



Winter Days!

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

Winter again. 2009 flew by and 2010 is well underway. It was a nice long fall for golfers to get out and enjoy their sport after a horrible October. Of course no matter how nice November can be daily fee golf revenue is limited by member rounds and short days but it was nice to see a large number of players enjoying the late season.

After two years of substantial winter kill at Rolling Meadows we are looking for a good winter with cold temps and steady snow cover. We went back to the basics on greens with reduced fall mowing, a heavy application of Milorganite followed by a heavy top-dressing with sand. For fairways we sprayed for snow mold for the first time ever so now all we need is a little help from Mother Nature.

The long fall allowed the turf to harden off before we received an early December snow that has stayed around so far. We did not need that Christmas rain but winter has a long ways to go so who knows what will happen.

It is great to enjoy normal workdays and most of my work so far my winter has been occupied with some

minor clubhouse renovations with most of the work done with in-house staff and a learn as we go methods!

The work of two WGCSA members was recently honored with awards for "Course Appearance and Maintenance" by the Golf Course Owners of Wisconsin. In the 18 hole category Mid Valley Golf Club, Deperre with Pete VanDeHey Owner/Superintendent was the winner. In the 9 hole category Shorewood Golf Course on the University of Green Bay Campus with Nathan Rusch Golf Course Superintendent took the award.

The GCOW awards are voted on by GCOW members and the public each year through the GCOW.org website.

Thanks and appreciation for the skills of Gene Haas retired Executive Director of the Wisconsin State Golf Association for providing a drawing showing the change of leadership of the WGCSA. President Zimmerman recently took over the reins of the association from Past President Riley. I know Dustin will stay busy for his term as immediate past president as he is



already setting up meeting regarding the Golf Wisconsin for Turf Research Fundraiser. More information on that can be found in Brett Grams Chapter Manager Column.

Congratulations to Jerry Kienast, Service Director at Reinders, Inc. for receiving the Equipment Service Achievement Award from The Toro Company. The award is given to service managers who complete Toro's "Distributor Partners in Excellence" program and use best business practices that produce positive customer satisfaction and service profitability. This is the second award for Kienast and Reinders as they also won in 2006.

Reinders was established in 1866 and joined the WGCSA in 1958. The company is considered one of the largest full service distributors of products to the green industry serving 4 states with 12 service locations.

For those of you heading to San Diego have a great time enjoying a historic city and a great educational opportunity. I am sure the economic struggles of the industry will be seen with smaller booths and a smaller show overall. I am taking a year off mainly for budget reasons as it is my year to pay.

I will miss the education and camaraderie but not the travel headaches and long days as I try to squeeze in one more class.

On a personal note I have thrown my "hat in the ring" and am running for the Theresa Village Board in the spring non-partisan election. It is a four person race for three spots with two incumbents so there will be no primary only an election in April. I thought it would be a good way to share my government experience and hopefully common sense with our neighbors.

Until next issue take care and enjoy the offseason while it last! 🌱



Left to Right, Christiaan Engstrom of Toro, Jerry Kienast of Reinders and Jack Hensley of Toro.

Well and Pump Rehabilitation

24 Hour / 7 Day a Week Service



Water Well Solutions

Design, Service, & Installation

888-769-9009

Oconomowoc, WI • Coal City, IL

www.waterwellsolutions.com

Booster Systems

Electrical Controls