

The Wilderness at Fortune Bay-

(Continued from Page 10)

sensitive areas and how we are taking measures to protect these areas.

Most recently we invited an official from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to evaluate our habitat enhancement activities. Not only did this visit give us some insight as to where we could do a better job with wildlife habitat enhancement but it involved other environmental entities in our efforts here and helps to spread the word about the many positive things we do to help the environment.

Making the public aware of our efforts as superintendents is perhaps one of the most important parts of environmental stewardship but is often one of the most difficult for many to perform. The one thing that I have learned is that public outreach, once you get started, actually becomes one of the easiest tasks to perform. The public wants to hear about the many good things that we are doing and are receptive to good news.


I would like to conclude with a final thought in regards to environmental stewardship and its relationship with the golf course industry. My belief is that most golf courses are doing the "right" things in regards to being a positive force for the environment-I think that many of the practices described above are followed by many of us in the profession.

In fact, I am sure there are those that do even more. What I think is most important is that we as superintendents make

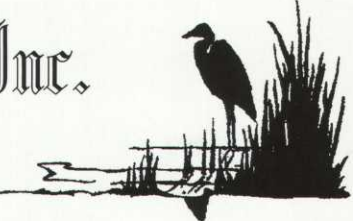


Eagle Scout Project at the Wilderness at Fortune Bay.

efforts to actually make people aware of the positive things that we are doing. Doing so will help us to overcome some of the false presumptions concerning golf courses that some in the public still prescribe to and help to ensure the vitality of the profession in the future. Staying silent is not the solution to trying to change public perception-becoming proactive with the public is.



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Count on it.

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, Receives 2010 MGCSA Distinguished Service Award at Annual Banquet

By DAVID OBERLE
Excel Turf & Ornamental

On Wednesday, December 8, following a sumptuous dinner at the Southview Country Club, I had the pleasure of presenting Jack MacKenzie, Certified Golf Course Superintendent at North Oaks Golf Club, to receive the MGCSA's most prestigious honor; the Distinguished Service Award. The DSA is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding or significant contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent profession. This contribution will be made over a significant period of time and may be on-going.

Indeed Jack has been very busy over the last decade promoting his industry. As Paul Diegnau CGCS and President of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association stated, "Jack has always reminded me of the Energizer bunny. He seems to have a limitless amount of energy and I envy that! The most positive-minded individual I have ever met, without doubt, Jack has the greatest outlook on life and I find that when you spend time with him, his attitude and enthusiasm are contagious. He is a gifted writer and gives willingly of his time and talent to the MGCSA as editor and contributor to the association's Hole Notes magazine. He is the one that took this publication to the next level and beyond, winning national awards for chapter newsletters. His columns also appear nationally in *Turfnet Magazine*. It seems that a year doesn't go by that you see at least one article (often times many articles) in a national publication devoted to Jack and his golf course operation or to a cause or topic that he feels is relevant in the industry. Jack is a visionary, an outside-the-box thinker and an idea guy. I really don't think he ever sleeps. The wheels are always turning. He is always looking at ways to improve our association and show the value of our industry as a whole."

MacKenzie has been in the business for over 34 years, the last 26 as Superintendent at North Oaks Golf Club. Beyond his work as a superior Turfgrass manager, Jack has made major contributions with several state 'green industry' associations, including the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association, the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation,



THE MACKENZIE FAMILY

Jack MacKenzie CGCS (center) shares a proud moment with his family after receiving the MGCSA Distinguished Service Award at the Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet. Pictured to his left are his mom Barb and wife Kim, and to his right, daughter Madeline and his dad Keith.

the Minnesota Golf Association as well as the MGCSA.

While on the MGCSA's Public Relations and Editorial Committees he initiated the MGCSA Golf Ambassador program which picks a local celebrity to embrace and promote the MGCSA. He spearheaded MGCSA's involvement in MGA Golf Expo. Ever the industry booster boy, Jack has been on local radio and television presenting golf maintenance in a positive light.

The MGCSA's Hole Notes magazine has dramatically improved since Jack became Editorial Chair. *Hole Notes* turned into a full-color magazine with improved and timely content. These improvements resulted in three national awards from GCSAA. Along with his standard 'In Bounds' article in *Hole Notes*, Jack has had articles published in the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, *Minnesota Golfer*, *Golf Course Management*, *SuperNews*, *TurfNet*, *Golfdom* and *North Oaks News*.

Jack joined the Minnesota Turf Grounds Foundation (MTGF) Board of Directors as MGCSA Representative in

2006. He served as Vice President in 2006-2007 and as MTGF President in 2008-2009 and currently serves as Ex-Officio. "Jack is an outside of the box thinker and I have always appreciated his broader view of the green industry as member of the MTGF Board of Directors," said Shawn Bernick, current President of the MTGF.

