

the Bull Sheet

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Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1 – Was when J.W. Turf held its annual equipment auction at its Hampshire, IL facility.

May 3 – First Tee of Chicago's inaugural Charity Classic at The Glen Club, **Stephen Daurer** host.

May 14 – Audubon International's North American Birdwatching Open (conveniently held on International Migratory Bird Day). Contact **Peter Leuzinger** or **Todd Schmitz** with questions about this fun event.

May 16 – Penn State Alumni Golf Outing at the Glen View Club in Golf, IL, **Tony Frandria** host.

May 23 – MAGCS/ITF Combined Golf Day at the Ivanhoe Club in Ivanhoe, IL, **Tom Prichard** host.

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

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

July 16 – Annual Kane County Cougars Outing at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL. Note that this IS the July MAGCS monthly meeting.

Make plans for June 29—the 5th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing is coming to Hughes Creek Golf Club, and another great event has been planned. The event, which benefits the John Buck Scholarship and MAGCS Scholarship funds, as well as scholarship funds for the Kane County Farm Bureau Founda-

tion and Northwest Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association, will be a great way to remember our dear departed friends John Buck and Dave Meyer. It's a four-person-scramble format with a huge raffle (1st prize is a 2005 John Deere CS Gator), drinks, pig roast dinner and other prizes. Call J.W. Turf at 847-683-4653 to make your reservations!

In March, the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) held its annual meeting and election at the Oak Park Country Club (**Al Fierst** host). The board of directors for 2005 is as follows:

Chuck Anfield, CGCS

.....President

Rick Bowden

.....Vice President/Forum

Alan Perkinson

.....Secretary/*Verdure*

Dan Charlton

.....Treasurer

Dan Dinelli, CGCS

.....Director/Education

Jon Jennings, CGCS

.....Director/Arrangements

Mike Matchen

.....President Emeritus

Congratulations to you all and best of luck in 2005!

Breathe easy—Thiram is alive and kicking. According to the February 25th EPA Reregistration Eligibility Decision document, Thiram will remain available for use on golf courses with the following restrictions:

- Restriction to use on greens and tees only.
- Reduction of winter treatments from a maximum of four applications to a maximum of one application.
- Reduction of summer treatments from a maximum of eight applications to a maximum of three applications.
- Restriction of the number of annual applications to 47 pounds of active ingredient per acre (a 40% total reduction in Thiram use on golf courses).

- Increase in the re-treatment interval from seven to 14 days. This is fairly good news for the Midwest market, which accounts for a large part of Thiram use (according to local vendors).

Congratulations to **Joel Purpur, CGCS** of Park Ridge C.C. on yet another milestone—Joel was recently voted Coach of the Year in the Elmhurst Chiefs Hockey League (in which his son Hayden plays). Joel won this award over 17 other coaches, and was honored at a Northwest Hockey League banquet in March. Hayden's (and Joel's) team finished the season 25-4-1, and took home a banner for the accomplishment. Congratulations, Joel AND Hayden.

In case you missed it in the 30 other golf industry publications, Julian Arredondo, CAE has stepped down from his position as chief operating officer of GCSAA after 11 years of service as chief financial officer and COO.

We heard about it last year, and it's making its way toward us . . . I speak not of that pesky ash borer, but of the neighboring states of Illinois that have banned phosphorous fertilizers. The Countryside Lake Association—a homeowners' association in Lake County—voted in March to ban the use of lawn and garden fertilizers containing phosphorous, becoming the first such group to do so in our state. Phosphorous runoff has been linked to the preponderance of unsightly algae blooms in ponds, and by banning its use, it is hoped that ponds and retention areas will improve in quality and clarity. This is just the start . . .

