

young business executive. She had difficulty telling me last year about this time that 2006 would be the last year she would be able to help me. I still haven't gotten over that reality.

I really give her credit for being so faithful for this long. She has been too busy for a number of years, but came through nevertheless. We have all enjoyed her generosity. But now it ends.

My guess is that Jen and I will be pals for a long time to come, and that is what matters. She is a great young person with a huge talent that she was willing to share. We are thankful for that.

Here are a few thoughts and facts about Jen's 14-year career as our cover artist. As I mentioned, she started with the Jan/Feb 93 cover of Frank Rossi. In total she did 62 covers; Gene Haas did two covers in that period. She has presented the portrait of all of our chapter presidents during that time, along with all newly hired UW - Madison turfgrass faculty and a couple of veteran faculty (Kussow and Newman). She also did the portraits for a few golf course superintendents who had unusual circumstances - tournaments and awards, for example. Friends and contributors of the association have also been featured.

For years Jen captured the beauty of the favorite golf hole of the superintendents hosting the State Amateur

and the State Open. She noted holidays and special events. She captured noteworthy golf course history and tracked our progress through her art.

I presume most WGCSA members have a favorite cover. I do. Mine is the Mar/Apr 93 portrait of Vincent Noltner, a quintessential golf course staff person whom I revere. Her cover complemented my story about him perfectly.

I resisted using my course as a subject except on a couple of occasions. And even then no one knew unless they had worked with us. Jen's cover "No Golf These Days" on the front of the Jan/Feb 2001 issue was a look over our 12th green and putting green on a cold winter day. There were a couple of others.

My third favorite cover was her "GCSAA's 75th Anniversary." It was better than anything the national prepared for the celebration.

Jen's best holiday cover, in my judgment, was also my fourth favorite. An old Toro tractor, curiously like the one we have, was photographed outside our shop. In her cover art, Jen decorated it with Christmas lights, parked in on a snowy night, and created a cover that generated mail from all over, especially from many Toro people. It was run on the Nov/Dec 2000 issue.

Rounding out my top five covers is the bronze statue



## CHAMPION GREENS

### Aerification Services

**Greens • Tees • Fairways**

Deep tine with hollow or solid tines

18 Greens, \$1100 plus tines used

*Travel charges may apply*

### GOT THATCH?

Get **SISIS VEEMO**

Unrivaled Fairway Dethatching

High Speed • Scalproof

Rental \$500 day, 2 day minimum

Blade & Travel charge apply

**KEITH 920.894.4857**

**JOHN 920.467.9737**

**www.championgreens.net**



# DHD TREE PRODUCTS

JUNEAU, WI

*"COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS"*

*Stress Phiter*



**WHITE GOLD®**

*Nature  
Safe®*

**Emerald Isle, Ltd.**



**REGAL**  
CHEMICAL COMPANY



Hydraway 2000



**Kwik-Trench®**



**Wedgle Direct-Inject**  
TREE TREATMENT SYSTEM

**866 - 343-8733**

(866 - DHD-TREE)

**DQ MOBILE: 920 - 210-8616**

of Old Tom Morris that was on our Mar/Apr 2002 GR. It was stunning to look at.

Here are my next ten favorite covers:

1. Sep/Oct 1996. This was our only double cover issue - front and back and upside down. It was like two issues in one and noted Jacobsen's 75th anniversary and Milorganite's 70th anniversary.
2. Jen's first color issue - Jan/Feb 1998 - captured the snowflake photos of W.A. Bentley and accompanied my story about him. It was a beautiful cover.
3. Her "Turfgrasses of Wisconsin" graced our Nov/Dec 1998 issue.
4. "Autumn Leaves of Wisconsin," Sep/Oct 1998 completed a series of sorts that year, all beautiful.
5. Jen used a few of my antique golf course post card collection (later traded for a book) as a subject for the Mar/Apr 1996 cover. It was a wonderful pencil-drawn cover.
6. Bucky Badger swinging a golf club and promoting his Badger creeping red fescue, May/June 2000, was very popular among the UW - Madison grads!
7. The bright colors of her Mar/Apr 2003 cover, "Spring Flowers of Wisconsin," generated a lot of comments.
8. The Wisconsin State Capitol Building, filled the cover of our Jan/Feb 2005 issue, caught everyone's attention and led readers to learn of our meetings with state legislative leaders.
9. I love fall so much, like most of my colleagues, and Jen's Sep/Oct 2004 Halloween cover received rave reviews.
10. Using one of Tom Schwab's aerial photos, Jen created a fall scene of the Noer Facility on the Sep/Oct 2005 issue of GR. Tom has the original artwork framed and hanging in the hallway of the Noer.

