

the Bull Sheet

Official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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On Course with the President

by Timothy Kelly,
President, MAGCS



I am writing this article in early March. We as Golf Course Superintendents are poised to start another busy golf and turf season for 1993. By the time the MAGCS membership reads this column it will be well into April. All of us by this time will have an early taste of the 1993 season. We also will have a better sense of how the 1993 golfing season will be shaping up. I hope that all MAGCS members were able to complete their planning for this season, and have developed an excellent "game plan" for all facets of their duties and responsibilities. I sincerely wish the entire MAGCS membership success in their endeavors throughout the 1993 season.

The MAGCS Board along with two committees, Arrangements and Golf have finalized the new system of: advanced registration and pre-payment for all MAGCS golf meetings. This system will be utilized starting this month. If any member has a question concerning this system please contact myself, or any of the MAGCS board members.

I have given something a great deal of thought lately. It is, what I call "walking the tight rope". "Walking the tight rope", is what I believe all of us as Golf Course Superintendents are going to be doing for many years. It requires us to balance these

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two factors: providing the best possible golf turf possible (demanded by membership or customers), while being as environmentally responsible as possible. I thought that all Golf Course Superintendents were as environmentally responsible as possible, until I heard Senator Metzenbaum tell us to get off of our butts and do more. From his prospective Golf Course Superintendents are not doing enough. I took offense with his statement at first, gee whiz, what more can we do? As I thought about it more, I felt that he is probably correct. First of all every Golf Course Superintendent must realize that we are totally responsible for the environmental stewardship of our golf courses. I also remembered back in November, at a meeting an incredulous statement was made by a MAGCS member. He stated that he was not responsible for the environmental management of his staff or golf course operation. This statement and thinking went out with the dinosaurs! The proper thinking is that all of us are environmentally responsible. We need to be part of the solution. I believe that GCSAA encompassed this environmental responsibility correctly in Ballot A of the Bylaws which was passed by 77%. The MAGCS Board's motto for this year is: Environmentally Responsible and Striving to Be the Best! This motto fits in well with "walking the tight rope". As an industry more can be done through research and development. Practical, usable, alternative methods need to be developed rapidly, so that they may be employed immediately.

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A good example of usable research is the USGA Turfgrass Research efforts, and the new proposed GCSAA Toxicological Exposure Study.

We as Golf Course Superintendents need to communicate to others our story of successes, such as how we are using less pest control materials than in the recent past. The New York Audubon Society — United States Golf Association Collaborated Program, along with the Ciba-Geigy Rain Bird Environmental Steward Awards Program are helping to communicate and promote the good environmental news about golf courses and superintendents. (Congratulations to Tony Rzadzki on receiving this award for last year.) Our golf courses are islands of: turf, trees, shrubs, etc., producing oxygen for the world environment, and providing habitat for wildlife. Many of us are practicing good IPM at our golf courses while "walking the tight rope". All of us continue to struggle with our own problems whether it is a tough localized micro climate, budget constraints, or strains of incurable/uncontrollable fungal diseases. As the struggle continues, Golf Course Superintendents and their staffs must play by the rules: by being licensed, utilizing pest control materials according to directions, and following sound environmental practices. Let's get off our butts and show Senator Metzenbaum and others outside of our industry what we can do!

Director's Column

by David Blomquist
Naperville C.C.



This is my second year as a director of the MAGCS. I would like to thank those members who have supported me in my brief tenure. This year I am the chairman of the Public Relations committee. Along with Don Cross, Joel Purpur, John Gurke, and Tony Rzadzki, I am expanding the services offered by the P.R. committee to include:

- Press Packets
- Superintendent/local club biographies for the **Bull Sheet**
- Continued improvement of the Video Library
- Library of articles/reports about pesticides and other environmental topics

The press packets will help superintendents access media outlets to gain valuable "press time". They will be customized for various topics such as: Tournament preparation, environmental programs, and recognition of awards presented to the club or superintendent. It will have pre-written releases so the superintendent may simply "fill in the blanks" and forward the release to the contact at the desired newspaper.

Each month the **Bull Sheet** will recognize the superintendent and golf course that will host the monthly meeting. This will give members an opportunity to learn about their fellow superintendents and some of the inside stories of area clubs. Look for this feature in this issue!

Our video library has been around for several years and is available to all members at no cost. A list of the collection and availability description is listed elsewhere in this issue. We are

constantly adding to the collection so if you have a tape, please contact me so I may add it to the collection.

We've established a collection of print articles and scientific reports pertaining to environment issues specifically pesticides. I've found this to be helpful when dealing with environmentally over-sensitive people. MAGCS members can access this collection by calling me and I can provide necessary information.

The Public Relations committee is here for MAGCS members to utilize. If you have any input either good or bad, please let me know. Our goal is to promote pride within our association as well as improving the reputation of golf course superintendents in the general public.

Please Support Our Advertisers

MAGCS Video Library



The MAGCS has accumulated many VHS videos for members to acquire for their own library. The Public Relations Committee is working on procuring more titles, if you come across something that is not in the MAGCS library, please let us know about it so we may add it to the collection.

How to Get a Copy of a Video

Send a blank video along with a self addressed, stamped envelope to:

Dave Blomquist
Naperville Country Club
25 W 570 Chicago Ave.
Naperville, IL 60540

Specify the title you want, and I will make a copy and get it out as soon as possible.

Available Titles

Working with Pesticides,
vol. 1-4
Intro. to Golf Course Maint.
Eng./Spanish
Safe Handling of Pesticides
Landscape Pruning
Home Lawn Care/weed control
When a Crisis Strikes/
media mgt.
Tractor Safety
Landscape Equip. Safety
Lawn Mower Maint.
Pesticide Use and Benefits
How to Control Pests and
Diseases in the Landscape
Heat Protection
Controlling and Prevent. Spills
Cutlass Turf Video
Home Lawn Establishment —
Fertilization
Professional Turf Mgt.
Home Lawn Care "Divots"
Big Fears, Little Risk
Mechanics of Cup Changing

Farm Chemical Safety
Lawn Equip. and Uses
MSDS Compliance
Eye Safety
Extinguishers & Fires
Back Injury Prevention
Groundskeeper 220-D Toro
Eng./Spanish
Greenmaster 3000 Toro
Eng./Spanish
216 Toro, Eng./Spanish
Safety on the Golf Course
Controlling Snow Molds in
the 1990's
USGA Putting Green Const.
Bent Fairs. Renovation and
Management
Patterson Fan Co. Info.
Romtec SST Vault Toilet
The Pesticide Roundtable
1992 NCTE
The Crash of Flight 232
1992 Clinic