

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 4 – Annual South Side Holiday Party at Chef Klaus Bier Steub in Frankfort, IL beginning at 11:30 AM.

December 7 – GCSAA live webcast “Why Doesn’t Everyone Use Environmentally Preferred Products?” at 10:00 AM.

December 11 – Annual West Side Holiday Party at Dave & Buster’s in Addison, IL. As in previous years, education points have been applied for; and as in previous years they have been denied.

December 14 – GCSAA live webcast “Animation and Presentation Tips for PowerPoint Users” at 2:00 PM.

December 20 – GCSAA live webcast “Environmental Risk Assessment” at Noon.

January 10 – MAGCS Chapter-Administered GCSAA seminar LIVE at Midwest Golf House in

Lemont, IL. Dr. Fred Yelverton will present “Taking Control of Your Grassy Weeds.”

January 23 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Rich Harvest Links in Sugar Grove, IL with **Scott Resetch, Jason Funderburg, and Jeff Vercautren** hosting.

January 26 – Deadline for qualified applicants to register to take the certification exam at the GCSAA Education Conference in Anaheim.

February 8 – Annual Assistants Winter Workshop at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL.

February 19 – 24 – GCSAA Education Conference in conjunction with the Golf Industry Show in Anaheim, CA.

February 22 – MAGCS Hospitality Suite at the Hilton Anaheim from 6:00 to 10:00 PM.

To kick things off in this last issue of 2006, let’s give our congratulations and thanks to those who have earned it for their accomplishments and for their service relating to our great organization.

Thank you to all the members of our Board of Directors for their dedication and commitment—President **Gary Hearn**, Vice President **Tim Anderson**, Secretary/Treasurer **Dave Braasch**, Past President and Bylaws/Nominating and Benevolence chair **Phil Zeinert**, Arrangements chair **Todd Schmitz**, Education chair **Tony Kalina**, Golf chair **Paul Bastron**, Editorial chair **Scott Witte**, Advocacy and Compliance chair **Tom Prichard**,

Membership chair **Dan Sterr**, Class C Advisor **John Ekstrom**, Commercial Advisor **Sharon Riesenbeck**, and Past Presidents Council chair **Ed Braunsky**. Congratulations and best wishes to incoming president **Tim Anderson** and the entire Board, including new meat **Harry** (don’t call him Caray) **Lovero** of Orchard Valley Golf Club. Let’s take that a step further and give our thanks to the many committee members whose generosity with their time and expertise made the year fly by so smoothly.

And how ‘bout that **Luke Cella**, huh? We should all be thankful to have this guy—the hub of this wheel called MAGCS to which all spokes

lead. I wish I could take credit for that metaphor, but alas, it was Gary Hearn’s eloquent description.

And let us not forget our esteemed scholarship winners for 2006—best of luck in your promising futures to Alicia Anderson (John & Debbie), Scott Healy (Tom & Connie), Sarah Matchen (Mike & Sue), and Stephanie Meier (Joe & Joanne).

Thank you to all of our sponsors throughout the year who have made it possible for our monthly events to be voted “Best Monthly Events” by Monthly Events magazine (if there were such a magazine with such an award, our sponsors would DEFINITELY be responsible for it).

Special thanks to Mark Karczewski, the “man behind the curtain” that we pay no attention to, but whose expertise consistently provides us with this top-quality magazine from month to month and year to year. Mark is TRULY a wizard. [Publisher’s Note: Ditto, ditto, ditto, thanks Mark.]

Finally, thank you to YOU—the people reading this who make up the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents—for your continued participation and support of our association.

MAGCS welcomes its newest members to the fold with hopes that your expectations are exceeded and your careers are enhanced through your membership:

Brice Denton, Great Lakes Turf—Class E.

Michele Dileto, BTSI—Class E.

Chip Houmes, Precision Laboratories—Class E.

Timothy W. Nixon, Ruth Lake Country Club—Class C.

Andrew D. Perry, Cress Creek Country Club—Class C.

One of our colleagues has been discovered rubbing elbows with the high-falutin’ club and resort crowd. **Dan Dinelli**, CGCS (North Shore CC), amongst his countless other talents, has been a frequent contributor to *Club & Resort Business* magazine this past year in its

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“Course & Grounds—Super to Super” section. The February issue had a feature titled “Green Genes” chronicling the Dinelli family’s long and storied involvement in the golf course maintenance field in the Chicagoland area, while subsequent issues featured such stories as “A Lot More Than Turfgrass,” where Dan interviewed **Tommy Witt, CGCS** (Northmoor CC) about the many facets of our grand profession. Check out these stories online at www.clubandresortbusiness.com.

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Last month the John Deere World Championship golf tournament was held at the magnificent Reynolds Plantation Resort outside of Atlanta, GA. Of local note, the 2 two-man teams that qualified for the big event at Foxford Hills on July 24th—Glen Oak Country Club’s **Andy Dauksas** and Greg Newsome, and the Highlands of Elgin’s **Brad Legnaioli** and Mike Leman—combined with JW Turf’s **Jeff Rehberg** to take 12th place overall. The weather was picture-perfect, the fall colors just about at peak, and the accommodations were 5-star, according to the lucky competitors. Congratulations on that great finish!

