



Spring Business Meeting ~ A Testament to Value

By **Dave Van Auken**, Golf Course Superintendent, Royal St. Patrick's Golf Links

The annual Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association Spring Business Meeting was held on Monday, March 1, 2004 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in downtown Fond du Lac. The event was well attended with members representing nearly every area of the state. They did not leave disappointed as the information presented covered a wide array of issues that we confront on a daily basis.

This valuable information began with Dr. John Stier and Dr. Geunhwa Jung offering not only the latest in their research findings but also a sincere appreciation for the funding and sponsorship provided by our organization. Their research discoveries are valuable to us.

This was followed by a very informative talk on developing and implementing a "Maintenance Inspection Program" for your golf course water supply system, presented by Jeff Gibson of Layne - Northwest. In the context of well pumps or irrigation supply pumps, Jeff detailed what your maintenance inspection program should include and what this will enable you to do: **AVOID CATASTROPHIC FAILURE!** Does that have value or what?

Following Jeff was Dan Peplinski of Layne-GeoSciences and his presentation on "Well Rehabilitation & Development." Dan followed a very practical cost/benefit equation outlined in a very easy to understand format. Dan detailed the goals, benefits, causes and remedies should we realize a substantial decrease in our well pumping capacity. I was struck with how simply we can overlook one of the most valuable resources we utilize and how with just a little effort on our part we can



Carl Grassl received a 25-year member plaque from Eric Jasin.

Eric Jasin presented a 25-year member plaque to Mike Kilpatrick.



protect our water supply systems for years to come.

After a great lunch served up by the always courteous staff at the Ramada Plaza, the WGCSA convened for the annual spring business meeting. Presentations were made by each of the WGCSA board members who chair a committee. As an organization that works on behalf of each and every member, the WGCSA and the current officers are continually providing valuable services, resources and information for its membership. Thank them when you have the chance.

In addition to the typical business meeting, recognition and

much deserved applause was given to Monroe Miller as the recipient of the USGA Green Section Award and for receiving an award on behalf of his selfless efforts as editor of the Grass Roots for, get this: the 20th consecutive year! I don't think I can express how valuable that is to me. I heard that some members join the WGCSA just so they can receive this publication and reap the benefits of the great information contained within its pages. On behalf of all the members and me in particular, thanks again Monroe.

We are also very blessed to have Danny Quast as a longtime



Dan Peplinski addressed subjects relating to water sources. He is an employee of Layne-GeoSciences.



Jeff Gibson from Layne-Northwest lectured about pump station maintenance.

member of our organization. Danny was recognized by the GCSAA and received the Distinguished Service Award in San Diego last month. His

years of experience at the pinnacle of our profession contribute immensely to the value of our organization as a whole. Be sure to take every advantage of this you can.

Longevity in our organization also has value and this was never more evident than it was on March 1st, as we recognized Carl Grassl, Dave Helke, (not present) and Mike Kilpatrick for 25 years as members of the WGCSA. Each of these individuals has something to bring to the table and I urge each of you to get to know them while you can. Their experiences have contributed to the level of recognition and knowledge we all benefit from and there is nothing more valuable than to be able to share in their experience.

Valuable information, valuable experience, valuable affiliations — all part of the WGCSA experience. ♻️

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