



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EAGLE RIDGE RESORT & SPA ANNOUNCES
NEW GOLF MAINTENANCE AND GROUNDS MANAGER**

GALENA, ILL. - Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa has announced the recent promotion of Kurt Strother as Golf Maintenance and Grounds Manager in the resort's Golf and Grounds Department.

Strother, of Galena, has held the position of Golf Course Superintendent at both the South and the General Golf Courses over his tenure at Eagle Ridge, having initially joined the golf maintenance team in 2002. He holds a bachelor's degree in horticulture from Iowa State University.

In his new position, Strother will supervise and implement agronomic programs throughout the resort's 63-holes of golf, as well as develop, train, coach and mentor his golf maintenance superintendents and staff.

"Kurt has almost 18 years of golf course experience in many different capacities," said Ikhlas Ahmed, General Manager for the resort. "We are very pleased that Kurt has accepted the challenge and look forward to his continued commitment to our success at Eagle Ridge."

Under Strother's direction, the resort's golf maintenance team recently spearheaded and coordinated the resort's golf course restoration project, with the assistance of Oliphant, an industry leading golf course development, construction, and management company. The reconstruction included the rebuilding of over 100 bunkers throughout all four golf courses, improved drainage by reshaping several creeks, removal of select trees to improve play, restoration of tee boxes, and several bridge repairs. One of the more impressive, final results of the redesign and reconstruction was the ability to bring back the bunkers to their original USGA quality.

About Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa

Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa is located 150 miles west of Chicago in the heart of The Galena Territory, a 6,800 acre recreational, residential and resort community nestled amid the rolling hills of northwestern Galena, Illinois. Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa is a full-spectrum resort and showcases superior golf with 63 holes on four acclaimed courses which include the North Course; the South Course; the East Course (9-holes); and the

resort's crowning achievement, The General, with over 250 feet of elevation changes throughout the 18 holes.

Lodging accommodations at Eagle Ridge are delightfully unique with 80 quaint Inn rooms and over 250 villas and distinctive homes to choose from throughout the property. For the resort's corporate clients Eagle Ridge boasts 15,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting space, in addition to beautiful conference homes for small, elegant meetings. The entire facility is also the perfect venue for banquets, weddings and theme parties. Eagle Ridge offers three distinctive restaurants that include award-winning Woodlands Restaurant, along with Spikes Bar & Grill and Paisanos. Other amenities include the tranquil Stonedrift Spa, providing ten treatment rooms for a complete sensory experience, and a state-of-the-art fitness center with a beautiful indoor/outdoor pool, sauna and steam room.

The resort lays claim to numerous industry awards and recognition, such as:

- ***Successful Meetings*** - Honored Eagle Ridge with the "Pinnacle Award" as voted by readers in the Hotels & Resorts category for 2011. The resort also won the award in 2008 and 2009.
- ***Golfweek*** - The General was named as one of the best resort courses in their annual "Best Resort Courses" listing for 2012. The resort laid claim to the ranking in both 2009 and 2010. In 2009, the same magazine named The General second in the state of Illinois for *Golfweek's Best Courses You Can Play* listing.
- ***Meetings MidAmerica*** - Eagle Ridge was honored with the "Best of Mid-America" award for outstanding corporate meeting space as voted by readers in 2011. The resort was given the honor in 2007, 2008 and 2010.
- In 2010, ***Golf Magazine*** listed The General as the #4 "Best in Illinois" course to play alongside the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" ranking. In 2000, 2008 and 2010, The General was listed as one of the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" in the magazine's ranking.
- In 2009, ***Golf Digest*** named The General one of the best golf courses in the state of Illinois for *The World's Greatest Golf* rankings, 2009-2010. The General was named #24 in the state of Illinois. The rankings were put out as a supplement to the May 2009 issue of Golf Digest.
- In 2009, ***Zagat*** ranked Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa's The General, North and South courses in the 2009 America's Top Golf Courses, sixth edition as ranked and reviewed by players.

The property is the perfect backdrop to an incredible selection of outdoor activities including miles of biking, hiking and horseback riding trails, as well as tennis, hot air balloon rides, boating and fishing on the picturesque 225-acre Lake Galena. For reservations or additional information, call (800) 892-2269 or visit www.eagleridge.com.