

## Year End Highlights

By Brett Grams, Chapter Manager, Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association

Hello to all members! I am sure the majority of you are looking forward to the end of the 2012 golf season. For most of us it was truly challenging year weather wise. Many WI course experienced drought conditions that have not been seen in decades. I know that almost everyone I talked to in June thru September was hoping for rain. October and November were cooler and wetter than normal so I hope that helped your recovery plans.

The WGCSA leaders have been busy planning the upcoming events. We are planning on having another successful Golf Turf Symposium. We hope that more members can attend now that the event has been moved into early December. Please make the time to come learn and network with your peers in one of the nicest meeting venues in the Midwest! The Symposium Committee along with the staff of Milorganite at MMSD has put a lot of thought and effort into hosting our premier educational offer-

ing of the year. The title of "What is your Tank?" should allow for all attendees to come home with new information to improve your operations!

My busy time has now begun. I am completing the final versions of the 2013 budget, finalizing the last meeting dates for next year, mailing out all membership renewals, mailing out all Industry Partnership information and contracts, and will soon begin planning the 2013 PAR4Research Auction. The current WGCSA Board of Directors has addressed some efficiency issues for next year (please see article from Chad Harrington on page 34 for more information).

I am very excited to begin the New Year as we have a lot great meeting locations and events being planned. The WI Hospitality Room in San Diego will be at The Bootlegger which is a casual restaurant/bar located at 804 Market Street which is within walking distance of the Convention Center. Listening to input

of our members we have extended the time of the event to three hours. Please join us from 6 to 9 pm for some Wisconsinizing in CA. The event is open to all WGCSA members who are attending the GIS.

We also have a great line up of meeting locations. Thanks to all of the members who have agreed to host an event in 2013! In addition, be on the lookout for more changes and information to our October 5th, 2013 Couples Event. I am glad to be working with a group of "wives" who are helping me to offer a new format that will be FUN and flexible to families, couples, and more of our members than ever before! Tell your spouse/significant other to save October 5th date NOW; you will not want to miss this!

As this is a season to be thankful and look back on our successful 2012, I need to thank Jeff Millies, CGCS who is our outgoing President. Jeff has been the third great chapter leader that I have been able to work with as Chapter Manager. Jeff always made time to take my many phone calls and questions. His wife Nicole has also been very involved with our couple's events and the planning of the WI Room at the GIS in the past two years. If you get the chance please join me in thanking him for his time and service to make the WGCSA better and stronger than ever!

Lastly, but certainly not least, please take the time to review the Affiliate Companies that took part in our 2012 Industry Partnership Program. Simply put the WGCSA could not function without the support these companies provide our Association. I challenge all members to consider purchasing products and doing business with these companies as you can! Many of these companies have supported the WGCSA for many, many, years. Dedication to our members and our industry is probably more important than ever before. I look forward to working with these great suppliers and people in 2013 as well. ✓



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