



Celebrate Fall!

I only have one more chance to get one of these messages to our editor on time. I think the first half of that sentence is more significant to me than the last. Honestly, I had started this in late August and was beginning to croon about all the great weather we had been having during the last half of the month. Frequent rains and cooler temperatures had healed all the minor summer blemishes and "life was good." However, we didn't feel quite so fortunate after we received 5.25" of rain on the evening of August 31. Our life was made easier after "good neighbors" Dennis Wilson, Jim Holtschult and Don Cross donated their fleet of pumps to assist our "deflooding efforts." Just as was the case on the farm where I grew up, the neighbor down the road apiece helps you out when you are down. Hopefully, we can repay the favor sometime.

Regardless of the weather or the scope of your fall projects, I hope everyone can catch their breath this fall and attend some of the following events.

*October 27 –
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- October 12 – Illinois Golf Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the new Glen Club in Glenview. Our very own Ray Gerber will become the second from the superintendents' ranks to join this distinguished group. Past president Bob Williams was inducted in 1990. Ray was the superintendent at Glen Oak for 35 years, was a long-time editor of *the Bull Sheet*, served as MAGCS president three times and GCSAA president once, and received GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award in 1975. Ray will be joining new inductees Tommy Armour (legendary Medinah head professional), current U.S. Senior Amateur champion Bill Shean and PGA Tour veteran D.A. Weibring.
- October 17 – MAGCS College Championship/ITF Fundraiser at Silver Lake Country Club. Dudley Smith, the senior superintendent in Chicagoland, will be our host and will no doubt be sporting some sort of gaudy Nittany Lion garb. Aside from being an important fundraiser for turf research, this is an excellent opportunity to hoist a toast to a living legend as his 40-plus years at Silver Lake draw to a close. Congratulations on an outstanding career, Dudley!
- October 20 – Annual Fall Dinner Dance, to be held at Bryn Mawr Country Club. This is a perfect opportunity to spend a night out with your significant other. Don't forget all the sacrifices they make during the growing season! My club is excited about hosting the event and

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National Crisis Prompts Cancellation of 75th Anniversary Festivities

On September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon stunned and horrified the nation. In the hours following this national tragedy, GCSAA President Tommy Witt released the following announcement:

“In light of today’s tragic events, I am announcing that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is canceling all scheduled activities this weekend in Lawrence, Kansas-Kansas City metropolitan region.

“This includes the 75th anniversary celebration, the chapter delegates meeting and the Chapter Leadership Program.

“It is not appropriate to host a celebratory event in the wake of today’s tragedies, nor do we want to risk the safety of anyone who would have to travel. We will provide additional information as

soon as it becomes available. We extend our thoughts and prayers to the victims and their families in this time of need.”

The MAGCS echoes the thoughts of our national organization. As *On Course* goes to press, further information on the rescheduling of the cancelled events is not yet available.

Bensumec Advisory

PBI-Gordon Corporation has asked golf course superintendents to stop using Bensumec 4LF until further notice. The company says it has had reports of yellowing turf on greens after application of the product.

According to Bill Brocker, vice president of marketing, the company has been working to find the cause since the first report. “Once we determined it was actually something in the product, we

began trying to identify the specific cause. We have now determined that one batch (lot 1286) is apparently contaminated with low levels of phenoxies and dicamba.”

On Saturday, September 8, the company posted a notice to the GCSAA member Web forums asking superintendents to stop using Bensumec on their greens. The company also posted a notice on its Web site at www.pbigordon.com/bensumec_message.htm, which includes the advisory and an injury recovery plan for greens that have been treated with Bensumec since August 1.

The company asks that any golf course or superintendent that has applied the product since August 1 please contact Gary Custis at 800-821-7925 or 800-471-3677.



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we have an elegant evening planned. We will highlight our 75th anniversary and again have Nadler Golf Car Sales to thank for covering the beverage costs. Thanks to Dave and Eric!

- October 27 – Remember to turn those clocks back when you go to bed. Yippee, it will be dark at 5 p.m.; no more 12-hour days and I’ve been looking forward to getting that hour of sleep back all summer!
- November 7 – Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country

Club. Education chairman Gary Hearn and his committee have an excellent program planned. We’ll be taking a look back over our 75 years through the eyes of our most senior members. Paul Konrad, WGN morning weather anchor, has agreed to be our celebrity keynote. Where did the tradition of getting a celebrity start, anyway? If you missed out last year, a photographer will be on hand to get a picture of you for our archives. We need those in case Gurke does another “The Way We Were” segment for our 100th

anniversary. He assures me that both he and I will still be working then. Last, we hope to get a group photo of all the past presidents who will be in attendance. Our 75th anniversary is obviously an appropriate time to bring past leadership together.

There you have it: plenty of special events that will celebrate, not only another successful year, but an historic 75 years. Hope to see you there!

