

# Badger State Turf Clippings

By Tom Wentz and the Reinders Team

Hard to believe that the summer is already over and you may be thinking about ice fishing!! I hope the fall is as pleasant as the August we experienced this year. Low disease pressure, low humidity, generally lower temperatures on average is just what the turf doctor ordered. After all the flood damage in June, it's funny how weather patterns seem to come out about average.

As you would expect this time of year, I have no new superintendent changes to announce. However, I have highlighted a hobby that Don Shaffer, assistant golf course superintendent at West Bend Lakes GC in West Bend has been involved in. Read on....

## Just say "Cheese!!"

**Don Shaffer** got started in the photography business in 1968. He became a photo-journalist in the Air Force in 1969 and 1970. During this time he took pictures of the Viet Nam war that was widely used in the Air Force newspapers. After his stint in the military, Don attended the Rochester Institute of Technology to work on a degree in Photo-Journalism He finished with a BS degree at New York University.

Of course, Don has been busy in the golf course area as owner of a golf course in Western part of Wisconsin. In 1979 he started his own photography business of which is still continues with to this day. His primary focus now are weddings; golf course scorecards; race car racing photos; landscape and wild life photos. He also does photo shoots for "Today's Sports Magazine". Don's photos have been published in national magazines and newspapers. He also has sold wildlife photos for use in Hallmark cards.

Two years ago, Don achieved the highest level as a photographer by becoming a Master Photographer. In 2007, Don was inducted into the

Free Lance Photographers Hall of Fame. This is quite an achievement as very few in this business achieve this honor. Congratulations and continued success to Don Shaffer!!

## Industry Moves

So far this year, there have been personnel changes in companies that support the turf business in Wisconsin. Here are a couple of highlights you may not be aware of.

**Matt Kinnard** joined DHD Tree Products this Spring. Matt had served a few years as superintendent at Rock River Hills GC in Horicon.

**Conrad Stynchula** left Prosource One in early summer and joined with UAP Professional Products group. Conrad is covering a similar area that he had with Prosource One.

**Mark Robel** joined Reinders Inc. in June on the Commercial Equipment sales team. Mark came over from Chenequa CC where he served as an assistant superintendent. Mark will service the Kenosha, Racine, Walworth and Waukesha counties of Wisconsin.

Also joining Reinders Inc. is **Scott Gilbertson**. Scott is working with the Reinders Soft Goods Business Group as sales rep in Western Wisconsin and Minnesota. Scott has 19 years of industry experience and most recently as sales

representative for Prosource One.

**Bill Gauwitz** also joined the Reinders Inc. soft goods group serving the customers in west central Wisconsin. Bill was a certified golf course superintendent for 20 years. More recently he had been sales rep for Prosource One.

## Births

Congratulations to **Nate Stahl** and his wife Melanie on the birth of a baby boy. Michael Quinn born on August 6th. Nate is the superintendent at Thunder Mountain Ranch in Crivitz.

Steve Abler, Syngenta representative and his wife Becky are proud to announce the birth of their second son. Benjamin Abler born on July 17th and weighed in 6 lb. 7 oz and 20 1/2 inches. Congratulations to you both!!

Well, that's all the news for now. Any news to pass along, please email John Jensen Commercial Equipment Sales Manager for Reinders at [jjensen@reinders.com](mailto:jjensen@reinders.com), 414-313-5130 or pass it along to your Reinders sales rep.

*Editors Note: A big thank you to Tom Wentz for writing the Badger State Turf Clippings for us. Tom has become sales manager for Lebanon and will be traveling out of our area more. John Jensen for Reinders will be taking over writing duties.*

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