

Watson Winner and Hole Notes Recognized at Annual Meeting

The MGCSA is very fortunate to have a vehicle as distinguished as the *Hole Notes* to disseminate relevant educational and sometimes humorous professional writings. It is not easy and requires several elements to come together for the cogs to run smoothly.

A good publication needs great columnists. We are fortunate to have several who monthly give their time to bring us anecdotal educational materials for our enjoyment and edification. Paul Dignau, CGCS, Scottie Hines, CGCS, Randy Witt, CGCS and Jake Ryan are to be commended for their wonderful efforts.

A good publication needs advertisers to fill the pages between editorial content. And we are fortunate to have many vendors who see value in the publication *Hole Notes* and continue to advertise, thus keeping the cost of our magazine a mere two dollars per issue. Thank you to those who have and will continue to support our publication through your advertising.

A good publication needs to have a quality publisher and editorial staff. Scott and Jeff Turtinen have and will continue to do an exceptional job publishing the *Hole Notes* and making sure each issue makes it to its destination on a timely basis. Also not to be forgotten, a good publication and editorial staff needs to have a proof reader. We are very fortunate to have Andrew Carlson on board to pre-read each article for any mistakes. Standing kudos Scott, Jeff and Andrew for your efforts.

And finally, a good member-driven publication needs to have member writers who are willing and able to share their creative

expressions with their peers. This year we have had several good articles submitted for publication. Of most note is the 2008 Watson Award winner titled *The Superintendent's Wife*, submitted by Bill Gullicks, the Superintendent at Bellwood Oaks Golf Course is pictured at the left with his wife Kristen.

In the May 2008 issue Bill shared with us his respect and admiration for his wife Kristen. Bill captured the dynamics of each of our marital relationships with a smooth articulation full of insight and a bit of humor. Each of us can relate to the following sentences,

"Over the years my wife has come to the realization that there is no such thing as a schedule in a superintendent's life. When I call to let her know when I will be home, she simply asks, 'Is that real time or golf course time?' Supposedly golf course time tends to run one or two hours longer than actual time." What a truism.

The love and respect Bill has for his wife and family was easy to read between the lines and identify with. Professional turf managers are away from home too frequently and for too many hours. Sometimes we have a hard time leaving work at the course. Often we take our spouses for granted in maintaining a sane household while we wrestle the elements.

Bill shares it well with this paragraph, "During the golf season my wife does a fabulous job keeping everyone going in the right direction. She has learned how to keep things balanced at home with and without me around. We have four children that range from high school to kindergarten that fill the calendar each month with piano lessons, sports, church activities, choir concerts, doctor/dentist appointments and many other things. I feel lucky that my career hasn't stood in the way of my children enjoying family times to the fullest."

Talk about hitting home with all of us who are married and rely upon our spouses so very much.

Our Watson Award winner summed it all up and reminded us of one very important point, "As the sun starts shining and the days get longer, remember to thank your Super Wife for all she does during the busy season before it begins, not after."

Congratulations Bill on a wonderful wife, family and aptitude for writing. - Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, Editor



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