

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS
Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 7 – CAGCS monthly meeting at Bryn Mawr Country Club in Lincolnwood, IL, **Brian Bossert**, CGCS host.

July 12 – Class C Advisory Committee's Shop Talk evening event at Park Ridge Country Club, **Luke Baker** host.

July 13 – NWIGCSA Golf Day at Park Hills Golf Course, **Dave Fisher**, CGCS host.

July 16 – MAGCS monthly meeting/annual Kane County Cougars outing at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.

August 13-14 – 2005 Walker Cup Matches at Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton, IL, **Jon Jennings**, CGCS host.

August 15 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Water's Edge Golf Course in Worth, IL, **Jason Lemansky** host.

August 22 – John Deere Team Championship at Glen Oak Country Club in Glen Ellyn, IL, **Andy Dauksas** host.

September 19 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Idlewild Country Club in Flossmoor, IL, **Kurt Sams**, CGCS host.

First, a warm welcome to the following new MAGCS members:

Gary Brainard, Brainard Backhoe and Dredging—Class E

Daniel Charlton, Evanston Golf Club—Class SM

Brian McGinty, McGinty Bros., Inc.—Class E

Matthew Kurth, Exmoor Country Club—Class C

Michael Benkusky, Michael J. Benkusky, Inc. Golf Course Architects—Class E

Craig B. Shepherd, Ruth Lake Country Club—Class C

Jay Hensley, Twin Orchard Country Club—Class C

William Chemslik, Communications Direct—Class E

Robert Wollenberg, Silver Lake Country Club—Class C

Doug Weiss, Burnham Woods Golf Course—Class SM

Matthew Weerts, Lesco, Inc.—Class E

Derek Trona, Geneva Golf Club—Class C

Greg Ambrose, H & E Sod Nursery—Class E

Larry Chirico, Lesco, Inc.—Class E

Raymond Hearn, Raymond Hearn Golf Course Design—Class E

Stacy Wallace, Sonoma Golf Club

in Sonoma, CA—Class A
Welcome everyone, and best of luck in your new endeavors!

Congratulations to our executive director **Luke Cella** on being appointed chairman of GCSAA's Chapter Executives Task Group. With the ultimate professionalism that Luke brings to his job, this appointment will no doubt enhance our Association's position as one of the top local chapters in the nation.

Did you know...

That your Board of Directors recently adopted a strategic plan and mission statement for the future of this Association? They did! The following is our mission statement: "The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) exists to provide networking, education and career advancement to those who facilitate the growth and enjoyment of golf."

So there.

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In case you were wondering why you haven't seen **Dave Braasch** (Glen Erin Golf Club) around lately, fear not. Dave assures us that everything is business as usual in Janesville, and that really nothing is happening at all.

Except for the engagement to his honey Jayme. And of course his bachelor party/golf outing in early April at Hughes Creek G.C. (**Darin Ayres**). And his wedding to Jayme on April 23 (which included an early-

morning round of golf at Glen Erin in subfreezing conditions). Then there was that pesky baby being born on May 13; Logan David Braasch entered the world at 4 lb., 2 oz. and 18 inches long,

and everyone is doing great. Other than that, everything is just hohum in the lives of Dave and Jayme Braasch. Congratulations, Braasches! In the next issue: Logan gets married and Dave and Jayme become grandparents.



Jayme and Dave—wife and husband—mom and dad.



The bachelor party group at Hughes Creek G.C.



Logan and dad taking it easy.

If you haven't signed up yet, you might still have time to enjoy one of the greatest events MAGCS holds during the year: the annual Kane County Cougars outing. The family-oriented evening includes a reserved picnic area in the right-field bleachers featuring kids' games, great food and plenty of beverages. This year, the winners of the four MAGCS scholarships—the MAGCS, the George Minnis, the John Buck and the Paul Burdett—have been invited to attend and will be recognized for their stellar achievements. After the game, a fireworks show to rival Epcot's (perhaps I exaggerate, but only a wee bit) will be followed by the customary running of the bases by all the kids and kids-at-heart in attendance. It's really a great way for us to thank our families for their patience throughout our long seasons, and a very inexpensive way to do it. Hope to see you there!

Belated congratulations to Sarah and Eric Nadler (Nadler Golf Car Sales) on the March 29th birth of their son, Caden William Nadler, who way back then weighed 5 lb., 10 oz. and was a mere 18-3/4" long. They do grow fast, don't they?



