

Badger State Turf Clippings

By Tom Wentz and the Reinders Team

By the time you read this we will be celebrating the Christmas season, one that brings families together to open gifts, sing carols, and enjoy watching the children and grandchildren eyes get big as they see what Santa Claus brings. Of course we know who Santa Clause really is and it's fun to play the part and share in their excitement. Hope all of you take the time to lay back and enjoy this special time of year.

Who would ever have guessed that today saying "Merry Christmas!" would be treated with contempt by those folks that are more concerned about how others will be offended. This has been political correctness carried to an extreme. Manger scenes have been removed in public places; a Christmas tree is now a Holiday tree; Christmas parades are now Holiday parades; Christmas programs are now Holiday programs in schools, with certain Christian theme Christmas songs not allowed to be sung. This list goes on and on. I am pleased to report that the tide may be turning, as Milwaukee will be lighting a "Christmas tree" and not a "Holiday tree" this season. It's a step in the right direction that I hope other communities around the country bring back the Christmas traditions we have celebrated and has meant so much to us. **Merry Christmas!!!**

In Memoriam

Mike Imgrund, superintendent at Oakwood Park Golf Club in Franklin, passed away on October 7th. Mike had been battling against Hodgkin's disease for the past few years. His gallant

battle was lost this fall. Mike had been superintendent at Oakwood Park since 2004. Prior to that, Mike worked at Medinah GC at the #3 golf course, site of this year's PGA championship. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family.

Superintendent Moves

Scott Hancher has moved up to become superintendent at Silver Spring CC in Menomonee Falls. Scott has served as assistant superintendent for the past three years. Scott received his BS degree in Ornamental Horticulture from the University of Tennessee. He worked eight years as assistant superintendent at Alpharetta CC in Georgia. He also has golf course management experience at Golf Club of Dublin, in Ohio and Oak Hills CC in Rochester, NY.

Aron Hogden is the new superintendent at University Ridge GC in Verona. Aron spent the past 2 years as superintendent at Foxboro GC in Oregon. Prior to this, Aron served as superintendent for 5 years at Motcalm GC in New Hampshire. He also worked at the TPC at Riversbend in Cincinnati, Ohio. Aron received his turf degree from Ohio State in 2000. In addition to his superintendent duties, he is currently teaching a facilities management course for the Golf Management program at Southwest Wisconsin Technical School in Fennimore.

Weddings and Births

The Southeast Wisconsin sales representative for Lesco, **Kevin Kershasky**, was married to Jane Hammer on Oct. 21st in Door

County. They have postponed their honeymoon until Winter 2007. Congratulations to both of you!!

Jon Canavan, superintendent at Brynwood CC, and his wife became new parents on October 12th when Josephine Grace was born weighing in at 8 lbs, 11 oz.

Mike Upthegrove, superintendent at Watertown CC and his wife, Jen became the proud parents of their first child, Grace Joanna. Grace was born on Sept. 5th, weighing in at 7 lbs, 9 oz.

Jeremy Dahl, assistant superintendent at The Club at Strawberry Creek, and his wife Jessica welcomed their first child, Allison Nicole, on October 1st. Allison weighed in at 7 lbs, 2 oz.

Darrin Daase, superintendent at Hillmoor CC, and his wife welcomed their first child, a boy, Sawyer, on October 12th. Sawyer weighed 7 lbs, 1/2 oz.

Randy Swonger, superintendent at Trout Lake GC, and his wife Sheri welcome into the world a new baby boy, Jaxon, on Sept. 11th. Jaxon weighed 5 lbs, 12 oz.

Shayne Swonger, assistant superintendent at Trout Lake GC and his wife Kristin had a baby girl, Mischa, born on October 11th. Mischa weighed 6 lbs.

As you can see, the population of Wisconsin increased this Fall!! Congratulations to all the new parents!

Please pass along any significant news or happenings around the state to any of your Reinders reps. We want to spread the good news. You can email me at twentz@reinders.com or call me at 608-220-6592. 🌿