

# the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

## DATES TO REMEMBER

August 17 – 20 – PGA Championship at Medinah Country Club, **Tom Lively, CGCS** host.

August 21 – MAGCS monthly meeting at McHenry Country Club in McHenry, IL, **Bill Humphres** host.

September 4 – Deadline for submissions for *Golfweek's* SuperNEWS 2007 Best Friend Calendar (the one with the dogs in it) sponsored by Lebanon Turf.

September 14 – ITF/University of Illinois/CDGA (apologies to any I've omitted) Research Field Day at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL. Check your mail for more information.

September 25 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Annual Golf Championship at Makray Memorial Golf Club in Barrington, IL, **Chris Blake** host.

October 1 – Deadline for submissions for the James Watson Fellowship Awards funded by Toro. Info follows.

October 2 – MAGCS/ITF Golf Day at Ivanhoe Club in Ivanhoe, IL, **Tom Prichard** host.

October 15 – Deadline for nominations for the GCSAA's Excellence in Government Relations Awards. Info follows.

October 21 – Another deadline—this one for the GCSAA/*Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders |in Golf Awards in partnership with Syngenta and Rainbird. Yep—info follows.

Here's the info: The James Watson Fellowship Awards funded by Toro give money—up to 4 \$5,000 fellowships worth—to deserving candidates pursuing either their masters or doctorate in a golf-related field. Information can be obtained by calling Amanda Huggenkiss, employment administrator, at 800-472-7878, and the deadline for application is October 1st, so hurry. Correction, her name's Amanda Howard (a little Simpsons humor there).

The GCSAA Excellence in Government Relations Awards recognize individuals and chapters for their outstanding work in—duh—government relations, and more specifically in advocacy and compliance. The nominations for these awards are due October 15th.

Finally, the GCSAA/*Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards in partnership with Syngenta and Rainbird recognize those who have excelled in their commitment to environmental stewardship. The deadline for these nominations is October 21st. By the way, if you've already won it, and are still at the facility where you won it, you can't win it again, so don't try to win it again. To find applications and more information on these 2 awards, go online at [gcsaa.org](http://gcsaa.org).

If you perused last month's *Golf Course Management*, you may have run across an interesting article by Amy Bird on page 32 about the work **Fred Opperman** has been doing with Habitat for Humanity. Although first scooped here in *On Course*, the GCM article was a much more in-depth look at our past-president, past-editor's life after retirement. Oh, and what might Fred be up to lately? Grandpa is babysitting his grandson Zander while his son Todd and his daughter-in-law Tonja battle wildfires in Utah.

Another case of the apple not falling far from the tree...

Our condolences to the Ebel family and their friends on the passing of Juanita Ebel on June 21st (wife of John Ebel, former MAGCS member and longtime superintendent of Barrington Hills Country Club).

**John Huber** (Huber Ranch Sod Nursery, Inc.) recently received some great news—after entering Sweetwater Sound's monthly giveaway sweepstakes for the last several years, John finally got the call that he had won the May giveaway: An all-expense-paid trip to Rock & Roll Fantasy Camp in New York City valued at \$8,500. While in the Big Apple, John will have the opportunity to meet, hang out, and jam with some HUGE names in rock music including George Thorogood, Dickey Betts, Levon Helm, Jon Anderson, Dr. John, Joe Satriani, Max Weinberg, Mark Farner, Dee Snider, and the horn section from the David Letterman Show. Each attendee is called a camper, and is assigned to a camp counselor. The counselors include Teddy Andreadis from Guns N' Roses & Alice Cooper, Gary Burr from Carole King/Ringo Starr, Spencer Davis, Jack Blades from Night Ranger, Barry Goudreau of Boston, Kelly Keagy from Night Ranger, Simon Kirke of Free and Bad Company, Bruce Kulick of Kiss, Michael Lardie of Great White, Mark Slaughter of Slaughter, Kip Winger from Winger, Peter Dinklage from the Monkees, and many others. The camp takes place from August 13th through 17th at the Gibson Hit Factory Studios, and culminates with a battle of the bands at B.B. Kings in Times Square. John, being a music guy (playing in a contemporary Christian band called The Average Christian Band), is ecstatic about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

This is obviously not news to MAGCS members, but keep an eye out for our latest uninvited pest—the emerald ash borer. This thing (and his friends) has killed over 20 million ash trees in the US since 2002, including about 15 million in

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Michigan. At the time of this writing, the bug had been discovered in Kane County in St. Charles and more recently in Wilmette on Chicago's north shore. If you think you have an infestation, contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture at their toll-free hotline 800-641-3934 quickly, as time is of the essence in order to contain and eventually eliminate this devastating pest. (Let them know you are a green industry professional with plant knowledge, you won't get the homeowner line of questioning from them.)

Just one passing thought on the complete collapses of Lefty and Monty at the U. S. Open: Ugh.

Best of luck on a successful and stress-free grow-in to the MAGCS members whose courses are currently under the surgeon's knife: **Tim Anderson, CGCS** at Naperville Country Club is undergoing a course-wide renovation, while **Al Fierst** (Oak Park Country Club) and **Dan Charlton** (Evanston Golf Club) are in the midst of major changes as well. May your courses be open on time and within budget!

I'm not sure if congratulations are the proper thing to offer for this distinction, but let's go with it—**Rich Harvest Golf Links (Scott Resetich, Jason Funderburg and Jeff VerCautren)** is Chicago District Golf Association's most difficult private golf course with a course rating of 78.5 and a slope of 153 from its Pro tee markers. The public course to take that dubious honor was **Bon Vivant Country Club (Michael Vilendrer, CGCS)** with a rating of 76.3 and a slope of 135.

