

It's in the Hole

Windsong Farm Golf Club's CGCS Scottie Hines Renews Certification

Scott M. Hines, GCSAA golf course superintendent at Windsong Farm Golf Club, Independence, Minn., has completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the GCSAA.

Hines has been at Windsong Farm Golf Club since 2002. He initially achieved his CGCS title in 2001.

To become certified, a candidate must have at least three years experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet specific post secondary educational requirements and/or continuing education points. The candidate must then pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering: knowledge of GCSAA and its certification program; rules of golf; turfgrass management; pest control, safety and compliance, and financial and human resource management.

Maintaining certified status requires a renewal process be completed every five years. To fulfill certification renewal requirements, Hines participated in 150 hours of continuing education and professional development.

Chris Hoff Joins Precision Turf

Precision Turf is proud to announce the addition of Chris Hoff to its sales force. Many of you already know Chris from your previous business relationships and know that he has extensive experience and expertise in the agronomic industry.

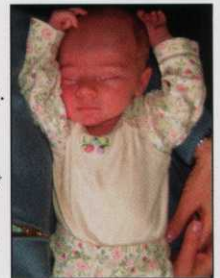
With all the recent changes Chris is glad to be back in the state with his wife Jenny, Daughter Emma, and new baby son, Sam. They will be moving to their new home in Woodbury shortly.

Would You Like To Be A MGCSA Director in 2006?

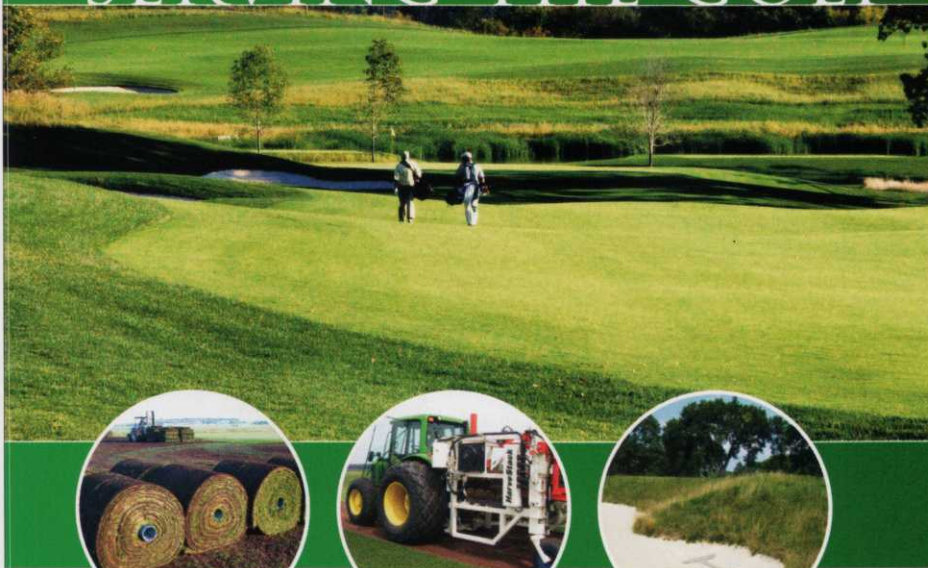
Contact Rick Fredericksen, CGCS, at Woodhill Country Club, if you would like to run for the 2006 Board. Rick is compiling a list of candidates. Contact Rick at: 952-473-5811 or _fredericksen@msn.com.

New Arrival for the Horgan Family

Dr. Brian Horgan and his wife Cindy are happy to announce the birth of Allison Sydney Horgan. She was born on May 3 and weighed 7 lbs., 4 ozs. at birth. The Horgan's other daughter Ella is very happy to have a baby sister. Cindy is doing great.



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Prostate Cancer—

(Continued from Page 19)

The process used to find out if cancer has spread within the prostate or to other parts of the body is called staging. The information gathered from the staging process determines the stage of the disease. It is important to know the stage in order to plan treatment. The following tests and procedures may be used in the staging process:

Radionuclide bone scan: A procedure to check if there are rapidly dividing cells, such as cancer cells, in the bone. A very small amount of radioactive material is injected into a vein and travels through the bloodstream. The radioactive material collects in the bones and is detected by a scanner.

