

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 2 – 53rd Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club in Medinah, IL, **Tom Lively**, CGCS host.

November 8 – Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents 21st Annual Forum at Naperville Country Club in Naperville, IL, **Tim Anderson**, CGCS host

November 15-16 – The 40th Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium at the American Club in Kohler, WI. Details follow.

November 19 – MAGCS Annual Fall Dinner Dance at Itasca Country Club in Itasca, IL, Dawn and **Scott Speiden** hosts.

November 29-December 1 – Illinois Professional Turf Conference (IPTC) at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL.

December 12 – Annual West Side Holiday Party at Dave & Buster's in Addison, IL. Details follow.

January 3-March 10 – The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School's Two-Year Certificate Program Winter Session in New Brunswick, NJ. Call 732-932-9271 for info, or go online at www.cookce.rutgers.edu.

January 16-February 3 – The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School's Three-Week Preparatory Short Course in New Brunswick, NJ. Call 732-932-9271 for info, or go online at www.cookce.rutgers.edu.

January 24 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago, IL, **Tony Kalina** host.

Because last month's issue was so full of sad news, we are dedicating this issue to only positive and happy things. For starters, we're not going to Houston for the Golf Industry Show after all! As you already know, our conference has been moved—once again—to Atlanta this time. Going from Houston to Atlanta is like going from sitting in coach on a full, pre-war DC-like-2 across from the one restroom to first class on Air Force One. Stay tuned—you never know what those crazy folks at GCSAA will do next...

This just in: Get MAGCS news quick by signing up for e-mail notification. If you have changed your e-mail address, or wish to get up-to-date information from MAGCS, or if you just want a

sympathetic shoulder to cry on, contact **Luke Cella** at luke@magcs.org.

A hale and hearty welcome to these new MAGCS members:

Eric P. Gakstatter, Class E—
Discovery Management Group, LLC

Craig A. Filley, Jr., Class C—
River Forest Country Club

Eric Radkowsky, Class A—
Mill Creek Golf Club

Best of luck, gentlemen, and enjoy your membership in our great Association!

The 40th Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium is coming to Kohler this month, and with its catchy title (“Grasses—So Many Choices, It's a Pain in the Grass”) it is sure to be a huge success. Held in memory of O. J.

Noer, the conference will take place at the beautiful American Club in Kohler (next to Sheboygan) on the 15th and 16th. Featured speakers include Dr. John Stier of UW-Madison, Dr. David Huff of Penn State and Dr. Robert Shearman of the University of Nebraska, amongst other notables in the industry. Contact Shelley Biro at 800-287-9645 for more information.

Attention to all CAGCS members—this year's Annual Forum is a must-attend event! On November 8 (hopefully you are reading this before then), the Naperville Country Club and Tim Anderson, CGCS will host a great event with several excellent topics and speakers. Slated to speak are **Tommy Witt**, CGCS of Northmoor Country Club, Ken Mangum, CGCS of Atlanta Athletic Club, Paul Vermuelen of the USGA Green Section and Steve Mona, CEO of GCSAA. Don't miss this one!

The Illinois Professional Turf Conference (IPTC) will be held at Pheasant Run Resort at the end of this month, and also promises to have something for everyone. New to the conference this year is the Tuesday “Education Only” day featuring many seminars of interest to all of the various associations in attendance. See you there.

Another annual tradition is coming soon to a Dave & Buster's near you (if you live near the Dave & Buster's in Addison, that is). The West Side Holiday Party will be held on December 12, so call Gary Hearn to reserve your spot—630-773-4790—or e-mail him at g.hearn@worldnet.att.net.

If you have a high school senior who you feel is doing something outstanding, your chance to soften the college tuition blow is here: The AXA Achievement Scholarship program is looking for high school seniors who are involved in an outstanding non-academic achievement or activity. Fifty-two students (one from each state) will be awarded \$10,000 scholarships, and from those, 10 will be chosen to receive \$15,000 more for being national AXA Achievers. All your child has to do is fill out the application

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(which can be obtained from **Larry Tomaszewski**—847-498-7193) and start spending that money! Deadline is December 15, so hurry up and call Larry today. Good luck!

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It's that time of the season when we perform the most important aspect of our maintenance programs—we play golf! Over the past month-and-a-half, MAGCS members have had a wide variety of great golfing opportunities to choose from. A brief review of our recent endeavors on some of the area's finest tracks follows, and all with one common denominator: Tim Freaking Davis won all of them.

