

Spring Business Meeting

By Scott Bushman, Golf Course Superintendent, Fox Valley Golf Club

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association held its annual Spring Business Meeting at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Fond du Lac on Monday February 28th. The event had 57 attendees there to see the presentations of John Miller of the GCSAA, Kristy Rogers with the DNR and Tom Emmerich of TJ Emmerich Assoc. Inc.

John Miller, CGCS is the Great Lakes Regional Representative of the GCSAA Field Staff. His presentation was titled "GCSAA: Members Matter Most", What is the GCSAA doing for you? John talked about the economy and the affects on the state of the golf industry. Number of people playing golf is less, golf course openings are down and golf course closings are on the increase. The GCSAA is trying to help ease the problems of "doing more with less" issue we all face. He pointed out many of the challenges golf courses and Superintendents have and the GCSAA resources available to deal with some of these issues. The GCSAA website has been improved to increase functionality and new web based tools are available. Some of the tools available are GCSAA TV, GCSAA radio, GCSAA industry spotlight just to name a few. John ended his presentation with a question and answer session with the audience.

Kristy Rogers with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources presentation was "Water Use Program: Sustaining Wisconsin's Water Wealth". Wisconsin's mission is sustainable water use. One-third of the population of Wisconsin falls in the Great Lakes Basins. Any person with the capacity to withdraw an average of 100,000 gallons per day must register with the department. Withdrawal capacity is the cumulative total of all the capacities of all your withdrawals on one property. This includes all wells and surface water withdrawals. Kristy spoke about the registration, reporting, fees and permitting. Any questions can be directed to one of the following three venues. The website is <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/greatlakes/registration.htm> E-mail address is dnrwateruserregistration@wisconsin.gov and the phone number is 608-266-2299.



Todd Severud, Turtleback Golf & Country Club and Scott Schaller, North Shore Golf Club were on hand to receive their 25 Year Membership Plaques.



Monroe Miller with Michael Rzdski winner of the 2011 Monroe Miller Literary Scholarship given to the best student written article in the previous years *The Grass Roots*. Rzdski's article "Interns Can Learn A lot From Old Men" appeared in the January / February issue.

The final speaker of the day was Tom Emmerich of TJ Emmerich Assoc. Inc. Tom's presentation was on "Irrigation Systems, Renovate or Replace". He talked about the various factors that go into deciding whether renovating an irrigation system is a possibility or replacement of the system is the best alternative. Tom went in depth about all the aspects of an irrigation system from the fittings to the piping and sprinkler heads to the pumping stations.

After lunch the association had its annual business meeting. President of the association Jeff Millies presented the agenda for the meeting and his report. Chapter manager Brett Grams highlighted the activities of the association including par4 research updates. One of Wisconsin's very own, Steve Stricker has agreed to endorse Par4 research! Jim Vanherwynen presented the treasurer's report. Recipients of the 25 year plaques are as follows: James Crothers, Michael Kactro, Scott Schaller, Tod Severud, Randy Slavik, and Dan Williams. Congratulations to these gentlemen!

Danny Quast briefly spoke on behalf of the Wee One Foundation. The foundation, a tribute to Wayne Otto, CGCS, was formed to aid families in the golf course industry who face financial burdens due to medical issues. Since its inception the foundation has gifted over \$410,000.00 to those in need. The majority of the money raised comes from fundraisers and memberships in the Wee One Foundation. There year there will be four fundraisers held in the states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Virginia. More information is available at www.weeone.org This years golf fundraiser is scheduled for September 19th at Pine Hills Golf Course.



Tom Emmerich addressed the group on the factors that go into deciding on irrigation replacement or renovation.



Prevail®

better. smarter. responsible.

you will love it...

...and so will your bottom line.



saves money *eco-friendly*

When you choose Prevail®, you'll achieve superior results **and** capitalize on cost advantage savings by using 20-30% less fertilizer than conventional products. Prevail appeals to a vast new audience that cares about the environment and the footprint they leave behind for future generations. With Prevail® you're using high quality products that will provide dependable results, and your customers will love knowing they're utilizing better products to manage their greenspace areas.

But we've just scratched the surface here, to get the full story on why your turf and your bottom line will love Prevail®, contact Spring Valley®. We'll show you how these revolutionary new products work.

Contact: Andy Gruse
AndyG@springvalleyusa.com
 1-920-360-1450

*Moving beyond conventional...
...for a better planet*



Spring Valley®