

News and Notes From WGCSA Members

By Matt Kinnard and the DHD Team

Spring has past, graduation season is complete and many college students are returning home for the summer for some rest and relaxation, to start a summer job or embark upon a new professional career. I was recently spending some time with one of those very people, my cousin.

He has one more semester left at the University of Minnesota before he completes his degree in engineering. In a conversation with some of his graduating friends, they were discussing whether, if they had the chance, they would again choose to go to college for such a difficult degree of study. Completing a degree in engineering requires many long hours of studying, difficult exams and missed opportunities for having fun and some of the other 'extracurricular activities' that take place on campus.

Does this sound familiar? Now that summer is here, you too are working long hours, are face to face with demanding golfers and members as well as unpredictable weather, and more importantly, missed opportunities that take place at home with family and friends.

If you had the chance to do it all over again would you decide to enter this profession again? Knowing many of you, you would. You enjoy what you do and are very dedicated individuals. However, that doesn't change your workload or the stress of the job.

Having the fortune to travel around Wisconsin, I have had the opportunity to see how everyone approaches these challenges differently. So, here is some advice I have picked up from your fellow colleagues:

(1) Make friends that are in the same position as you. Sometimes superintendents get trapped in the bubble that is

their golf course and don't take the effort to meet other superintendents and talk about their related problems.

(2) Are you a slave to your standards? This is a hard one for all superintendents, but where would a grade of B+ be adequate. Your grade of a B+ is probably the golfing publics or your member's version of an A+.

(3) Learn to say no. Try not to take on tasks outside of your specific job description.

(4) Get sleep and try to exercise. When you're sleep deprived all your tasks take longer.

Take the advice of your colleagues and have a successful summer growing grass.

Career Moves

David Hoehne is the new superintendent at Lake Wisconsin Country Club in Prairie du Sac. For the last four years David has had the role of Assistant Superintendent at Bishops Bay Country Club and before that spent a couple years at The Meadows of Sixmile Creek. In 2006, David graduated from UW-Platteville with a BS in Horticulture. He will not only be busy at his new job, but he and his new fiancé are also planning a wedding. Congratulations David!

Kyle Anderson has moved up the ranks at Willow Run Golf Club in Pewaukee, to the position of golf course superintendent. Kyle started working at Willow Run in 2006 and has held the title of assistant superintendent for the last four years. Congratulations Kyle!

Milwaukee Country Club has hired a new Assistant Superintendent, Joel Lar-

son. Joel has been working on golf courses for seventeen years and is a graduate of the Michigan State University Turf program. Prior to Milwaukee Country Club, Joel was the Assistant Superintendent at Point O' Wood Country Club in southwest Michigan. Congratulations Joel!

Ryan Fritsch is the new Assistant Superintendent at Northbrook Country Club in Luxemburg. Ryan started his own lawn mowing business while in high school, caught the turf bug, and decided to get a job on a golf course at Wild Rock in Wisconsin Dells. Later, he attended college and graduated from the Southwest Tech College Turf Program. He has worked at several other golf courses in Wisconsin including: Deer Valley GC, The Legend at Bergamont, and University Ridge. Congratulations Ryan!

Wedding Bells!

The first day of spring brought happiness to Jim Hall, Superintendent of Westhaven Golf Course in Oshkosh, this year. He and Karen Ainsworth were married March 20th. Jim initially met Karen nearly thirty years ago and were reacquainted recently at a church function in Appleton. The happy couple honeymooned in the Florida Keys. Congratulations!

New Additions!

James VanSickle, Superintendent at Koshkonong Mounds Golf Course, and his wife, Jillian, welcomed a baby girl into the world March 16th. At 7 lbs 12 oz, Amelia Mae was welcomed home by her three year old big brother Evan and 14 year old Basset Hound Clancy.

Congratulations James and family!

BADGER STATE TURF CLIPPINGS

Retirement

Long time turf guru, Al Nees, retired earlier this year. Al has been a fixture in the Wisconsin turf industry for decades, most recently as Vice President of Agrotain International. Al oversaw one of the most successful product launches in the turf industry when UMAXX and UFLEXX were brought to market in the early 2000's. Like most of us he started his career working at a golf course during his high school years and later went on to receive a degree in turfgrass science from Purdue University in 1974. He then went on to manage lawn care companies before accepting a position at Reinders as a Sales Representative in 1984. After five years at Reinders, Al accepted a position at Milorganite as an agronomist, and would later become

the Director of Marketing. He has been deeply involved in volunteering his time to industry organizations including The OJ Noer Foundation as Vice President, the WGCSA as the Vendor Rep and as a member on the Turf Symposium organizing committee. In addition to 'taking a breath,' playing golf, and making and drinking more wine in his retirement, Al has dusted off his guitar after 40 years and is rockin' it out with his church's

praise band. Congratulations, Al, 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.



Daconil Action™ Fungicide, A New Era in Turfgrass Management

The power of the active ingredient contained in Daconil® fungicide combined with a revolutionary Turf Protein Booster results in longer, more efficient, and broader spectrum turfgrass disease control.

- Boosts turfgrass natural defense proteins (PR proteins)
- Enhances overall plant health
- Increases tolerance to environmental stresses, like drought
- Suppresses activity of fungi, bacteria, viruses, and abiotic diseases

To learn more about Daconil Action, visit DaconilAction.com or contact:

Phil Spitz
Cell: 414-429-2015
phillip.spitz@syngenta.com



syngenta.

©2011 Syngenta. Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using these products. The instructions contain important conditions of sale, including limitations of warranty and remedy. Daconil Action is not currently registered for sale or use in all states. Please check with your state or local extension service before buying or using this product. Daconil®, Daconil Action™, the Purpose icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. Syngenta Customer Center: 1-800-SYNGENT(A) (796-4368).

TM