Through the years, Jack has worked closely with the MGA as MGCSA/MGA Liaison and served on the MGA Economic Impact Study Committee and the Warren Rebholz Award Selection Committee.

Jack's influence goes beyond the golf business. As a member of the Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association, serves on MNLA's Government Affairs Committee and is an active "Day on the Hill" participant. He has Chaired the Minnesota Turfgrass Government Affairs Committee, testified before the Minnesota Department of Labor on behalf of MGCSA, and currently attends many Senate Committee hearings on water use.

(Continued on Page 15)

MGCSA Awards-

(Continued from Page 14)

Besides working with Dr. White and Dr. McDonald at the University of Minnesota over many years, Jack also is a volunteer and booster of the UM TROE Center and continually supports the UM Turf Club. Jack's industry participation includes the Toro Professionals Club, BASF Turf Council and is a Bayer Science Purple Cow Award recipient. And finally, Jack was the original creator of the world famous Green & White markers marketed through Par Aide Products Company.

"Jack's willingness to serve the turfgrass industry transcends the borders of North Oaks. He is a regular columnist for TurfNet; has served on every major board relating to turf in Minnesota; takes extra time from his family to educate legislators on golf and the role golf courses play in an urban environment; he is willing to serve as a mentor to undergraduate students at the University of Minnesota; he coaches young industry professionals on campus and in the field; he enlightens us as editor and columnist for the award winning *Hole Notes*; and Jack always sees the best in every individual," according to Dr. Brian Horgan, Turfgrass extension Specialist at the University of Minnesota.

Deserving of the esteemed DSA award? You bet! MacKenzie should be celebrated for his dedication to the industry...the whole green industry. Dynamic and influential Jack has assured me that he will continue to positively represent the MGCSA going forward in his next big project. As Co-chair of the Minnesota Turfgrass Government Affairs Committee he is currently working on a BMP for water management to help guide the MGCSA in an ever more regulated environment.

It was a fine evening and I appreciated being a part of its success. The standing ovation Jack received at the conclusion of the program summed up the whole evening; impressive, very impressive.

Brian Horgan, Ph.D. Honored With MGCSA President's Award

The MGCSA President's Award was awarded to Brian Horgan, Ph.D., University of Minnesota. This award is not presented every year. MGCSA President Paul Diegnau CGCS, Keller Golf Course, and the Board of Directors felt Dr. Horgan, a world renowned turf ambassador, deserved this recognition for his

development of the Turf Research Education and Outreach Center at the University of Minnesota as well as the extensive turf research he's done for the MGCSA for many years. Horgan is currently working on Legislative mandated studies directed at nutrient fate in the environment. (See article on Page 16 of this issue.)

Superintendent Vincent Dodge and the Wilderness at Fortune Bay Presented MGCSA Environmental Award

The MGCSA Environmental Leader Award was awarded to Vincent Dodge and The Wilderness at Fortune Bay, Tower, MN. (See article on Page 5 of this issue.) This award recognizes a member who does his/her very best to exemplify and educate to others our efforts in environmental stewardship. The Wilderness is a preeminent example of how a developer can partner with a diverse group of environmentally interested parties to create a wonderful destination for golf and wildlife alike.

Aaron Johnsen Wins MGCSA Watson Award for Writing

The MGCSA Watson Award winner for 2010 is Aaron Johnsen, Winfield Solution. The Watson Award is presented to a member of the association for writing contributions to the association's monthly magazine *Hole Notes*. Aaron submitted three timely articles this past summer.

50-Year Member Jerry Murphy, CGCS, Along With 28 Others Presented MGCSA Service Awards

Twenty-nine MGCSA members were presented Service Awards. Most notably, was 50-year member Jerry Murphy CGCS. Prior to retiring Mr. Murphy was the long time Superintendent at Somerset Country Club in West Saint Paul.

The MGCSA, a member chapter of the



The Bades and Murphys: From the left, Stephanie Bade, James Bade, Jerry Murphy CGCS, and Marilyn Murphy.



VINCENT DODGE
MGCSA Environmental Award Recipient



AARON JOHNSEN
MGCSA Watson Award Recipient

Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America, was established in 1927 to advance the art and science of golf course management, to collect and disseminate practical solutions to problems with a view to more efficient and economical maintenance and production of golf courses, and to promote the welfare of the Superintendent and the profession.

Dr. Brian Horgan - A Minnesota Wonder!

By PAUL DIEGNAU, CGCS
Superintendent, Keller Golf Course

If you are a turfgrass professional working in Minnesota, what thoughts or words pop into your head when you hear the name Dr. Brian Horgan? I see words like visionary, energetic, well-respected, idea guy, optimistic, intelligent, passionate, confident, and the list goes on and on. Let's just say the gods of fortune were smiling on the Minnesota Turfgrass Industry back in 2001 when the University of Minnesota brought him on board.