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Starting the fall golf season was the MAGCS Championship on September 19 at Idlewild Country Club in Flossmoor, IL, with **Kurt Sams, CGCS** serving as host. It was a steamy day for mid-September, and our annual championship was hotly contested on Kurt's awesome course. This year's MAGCS champion is **Tim Davis** (Shoreacres), who shot a blistering 71. First-flight winner (with a decided home-court advantage) was Kurt Sams with 82, second flight went to **Paul Sandall** (Oak Grove G.C.) with 90, senior net flight was a tie between **Ed Fischer, CGCS** (Old Elm Club) and **Randy Wahler, CGCS** (Knollwood Club) with 77s, senior gross flight went to Tim Davis, while the commercial net flight was taken by **Howie Shuck** (BTSI) with 74 and commercial gross flight had **Mike Benkusky** as its winner with 80. After the golf, the contestants adjourned to the clubhouse for eats, drinks and awards. A highlight was the passing of a hat for Derek Florian's children's education fund, which raised \$748—thank you to all members who generously contributed! Our invaluable sponsors for the day were Burris Equipment Company, Chicagoland Turf, J.W. Turf, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Palatine Oil Company and TPEC—thank you for your kind support! And finally, thank you to Kurt Sams and all the staff at Idlewild who made our championship such a success.



The beautiful 10th hole (ruined by the ugly follow-through of Kevin DeRoo).



Even when away from work, Erik Johnson can't stop working.



Thank God for the dual ballwashers, without which it would have been a seven-hour round!



2005 champion Tim Davis.



The winner's booty.



Host (and first-flight champ) Kurt Sams.

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Next on the agenda was a trip to Sheboygan, WI, for the Wee One Foundation's 2nd Annual Outing on September 26 at the spectacular Pine Hills Country Club. This event is a fundraiser for the Wee One Foundation, which was founded on behalf of Wayne Otto, CGCS to benefit golf course maintenance professionals and their dependents who incur overwhelming expenses due to medical hardship without comprehensive insurance or adequate financial resources. For those of you who missed this year's event, you'll want to put it on the calendar for next year—Pine Hills is one beautiful golf course! It features very undulating terrain with breathtaking views, an idyllically-situated clubhouse overlooking the course, and "greens like potato chips" (as so aptly described by **Chad Ball**). The format was a two-person team event where both players tee off and choose the best drive from which to play their own ball through the hole. The big winners of the day were JoAnn Otto and Beverly Quast, who won virtually every longest-putt contest out there. Hearty thanks to superintendent Rod Johnson, CGCS and his staff

for a great day and a superb golf experience. Also, if you are interested in becoming a member of the Wee One Foundation, contact them at www.weeone.org or call **Danny Quast, CGCS** at 920-386-9000.



The Wee One Foundation benefactors.



Big winners JoAnn Otto and Beverly Quast.



The picturesque clubhouse and rolling terrain of Pine Hills Country Club.

On October 3, Midwest members converged on the Inverness Golf Club in Palatine, IL, where superintendent **Mike Bavier, CGCS** hosted the MAGCS/ITF Combined Fall Golf Day and MAGCS Annual College Championship. Defending champ Danville Area Community College made a strong bid for a

repeat, but the stronger team from Southern Illinois University (Tim Davis and **Tommy Robinson**) took the trophy with a net 62. Finishing first in the gross division was the team from Penn State University of **Bob Kronn** and Ed Fischer with 64, and the independent winners were

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Rick Reed and Mark Neuroth with 64. Even after enduring nearly 1.5 inches of rain the day before the event, the course was in excellent condition, and Mike and assistant superintendent **Brian Mores** and their staff performed miracles just to get carts on the course.

There were many winners on the day, not the least of which was the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation. Many thanks to the day's sponsors: Illinois Pump, Inc. (lunch); Burriss Equipment and Chicagoland Turf (beverages); President's Club—BASF, Bayer Environmental Science, Central Sod Farms, Dunteman Turf Farms, H & E Sod/Town & Country Landscape Supply, Lesco, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Syngenta and TPEC; Directors' Club—BTSL, Dow AgroSciences, Hydrologic Rainbird Irrigation Distributors, Illinois Pump, Inc., Johnson & Associates of Lombard, Kaplan Trucking and Paving, Lebanon Turf, Mississippi Valley Stihl and Healthy Gro-Pearl Valley Organix, Inc.; Tee Sponsors—Cleary Chemical, Clesen Wholesale Greenhouse, Commercial Turf and Tractor, J.W. Turf, Inc., Nadler Golf Car Sales, Reinders, Rabine Paving and The Andersons. Also, thanks to **Sharon Riesenbeck** and Grey Goose (which contributed \$690 to ITF), **Marsha Traves** and **Patti Thorson**, **Darin Habenicht** and **Dr. Tom Voigt** and his U of I helpers **Tim** and **Matt** for their greatly appreciated work on the par 3s. Finally, special thanks go out to **Trent Bradford**, **Phil Zeinert**, **CGCS** and **Dick Lamkey** for their generosity in donating prizes, and to **Erwin McKone**, **CGCS** for "emceeding" the awards ceremony. Great job, everyone!