Each cover has a story and I can recall them all. Three more are worthy of note. The Nov/Dec 1996 issue was our only fold out cover. It featured the construction of Whistling Straits and the role of Mike Lee and Ed Kirchenwitz in that highly successful project.

Jen and I faked out everyone with her cover of the Wisconsin Golf Course Museum and my story of the same. You have no idea how many calls and letters I received, including one from a GCSAA staff person who wanted directions on how to get there. My old pal Tom Harrison asked me, "How did I miss that museum?"

And most recently Mike Hurdzan wrote a warm note of gratitude for the Erin Hills artwork on our cover. I sent him Jen's original artwork and he framed both it and the cover and they hang in a prominent place in his office.

This could go on for a long time, but the point would be the same: a talented young woman made contributions to our profession that she is barely aware of. And for that, again, a great big thanks, Jen. ♣



MTI Distributing proudly represents the finest products in the turf industry to Western Wisconsin.



Count on it.

Your career is too important to rely on products that are "good enough." You need **better**. And BASF delivers. Our comprehensive portfolio of products offers control of hundreds of turf diseases, weeds and insects. Control you can trust. **Better** control.

BetterSolutions.

BetterResults.

In the last five years alone, BASF has invested more than \$1.5 billion in agricultural products research and development as well as several hundred million dollars in plant biotechnology. And it shows. Test after test proves we push our products to perform **better**. That's the commitment you can count on from the world's leading chemical company.

That's the bottom line, isn't it? And that's what you'll get with BASF. **Better** turf with maximum efficiency of labor and resources. Put us in your rotation and let us prove it. You'll be **better** off.

BetterTurf.™

For more information, please contact  
Dave Oberle at **651-681-8050**.

We Don't Make The Turf.  
We Make It Better.™



**BASF**  
The Chemical Company

Basagran, Curalan, Drive, Emerald, Insignia, Pendulum and Sahara are registered trademarks and AquaCap, Better Solutions, Better Results, Better Turf, and We Don't Make The Turf, We Make It Better, are trademarks of BASF. Amdro is a registered trademark of Central Garden and Pet Company.  
©2005 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved. APN 05-14-002-0105



# A Gentle Year's End

By **Monroe S. Miller**, *Golf Course Superintendent, Blackhawk Country Club*

Weather-wise, it did not feel like Thanksgiving to me this year when the day actually arrived. It was warm – over 60 degrees F. for several days around the holiday – and more were in shirtsleeves than heavy coats. At first I thought it was because I was in New York City visiting my daughter and son-in-law, but phone calls home indicated similar temperatures in the Midwest. Our course had quite a number of golf players around the Thanksgiving holiday. It was almost too warm to hunt deer!

That seemed only fair since October was such a lousy month for golf. The warm November days

gave some golf facilities in Wisconsin the chance to recoup some golf car and green fee revenue and end the year on a little better note.

We should be getting used to this warmer weather. The winter of 2005-2006 was the fifth warmest on record for the U.S. with an average temperature of 36.29 degrees F. – 1.2 degrees F. above normal. The warmest winter on record was 1999-2000 at 36.95 degrees F. The NOAA forecasts that the December through February period in the 48 contiguous states have about 2% less heating degree days than average

but 5% – 10% more than last year. They attribute this prediction to a weak El Nino under way in the Pacific Ocean.

The warm winter can be problematic to those in our profession. Generally, we are loath to get necessary and required shop work done when the temperatures outdoors offer the chance to do needed work on the golf course. Giving in to the temptation to do that can leave an operation poorly prepared for next year's golf season.

Although we had ample rainfall in our part of the state this past season, other sections were not so lucky. In early November the

syngenta

Use your points for a worthy cause.

When a GreenPartners® member purchases Syngenta products, they have the option to donate their points to worthy causes. If you haven't registered yet, just log on to [www.greenpartners.com](http://www.greenpartners.com) and find out how rewarding GreenPartners can be. For more information, contact Steve Abler at 920-860-6374.

**Eligible organizations include:**

- Wee One Foundation
- Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association
- Wisconsin Landscape Federation
- Wisconsin Nursery Association
- Wisconsin Turfgrass Association

**GreenPartners®**  
Earn Redeem Donate

©2006 Syngenta. Syngenta Professional Products, Greensboro, NC 27419. GreenPartners® and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.

