

MIDWEST PERSONALITIES



Name: **John Gurke**, Aurora C.C., 11 years
 Job title: **Greenkeeper**
 Date of birth: **February 22, 1962**
 Place of birth: **LaGrange Park, IL**
 Current residence: **An old house in Aurora, IL**
 Spouse: **Julie**, 19 months
 Children: **Tre**, age 9, **Taylor**, age 7
 Pet(s): **Dingo and Boomer**, Australian cattle dogs
 MAGCS member since: **1985**
 College/degree: **University of Illinois, ornamental horticulture**
 My favorite childhood memory is: **My childhood is an ever-evolving process—no one thing comes to mind.**
 My personal hero: **Don Knotts**
 My professional mentors: **Ed Fischer, who gave me my start when I was a punk.**
 Favorite actor: **Jimmy Stewart**
 Favorite musical performer: **Jimmy Buffett**
 Favorite cuisine/restaurant: **Anything at Pascales Manale in New Orleans**

Favorite "pigout" food: **Pizza**
 Favorite sports team: **Fighting Illini football**
 Favorite pro athlete: **Jim McMahon**
 Favorite pro golfer: **Peter Jacobson**
 My handicap index: **14-point-something**
 My favorite place to play golf is: **Blackberry Oaks**
 My best/most memorable round ever: **Fox Bend on Father's Day 1985, the last round my two brothers and my dad played together.**
 The most interesting/exotic place I've ever traveled: **Anegada, an island in the British Virgin Islands**
 The book I've been recommending lately: ***Don't Stop the Carnival* by Herman Wouk and *The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand**
 The last great movie I saw: **I rented *It's A Mad Mad Mad Mad World* recently—it's still, after all these years, the funniest stuff on film.**
 Favorite TV show: ***Six Feet Under***
 Favorite color: **Auburn with blond highlights**
 In my spare time, I enjoy: **Reading, lounging, crosswords (being idle)**
 Three words that describe me: **Thin but wiry**
 What I enjoy most about my job: **May—everything is blooming and growing and even a moron like me can make a course look good.**
 What I dislike about my job: **August—when the moron in me really shows.**
 I'm a Midwest member because: **I really like the magazine.**



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