just kidding!

I am leaving to become the Marketing Manager for Scotts. It's a great opportunity, but I have to move my family to Ohio, and that is very hard! Wisconsin has been home for most of our lives, and we will truly miss it.

I have been the Scotts Tech Rep for almost seven years now, and it has been fun. Though the territory has gotten smaller over time, it has been fun traveling and seeing the state. We are very lucky to have lived in a gorgeous state!

Getting to know many of you has been really an honor. It has always been a pleasure to learn about your golf course, but even more enjoyable has been the opportunity to learn about you as individuals. The stories about your families, members, green committees or green chairmen, have been enlightening.

It is these last few groups that concerns me. I don't think a majority of members or golfers really understand how hard you work, or how much you care about the course they play. There is no question that golf is a recreational activity, but to the superintendent it is so much more. For this, I wish you received more credit.

Last year a good friend sent me a note as he changed careers; they are the words of Helen Steiner Rice:

*"Often your task will be many,  
and more than you think you can  
do..."*

*Often the road will be rugged,  
and the hills insurmountable  
too..."*

*But always remember, the  
hills ahead are never as steep  
as they seem,*

*And faith in your heart start  
upward, and climb 'til you reach  
your dream.*

*For nothing in life that is wor-  
thy is ever hard to achieve,*

*If you have the courage to try  
it and you have the faith to  
believe..."*

*For faith is a force that is  
greater than knowledge or power  
or skill and many defeats turn to  
triumph if you trust in God's wis-  
dom and will...*

*For faith is the mover of  
mountains there's nothing that  
God cannot do,*

*So start out today, with faith  
in your heart, and climb 'til your  
dream comes true!"*

I want to thank you for taking time to read the "Surrounds"; it hasn't always been fun. But as a sales rep we don't get too many opportunities to give back to the industry, and writing the "Surrounds" was my part. So take good care, and thanks for letting me come into your shop.

Farewell! 