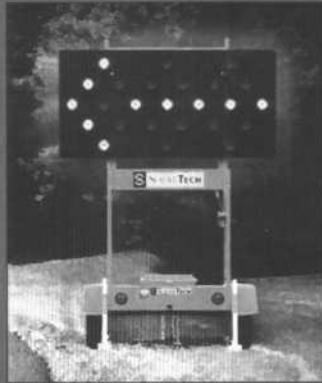


# **IR** Ingersoll-Rand Milwaukee

## Meeting the Needs of Wisconsin's Construction Industries



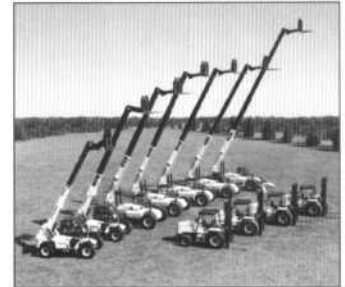
Light Tower



Message & Arrow Boards



Soil & Asphalt Compactor



Forklifts:  
Complete Inventory



Club Car Utility Vehicle with plow & cab



Generators from  
G20 to G575



Air Compressors  
up to 1600 CFM

### Rentals • Sales • Parts • Service

- Soil and Asphalt Compactors
- Air Tools
- Hoist
- Generators
- Message & Arrow Boards
- Compressors
- Light Towers
- Rock Drills
- Fork Lifts
- Utility Vehicles



## **DIRECT**™

On-Site Construction Equipment Service

Ingersoll Rand Equipment Service Company

# 1-800-338-5436

12311 W. Silver Spring Dr. • Milwaukee, WI 53225

[www.irmil.com](http://www.irmil.com)

USDA announced that 12 north-western Wisconsin counties were eligible for drought assistance. The counties listed were Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Polk, Price Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor and Washburn. Although golf courses aren't eligible for this aid (as far as I understand it) the point is that it was very dry there this summer past.

We have all been there and in various years have been under similar conditions. But nevertheless, when it does happen to be your turn to suffer it seems like an eternity before the rains return.

The graphics from the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service are included here and tell the story of the weather for the past two months.

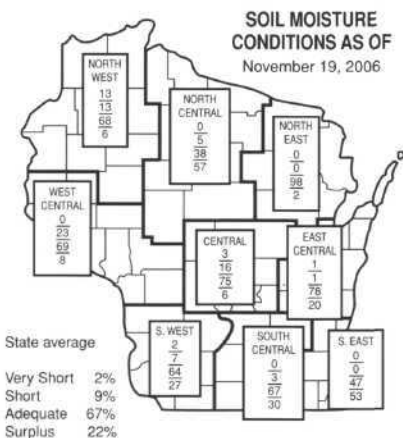
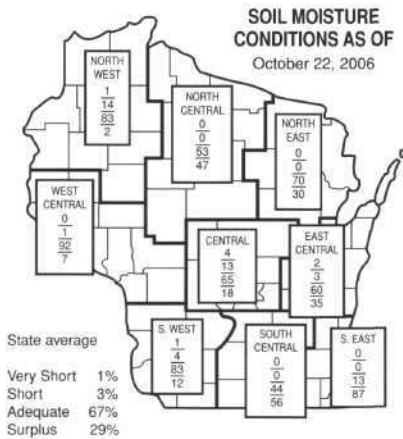
I was disappointed to miss the Symposium for the first time in many years (probably decades, actually), but I wasn't disappointed in the great holiday we experienced in the Big Apple. Christie and Jon live on East 97th Street near Mt. Sinai Medical School where she attends grad school. The streets are reasonably safe in the part of town; they are literally next to Central Park and close to a subway station, which gives you quick access to the greatest city in the world. We went to Macy's Parade, attended the Rockettes Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall, shopped Fifth Avenue and Times Square (and rested in St. Patrick's Cathedral). And visited museums. I walked across the Brooklyn Bridge and back, stood quietly at the World Trade Center site and browsed through Strand's Bookstore. We couldn't have had a better time although part of the

price for that was missing our meeting in Kohler.