Aaron Easter, Kevin DeRoo, Erwin McKone and Andrew Reynolds.



Scot Spier, Tim Keating, Mark Craft and Jim Shanley.



Paul Burger, Holly Gilmour, Jay Druhan and Mike Bavier.



Front: Dave Kohley and Tim Scott. Back: Don Ferreri and Dave Gelino.



Front: Paul Yerkes and John Gurke. Back: Jeff Smith, Mike Mumper, Dave Radaj, Luke Cella and Keith Peterson.



The winning team of Tim Davis and Tommy Robinson from SIU.



Brock Burton, Brian Bossert, Dennis Buck and Ron Dohman.



Jim Knulty, Brad Johnsen and Charlie Brugler.



Dick Lamkey with his auction prize.



Pat Norton putts while red-checked-flag-faced-guy looks on.



Rick Wilson, Patti Thorson, Trent Bradford, Brian Baker, Dan Marco and Sharon Riesenbeck.

Next on the fall tour was the University of Illinois Turf Alumni Outing, held this year at Kemper Lakes Golf Club in Hawthorn Woods, IL, with **Dan Tully** hosting. Thirty-plus alums and U of I staff attended and enjoyed a day of catching up with former classmates, learning of the goings-on down in Urbana-Champaign, and of course, playing golf on a world-class layout. The weather once again cooperated (as it has this entire fall—if you like it bone-dry), and the event was a great success. Thanks to Dan, the staff at Kemper Lakes, Drs. Bruce

Branham and **Tom Voigt**, and the U of I Turf Club for their work, and to all the alums who came out. Also congrats to **Steve Cummins** (Lake Barrington Shores C.C.) on winning the “Most Unchanged Since These Events Started” award. Not only does Steve look exactly as he did at the first event back in 1988, I think he still wears the same glasses.

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The classic swing of Dr. Tom Voigt.



This year's group of U of I alums.



And many of those same people back in 1988 at Bartlett Hills—thinner and less bald.

Last, but certainly not least, the CAGCS held its annual Founders Cup golf event on October 13 at Bob O'Link Golf Club in Highland Park, IL, with **Rick Bowden** hosting. Thirty-two players vied for the Cup, including Tim Davis trying for the coveted "Grand Slam" of Midwest golf events. Alas, it wasn't to be, as Ed Fischer's gross 75 took that category and **Joel Purpur**, CGCS with a net 67 won the day. You couldn't have asked for better weather in mid-October, and the greens were as close to perfection as is possible. Congrats to the winners, and thanks to Rick and the staff for their generosity in hosting this fun event.



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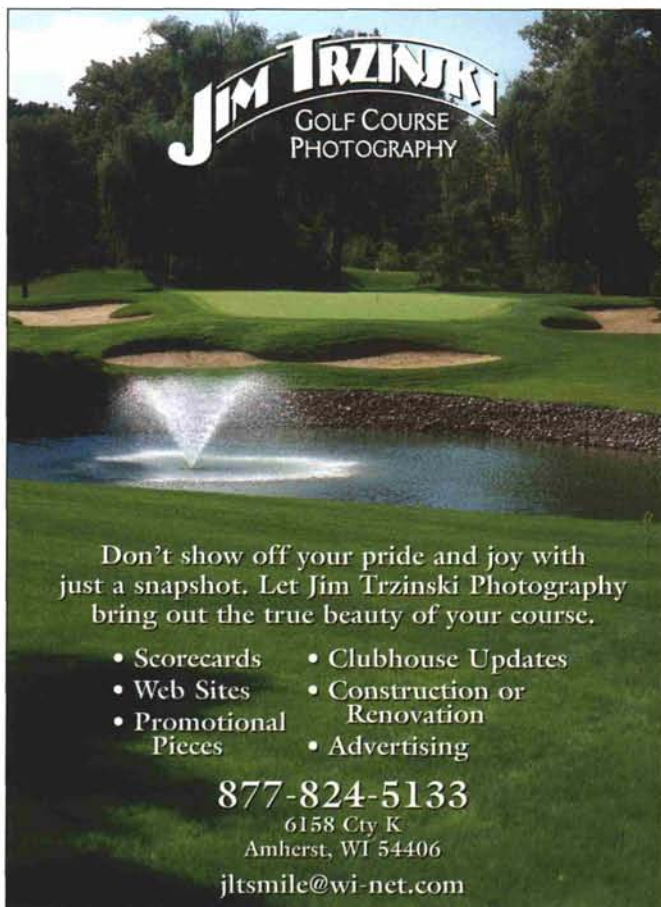
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