

# 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 read with interest an article in the Chicago Tribune recently, it was about using natural pest control. The main thrust of this article was how the Village of Schaumburg was going to be using about two million ladybugs to wipe out a host of pests that snack on trees, flowers, and other vegetation. Now the trick of this article is that it

states the ladybugs are to control a host of pests, and a resident said that insects had eaten the leaves on bushes and trees. Further on in the article it then states that the ladybugs will work to reduce the aphid pest population. In my understanding ladybugs will control the aphids, but insects that eat leaves (caterpillars, beetles, etc.) will not be controlled by ladybugs. This is an example of unclear communication. Many unknowledgeable readers will assume that ladybugs are a panacea, which they are not. As a golf course superintendent when asked to discuss these type of questions it is my responsibility to set things right. Yes, ladybugs have a place in controlling small soft bodied pests like aphids, but they are only a part of the ever changing pest control matrix. Superintendents are interested in utilizing new biological controls, as long as they work. Superintendents always utilize sound IPM practices, including: scouting, determining economic damage, proper selection of a control method (biological or chemical), and proper application of the control. I am currently utilizing: ladybugs, lacewings, and parasitic wasps as pest control methods for ornamentals and annuals.

Our next meeting will be September 21st at Shoreacres Country Club, Tim Davis will be our host.



## "September"

by Kenneth R. Zanzig

September's here, Labor Day and Autumn too.  
Frost soon will mingle with the morning Dew.  
Nipped Buds and Leaves begin to change color,  
Pressures and heavy play are smothered.  
Shorter Days say Summer's gone,  
Another Season has sung It's Song.  
All in All, a good Year, at times lffy!  
Heart goes out to those along the Mississippi!