

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 6-11 – 56th Annual Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show at the Metro Toronto Convention Center. Call 905-602-8873 to sign up.

January 17-20 – Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing, MI. Call 517-321-1660 for details.

January 17-February 4 – The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School Three-Week Preparatory Short Course (short course, maybe, but LONG title) in New Brunswick, NJ. Call 732-932-9271, ext. 630 for details.

January 19-21 – 2005 Mid-Am Horticultural Trade Show at the Lakeside Center at McCormick Place in Chicago. Call 847-526-2010 or go to www.midam.org for details.

January 19 – GCSAA Education and MAGCS present “Annual Bluegrass Management” one-day seminar at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL.

January 20 – GCSAA Education and MAGCS present “Localized Dry Spot and Using Wetting Agents on the Golf Course” half-day seminar from 8 a.m. to noon; and

“Managing Turfgrass Root Systems in the North” half-day seminar from 1 to 5 p.m., both at Midwest Golf House. More info follows.

January 24 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Mount Prospect Golf Club (in its new clubhouse), **Fred Behnke, CGCS** host.

February 7-12 – Golf Industry Show at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL.

February 10-11 – MAGCS Huge, Luxuriant, Can't-Miss, Over-the-Top Hospitality Extravaganza-Zuite in Salons 11 and 12 of the Rosen Centre Hotel from 6 to 10 p.m. each night.

February 24 – MAGCS Annual Assistant Superintendent Winter Workshop at Midwest Golf House. More details follow.

March 9 – Ground Control Conference sponsored by Ero-Tex at the Northern Illinois University-Hoffman Estates campus. Call 866-437-6839 for details.

March 16-17 – Reinders 17th Turf and Irrigation Conference at the Waukesha Expo Center in suburban Milwaukee, WI.

It was with great sadness that the MAGCS said farewell in December to one of its past presidents and most renowned members. **Dave Meyer**, longtime MAGCS member, superintendent, developer, entrepreneur and our president in 1989, passed away last month. To Penny, Dave's wife and our secretary for many years, and to Dave's family and friends, we offer our sincerest condolences.

Later this month, GCSAA Education and MAGCS are offering two days of valuable seminars at Midwest Golf House. On the 19th, Frank Rossi, Ph.D., will teach “Annual Bluegrass Management,” a full-day (and 0.70 EP) seminar that I'm guessing will be about annual bluegrass management. On the 20th, two half-day seminars facilitated by Keith J. Karnok, Ph.D. and worth 0.35 EPs each, titled “Localized Dry Spot &

Using Wetting Agents on the Golf Course” and “Managing Turfgrass Root Systems in the North” will be presented. If you haven't signed up yet, a few openings may still be available. Call **Luke Cella** at MAGCS at 630-243-7900 for information.

The second annual Assistant Superintendent Winter Workshop is scheduled for the 24th of February from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Golf House. Make plans to attend this year's rendition, whose theme is “Who Knew? NO ONE—YOU NEED TO TELL THEM!!!” and will feature *Golfdom* magazine's Pat Jones as keynote speaker. More information will become available later this month, but in case you're itching to hear more about it, give **Chad Kempf** a call at 630-986-1323.

It's that “musical chairs” time of year at MAGCS and this past month has seen a flurry of movement amongst our membership. Best wishes and congratulations to these MAGCS members who have relocated: **Mike Mumper**, formerly of Park Ridge Country Club, is now golf course superintendent at Lake Shore Country Club. **Tim Anderson, CGCS**, formerly of Prestwick Country Club, has filled **Dave Blomquist's** vacancy at Naperville Country Club, shortening his commute in a BIG way. **Jeff Pozen**, former assistant superintendent under **Tony Kalina** at Prairie Landing Golf Club, is the new golf course superintendent at the Downers Grove Golf Course (the original and historic Chicago Golf Club site), and **Gary Schweber, CGCS**, formerly of Twin Orchard Country Club, is now the golf course superintendent at Rolling Green Country Club. Best of luck to you all in your exciting new positions!



Tim Anderson, Mike Mumper and Jeff Pozen.

(continued on page 26)

Blink and the Golf Industry Show gets bigger. After announcing that the Club Managers Association of America will be joining us in 2007, GCSAA recently signed on the Golf Course Builders Association of America and the American Society of Golf Course Architects, both of whom will join the mix at this year's show in Orlando. Is there a trade show floor that can contain all this excitement?

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 Did Jim Nantz call you guys too? I wonder what it cost GCSAA to hire him to make all those phone calls encouraging us to attend the Show next month. Sure hope his voice recovers by April . . .

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 Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Richard DeBeir of rural St. Charles on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in October. Why? Turns out Mrs. DeBeir is editor and publisher of *On Course* magazine, a regional equine publication (which, word has it, was known as *On Horse* until the big name change of '96). Just thought y'all'd like to know that.

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 They went . . . they played . . . they conquered—almost. The two local teams mentioned in November's issue who qualified for the National John Deere Team Championship are back from their quest, and although they came home without a trophy, they certainly had great things to say about the experience. Teams from Crystal Lake Country Club (**Steve VanAcker, CGCS**) and Glen Erin Golf Club (**Dave Braasch**) competed for the national title in Arizona in November, and held their own against stiff competition. In the end, the battle for interstate supremacy was won by Illinois with a 10-stroke edge over the team from Wisconsin. Congratulations to all!



