



The Surrounds

By Wayne G. Horman



The hot, humid weather has made the summer a difficult one for most golf course superintendents in Wisconsin. *Poa annua* isn't doing well this summer in many places. If it isn't anthracnose or a patch disease, black turfgrass ateniensis may have eaten away on what roots are still remaining.

Since August started, reports of more cutworm activity abound. The population didn't start as early as expected, and the number of generations may not be as high as originally thought.

In the five years that I have traveled this territory, I have never seen as much difference in weather from one area of the state to the next. I've been to parts of the state that haven't seen rain for over a month, and just a mile down the road, a golf course received a number of huge thunderstorms.

The summer doesn't usually provide much movement on the employment front, and this summer is no exception.

At the new Family Park Golf Course in Hartford, Mike Kactro hired his former assistant from Koshkonong Mounds in Fort Atkinson. David Jahnke will assume the role as superintendent of the new 18 hole project.

Jeff Barlow is the new assistant at Bulls Eye Country Club. Barlow is a recent graduate from the Turfgrass Management Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Troy Hausser has taken the superintendent's job at Marywood CC in Battle Creek, Michigan. Hausser was formerly the assistant at The Springs in Spring Green. The Bog opened its doors in Saukville on July 15th. Pat Shaw, superintendent at the 18 hole course designed by the Arnold Palmer group, had his share of headaches. However, the course still opened on time and Shaw wanted to thank both of his assistants, Dave Ripple and Tony Gonzalez, for helping make it all possible.

Horst Distributing held its annual "Appreciation Days" at two golf course in northern Wisconsin. Gateway GC in Land O' Lakes and Golden Sands GC in Cecil had over 150 golf course superintendents and employees in attendance.

The Glen Cairn Open was held at the Jerry Berkholtz owned golf course. Berkholtz, a former sales rep for Reinders and a former golf course superintendent in the Milwaukee area, held the golf outing for superintendents and their employees from around the central Wisconsin area. The Ridge's crew from Wisconsin Rapids won the event for the second year in a row.

The "Hole-N-One Club" adds a couple of new members from the turfgrass industry. Rod Johnson—Pine Hills CC—aced the 205 yard seventh green at Quit-Quit-Oc Country Club on June 15th. After arriving to remove his ball from the cup, Johnson noticed a sign that read "Hole-N-One on this hole wins a trip to Germany". Johnson found out later that only golfers from the groups ahead of him qualified. However, Tom Weise, owner of Quit-Quit-Oc, later offered a round trip ticket to Berlin... Wisconsin!


Weise a week later aced the tenth hole at South Hills in Fond du Lac. Weise was a bit more fortunate, winning \$10,000 for his ace. I guess timing is everything.

There are some new additions to mention this issue. Mike Lee, golf course superintendent at Blackwolf Run, is the proud new papa of Abby Armella. Nancy Lee gave birth to their first child on July 5th.

Barb Rossi, wife of Dr. Frank Rossi, gave birth to Nicole Rose on July 28th. Nicole is the second daughter for the Rossi's.

Dr. Julie Meyer and her husband Wayne welcomed their second child on July 30th. Anna Grace is doing well.

Steve Scoville, our official Grass Roots/golf course cartoonist extraordinaire, and his wife Jen welcomed their first child on June 9. Delia Jane Scoville weighed 7 pounds 1 oz. at birth and is the apple of her mom's and dad's eyes. Congratulations!

Well, it is that time again. I bet most of you are counting down the remaining days until the course closes for another year. Have a nice autumn! 

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