

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS
Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 9-12 – LaSalle Bank Open at The Glen Club in Glenview, IL, **Steve Daurer** host.

June 13 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Phillips Park Golf Course in Aurora, IL, **Todd Schmitz** host.

June 27- July 3 – Cialis Western Open at Cog Hill Golf Club in Lemont, IL, **Ken Lapp** host.

June 29 – Annual John Buck Scholarship Outing at Hughes Creek Golf Club in Elburn, IL, **Darin Ayres** host.

July 1 – Deadline for submission of 2006 GCSAA Board of Directors nominations.

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

A last reminder to sign up quickly for the John Buck Scholarship Out-

ing at Hughes Creek Golf Club on the 29th of this month. The event is a scramble, and proceeds benefit both the John Buck and MAGCS Scholarship funds, as well as the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation and the Northwest Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association. Call J.W. Turf at 847-683-4653 to sign your team up.

The GCSAA has announced that July 1 is the deadline for submitting nominations for the 2006 Board of Directors. To nominate someone, a letter format must be sent to Jon D. Maddern, CGCS, Nominating Committee Chairman, c/o GCSAA Headquarters, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049-3859.

As you read this, another of our longtime (and age-old) members has gone out to the retirement pasture. **Jim McNair, CGCS** of Orchard Valley Golf Course is officially off the hook (**Harry Lovero** having taken the hook right out of his maw) and will now be able to



The "First Foursome" of Lynn Wesson, John Lebedevs, Gilberto Velazquez and Jim McNair.



The participants (in some kind of left-to-right/front-to-back order): Steve Stewart, Bob Kohlstedt, Paul Yerkes, Dave Nadler, Tom Tierney, Dan Sterr, Sam Wineinger, Chuck Anfield, Lynn Wesson, Jim Shone, John Gurke, Harry Lovero, Brett Parcher, John Lebedevs, Jim McNair, Ken Shepherd, Bob Vaughan, Gilberto Velazquez, Kevin DeRoo, Dan Stahl, Luke Cella, Bob Fraley, Leon McNair, Tim Keating, Carl Hopphan, Lee Miller, Randy Kane, Wally Fuchs and Ed Lee.

Some people just do retirement right. We recently received an update from **Fred Opperman** (MAGCS member and former editor of this magazine), who—as most of you know—lives in Bozeman, Montana. Fred has traveled extensively throughout his life, and spends most of his retirement time enjoying his hobbies of hiking and fishing, and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and Habitat International building homes for needy people. Fred's latest experience was in New Zealand (his third time there), where he and his friends at HI built a home in Nelson, which is at the top of the south island. After their work was finished, Fred remained on the island to sea kayak in the Tasman Sea for two days and then spent five more days traveling the island by car and hiking a different trekking track (trail) each day. "Quite different hiking there with totally different bush (forests) and nothing there to eat, bite, or poison you. Nothing like hiking in Montana with grizzly and

(continued on page 32)

devote all of his time and energy to his new profession (retiree). In honor of this momentous achievement, a few of Jim's friends put together a little golf gathering at the site on which he cut his teeth—Fox Bend Golf Course (**Bob Kohlstedt**) in Oswego. A brisk April day (one of those days when it was forecast for rain but didn't—like all of April) kept the scores high and the hands cold, but a trip to Orchard Valley for dinner and refreshments warmed everyone up. All in all, it was a great event paying tribute to a great guy (one whom I envy extremely). Congratulations, Jim!

black bears, cougars, moose, snakes and poison ivy, etc. to watch out for constantly.” After that adventure, Fred was able to spend a week with his son, Todd, and family in Christchurch, where Todd is working for the New Zealand Forest Research Institute during his year’s leave of absence from the U.S. Forest Service. The amazing thing about this is that it was not planned for Todd to be in New Zealand—pure luck and coincidence brought father and son together halfway around the world! Fred sends his best wishes to all of us here in Illinois, and welcomes all visitors to Montana. Thanks for the update, Fred, and keep in touch!

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Congratulations to **Dan Dinelli**, CGCS and North Shore Country Club on being named private club runner-up in the Golf Inc. Renova-

tion of the Year Awards. North Shore’s renovation focused not on a new look, but rather a return to the Colt/Allison-designed course’s classic past. Dan was also featured in the *Northbrook Star*’s “Northbrook Personality” column on April 7 for being certified not only by Audubon International for his work at the club, but for having his home in Northbrook certified by the National Wildlife Foundation as a backyard wildlife habitat. Nice going, Dan!