So how did you spend YOUR St. Patrick's Day? Glomming onto the "all things green" theme of the day, the CDGA and USGA teamed up for a very memorable party—the CDGA/USGA Green Seminar—at Medinah Country Club (**Tom Lively, CGCS** host). This year's version featured a very strong speaker list, including Tom Meeks (senior director, Rules and Competitions for USGA), Bradley S. Klein (senior writer, *Golfweek* magazine),

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Jon Jennings, CGCS and Cleve Carney from Chicago Golf Club, Maggie Brizzolara (KB Professional Resources) and Paul Vermeulen (director, Mid-Continent Region, USGA Green Section). Starting off the day was Tom Meeks—the guy in charge of tournament preparation and set-up for the USGA—relating his many memories and U.S. Open highlights (and lowlights, including mention of the misguided back-left hole location on no. 17 at Olympic Club, the excessive length of no. 10 at Bethpage and the decision not to irrigate Shinnecock on Saturday night). Tom’s comments were a breath of fresh air coming from an organization that has been notorious for its lack of candor in matters of this sort. In fact, at last year’s annual meeting in Lake Buena Vista, FL, the USGA initiated a tighter policy on speaking to the media on USGA matters, and the April 8th issue of *Golfweek’s SuperNEWS* pointed out that, “Tom Meeks . . . must not have gotten the memo. The USGA’s senior director of rules and competitions, speaking a few days later at a Chicago District Golf Association/USGA Green Section Mid-Continent Region [event], touched on topics that included controversial course set-ups at recent U.S. Opens.” Oh well, what can possibly happen to him now? After 30 years with USGA, Tom is retiring at the end of September to a much quieter life. You gotta love a guy who espouses a “basal pruning” program for the many overplanted golf courses across the country!

Next up was Bradley Klein of *Golfweek*, whose topic was “Golf—A Great Game But a Lousy Business.” Brad’s insight into the business of golf over the past decade was both illuminating and at-times depressing, citing the era of “irrational exuberance” in the ’90s that fueled the huge building boom, the stress on high-end public courses with “theatrical designs” a la Desmond Muirhead, and the “edifice complex” method of clubhouse design of that time and the troubles it left in its wake. Brad summed up his thoughts with this challenge to our industry: “Adapt or die.” Oscar

MAGCS March Meeting

MAGCS members got an inside look at Soldier Field, thanks to the generosity of Holly Gilmour and J.W. Turf. The Cadillac Club conference room is where it all went down on March 21st. Ken Mrock and John Nolan, co-superintendents of Soldier Field, Halas Hall, The Payton Center and the Bourbonnais practice facility, were on hand to explain the behind-the-scenes maintenance procedures. After the education and lunch, Ken and John treated everyone to a VIP tour of the stadium.

—Scott Witte, CGCS

Miles, CGCS took the podium next to present the CDGA’s Randy Kane with a check for \$5,000 for dollar spot research from the Miles Scholarship Turfgrass Research and Education Award in cooperation with the Illinois PGA. To learn more about this award, intended to benefit the future of our industry, go to www.illinoispga.org. Maggie Brizzolara of KB Professional Resources spoke next on “Improving Employee Retention and Productivity,” stressing the idea of equating employees to customers and treating them as such. Paul Vermeulen gave a highly entertaining PowerPoint presentation on “How to Find the Perfect Boss,” during which he touched on all the basics of recruiting and working with a green committee. Paul generously offered printed or disk copies of his presentation to any interested parties, so give him a call if you would like a laugh while you learn.

Finishing off the day were Jon Jennings, CGCS and Cleve Carney of Chicago Golf Club, who talked about the preparations for hosting the Walker Cup this August in their “Walker Cup Preview.” The Walker Cup pits the top 10 amateurs from the United States against the top 10 European amateurs, and dates back to 1922. This will be the second time CGC has hosted the event—the first being in 1928 when Americans Bobby Jones and Chick Evans helped the U.S. team thrash Britain 11-1. The only real difference this year will be the addition of TEMPO-

RARY air-conditioning in the very same clubhouse. In all, it was a grand day at Medinah, and congratulations go out to everyone who had a part in putting it together.



Tom Meeks reacts to the question, “Any thoughts on the Shinnecock set-up?”



Bradley Klein and Paul Voykin.



Oscar hands over the Miles Scholarship check for \$5,000 to Dr. Kane for dollar spot research.



USGA’s Paul Vermeulen.

