

Welcome to our 2005 issue of **Golf Now! Chicago!** This year's issue is chocked full of very useful information. "**The Courses**" section features many stunning courses located throughout the Chicagoland region. Each golf course has unique attributes; so whether you're a novice or scratch golfer, there is a course for everyone. Our "**Great Escapes**" section has a dozen of the very best Midwest getaways, all reachable in an easy drive. If you are looking for a relaxing "stay and play" package for the weekend, a challenging new golf course to entertain a client, or a first-class facility to host your next golfing, peruse this section for different options.

Plan golf outings? Here's a chance to learn more about planning a successful one. White Sox legend, Ron Kittle, has written a wonderful article for us in our "**Event Planning**" section about producing a successful charity fundraiser. He shares some of his own personal experiences that propelled him to start "giving back" to others by raising money for cancer research through an annual golf outing. He founded the Indiana Sports Charities 16 years ago. Today, his "Celebrity Golf Classic" held at Briar Ridge Country Club is able to raise over \$140,000 annually to aid 5 area hospitals.

Our "**Golf Community**" section showcases three Chicagoland residential golf communities. Each new development featured offers a completely different lifestyle. Depending on where you are in the scheme of life, read about affordable options for realizing your dream of owning a home on a golf course.

We continue to partner closely with Chicago's concierges by providing them with a quality golf publication and resource for their guests, and assisting them when needed. Featured are two very special concierges: Kathy McClanathan, the new President of the Chicago Hotel Concierge Association; and Jon Winke, who has served in this leadership role for the past 4 years. Read about their most challenging golf requests -- they truly do work miracles!

Please continue to support our area golf courses, hotels, and the wonderful advertisers who make this publication a reality. Lastly, for 2005 ...

Keep it in the short stuff,

Cheryl Justak, Publisher