

MEMBER PROFILE

STILLWATER'S MARLIN MURPHY

Like Father, Like Son

By RICK TRAVER

A long-standing tradition in many cultures leads the son to follow in his father's footsteps. While this was common place in generations past, it is not so common place today. This makes the father and son combination of Marlin and Jerry Murphy that much more unique. You read about Jerry (the father) on the previous page, now read on about Marlin (the son) as follows.

Marlin Murphy is the superintendent of the Stillwater C.C., and has been since 1995. He got his start in this industry at the age of 11 years, working at Somerset C.C. Marlin worked for Somerset C.C. for 7 years, then moved to the Mendota Heights par 3 course which he managed for 2 years. He then attended the Penn State turf program and did his internship the summer of 1988 at the The Minikahda Club. After graduating school he went to work as the Assistant Superintendent to Kevin Clunis at Stillwater C.C. In 1991 he moved to Brookview G.C. as the assistant superintendent until his appointment as superintendent at Stillwater Country Club.

Stillwater C.C. was founded in 1924 as a 9-hole golf course, and was originally designed by Tom Varden on 80 acres of farmland. In June of 1954 an additional 71.75 acres were purchased to complete the 18 holes. Paul Cotes designed the new 9-holes, which was purchased for \$20,000.

Marlin loves the outdoors, with his favorite hobby being Pheasant and Duck hunting. Deer hunting is close behind. He enjoys golf and uses it like a tool, as many of us do, to keep and eye on the course. He does say it would be the first hobby to drop, only because it is, "a frustrating game!" He also finds fishing to be very refreshing.

Marlin has three kids, Ashley 13, Andrew 9 and Max who is four. Marlin says "the best thing in life is



MARLIN MURPHY

watching your kids grow up into young adults. "They help to remind us what it was like looking at the world through innocent eyes", he said.

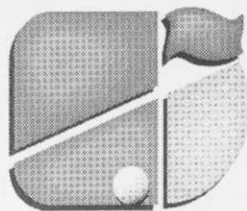
When questioned about the funniest or oddest thing ever asked, Marlin had several responses. The first was the suggestion to add antifreeze to the irrigation lines instead of blowing the water out for the winter. The second was to use the greens roller to remove the hills on the greens, but in Marlin's mind the best question was, "how can we kill all the worms in the fairways?"

Marlin's number one goal is to be the best he can at his present position. He really enjoys where he works and says, "it would have to be the perfect position to take me away from SCC". Another of

his goals is to be the best parent he can, also a chosen profession.

When asked about the future of our industry, Marlin felt that government gets too involved, and has a tendency to make uniformed decisions. While he feels the future looks tough he also feels that it is not impossible.

I have known Marlin for several years having graduated from Penn State with him. He has always been fun to be around and although I have never played Stillwater C.C., (maybe I'll get and invite), I am sure he is doing an excellent job of carrying on and up the Murphy reputation.



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