Holly Gilmour, Dave Braasch, Steve VanAcker and Jeff Rehberg.

Longtime MAGCS member **Wally Fuchs** was kind enough to contribute this photograph of some of the most noted and honored members of this Association. This group had gathered in the summer of 1978 for the retirement party honoring Frank Dinelli, and represents a veritable Hall of Fame of MAGCS past presidents and luminaries. In the back row, from left to right, are Ben Kronn, Adolph Bertucci, Bill Stupple, Frank Dinelli, Ray Gerber, Amos Lapp, Dom Grotti and Ed Stewart. In the front row are Bill Saielli, **Bob Williams**, **Joe Dinelli**, Jim Dinelli, Jim Johns and Tony Meyer.



In affiliation with the Second City Training Center and Donny's Skybox Theater, "Basically Awesome" is a high-energy sketch comedy revue featuring producer/writer/actor/MAGCS member and frequent seminar moderator **Keith Krause**, and it's playing every Sunday this month at 8 p.m. To catch this great act while enjoying a great drink in a great venue, you must go to Donny's Skybox Theater in Piper's Alley Mall. For directions and more info, go to www.secondcity.com. Remember, if you don't go, bad things will happen to you!

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 Caught in print: The November issue of *Golfweek's SuperNEWS* had a nice article on the huge turnaround that the Cook County golf courses have experienced under the new management of Billy Casper Golf. In the first year under BCG (2003), the courses posted a 70% increase over the previous year.

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 Also in print, the November issue of *Golf Course Management* featured the **Jon Jennings, CGCS** article "Reviving Classic Features in a Modern World." The article recapped Jon's talk at the Innovative Superintendents Sessions at last year's conference and show.

The NCTE is now officially a thing of the past. Last month's debut of the IPTC (Illinois Professional Turfgrass Conference) at Pheasant Run Resort surely convinced all attendees that "out with the old and in with the new" is a good thing. Numerous changes to the format made this new rendition a big success. Along with its usual strong array of educational sessions and seminars, the conference also offered Illinois pesticide testing for all categories and a vastly improved trade show setup. Having a stage set up at the end of the trade show floor allowed for everyone—including those who were manning their booths—to take part in the ITF awards presentations and the giving and receiving of all those checks for research. Another great touch was the addition to the show of live entertainment. The Tavern Hill Liars Band featured MAGCS members **Bill Johnson** of Olds Seed Solutions on guitar, mandolin and vocals, and **Parin Schmidt** of Naperbrook Golf Club on fiddle, guitar and vocals, along with Jim Wallace on guitar, harmonica and vocals. The group entertained its audience with a mix of Canadian Celtic, bluegrass, country and blues music.

Following this act, the presentation of checks for turfgrass research from all

the professional associations around the state—the Southern Illinois GCSA, NorthWest Illinois GCSA, Central Illinois GCSA and MAGCS—took place. Since giving is better than receiving, the next agenda item was the passing of checks from ITF to the various state universities to fund their continued research projects. Dr. Ken Diesburg of Southern Illinois University accepted a check for \$17,175 and Dr. Tom Voigt of the University of Illinois graciously took possession of the \$52,625 handed to him. After all that excitement, it was on to the presentation of the ITF Distinguished Service Award to this year's recipient, **Dave Ward** of Coyote Run Golf Course. Dave's family (wife Yoka and daughters Anna, Chris and Julia) was present as he accepted the honor in his usual unassuming manner after presenter and old friend Tom Voigt promised to "dispense with the roast and go straight to the accolades." Dave thanked "the females" as he stressed the importance of family in a successful career.

Topping off the day was keynote speaker Pat Hughes, the Chicago Cubs radio play-by-play man who, along with sidekick Ron Santo, was the only thing remotely entertaining about the Cubs last season. Pat fielded questions from the audience, and most of us left feeling a little reassured about the 2005 season (those of us who are Sox fans, anyhow). If you haven't taken part in the NCTE for a while, you owe it to yourself to check out next year's IPTC—it really has kicked it up a notch. Great job to Luke Cella, **Kevin DeRoo**, everyone at ITF and all those who played a part in bringing this to fruition!



Scenes from the IPTC: top, the Tavern Hill Liars Band performs; middle, U of I's Tom Voigt and Cubs broadcaster Pat Hughes; bottom, ITF Distinguished Service Award winner Dave Ward and "the females"—his wife and daughters.

For Sale

Please contact Brian at Bryn Mawr by phone (847-677-4112) or by e-mail (briancgcs@aol.com) if any of the following is of interest:

- 1996 John Deere 3215A fairway mower, very good condition; 2,200 hours.
- 1988 LF-100 fairway mower; good condition.
- 1984 Toro triplex; good condition.
- 1991 Jacobson Tri-King bank mower; good condition.

Equipment that is close to or out of commission and would suffice for parts: late '80s Yamaha golf cart, 1995 Toro 44" Proline, 72" mowing deck from a Jacobson Turfcut, 1989 Smithco Red Rider and late '70s O'Brien drain rodder.



Larry M. Tomaszewski
Financial Consultant


5 Revere Drive, Suite 400
Northbrook, IL 60062
Tel. (847) 498-8925
Fax (847) 272-8925




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