MRI (magnetic resonance imaging): A procedure that uses a magnet, radio waves, and a computer to make a series of detailed pictures of areas inside the body. This procedure is also called nuclear magnetic resonance imaging (NMRI).

Pelvic lymphadenectomy: A surgical procedure to remove the lymph nodes in

the pelvis. A pathologist views the tissue under a microscope to look for cancer cells.

CT scan (CAT scan): A procedure that makes a series of detailed pictures of areas inside the body, taken from different angles. The pictures are made by a computer linked to an x-ray machine. A dye may be injected into a vein or swallowed to help the organs or tissues show up more clearly. This procedure is also called computed tomography, computerized tomography, or computerized axial tomography.

Seminal vesicle biopsy: The removal of fluid from the seminal vesicles (glands that produce semen) using a needle. A pathologist views the fluid under a microscope to look for cancer cells. The following stages are used for prostate cancer:

Stage I: Cancer is found in the prostate only. It cannot be felt during a digital rectal exam and is not visible by imaging. It is usually found accidentally during surgery for other reasons, such as benign prostatic hyperplasia. Stage I prostate cancer may also be called stage A1 prostate cancer.

Stage II: Cancer is more advanced than in stage I, but has not spread outside the prostate. Stage II prostate cancer may also be called stage A2, stage B1, or stage B2 prostate cancer.

Stage III: Cancer has spread beyond the outer layer of the prostate to nearby tissues. Cancer may be found in the seminal vesicles. Stage III prostate cancer may also be called stage C prostate cancer.

Stage IV: Cancer has metastasized (spread) to lymph nodes near or far from the prostate or to other parts of the body, such as the bladder, rectum, bones, liver, or lungs. Metastatic prostate cancer often spreads to the bones. Stage IV prostate cancer may also be called stage D1 or stage D2 prostate cancer.

Recurrent Prostate Cancer: Recurrent prostate cancer is cancer that has recurred (come back) after it has been treated. The cancer may come back in the prostate or in other parts of the body.

(Editor's Note: This information is provided by the American Cancer Institute. Part Two will appear in the July 2005 issue of Hole Notes.)



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In Bounds

By JACK MACKENZIE, CGCS
North Oaks Golf Club

During a job interview I enjoyed just shy of a decade ago, I had the opportunity to meet several interested committee members representing the club's interests and one professional headhunter. Truthfully, I can say that the whole process was an enjoyable one for me, and in all honesty the right man did get the position and it wasn't yours truly! However, in the course of the final interview session I was struck by an interesting question posed by the professional interviewer: "Who is your hero figure? Someone like Abe Lincoln or perhaps your father?"

Being the kind of guy I am, after a bit of thought I responded, "Luke Skywalker of course. Hero figure? You bet! Good versus evil and all that." I don't know if I impressed the man or not, but I did get a chuckle from his interviewing partner. Since that time I have often wondered about the importance of a "hero figure" or should I say mentor.

According to Webster, a mentor is a trusted counselor or guide, a coach or tutor. Well, although I did and still do admire Luke, upon reflection my true mentor is a professional in our industry whom inspired me to be the very best superintendent I could possibly be. His name is John Steiner, and I am proud to consider him my professional mentor, my professional hero figure.

John Steiner, CGCS and turf manager at White Bear Yacht Club for over 25 years, has been a part of my life since I entered the industry in 1976. I do not know what he saw in me, but it was with his encouragement that I attended a fertilizer seminar in 1978 and was hooked into the agronomic aspects of turf. His enthusiasm for the industry was indeed contagious and soon I was off to the University of Minnesota to earn my B.S. in Horticulture. And although I learned much at school, my true education came in the field under his tutelage.

Counselor, guide, coach or tutor, John was and still is the total package. He educated me in the art of hand picking rocks off the soon-to-be-seeded driving range and taught me the ropes with a rotary mower around all of the trees and bunkers, a chore that lasted this once young lad two days in a row on a regular basis.

