

# the Bull Sheet

Official publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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Official Photographers — Raymond Schmitz & John Meyer

Dr. Randy T. Kane, Turfgrass Advisor  
University of Illinois & CDGA — (708) 954-2753



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Editor —

Fred D. Opperman  
810 Greenwood Avenue  
Carpentersville, IL 60110  
Phone (708) 428-5009

Fax (708) 428-5009

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## On Course With the President

I am writing this message in early August and many are wondering; when will this miserable summer ever end? This year, beginning with the cool and wet spring and suddenly turning to the hot and disease infested summer, has really been a physically and mentally demanding season for many superintendents. Hopefully, by now, the real oppressive weather is behind us and we have learned from the miserable experience to better play the cards we are dealt from mother nature. At least we will not have to worry about explaining excessive chemical inventory carry overs, only the excessive expenditure. We will all take a special level of enjoyment as our slow seasons gradually arrive. Not soon enough for this weary superintendent.



The "off" season for the golf course will be a busy time for the continuing planning and restructuring of the MAGCS operation. The Board of Directors of the MAGCS has defined the direction we should take as far as administrative growth is concerned, but we cannot do so without substantial financial support from the membership. The growth and demands of the membership of our association requires full time services in the area of secretarial and data base management. However, until we get the fiscal support of the membership, financially we cannot afford to provide the levels of membership services that best serves an association of our size.

The returned MAGCS Superintendents Surveys will help us get a feel for what the membership wants and expects from it's own association. "Thank You!" to all who took the time to complete and return this important survey. Still, about half of our class A and B members did not care enough about the MAGCS to provide their input. This is disappointing since the goal was to have a full consensus of opinions from the survey questions. The returned surveys will be professionally processed and the results will be published as soon as they become available. Our association would not have been able to afford the professional processing service had it not been for the voluntary contributions made towards the MAGCS Research and Development Program. This is a benefit from your contribution that is coming directly back to you, the MAGCS contributing member. Furthermore, these results will benefit all of the MAGCS membership.

Member input for newsletter name suggestions on the other hand, has been overwhelming. The Editorial Committee received well over 100 creative and interesting new newsletter name ideas! The committee has met to study the suggestions. Shortly thereafter, they will submit their recommendations for the newsletter name of the Midwest. It will take some time to make all of the changes

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associated with the newsletter cover artwork and set up, therefore we do not expect to see anything new and exciting for several months. The Editorial Committee will be busy, as it is no small undertaking.

The golfing season may be nearing more relaxed times, but as you can see, your Board of Directors will be working overtime. Managing the MAGCS is somewhat like managing our golf courses in that even though we try and please everyone, it is not always possible. If we can please the majority, we have done our job. At work as well as with the MAGCS, the Board of Directors enjoys hearing compliments from our members for the time and effort devoted to try and please the membership. All compliments however, are soon forgotten when we hear harsh or unkind words from an unhappy member. It is usually not so much what is said, but **how** it is said. We do, however, take constructive thoughts very seriously. There have been many changes and advancements within our association over the past 10 years. These accomplishments have not come without some resistance and vocal disagreement from a few individuals, but the MAGCS continues to progress in spite of their differences of opinion. The current Board of Directors is certain that the direction and decisions made this year are for the ultimate good of our members, our association, and our profession.

Some have undoubtedly disagreed and that is healthy for everyone concerned. We have heard and evaluated both the compliments and complaints thrown in our direction. We realize that we cannot please everyone, but unlike some of the comments to date, if one has a complaint, think about how it feels on the receiving end of the comment. All I ask is that it be done with class and please, be professional about it. Thank You.

**Joel Purpur, President, MAGCS**

### **Milorganite Initiates Turfgrass Research Donation Program**

*\$10 per ton to Turf Manager's Choice of Turfgrass Organizations*

Milwaukee — Turf managers can help support turfgrass research when they buy natural organic Milorganite fertilizer this fall, according to Alan Nees, Director Marketing. For each ton of 50 lb. bags or new 1,000 lb. mini-bulk bags purchased and delivered between August 1-November 30, 1995, Milorganite will donate \$10 to the turf manager's favorite turfgrass research organization.

"Milorganite and its distributors have been long-time supporters of turfgrass research at the national level through our involvement with the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Foundation", Nees says. "We are excited about this program because it enables Milorganite customers to support turfgrass research at the local level as well."

Contact Milorganite at 1-800-287-9645 or your local Milorganite Distributor for more details.

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