The past month and a half have offered MAGCS members the opportunity to get together and enjoy a wide variety of golf courses and events. First on our menu was the June 7th monthly meeting at Old Oak Country Club in Homer Glen with **Chad Walk and Pete Lieponis** serving as our hosts. The day was full of events, with the Senior Championship, the Dom Grotti (Superintendent/Assistant) Championship, and the Class C

Championship all being contested. Before hitting the golf course, we were treated to a highly useful demonstration on "The Geometry of the Golf Swing" by Brian King, Director of Golf Instruction at Prairie Landing Golf Club. Brian was actually the first person ever to challenge Carl Spackler's contention that cutting the Achilles tendon would cause someone to give up the game by assuring us that not EVERY shot would go right, but only a large majority thereof. We thank him for his enlightening (and used-once-and-forgotten) schwing tips. The course was beautiful, the service impeccable, and the day in all a perfect ten, thanks to Chad, Pete, and our sponsors **Burris Equipment Company, JW Turf, Inc., Nadler Golf Car Sales, Palatine Oil Company, Turf Professionals Equipment Company, and Prime Turf** (our beverage cart sponsor). Winners of the many competitions were: Super Senior Champion—**Ray Schmitz**; Senior Champion—**Tommy Robinson**; Class C Champion—**Justin VanLanduit**; and Dom Grotti Trophy winners **Paul Bastron** and **Brad Roose**. Congratulations to you all, and thank you to everyone at Old Oak and to our sponsors!



Stanley Cup champs Ben Kelnhofer and Dave Drendel.



Paul Schaefer, Steve VanAcker, Bob Lively, and Pat McDonagh.



Justin VanLanduit, Tom Prichard, Tom Robinson, and Brad Anderson.



Our host and his foursome featuring Kurt Sams, Dion Pearce and Jeremy Turton.

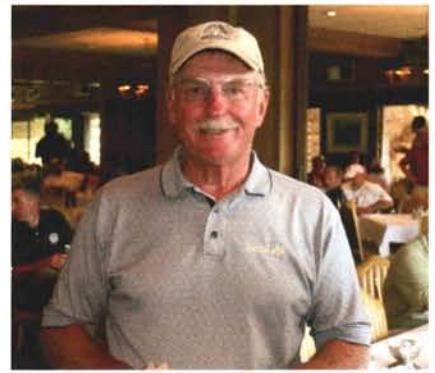


Our other host Pete Lieponis with Mark Olson and their big bad diggin' machine.



John Maksymiu, Charlie Brugler, Greg Coyne, and Scott Witte.

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Next up on the June-July tour was the Annual John Buck Memorial Outing at Marengo Ridge Golf and Country Club (**Luke Roth** and **Bruce Schweiger**) in Marengo, Illinois on June 24th. This event pays homage to one of the really good guys in our industry, the late John Buck while raising funds for important educational programs. The scramble format and light-hearted nature of the day perfectly jibe with the kind of man John was. It was all about raising money for scholarships for both the MAGCS Scholarship fund as well as the Kane County Farm Bureau, and what a job it did! Over \$12,000 was raised for the various scholarships the event benefited. The big winners of the day (besides those who will receive scholarship checks) were the winning team of **Dave Kohley**, **Rick Wilson**, **Clark Williams**, and **AL Wheatland** with a score of 16 under par. Al Wheatland (John Buck's closest friend and a HUGE donator to this cause) was also the lucky winner of the John Deere Gator raffled off after the golf. A side note: Holly delivers Gator to Al. Al's grandchildren crash Gator while Holly is still there. Holly brings smashed Gator back to JW Turf on the same day. Stuff happens. Thank you to everyone responsible for the success of this always great event, from

Bruce and Luke and the Marengo Ridge staff for their hospitality to Jen and Danna and all the volunteers for their generous donation of their time and effort. Great job everyone!



All eyes glued to their MANY raffle tickets.

Last but not least, the Northwest Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association and ITF had their Summer Play Day on July 10th at Aldeen Golf Club in Rockford with Glenn Bereiter, CGCS hosting. A more beautiful day could not have been ordered, and the course was in equally beautiful shape. The format featured a 9:00 AM shotgun start, allowing even the latest stragglers to be home in time for dinner. Before that, though, the big raffle for ITF logo garb and the

Grey Goose gift basket took place, with just about everyone walking out with some apparel, but only Scot Spier (Arthur Clesen, Inc.) carrying a basket of vodka to his truck. Many thanks to Glenn and the staff at Aldeen, Sharon Riesenbeck and Kelly Schroeder for their work on the betting hole, and the day's sponsors, who were Arthur Clesen, Inc., Central Sod Farms, Dunteman Turf Farms, Inc., H & E Sod Farms, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Syngenta, and TPEC. Directors Club sponsors were Johnson and Associates and Lohmann Golf Designs/Golf Creations. Individual tee sponsors were Bayer Environmental Science, Dow Agrosiences, JW Turf, Inc.,

and Wisconsin Turf Equipment. Huge thanks to all of you for your generosity and support.



Host Glenn Bereiter, CGCS.



### CLASSIFIEDS

#### Used Car Lot:

For Sale: 18-foot drive-over trailer, 10,000 GVW. \$3,500.00.  
Call Jeff Rehberg at 847-683-4653.

For Sale: 1992 John Deere 1800 Sprayer—200 gallon capacity, foam marker, Raven 400 computer, 1150 hours. \$6,000 OBO.  
Call Brian at Conway Farms at 847-295-0288.

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