John trusted me to night water and didn't "blow up" when I occasionally ran over impact heads with the Cushman

snapping them off at their bases and only smiled when I told him of a visit from my girlfriend at the time. He gave me much experience riding all sorts of equipment including mowers, construction tractors, a 1,300 gallon sewage truck and of course all varieties of spray rigs. By the way John, I really am sorry for all the trees I hung myself upon with the gang reels, ramming that little blue truck with the sewage hauler and the dead spruces along the 9th fairway I accidentally applied 2,4-D upon.

Often John would share his microscope with me, at a time when that tool of the trade was rarely found upon a Superintendent's desk. To this day he is a self-taught master mycologist trained in the identification of all varieties of diseases, mushrooms and other fungi. He

taught me names and varieties of all sorts of plant pathogens and 'shrooms including poisonous and mind altering ones found locally. Yes, the Amanita muscaria may be a mild hallucinogenic in Russia, but it only buzzed this Minnesota boy for a short five minutes and then made me sicker than a dog.

Salesmen were no strangers to me as John made it a point to introduce me to each and every one of them that walked through his office door. Ed Zylka, Mike Redmond, Dave Krup, Gordy Miller and Jack Kolb may not have remembered who I was at the time, but



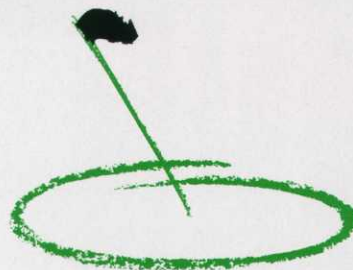
JOHN STEINER, CGCS
White Bear Yacht Club

I sure knew who they were, thanks to John. These relationships, and many more, established through the thoughtfulness of my mentor are still with me today. Just knowing that he considered enough of me to present me to others gave me the confidence I needed during my time of initiation into the industry.

Yes, my first seven years of golf course work afforded me a wide variety of experiences, but mainly because

(Continued on Page 35)

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In Bounds—

(Continued from Page 34)

John cared enough to share them with me. Besides all of the fun and games many associate with John, he is a true professional and allowed me to grow into a turf manager. In 1983 a spur-of-the-moment assistant job opportunity afforded me the chance to leave John and the W.B.Y.C. to pursue a job in Austin, Minnesota. Shortly thereafter I returned to the cities in a Superintendent capacity and rekindled my relationship with John, this time as a peer.

Actually however, I doubt if I will ever equal John in his agronomic capabilities nor his mycological aptitude. And I can only hope to kindle the spirit of turf management into one of my interns as he has done for so very many talented golf course superintendents through the years.

John Steiner is my "hero figure." I know that sounds funny. But his compassion, enthusiasm, professionalism, turf growing talent and abilities to consistently choreograph the maintenance of one of the finest golf courses in the Upper Midwest places him upon my pedestal. Not to mention that he is a darn good friend and supporter when my dobber is down.

My hat is off to you my friend, a "true blue" pal of the industry. There as a resource only waiting to be tapped. For you are a master of your trade and greatly respected not only by me, but by many, many in our field.

Thank you John for your inspiration. I can only hope that I too emulate your professionalism and will someday also be someone's Super Hero.



USGA AGRONOMIST ROBERT VAVREK, JR. was the main speaker at the 1st Annual Turfgrass Forum at Midland Hills Country Club on May 6. Special thanks to Tom Ryan and the MGA for organizing this well-attended event. Thanks also go out to host Superintendent Scott Austin, CGCS, Midland Hills Country Club.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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- 1995 John Deere 3235 5-plex reel mower, 4WD, no hour meter -- \$4,995
- 1995 Jacobsen HR5111 wide area rotary, 4WD, no hour meter -- \$9,995
- 1996 Toro 455D wide area rotary, 4WD, 4,000 hours -- \$9,995
- Top Canopy for Toro Reelmaster (brand new) -- \$150
- Agrimetal BW300
- 3pt. Leaf Blower -- \$1,500
- 55 gal. Barrel Roots 1-2-3 (3/4 full) -- \$400
- Clamp-on forklift attachments for loader bucket (never used) -- \$900
- Contact: Guy Leach
Spring Valley GC
715-778-5513

