

## April Golf and Educational Meeting at Geneva National

By David Brandenburg, Editor

The weather for the first golf meeting for the year matches the spring we had. When I left Fond du Lac it was cold, a few flurries had fallen and the sun was coming out for the day. Usually heading south means warmer temperatures and green grass.

That was not the case for this meeting hosted by Kevin Knudtson and Geneva National Golf Club. Knudtson a regular host of April meetings has been Director of Grounds Maintenance at the 54 hole Geneva National Golf Club since 2007.

Upon arriving in Lake Geneva it was clear the 38 degree temperatures would not melt the 3" of snow in time for the 12:30 shotgun start on the Gary Player Course. Oddly enough driving home there was no snow just miles from the course and we had sunshine most of the way. However those courses who felt they missed out on the snow everyone was rewarded with their own storm later in the week.

Most of the registered attendees made the trip to have lunch and listen to Dr. John Stier and his presentation "Cost of Benefits of the University of Wisconsin Madison Turfgrass Program. The talk was very informative and gave attendees insight into how colleges and programs are financed and operated.

If you missed it Dr. Stier provides a recap of his talk in his "Gazing In The Grass" column on page 16 and I have a

few additional notes here. The University of Madison has 13 Colleges, 42,099 students and 381,709 living alumni, 2,022 faculty and 14,946 staff members. The departments and Colleges are run by committee which provides for slow but good decision making. The committee structure also allows the colleges to be run with little overhead from administration costs. The overhead at Madison is at 2.5% while the average university is 8-14%.

This years tuition is \$8,314 for undergrad students and \$23,063 for graduate students. The difference in price is mainly because the grad student picks up all the cost of schooling while the state pays a major portion of the undergrads tuition.

Madison is the only public university regularly ranking in the top 20 and is number 2 in public university research funding. The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) alone brings in over 110 million in research dollars.

Geneva National Golf Club opened in 1991 and features three 18 hole courses named after their designers, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Lee Trevino. Our group was scheduled on the 7,008 yard player course where the 394 yard first hole give golfers a great view of Lake Como.

Thanks to Kevin and the staff at Geneva National and we look forward to our return.

### WGCSA MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is committed to serve each member by promoting the profession and enhancing the growth of the game of golf through education, communication and research.

### WGCSA VISION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association is dedicated to increase the value provided to its members and to the profession by:

- Enhancing the professionalism of its members by strengthening our role as a leading golf organization in the state.
- Growing and recognizing the benefits of a diverse membership throughout Wisconsin.
- Educating and promoting our members as leaders in environmental stewardship.
- Offering affordable, high value educational programs at the forefront of technology and service.
- Being key to enjoyment and the economic success of the game of golf.



EDUCATIONAL SPEAKER:  
**DR. JOHN STIER**

TOPIC:  
**COST & BENEFITS OF THE UW  
TURFGRASS PROGRAM**



The view is impressive from the clubhouse but it should be green!



No this is not a ski lodge but the back of the beautiful clubhouse.



HOST SUPERINTENDENT:  
**KEVIN KNUDTSON**

The WGCSA and Attendees would like to thank our Sponsors for this Meeting.

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The carts had no plows or chains so they were left at the staging area.