Eric and Sarah Nadler with new son, Caden.

Breaking ground: The new Whitetail Ridge Golf Course recently began construction outside of Yorkville, IL, and is slated to open for play in the summer of 2007. Martin Design Partnership (Greg Martin) designed the 6,700-yard, par-71 layout on Route 126 to feature a front nine with a distinctive wetlands flavor

and a back nine that will climb into the oak-hickory woodlands for a more parkland-style challenge. The same group that brought us Blackberry Oaks Golf Course is the developer of Whitetail Ridge, and Hans Hoppman has been asked to consult on the project during its construction.

The May-June 2005 issue of *Stewardship News*, a publication of Audubon International, ran a story titled "Still on Top" about the first 10 golf courses to achieve certification in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses (ACSP) back in 1993. So what's the big deal about that? Only that four of the first 10 were from right here in the Chicagoland area, which is still a neat little feather in our environmental caps. By the way—it was St. Charles C.C. (2nd), Aurora C.C. (4th), Village Links of Glen Ellyn (7th) and Cantigny G.C. (8th). Currently, some 535 golf courses are certified in the ACSP worldwide.

For a really comprehensive look at the history of one of our area's finest and most revered clubs, check out the June issue of *Superintendent* and its story on page 26 titled "Olympia Fields Forever" by Bob Labbanca. The article takes its readers on a ride through the entire history of the club and its greenkeepers from 1913, when Jim Foulis, Jr. was hired as pro, superintendent and foreman, through the present with Tom Gray, CGCS at the helm. Great read for those interested in the colorful history of golf in Chicagoland.

On May 19, the *SuperNEWS* Bunker Boot Camp demonstration took

place at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club, attracting about 30 attendees and featuring five noted speakers including Bradley Klein, Craig Schreiner (course architect), Frank Jemsek, Tom Lively, CGCS and Dr. Randy Kane. Funny thing about this event—if you were a commercial member who happened to sell, amongst other things, sand, your money was not wanted (nor was your presence, for that matter). Turns out a certain Class E member who not only sells bunker sand, but whose company actually donated sand for the event, was booted from boot camp by the *SuperNEWS* folks upon arriving. Tough crowd, those Bunker Boot Camp drill sergeant guys. Now drop and give me 50.

We would like to pass along our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Peter Leuzinger, whose father passed away in May.

Our sympathies to Mark and Holly Gilmour on the sudden passing of their brother Michael on June 10.

And to Jim McNair, our thoughts and prayers go out for the loss of his mother, May McNair, on June 11.

The Midwest lost one of its great old friends on June 5. Kenneth Zanzig, a longtime superintendent at several courses including Walnut Hills, Willow Run, Palos Country Club, Old Oak and Green Garden, and monthly contributor of his own poetry to these very pages throughout the '70s and '80s, passed away from respiratory illness related to Parkinson's disease last month. Mr. Zanzig, whose poems were anticipated each month in *the Bull Sheet*,

CLASSIFIEDS

Equipment for Sale:

John Deere Aercore 1500 aerifier, two years old and hardly used, in excellent condition. \$12,500. Contact Dave Braasch at Glen Erin Golf Club at 608-757-2328.

(3) Toro GM 1000 greensmowers—excellent condition—\$1,000 each or three for \$3,000. 1997 Sand Pro 3000—excellent condition—\$4,500. (2) Jacobsen 30" green/tee mowers—excellent condition—\$2,200 each. Call Joel at 630-201-6865 for more info.

was remembered by his close friend **Dudley Smith** as a "belligerent, stubborn German" who was a tireless worker and who loved his life as a golf course superintendent. Our deepest sympathies to the family and all the many friends of Ken Zanzig, and may they (and we) all enjoy this example of his many contributions to our Association's newsletter:

The Other Side of the Coin

How great to go to work in one's shirtsleeves,
 Tan in the warmth of the Summer Sun.
 Cool beneath a parasol of tree leaves,
 Join in with the Golfers, have fun.
 How wonderful to work on a Golf Course,
 To commune with Nature first hand.
 While at times it affords quite a challenge,
 It's the best darn job in this land.