FOR SALE

- 1977 Greensmaster 3. No front rollers or reels but is in working order -- make an offer.
- MeterMatic F8 walking type topdresser in good working order with many new parts -- \$350
- Kubota mid point PTO 72" mower deck for an L-series tractor -- make an offer or trade for different attachment.
- Contact: Justin Gustafson
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- Ground Master 62" - Good Condition. Walk behind Greensmower.
- Contact: Erik Olson
Halla Greens, Chanhassen Executive Golf Course
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- 1998 Toro Greens Aerator with some repair parts. Good condition. \$3,500
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Giants Ridge
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- 5 hp Briggs Engine in excellent condition \$1,500 or best offer
- Contact: Mike Hansen
River Falls Golf Course
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- Contact: Terry Negen
The Crossings Golf Club
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- Two Toro Network LTC satellites
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- Contact: Joe Otto
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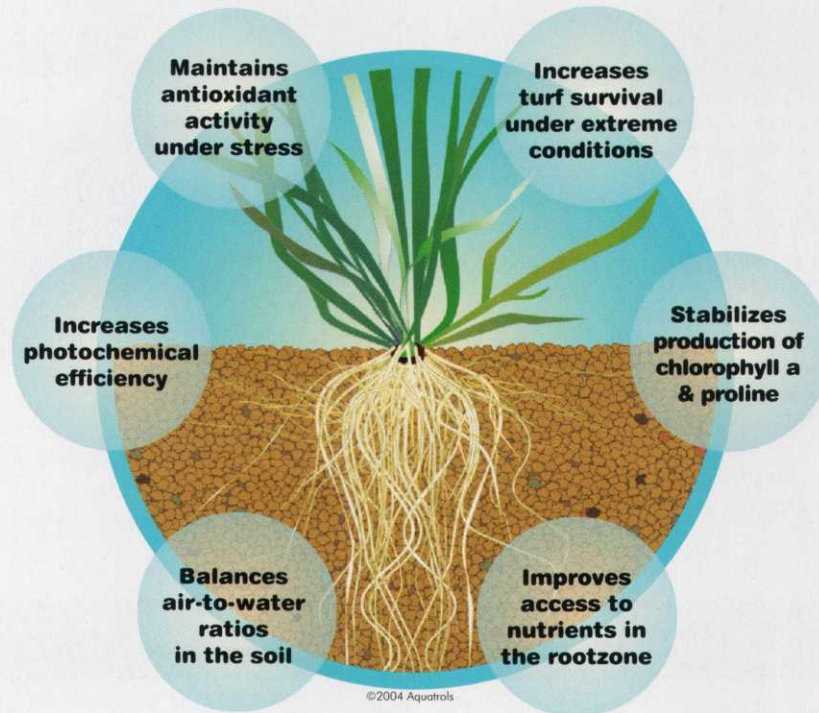
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Slow Recovery

By **BOB VAVREK**
USGA Senior Agronomist

The weather this spring could hardly be worse in light of the widespread winter kill experienced by most old courses across the north-central tier of states. Every *Poa annua*/bentgrass course seen this spring has had significant injury to low, poorly drained areas of fairways and many have damage on greens and tees. We needed a warm, sunny spring with mild nighttime temperatures and frequent rainfall and, so far, an unusually cool, dry weather pattern has prevailed.

Courses that used HPI covers or plastic to raise soil temperatures after overseeding are recovering faster than courses without covers. Plastic sheeting is relatively inexpensive and can raise soil temperatures as much as 10 degrees or higher on a sunny day. In fact, the temperature can increase so fast under plastic that many superintendents try to perforate the 3 - 4

mil thick covers with a spiker or aerifier after they are stapled onto the playing surface to reduce the chances of smothering the turf. The humid environment under plastic is ideal for disease activity, so be sure to treat preventatively for diseases and monitor the thin and bare areas frequently for algae. It's a good idea to remove plastic covers if the air temperature will be above 55 degrees on a sunny day.

Don't forget to remove covers and mow the undamaged turf when necessary. It's easy to forget about the healthy turf under a cover when your focus is on the bare overseeded areas. It's never fun to remove a cover and find undamaged portions of the putting surface looking like unmowed fairway turf.

Fortunately, there is some recovery in some of the areas dominated by *Poa*

annua that appeared to be stone dead a few weeks ago. The key to recovery in these sites has been light, frequent irrigation. Don't be reluctant to lightly water damaged turf several times a day in hope of timely rainfall. Irrigation appears to be just as important as soil temperatures when it comes to recovery this spring.