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Instead of that old humdrum fireworks thing, why not stay at home on the 4th of July and enjoy the Golf Channel’s “What’s In the Bag” show filmed at Chicago Golf Club. The show is a weekly program hosted by Adam Barr that goes inside the world of golf to review the latest products, technology and information. This particular episode

will highlight Jon Jennings, CGCS and cover the technology behind golf course maintenance and the role of the golf course superintendent. Jon will reveal the methods, equipment and technology behind golf course management at the revered club, which will host the Walker Cup this August. The show airs at 9:30 p.m. on July 4th. Be there.

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It’s going to be another great year for marquee golf events in our area this summer. The LaSalle Bank Open at The Glen Club this month kicks it off, featuring the largest full-field purse (\$750,000) on the Nationwide Tour. Just a few weeks later, the PGA Tour makes its customary stop at Cog Hill for the Cialis Western Open, followed in mid-August by the Walker Cup at Chicago Golf Club. Great venues and great golf!

Golf Meetings Resume at White Pines in April

The April MAGCS meeting was held on the 25th at White Pines Golf Club on a beautiful spring day for our kick-off scramble event. Host superintendent **Steve Partyka** and the staff at White Pines did a fantastic job of providing a great golf course and amenities before, during and after the golf event. The day began with the business meeting, where **Luke Cella** announced that our potential mission statement as well as a Best Management Practices item are posted in the Members Area of the magcs.org Web site, and we are soliciting your opinions of both. E-mail Luke (luke@magcs.org) with your thoughts on these items of interest. The education portion of the day was next, and a very interesting presentation asking “Are You Ready for a Severe Weather Disaster?” was given by Jim Alsopp of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Association and National Weather Service in Chicago. Among the highlights of Jim’s talk was the revelation that a whopping 90% of all tornado deaths occur in mobile homes. Go figure that one. Scramble golf followed, where the team of **Brian Bossert, Chuck Anfield, Dennis Buck and Brian Racette** took top honors with a ridiculously low score. Afterward, cocktails and

dinner were doled out with the prizes for the winners. MAGCS thanks everyone at White Pines for their hospitality, and also thanks the committee volunteers who assisted with the event, from arrangements to education to scoring. Finally, we thank the sponsors for the day—Nadler Golf Car Sales, Harris Motor Sports, Palatine Oil and TPEC—for their generosity and support.



Host Steve Partyka.



Tim Scott and Scott Witte ponder the idea of a merger where they become Tim Scott Witte from this day forward.



The winning team of Brian Bossert, Dennis Buck, Chuck Anfield and Brian Racette.



MAGCS members bonding after a day on the golf course.

Running the Dream

April 18, or Patriots Day—celebrated in Massachusetts—is also the day for the annual running of the Boston Marathon. Boston is the runners' equivalent of the U.S. Open in golf. After six previous attempts to qualify, I achieved a long-desired goal and completed the Boston Marathon.

The first Boston Marathon was held April 19, 1897. Since that time, the Boston Marathon has become the oldest annually contested marathon.

On a warm, sunny, 75-degree day, I ran the course in 3:37:07, with a net finish time of 3:33:29, placing 4,444 out of 17,528 finishers. I went out too fast in the first half, running 13.1 miles in 1:38:58. I was tired and hot by the time I reached the hills at mile 18.

The Boston Marathon was the most challenging course I have run. The crowd support along the way



is terrific. People are cheering for you the entire way from its start in Hopkinton to the finish in Copley Square. I plan to run Boston again next April. Now that I am familiar with the course, I know I can run a smarter race.

—Jon Jennings, CGCS
Chicago Golf Club

CLASSIFIEDS

Equipment for Sale:

(4) 1995 Toro GM 1000 greens-mowers in excellent condition—\$1,000 each (or a bargain discount of \$4,000 for all four).

(1) 1997 Toro Sand Pro 3000 in excellent condition—\$4,500

(2) New-ish Jacobsen 30" green/tee mowers in excellent condition—\$2,200 each

(3) Seldom-used Flymo mowers in—you guessed it—excellent condition—\$200 each. To jump on these deals, call **Joel Purpur** at 630-201-6865.



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