

the Bull Sheet

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Rolling Green C.C.

June 23-29 — 1997 U.S. Senior Open at Olympia Fields C.C.

July 7 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Orchard Valley G.C.

August 4 — John Deere Team Championship at LaGrange C.C.

August 14 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Bartlett Hills G.C.

August 24 — MAGCS family outing and Kane County Cougars baseball.

September 29 — ITF Northern Golf Day at Glen View Club and Evanston G.C.

It is a shame that *On Course* needs such a long lead time to put it into the mail to the members. Here I am reporting on the CDGA Green Seminar that took place on April 10, and you are reading about it in June. With the original "Bull Sheet," you would have been reading about it in May:

Randy Kane and his committee for this seminar did an outstanding job of putting together some interesting speakers.

Frank Hannigan, ABC Sports golf commentator, talked about Augusta National from the beginning of the tournament to

the present. It was very entertaining listening to all of the whims and extravagances of what goes on to make it a premier event on the golf tour.



Frank Hannigan—
"Whatever I lack in knowledge,
I can make up in opinions."



Chris Pekarek and Tim Kelly of the Village Links of Glen Ellyn gave us an insight into what it took to win all of their various environmental awards. A tremendous amount of work and effort was put forth to do so. What a wonderful program and asset for the Village of Glen Ellyn.

Wayne Timberman of Softspikes gave an excellent history of plastic cleats from their early creation in Colorado to the present. Mr. Timberman said that Arnold Palmer tried his cleats in 1994 at a golf outing and slipped. Palmer immediately sent back to the

clubhouse for his regular shoes with metal spikes. His comment at the time was, "Hell will freeze over before I will use this product." Two years later "Hell froze over," for he is now wearing them.

NECROLOGY

It is with a deep sense of loss that we announce the death of Ruth W. Burdett, mother of Jim Burdett, on April 13, 1997. She was born on October 10, 1907.

Ruth and husband Paul B. Burdett started a distributorship in 1941 selling supplies to golf course superintendents. They worked from their home in Lombard. There were many times that Ruth would get a phone call for supplies and with Paul already out delivering, would load her car and make the delivery herself.

She was integrally active in starting the GCSAA's women's program (now the spouse program) with Mrs. Ray (Jo) Gerber and others. Ruth also was active as president of The Chicago Women's Club as well as the Lombard Women's Club.

Assistant superintendent needed. Call Chuck Anfield at Steeple Chase G.C., 847-949-1419.

Congratulations to Bob Maibusch and Craig Joscelyn for becoming recertified recently. Recertification must take place every five years.

Wanted: Standard club washers and Allis Chalmers golf cart, any condition. Call Verlyn Strellner, 847-835-7030.

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For Sale: Toro hydraulic 690, 670, and 650 sprinkler bodies complete with gear drives; VT II central and VT II control clocks; also miscellaneous irrigation parts. Every item is clean and sorted. 1989 Neary bedknife grinder, model 200, great shape, asking \$750. Call Mike Vercautren, Butterfield C.C., 630-323-2734.

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Peter Leuzinger, CGCS, spoke this past May 16 in Washington, D. C., for a summit meeting of environmentalists on "Golf Environments of the Twenty-First Century: Integrating Wildlife Conservation and Golf Courses." The meeting was hosted by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundations and the United States Golf Association and was held in the National

Geographic building in the heart of the capitol. Peter was very excited about this trip, as he felt it was a new audience to speak to about the attributes of golf course developments and their positive role in providing natural habitat in a community. Other speakers included experts from the EPA, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Audubon International, Save the Bay, and representatives from the GCSAA and USGA.

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Congratulations to Chuck Anfield and Ann Marie Hopson on their marriage, May 10, 1997, in Chicago Heights, Illinois. Chuck is the superintendent at Steeplechase G. C.

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A very happy 93rd birthday to Mrs. Ray (Jo) Gerber on June 12, 1997!!!
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I received a note from Roger Stewart recently, and he states that the construction of the course is slowly coming along. Last year's record rainfall of 62 inches(!!!) delayed their schedule. He hopes to be seeding during May; and although he really doesn't like the idea of spring seeding, it will have to be done then. The opening date was pushed back from this fall to May 1998. Roger, good luck and keep plugging away.
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Pythium Diseases of Turf

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increase! *Pythium* blights and root rots are powerful diseases. Once they are well entrenched in a turf, they will be very difficult to stop, unless there is a dramatic change in the weather or a fungicide is used to control them. The fungicides registered for *Pythium* control vary in terms of their active chemical ingredient. It is not possible within the scope of this brief article to describe their differences. However, it is generally agreed that the same type of chemical should not be used repeatedly and that fungicide use should always be used as part of a disease management program, not as the only part.

Next, consider that a raging *Pythium* blight can kill hundreds of square feet of turf in days. Therefore, the speed with which a fungicide acts must be quick. I have observed that systemic fungicides registered for *Pythium* con-

trol require several days to nearly a week to reach their full effectiveness. Contact fungicides reach their potential within a day, but the effect is lost after several days if the grass is growing. Therefore, I would offer the following suggestions:

SITUATION ONE: If you are managing *Pythium* blight in turf that develops the disease every year, then use a systemic fungicide (for example, Banol) prior to the development of blight symptoms. Then keep your eye on these areas, because even the best fungicides can be overcome if disease conditions are too great. If this happens, apply a contact fungicide.

SITUATION TWO: If your turf develops *Pythium* disease and you were not already using a fungicide, then apply a contact fungicide at the manufacturer's recommended therapeutic rate. If you want to switch to a systemic

fungicide, apply it after you have applied the contact fungicide. The idea here is that the contact fungicide will protect the turf while the systemic fungicide is working its way into the turf.

Pythium diseases are complicated, and if you feel you have a problem managing them, work with a plant pathologist. These diseases can be managed! ■

Editor's note: Why would you invite a mushroom to a party? Because he's a "fun guy"!