Recovery will slow or stop now that nighttime temperatures have regressed back into the upper 30's and low 40's across the upper Midwest. With important special events at many courses looming on the horizon, golfers are encouraged to remain patient. The rate of turf establishment will ultimately be determined by the weather patterns over the next several weeks despite our best efforts.

(Editor's Note: Bob Vavrek may be reached at rvavrek@usga.org or 262-797-8743)

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Win Some, Lose Some

By LARRY VETTER
MTGF Executive Director

The MTGF has been recognized for its contributions to the turf and grounds efforts at the University of Minnesota with membership in the President's Club of the University. This recognition is a result of a funding level that has become significant in recent years. We are very fortunate to have great people like Brian Horgan and Eric Watkins, along with Don White on the faculty and Bob Mugaas in Extension at the University. These individuals, together with their support staffs are making great strides in research, teaching and outreach that directly benefit the turf industry. This is the "Win Some" mentioned in the headline.

Unfortunately, along with this comes the "Lose Some" portion of that headline. By far the biggest disappointment in recent memory is that the University, because of its Strategic Planning process, placed "a hold" on capital developments which included the construction of a building on the TROE Center site. As most of you know, the University had allocated an additional 16 acres on the northeast corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland Avenues for turf and grounds research. Subsequent to that land allocation a great deal of work and a very large monetary investment was made on the site installing research projects, teaching aides and demonstration areas. The ultimate goal for the past few years has been the construction of a building that would provide some permanency to the turfgrass research, outreach and education efforts on campus.

Last year the MTGF was given the go-ahead to fund the pre-design work for such a building. The MTGF Board of Directors allocated up to \$25,000.00 for that effort. A timeline was established and a number of meetings were held. Brian Horgan, University of Minnesota Turfgrass Extension Specialist; Jay Pomeroy, MASMS' MTGF board member, and others put in a great deal of time and effort toward moving those plans forward. When it became apparent that the time lines were not being met, it was discovered that this project was officially "on hold," along with a number of other projects, and would continue to be for the foreseeable future. Needless to say, this has been a major disappointment.

Given this development, the MTGF Board made a formal request to the University for the return of those funds with the understanding that if and when this project is allowed to go forward, the MTGF would most likely provide funding at that time. The majority of these funds have been returned with the remainder being in question.

The MTGF Board at its March, 2005 meeting approved funding for an economic impact study of the turf and grounds industries in this area. This study will be done by professionals and will provide a great deal of much-needed information regarding the size and scope of these industries. A committee was selected to spearhead this effort so that all related market segments would be represented and to assure that the study will be designed and conducted according to proper protocol. This will be an extensive effort that will require the cooperation of all professionals within the MTGF. We already know that these industries have a huge economic impact. However, to state a total without a detailed study for verification is merely speculation at this point.

Also at its March meeting the MTGF Board approved an additional \$84,000.00 for funding various projects and programs at the University of Minnesota. The MTGF continues to search for a way to partner with the University to get some form of

pathology assistance for the Green Industry. Drs. Michaels and Ishimaru, the department heads of Horticulture and Pathology respectively, are engaged in discussions in an attempt to find a way for this to be put in place. They have the blessing of the Dean to pursue this, so hopefully something can be found that is workable for all parties in the near future. As mentioned by MGCSA President Panuska in his column in last month's issue, there are other possibilities of making this happen. All avenues are being pursued that might lead to achieving this important goal. While funding and the ultimate structure are the key hurdles that remain for achieving this objective, continuing efforts are being made that will hopefully result in success in the near future.

Planning is well underway for the 2006 Minnesota Green Expo. Complete details will be published in *Hole Notes* in one of the Fall, 2005 issues. The dates are January 4-6, 2006 with pre-Expo Workshops scheduled for Tuesday, January 3rd. Big changes are in the works due to the move to Exhibit Halls B and C which gives us newer meeting rooms with more convenient movement between educational sessions.

Pesticide and Power Limited Technician recertification will again be offered in the fall of 2005.

Have a great 2005 season and I look forward to seeing many of you at the the Field Day on July 28 (see page 13).

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