

News and Notes From WGCSA Members

By Matt Kinnard and the DHD Team

This summer has been hot. Need I say more? So...

... In Other News

Earlier this year Bernhard Grinders held a competition to find the oldest working Dual Express Grinders in the world. The verdict is in and one of the oldest was found right here in Wisconsin. Winners of the competition were announced at this year's GIS in Las Vegas and Tom Merkel of West Bend Lakes Golf Course, in West Bend, was awarded the 2nd place prize, a new Anglemaster 1000 by Bernhard. In related news, the first place winner, from Scotland, was using a grinder from the year 1602. Congratulations Tom!

Jeff Millies, superintendent at Edgewood Golf Course in Big Bend, threw himself into local politics this spring and ran for the position of Supervisor in the Town of Vernon. He pulled out a victory in a relative squeaker capturing 52.53515% of the vote. Congratulations Jeff!

Career Moves

If you have been curious as to where former sales representative Dennis Hamilton went, he has made the jump back into the turf growing business. Earlier this year, Dennis accepted a position with the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District as the Superintendent at Macktown Golf Course in Rocktown, IL. Dennis graduated from Illinois State in 1993 and went on to be the Assistant Superintendent at

North Shore Country Club in Mequon. He then accepted his first Superintendents position at Chippewa Valley Golf Course in Menomonie, WI in 1998. In 2002 he and his family moved to southern Wisconsin to become the superintendent at Decatur Lakes Golf Course in Brodhead. 2005 brought Dennis a new opportunity when he decided to give sales a shot and went on to work for Arthur Clesan for the next six years. Dennis said he enjoyed working with and meeting the golf course superintendents throughout Wisconsin and will miss his travels. After a six year hiatus though, he said going back to being a superintendent was like riding a bike... didn't miss a beat. Congratulations Dennis!

Whispering Springs Golf Course in Fond du Lac added an additional assistant superintendent this year, Jordan Mock. Jordan not only graduated from Southwest Technical College in 2010 but also as the night waterman at Rock River Country Club in Waupun when he accepted the position as the Assistant Supt. at Quit Qui Oc Golf Course in Elkhart Lake. Congratulations Jordan on your new position at Whispering Springs!

After graduating from UW - Madison this spring, Kate Lifke is the new Assistant Superintendent at Oshkosh CC. Kate had never even stepped on a golf course by the time she was taking her first classes in college as a Landscape Architecture student. However, after sitting in on one of Dr. Sti-

er's lectures she was immediately interested in turf, especially the idea of sustainable golf course management. Shortly after Kate changed her major to Horticulture and interned at Erin Hills and The Legend at Brandybrook. Congratulations Kate!


New Additions!

Craig Filley and his wife Andrea brought their first child, a boy, into the world in 106° temperatures on July 2nd. Sebastian weighed 7lbs 11 oz and was 21" long. Craig is the golf course superintendent at Nakoma Country Club in Madison. Congratulations to you and your family, Craig!

Aaron Goninen, Irrigation Sales Rep at Reinders, and his wife Kari recently welcomed a baby boy into the world. On May 25th Beckett William was born weighing in at 7lbs 4 oz and 19.5 in long. Congratulations to the Goninen family!

Retirement

Charlie Shaw of the Waukesha County Park System retired in February of this year. Charlie ended his long career with the park system overseeing the three golf courses within Waukesha. Congratulations Charlie on a successful career!

Please pass along any significant news or happenings around the state to Danny, Mike or me. We want to spread the good news. You can also email me at m.kinnard@sbcglobal.net or call at 920-210-9059. 

Coming Events!

Monday September 17th Wee One Fundraiser, Pine Hills CC, Sheboygan

Fri Oct 5th and Sat Oct 6th Couples Weekend, Edgewood GC, Big Bend

October 1, WTA Fundraiser, Ozaukee Country Club, Mequon

Tuesday & Wednesday December 4th and 5th, Golf Turf Symposium, American Club, Kohler