Superintendently,
 Kenneth R. Zanzig

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Ivanhoe Hosts Huge Turnout for Magnificent MAGCS/ITF Combined Spring Golf Day

The May monthly meeting was the gala MAGCS/ITF Spring Golf Day, and this year's host was **Tom Prichard** and the beautiful Ivanhoe Club in Ivanhoe, IL. The venue could not have suited this event better, with three distinct and recently-renovated nines—the Forest, the Marsh and the Prairie—to test participants' skills. The only downside was that we couldn't play all 27 perfectly manicured holes. The game for the day was based on a quota scoring system that the boys from NASA came up with that took two paragraphs to explain (translation: just tell me if I won at the end). The side game was the Regional Team Tournament, pitting teams from the Metro North, Metro South, Metro West and Greater Illini against each other.

Picture-perfect weather blessed this day and a huge turnout of nearly 160 players. After golf, the party moved into the lavish clubhouse for a fine spread of food and drink, along with the business portion of the day including recognition of those responsible for making the event a success and awarding of prizes. ITF president **Don Altman**, CGCS (Forest Hills C.C.) thanked our gracious host Tom Prichard and the entire staff at Ivanhoe for their superior service, as well as Nels J. Johnson Tree

Experts for the complimentary drink tickets and Central Sod Farms for the Cubs tickets that were auctioned for research dollars (\$175 was the winning bid by **Bob Lohmann** of Lohmann Golf Designs, Inc.—thank you, Bob!). Tom Prichard followed by diverting all accolades he received to his assistant **Justin VanLanduit**, who he said was the person responsible for the great course conditions. Class E Advisory Committee chairperson **Sharon Riesenbeck** took the stage to conduct the raffles, which featured two Grey Goose gift packages and a golf bag. Winners of the Grey Goose were Matt Bourne and Doug Myslinski, while **Dave Groelle** took home the golf bag. By the way, look for more of those Grey Goose prizes at future MAGCS events, and thank Sharon's husband Mike Riesenbeck for arranging them. Proximity winners were Scott Shaul on the Marsh, **Don Cross** on the Prairie and **Kerry Anderson** on the Forest. The team winners were: first place—**Ed Fischer, Tim Davis, Randy Wahler** and **Tommy Robinson** by "a lot" with 115; second place—**Bruce Schweiger, Don Altman, Tim Keating** and **Ernie Kaplan** with 98; and third place—**Rick Jacobson, Doug Myslinski, Trey Kemp** and **Jay Hilgenberg** with 87. Kudos to the

bottom of the barrel winners with a -4 (almost impossible to do): **Kevin DeRoo, Eddie Braunsky, Jim Styka** and **Howie Shuck**.

An event of this magnitude takes countless hours of hard work behind the scenes by so many people that it is difficult to name them all, but we do thank each and every volunteer who donated their time and effort toward the day's success. Special thanks go to our betting-hole volunteers **Marsha Traves, Patti Thorson, Darin Habenicht, Sharon Riesenbeck, Danna Eberly** and **Kelly Schroeder**; and of course to our sponsors for the day, without whom all this would not have happened:

President's Club—**BASF, Bayer Environmental Science, Central Sod Farms, Dunteman Sod Farms, H & E Sod/Town and Country Landscape Supply, Lesco, Inc., Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Syngenta** and **Turf Professionals Equipment Company (TPEC)**.

Director's Club—**BTSI, Chicagoland Turf, Dow Agrosiences, Grigg Brothers, Healthy Gro-Pearl Valley Organix, Inc., Hydrologic, Illinois Pump, Johnson & Associates, Kaplan Trucking and Paving, Lebanon Turf, Mississippi Valley Stihl** and **Pro Source One**.



Brian Baker and Dan Marco.



Charlie Brugler, Sean Creed, Chuck Ardell and Scott Speiden.



Jim Hall, Mike, Larry and John Matchen.



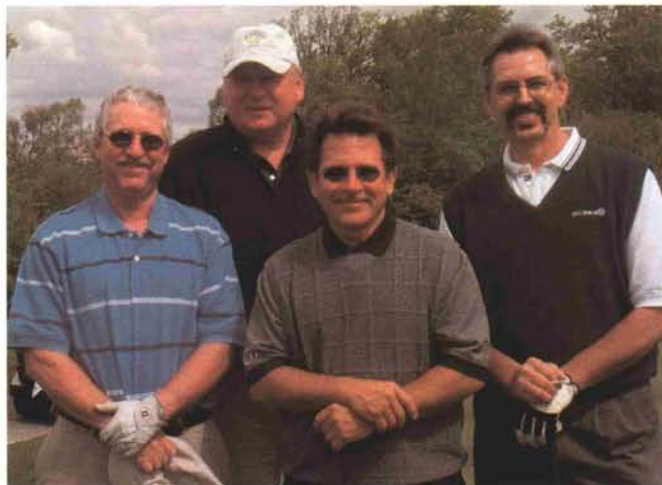
John Nelson, Pete Kiraly, Irish flag guy Tom Savage and Jake Volbeer.