After completing his PhD work at the University of Illinois under the tutelage of Dr. Bruce Branham, he joined the University of Minnesota faculty. Dr. Horgan is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota and holds the title of Turfgrass Extension Specialist. His research interests revolve around nutrient fate and turfgrass water conservation. Specifically, he is interested in improving nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer recommendations and gaining a better understanding of the fate of phosphorus in our environment. Dr. Horgan has spent the last five years researching turfgrass water conservation strategies utilizing new technologies, ET predictors and proper plant selection. He, along with Dr. Eric Watkins, conducts NTEP trials and works with alternative low-input turfgrass species.

Brian was the impetus behind the creation and development of TROE Center (Turfgrass Research, Outreach and Education) research facility on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus. The creation of this research complex in 2003 put Minnesota Turfgrass research on the map. It is here that most of the research studies are conducted and where an annual Field Day is held to expose industry stakeholders to research in progress.



BRIAN HORGAN, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota

When the Minnesota legislature decided that our state should be the first in the nation to ban phosphorous fertilizer, Dr. Horgan, along with several members of MGCSA, stepped forward to work with the politicians. The end result was a golf course exemption clause in lieu of completing a training and certification program for golf course personnel. This certification program was designed and taught by Dr. Horgan. Because of this successful collaboration, Brian and the MGCSA received a rare recognition award from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

He was instrumental in creating a one-week academic course called the School of Turfgrass Management in collaboration with faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The course rotates annually between Madison and St. Paul and is well attended by assistants, grounds staff and anyone looking for a

solid background in basic Turfgrass management. When you talk to students that were taught, mentored, or advised by Brian, a common theme emerges. He is highly respected and held in high regard.

Because of the value of this cutting-edge research to day-to-day golf course operations, Brian is highly sought after for speaking engagements. Since joining the University of Minnesota faculty ten years ago, Brian has earned a reputation that is in high demand at educational gatherings around the world. He has presented across the USA, in Canada, Europe, Asia, Australia and South America. His cutting-edge research combined with his engaging, easy-going, thought-provoking teaching style keeps him very busy on the speaking circuit. When you attend a seminar taught by Brian, his passion and excitement for his work shines through. He genuinely loves what he does. He is truly global and we here in Minnesota could not ask for a better representative.

Consequently, as President of MGCSA, I am proud to recognize the incredible contributions made by Dr. Horgan in these short ten years. Rarely does an individual impact an industry to this level in such a short time period. It became evident that Dr. Horgan would be the perfect recipient for the MGCSA Presidents' Award (last presented in 2005). Therefore, in December 2010, at the annual MGCSA Awards Banquet, I had the honor of presenting the MGCSA President's Award to Dr. Brian Horgan in recognition of his vision, dedication and outstanding contributions to the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' profession and to the Minnesota Turfgrass Industry. Moreover, on top of all this, he has a rather impressive golf game. Dr. Brian Horgan truly is a Minnesota wonder.

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Scenes from the MGCSA Awards & Recognition Banquet



Tom Fischer CGCS, Brady Klein and Brad Klein.



Steve Garske, Bob Porter, Ryan Moy and Tom West.



Bob McKinney CGCS, and MGCSA President Paul Diegnau CGCS.



John Steiner CGCS, and his wife Michelle.



MGCSA Annual Banquet host Scottie Hines CGCS, and his wife Kristin.

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More information can be found at www.mgcsa.org.

Bob Simondet Joins Reinders As Territory Manager in Minnesota

Reinders is proud to announce that Bob Simondet will join Reinders, Inc. as a Territory Manager in the Minnesota golf market. "Bob brings over 22 years of sales experience to our organization and we are excited about adding his professional talents," said Dale Parske, Reinders, Inc. Western Regional Manager.

Bob may be reached at 612-578-9476 or bsimondet@reinders.com. More information can be found at www.reinders.com



PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE MGCSA

Back to front, left to right: Greg Hubbard CGCS, Kerry Glader, Scott Hoffmann CGCS, Tom Fischer CGCS, Kevin Clunis CGCS, Rick Traver CGCS, James Bade, Keith Scott CGCS, Paul Eckholm CGCS, Dennis Hendrickson, Bill Johnson, Fred Taylor CGCS, Larry Vetter, Jim Nicol CGCS, Paul Diegnau CGCS and Jerry Murphy CGCS.

