

News and Notes From WGCSA Members

By Matt Kinnard, Pro Turf Solutions

Career Moves

High Cliff Golf Course in Sherwood, WI hired a new golf course superintendent this year. **Rodney Lesnick** became the curator of the 18-hole track in April and hasn't looked back. Rodney got his start working on a golf course at age 15 at the Oshkosh golf course, Westhaven. His Dad and Uncles worked there as kids, so, how bad could it be? As it turns out, being on the course was the perfect job for Rodney from the very beginning. With Jim Hall as your boss, how could it not?

Rodney graduated from Oshkosh West High School in 1997, then attended Anoka Hennipin Tech and worked at The Links at Northfolk in Ramsey, MN from 1997-2003. Before taking this job at High Cliff, Rodney had a nine-year run as the Assistant Superintendent at Royal St. Patricks Golf Links in Wrightstown, WI.

He is married to his high school sweetheart, Sarah, and they have two daughters; Emma, 5, and Alexa, 10 months. Rodney enjoys playing golf when he can, but with kids, the rounds went down and the handicap went up. Not a problem though, as he just enjoys being a dad right now and focusing on his new job. Congratulations Rodney!

Nick Bannach was hired as the golf course superintendent at Rock River Hills Golf Club in Horicon, WI. I hap-

pen to be familiar with this particular piece of property as I was once the superintendent at RRH. According to Nick, he applied for a job with yours truly when he was sixteen and in my infinite wisdom decided not to hire him. Hard to believe, I know, but he got over it. We happen to be good friends now and Nick quite clearly did all right for himself. He graduated from the Rutgers University Turf Program early this spring and completed a two-year internship at Galloway National Golf Club in New Jersey.

Nick is a real turf nerd and it's apparent to me now, that's all he and I talk about. Until writing this article I had no idea he has three wives, all named Carol, seventeen children and still finds time to sing in a mariachi band. In all seriousness, congratulations Nick!

Birth Announcements

Jered Kamin, Superintendent at The Legend at Bergamont in Oregon, WI and his wife, Amanda, had their first child earlier this summer. Ryan Allen Kamin was born on June 17. Ryan weighed in at 8lbs 9 oz and 21" long. Congratulation to new parents, Jered and Amanda!

Steve Houlihan's wife, Kate, received one of the best birthday gifts a mom could ask for, a baby girl. On May 23, Kate's 30th birthday, Brynn Anne gave

Mom a surprise birthday party at home. Steve and Kate weren't able to get to the hospital in time for a 2:58 a.m. birth, but with the help of first responders from the City of Pewaukee, Kate and Brynn were completely healthy after the delivery at home. At birth Brynn weighed 6lbs 14 oz and was 19" long. She joins her older sister Aubrey Grace in this growing family. Steve is the Superintendent at Bluemound Golf & Country Club in Milwaukee. Congratulations Steve and Kate!

Walking Down That Aisle

Eagle Creek Golf Course Superintendent, **Andy Noll**, married his bride, Tanya Rae Ritchie, at a park in Seymour, WI with their closest friends and family in attendance on May 10. Andy initially met Tanya while she was his daughter's daycare teacher and the rest is history. Andy isn't the only one with a turf background; Tanya has a degree in horticulture and turf management as well as nutrition and human development. The happy couple is planning a hunting and fishing trip during the winter off-season down south for their honeymoon. Congratulations!

Please call or email me with any significant news or happenings around the state so we can spread the good news. I can be reached at matt@pro-turfsolutions.com or (262) 720-0251 

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