Don Cross, Patti Thorson, Dave Radaj, Mike Mumper, Marsha Traves and John Gurke.



Sharon Riesenbeck and Kelly Schroeder.



Les Rutan, Al Fierst, Tommy Witt and Bob Maibusch "Philled out" this foursome.



Steve VanAcker, Steve Ranolin, Tom Prichard, Bob Lively and two very tired forecaddies.

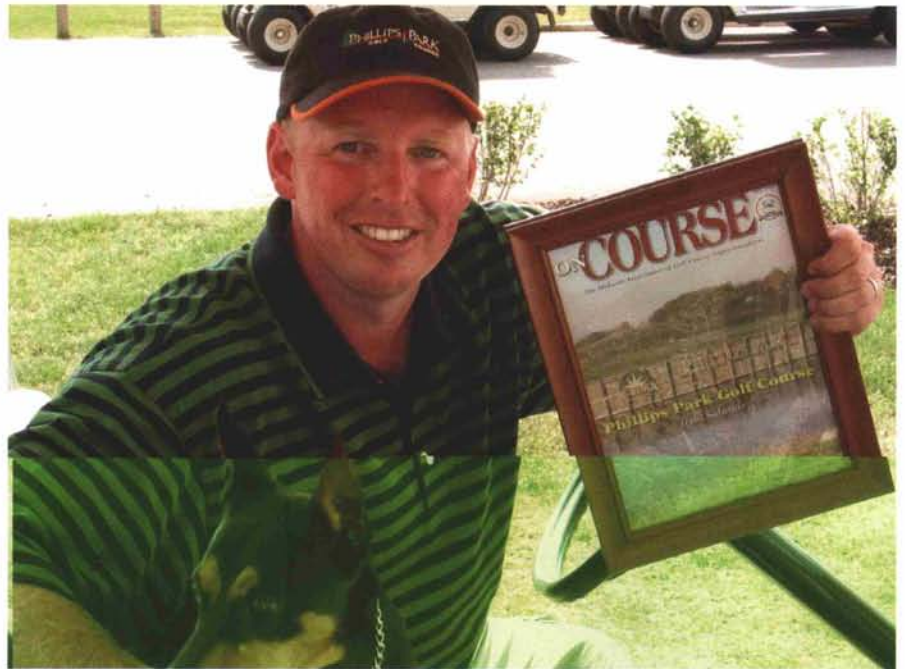
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No June (Meeting) Swoon: Phillips Park in Splendid Form for Class C, Dom Grotti Championships

The June MAGCS monthly meeting was held on a steamy, sultry, August-like day at the Phillips Park Golf Course in Aurora, IL with **Todd Schmitz** serving as our host superintendent. Usually when one volunteers his course for a June meeting, it's assumed that summer's stressful days still lie ahead and that preparing the course for one's peers will be a walk in the park, so to speak. NOT. Mother Nature's havoc, with drought and unseasonably hot, humid conditions, made Todd's job much more difficult than expected, but he and his staff really rose to the occasion! The course was in splendid shape, with greens rolling quick and true, fairways fast and firm, and fescue pristine and . . . grabby. And the kudos don't stop at Todd and his staff, but extend to PGA professional Jeff Schmidt and the pro shop folks, and everyone at Phillips Park who helped make the day so great.

The day began with a highly informative education session given by Kathy O'Connell, the area director for OSHA, who focused on safety and the inspection process OSHA employs at facilities such as ours. After the program, attendees hit the links to compete for both the Class C Championship and the Dom Grotti (Superintendent-Assistant) Championship. As previously noted, the day was a scorcher that featured a brief shower to cool us off at about the midway point, and the course held up to our torturous abuse with aplomb. Following the golf, dinner took the form of a barbecue feast of chicken and pork and all the fixings while the day's winners were announced and recognized for their accomplishments.