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(4) Milona Ball mark Repair Tools \$500.00, (2) keystone Drag Mats \$500
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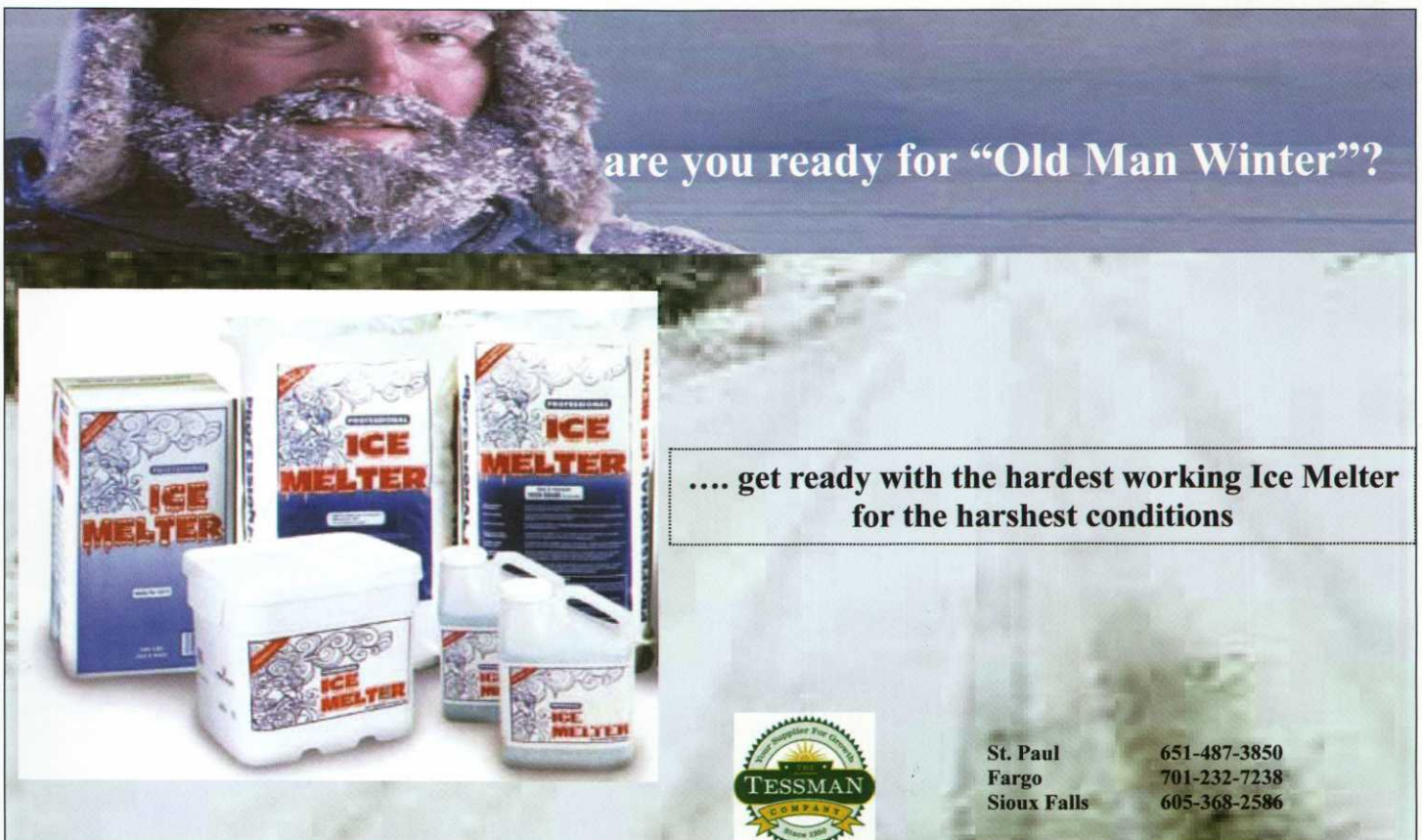
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News from the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation



MPSA/MSTMA Merge To Form Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association

Two allied associations of the MGCSA are merging. As we all deal with shrinking budgets, less staff and more demands on our time, we are faced with difficult decisions and new challenges. With that in mind, members from both the Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association (MSTMA) and the Minnesota Park Supervisors Association (MPSA) Board of Directors held a series of meetings to merge the organizations together.

The new association is the Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association (MPSTMA).

The two organizations have been running a parallel course and it was felt that now is the time to merge. The belief is that this will be a win-win situation for everyone involved.



The general feeling is to incorporate the traditional activities that each organization has enjoyed in the past. This will lead to more opportunity for education, networking and more access to conferences, schools and workshops.

To learn more about MPSTMA, visit www.mpstma.org.

ABOUT THE MTGF

You, as a member of the MGCSA, are also a member of the MTGF.

The Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation (MTGF) is a non-profit organization that was formed in 1993. It is a partnership of seven Minnesota turf and grounds related associations and the University of Minnesota.

They are: Minnesota Association of Cemeteries; Minnesota Educational Facilities Management Professionals; Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association;

Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association; Minnesota Turf Association; Minnesota Society of Arboriculture, Minnesota Turf Seed Council.

The mission of the MTGF is to promote the green industries in Minnesota through support of research, education and outreach at the University of Minnesota and elsewhere.

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