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March is past, and that means that *Golfweek* has come out with its "America's Best Courses" lists. Several MAGCS members happen to be tending these classic (pre-1960) and modern courses, and deserve recognition.

In the Classic category:

#14—Chicago Golf Club and Jon Jennings, CGCS

#19—Oakland Hills Country Club (South Course) and Steve Cook, CGCS

#22—Shoreacres and Tim Davis

#40—Medinah Country Club and Tom Lively, CGCS

#74—Point O' Woods Country Club and Ron Fox, CGCS

#86—Skokie Country Club and Don Cross, CGCS

#100—Beverly Country Club and Jon Sundvold

In the Modern category:

#47—Cog Hill Golf Club (Dubsdread Course) and Ken Lapp

#74—Black Sheep Golf Club and Dave Biery

#87—Butler National Golf Club and Mike Sauls



CLASSIFIEDS

Equipment Wanted:

Jacobsen 30-inch fairway mowers and frames in any condition. Please call Ron at 815-468-3438.

Equipment for Sale:

Four 1995 Toro GM 1000 greensmowers, excellent condition—\$1,000 each. One 1997 Toro Sand Pro 3000, excellent condition—\$4,500. Two fairly new (?) Jacobsen 30" green/tee mowers, excellent condition—\$2,200 each. Three seldom-used Flymow mowers, you guessed it—excellent condition—\$200 each. Call Joel at 630-201-6865 for info.

Bunton Model G813 walking greens mower in excellent condition. This mower was privately owned and was used to mow a personal putting green. It has been meticulously maintained, and the owner will entertain all offers. Call John Beckway at 847-683-0541 or 847-791-6446.

Inverness Country Club has a Jacobsen TriKing 1900D in excellent condition for sale or trade—\$4,500 cash or equivalent. Please call Mike at 847-358-7030 or e-mail questions to MagicGrKpg@aol.com.

- 1988 Toro Greens Aerator: Model 09110, good condition—\$950.
- 1992 EZGO GXT804 with steel cage for range use, needs engine—\$450.
- 1993 Toro Tri-Rollers for triplex, good condition—\$400.
- 1982 Ryan GreensAire II with quadratine coring heads and newer short block—\$350.
- Toro VertiCut units for triplex, age unknown, good condition—\$150.
- (20) Toro 750 complete sprinklers—\$20 each.
- 1982 Turfco Meter Matic self-propelled top-dresser—still runs—almost free!
- 1968 Rogers Model 40 blower for 3-point hitch, well-rested—almost free!

Call Kurt or Mike at Exmoor C.C. at 847-433-1177.

Timber Trails C.C. still has the following items for sale:

- Jacobsen Greens King V diesel with groomers, very good condition.
- Jacobsen Greens King VI diesel.
- Jacobsen TriKing 1900D, very good condition.
- Jacobsen LF-128, very good condition.
- Jacobsen GK IV heavy blades.
- Myer 300-gallon 25 gpm sprayer.
- TI International reel/bedknife grinder.
- (2) LF-100s, new reels/bedknives.

Call Don at 708-372-4482.

The Indian Hill Club offers the following historically significant equipment at crazy low prices—they're practically GIVING the stuff away:

- 10-year-old Club Car Carry All 2—best offer.
- 12-year-old Toro Hydroject, use for parts or large boat anchor—best offer.
- AgriMetal 3-point hitch blower, almost never used, come see it and make your offer.
- Very old Ryan Greens Aire, free with any equipment purchase while supplies last.
- Sort-of-old Jacobsen 3-point hitch blower—best offer.
- TIP Spiker-Seeder, almost new, purchased just before bensusmec application—best offer.
- John Deere 2653, 2,450 hours, make an offer after seeing this beauty!

Call Dave at 847-528-6656 to schedule an appointment and prepare to be wowed. No calls before 8 a.m. please.

Flossmoor C.C. has four complete sets of blue, white, red and gold artificial pine-log tee markers for sale. They are in very good condition and ready to be used. We have decided to use a different style, and would like to find a home for these where they'll actually get used. Contact Bob Lively at 708-798-4700, ext. 241 or 708-906-8817.