It was a great fall season for us. Our Wisconsin football team went 11 - 1 and we didn't miss a home game. The basketball team is off to a great start, too. Our daughter Holly and her husband Drew gave us our second grandson - Ben arrived on November 1st and looks like a tight end to me. We made a short visit to the pumpkin festival in Circleville, Ohio, FLW's Falling Water in Pennsylvania, stopped at both Latrobe CC and Foxburg CC, drove through the wine country in New York during harvest time and had an easy drive home. It has been sweet.

And now we move into the Christmas season, the most comfortable time of the year. Why, before you know it, the days will be getting longer!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, everybody! 🌿



# SOD

grown on  
Irrigated Sand

Try our Sand Based Kentucky Bluegrass, Bentgrass and Fine Fescue Sod all grown under Fertigation to give you the highest quality with the least amount of root stress and soil incompatibility. Excellent drainage.

Call us for current delivered pricing to your location.

**Robert H. Heath Farms Inc.**

14531 1st Ave

Coloma, WI 54930

Phone: 715-228-4106 • Fax: 715-228-4107

Email: [heath@uniontel.net](mailto:heath@uniontel.net)

# TURF PROS



Nobody knows turf like the folks at Olds Seed Company. Whether it's a tee box or fairway, rough or green, the experts at Olds evaluate your specific situation, make recommendations, and deliver exactly what you need to make your turf look its finest. (Which makes you look pretty fine, too.)

Choose from our wide selection of proven bentgrass performers, such as:

- Providence
- Penncross
- Pennlinks
- Penneagle
- Putter
- Dominant

And ask about our custom mixture programs formulated for your site and budget.

You'll never come up short at Olds. We contract with numerous research and production firms so we have access to the best varieties available. Give us a call today and we'll help you improve your turf score.



P.O. Box 7790 • 2901 Packers Ave.  
Madison, WI 53707-7790  
800-356-7333  
608-249-9291

*Seed you can count on*

***Plus a whole lot more***

**Mulches**  
Establisher

**Low Maintenance**  
Care-free Fine Fescue

**Erosion Control/Blankets**  
Futerra

**Wildflowers/Grasses**  
For reclamation areas



# A REVIEW OF THE 2006 WGCSA MONTHLY MEETINGS



By **Randy DuPont**, Golf Course Superintendent, North Hills Country Club

We've all heard the expression, "Variety is the spice of life." This past year's meeting sites fit this expression to a tee! From private and public courses to resort and county courses, from parkland style courses to links style courses, we experienced them all this year. Even though each and every one of the sites was different, they all had two things in common, great hospitality and great course conditions.

April's meeting was held at Geneva National Golf Club. The day began with our guest speaker, Mr. Gary Gaard. Many of you will remember Gary as a staff person at

the O.J. Noer Facility back in 1996. Gary was instrumental in getting the Noer Center 'Audubon Sanctuary Certified.' After 37 years in the plant pathology department at UW, Gary retired and is now involved with the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin.

The title of Gary's talk was "Bluebirds on Wisconsin Golf Courses." While working with University Ridge Golf Course, Gary was able to increase the bluebird population from four in 1996 to 130 bluebird fledges this past year. He mentioned that on a typical 150

acre golf course, there are approximately 10 good locations for bluebird houses. Any more than that will lead to more problems. For information on construction methods of nesting boxes and their best locations, Gary can be reached at [grgaard@wisc.edu](mailto:grgaard@wisc.edu) or you can contact the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin at [WWW.BRAW.org](http://WWW.BRAW.org)

After lunch, 72 eager participants were greeted by clear sunny skies and temperatures in the middle 70's. Not bad for late April in Wisconsin. Geneva National has three exceptional courses. On this



## Proudly Serving the Turf Industry in Wisconsin

### Terra's full line of turf industry products includes:

- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Fertilizer
- Grass Seed
- PGRs
- Fungicides  
(Including Thalonil™ 90DF and 4L)
- Colorants  
(Including Terramark™ SPI and Terramark Lake Colorant)

**For the products, services and advice you need,  
Talk to Terra**



Terra International, Inc. • 3525 Terra Court • Sun Prairie, WI 53590  
Conrad Stynchula CGCS • (800) 456-0948 (office) • (608) 235-4999 (mobile)

**TO MAKE IT  
ON THIS TURF,  
YOU NEED THE  
POWER MORE  
PROFESSIONALS  
DEMAND.**



Find out why more people who cut grass for a living prefer to do it with KOHLER® powered riding equipment. Visit [KohlerEngines.com](http://KohlerEngines.com), or call 800-544-2444, ext GR2

**KOHLER®**