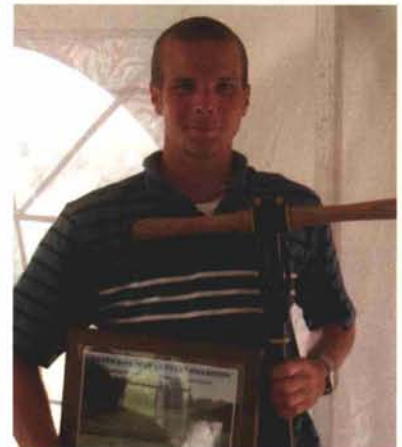
This year's Dom Grotti champions are **Dave Drendel** and **Benjamin Keinhofer** of Mistwood Golf Club with a 137, edging out runners-up **Paul Bastron** and **Brad Roose** of Glen Flora Country Club with 138. The winners of the Class C Championship were Rodney Reich of Bryn Mawr Country Club (net division) with a 70, topping Bull Valley's **Rob Nixon** with 72. Gross winner was Brad Roose with a 79, just one stroke



Host superintendent Todd Schmitz and assistant Carly.

better than **Ronnie Newman** of the Highlands of Elgin. The other big winners of the day were **Kurt Sams**, CGCS of Idlewild C.C., who won the raffle for the Grey Goose gift pack; **Mark Bobb** of Barrington Hills C.C. for his closest-to-the-pin on no. 10; and **Dave Radaj**, CGCS of Green Acres C.C. for his longest drive on no. 3. The one "betting hole" was run by the J.W. Turf sisters Kelli Zopfi and Danna Eberly, who raised \$750 for the John Buck Scholarship Fund by selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a Deere mini-gator. Can't wait to drive that bad boy home . . .

MAGCS thanks Todd Schmitz, Jeff Schmidt and everyone at Phillips Park and the City of Aurora, along with our day's sponsors **Burris Equipment Company**, **Chicagoland Turf**, **Hydrologic**, **J. W. Turf**, **Nadler Golf Car Sales**, **Palatine Oil Company** and **Turf Professionals Equipment Company**, without whose generosity the event could not have taken place in such fine style. See you all this month at Elfstrom Field!



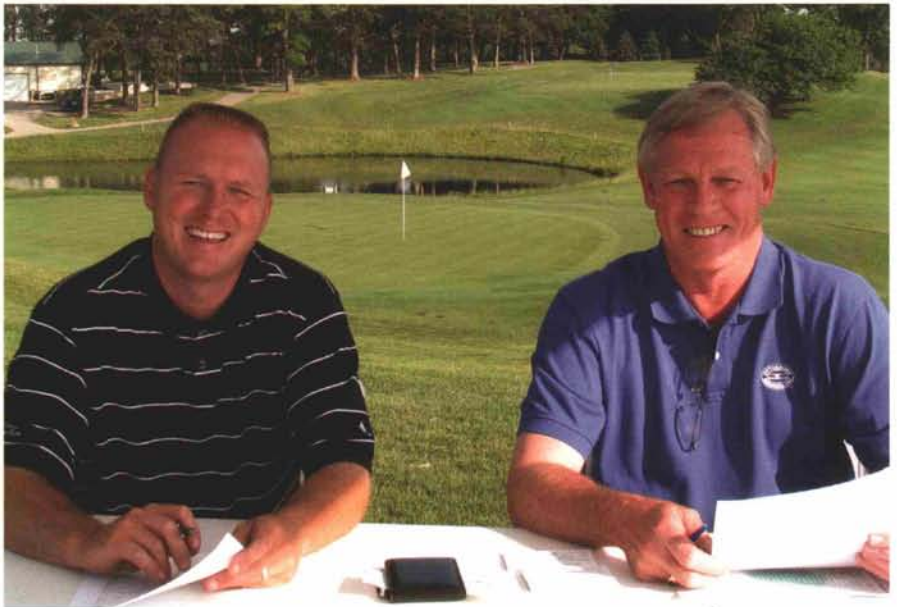
Class C gross champion Brad Roose.



Class C net champion Rodney Reich.



Luke Cella's dog—the first photo taken with this new camera.



Commentators Derek Florian Nantz and Rich Daly Venturi perched high above the 18th green.



OSHA area director Kathy O'Connell.



Kelli Zopfi and Danna Eberly of J.W. Turf ran the raffle hole on no.17.



PGA professional and all-around great guy Jeff Schmidt.



Kurt Sams got "Goosed."