



Hoping 2006 is Better Than 2005!!

By **Mike Lyons**, Golf Course Superintendent, Old Hickory Country Club

The 2006 season is upon us. I hope everyone has come through winter well, both the golf course and you. Things here are much better than last spring. I still quiver when thinking of last year's start.

The spring business meeting was held on March 6th at the Ramada in Fond du Lac. For those who were unable to attend, you missed a very nice and thoughtful presentation given to David Brandenburg. It was my pleasure to introduce past president Kris Pinkerton who awarded David with the WGCSA Distinguished Service Award. Listening to Kris speak so highly of David and what he has done for us, his church, and his community makes me feel fortunate to have served with David on the board. I am grateful that he chose this profession. Congratulations again, David, you fit right in with all the past honorees.

Also that day, six members were awarded with their twenty-five year plaques and one who has been a member for fifty years. Congratulations to David Smith, Doug DeVries, Tom Schwab, Ken Peterson and Mark Grundman for twenty five years. And to Wisconsin Turf and Lyle Christopherson for fifty years of membership — what a rare accomplishment.

Again this year, Dr. Jason Kruse from the UW-Extension Winnebago County gave us a presentation on NR 151. Dr. Kruse, Dr. Stier and Doug DeVries have been very involved with the Standards Oversight Council and the Turf Nutrient Management Work Team in drafting the technical standard Turf Nutrient Management Plan. This plan will



provide us with the minimum requirements to develop a nutrient management plan. This program is due to go into effect by 2008. Thank you Jason, John and Doug for volunteering your time and energy to this important issue.

I would like to welcome and thank Matt Schmitz for volunteering to serve on the board of directors of our association. Matt has taken the position left vacant by Mike Werth. Mike took a position with Wisconsin Turf. We all wish you well, Mike, and thank you, Matt, for stepping in.

With spring looking better and better, I hope many of you will be able to take some time and attend our monthly meetings. The line up this year is pretty good and I truly feel there is a lot to learn by seeing other operations and talking with your peers. There is a lot of knowledge among us. Lastly, with the golfing season upon us, please don't forget to make time for your family and friends. Take care. 🌿

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