



## Our Red Headed Wonder Moves to Peoria

*Happy Easter! The Masters is upon us and the golf season begins. Hope that the new season will be better than the last—when there was a lack of moisture for some golf courses. If you attended last year's Midwest Clinic at Medinah, Doug Sisterson, from Argonne National Laboratory predicted the same kind of weather. My perfect dream is rain every third night with about a half-inch of precipitation. Well, hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate on April 24 when the MAGCS Monthly Meeting is being held at Chuck Anfield's place—Heritage Bluffs G.C. The education for the day is "Degree Days and Soil Temperature, The Calendars of IPM" by Lee Miller, CDGA. Don't forget about the ITF outing at Midlothian C.C. (Dave Behrman) on May 22.*

Last month I had the pleasure to attend the allied leaders of the Chicago area that was hosted by the Chicago District Golf Association (CDGA). The Illinois PGA, Illinois Jr. Golf Assoc., ITF, and of course the MAGCS, were all in attendance. The topics discussed included: 1) a central electronic link to all allied organizations, 2) space in the CDGA magazine for Superintendent's articles, 3) increasing memberships, and 4) how to better inform our members.

When I was entering the Midwest Golf House to attend the Allied Leadership Meeting, I ran into Dr. Randy Kane, forgetting that his days at this facility were winding down. You tend to take things for granted. I have known Randy since 1986 when he was a roommate of Brian Winkel in Aurora; there was an odd couple. Randy's a very quiet person, very intellectual, soft spoken, and never, ever, giving you a straightforward answer. Randy, Steve Pearson (Spraying System of Wheaton), and I used to play golf on a regular basis at Country Lakes G.C. in Naperville back in the late '80s. We always had to give Randy strokes—back pain. Randy had 'game,' not a long hitter, very accurate and tough on the greens. I know that we didn't talk much about work. It was nice to get away and talk about other things in life. That's where Randy and I became better colleagues.

I did ask a few of Randy's associates to express their feelings: John Turner... "From one Boilermaker to another, thank you Randy for many good memories and golf tips during the MAGCS collegiate golf tournament over the years. Although the competition was tough, the 'Boilers' managed to win one MAGCS with our name on

the traveling beer tapper trophy. As future tournaments continue, we will call upon you to carry our team once again for another title. All the best, and thank you for your support within our organization."

Lee Miller... "The fiery redhead known as Randy 'the DOC' Kane has been a valued mentor to me for the past four years. I've learned a few things about him during this time. For one, if Randy is bored, he will sleep; if I bore him, he will snore. Seriously, Randy's best trait is that he is somehow both slow and quick at the same time. He gets a call and burns rubber to get to a patch of troubled turf. Then he can look a superintendent right in the eye in the heat of July and say in so many words 'ehh...could be...'. The perceived 'slow' is the real art of his character and what has made him successful. No matter the pressure, he won't succumb to supplying an off-the-cuff guess as an answer. All in due time, do the work, study, observe, and above all, do your best to get it right. As Randy moves on to the pasture of emeritus status and taking more naps in Peoria, hopefully his standards will stay engrained in the monument that he became, and will always be known as—"The CDGA family turf doctor'."

Dr. Randy Kane will be sorely missed by the MAGCS. As he transitions to life in Peoria many will remember him as highly educated, astute, humble, and most of all—a friend. Randy, may all your drives stay straight. Keep in good spirits, and please keep in touch.