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The Annual Assistants Winter Workshop will be presented on February 8th at Golf House in Lemont, but don’t let its name keep you away. The day-long seminar, which will feature Mr. Jim McLoughlin and his Strategic Career Planning workshop, is open to all members in all classifications. Watch your mail and e-mail for more information.

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Just a quick explanation: The 3 webcasts mentioned in Dates to Remember are central time, and are 90 minutes in length. They’re also available online (thus the name webcast), so you can earn education points naked if that’s your thing.

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The squeaky wheel gets the grease after all. For those of you who wrote GCSAA in support of Dr. Bill Meyer for its 2007 Distinguished Service Award, your efforts were not in vain! Dr. Meyer, Director of the Turfgrass Breeding Project at Rutgers University is indeed one of 2 winners of the

prestigious honor, along with Mr. Stan metsker, CGCS, a retired Colorado superintendent. Now Rutgers has another feather in its cap to boast about besides its undefeated football team—congratulations, Dr. Meyer from all of your friends here at MAGCS!

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As if hosting a Major tour event or speaking at an educational Forum are not enough for one season, **Tom Lively, CGCS** and Medinah Country Club were our gracious hosts for the 54th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting on the first of November. The day’s theme was “Forging Golf Forward,” and after an inspirational Annual Meeting (made very bearable by President Hearn’s quick and painless run through all the committee reports), morning moderator **Mike Bavier, CGCS** (Inverness GC) got things going. Local golf course architects **Rick Jacobson, Bob Lohmann, Greg Martin**, and **Tim Nugent** took the stage for a round table Q & A session about “What’s Steering Golf Architecture.” The many facets of modern golf course architecture were frankly discussed, with each participant offering his own views on various topics. I believe after it was all said and done, the common thread was certainly that no golf course can be great if the refreshment cart can not loop it at least 9 times in an 18-hole round. The final question posed by Mr. Bavier provided some of the day’s wittier comments—when asked “what is your favorite project?”, Tim Nugent replied “the next one,”

while Greg Martin shot it back at Mike with, “Who’s your favorite child?”



Host Tom Lively receiving thanks and a MAGCS 25 year pin.



Mike Sprouse receiving a MAGCS 25 year pin.

Mr. Allen James, President of RISE (Responsible Industry for a Safe Environment) followed with his thoughts on “Freedom to Operate in the Future—The Value of Preemption and Grassroots.” Mr. James painted a somewhat dim picture of the future of pesticides if current trends continue, stating that anti-pesticide activists rely on emotion, and not science to make their point—a dangerous thing indeed to those of us who rely on plant protectants and use them safely.

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Invocation



Allen James of RISE

Following lunch, a little business was conducted before jumping into the afternoon education sessions, such as the presentation of our editorial awards. Unfortunately, there were insufficient submissions of superintendent-written articles in the previous year to present a *Ray Gerber Editorial Award*; on the bright side, though, there were NUMEROUS wonderful submissions from the other classifications which qualified for the *Fred D. Opperman Editorial Award*. Editorial chairman **Scott Witte, CGCS** (Cantigny GC) named Mr. **Raymond Hearn** the 2006 winner for his article that appeared in the May issue titled "The Benefits of a Remodeling Master Plan." Next, **Don Ferreri** (Seven Bridges GC) presented his Chapter Delegate Update, highlighting all the exciting stuff going on at GCSAA. Gary Hearn then performed his last act as president before passing the gavel—that of naming his President's Award for Meritorious Service. This year's winner was **Dr. Randy Kane**, who was unable to be in attendance—more on Randy follows. Our annual election was held, and incredibly, the 4 candidates running for the 4 available seats on the Board ALL won!

The afternoon education session began with a flare—Mr. John Spitzer of the USGA amused the audience with "The Fury of Farther—Teeing Off on Golf's Technology Debate." Along with his humorous use of actual gadgets and inventions submitted to the USGA for approval, John showed some really cool video of a ball being struck by a club in super-slo-mo, and even proved statistically that by the year 2100, the 25th place player in the Masters

will actually WIN the tournament. You had to be there.



John Spitzer of the USGA with his pump up golf spikes.

Next up was Paul Vermeulen and his "Farther Yet—The Superintendent's Role in Golf's Future." Among the things Paul sees as the biggest changes for the future are fairway topdressing programs, standards for tree planting and removals, high-tech irrigation systems, lower and lower still heights of cut, new tee complexes including more forward tees for all to enjoy, and improved (and near perfect) bunker conditioning.

The wrap-up for the day featured something completely different—the improvisational troupe pH Productions and **Keith Krause** (Reinders) presented "pHurther pHrenzy," a game-show-esque improvisational entertainment act which involved the audience and many of the day's earlier themes and topics, making for a very lively finish to the day.

The large crowd in attendance was treated to a day rich in educational value, camaraderie, and fun all thanks to education chair Tony Kalina and his fine committee, Tom Lively and the staff at Medinah, and our great sponsors—**Arthur Clesen, Inc.**, **BTSI**, **JW Turf, Inc.**, **Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc.**, **Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.**, and **Turf Professionals Equipment Company**. Thank you to everyone!

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Turf Professionals Equipment Company (TPEC) recently announced a few changes to its management structure. As of October 16th, Bill Koenig went on extended medical leave of absence due to a lifelong

mobility problem that had increasingly worsened. Taking over as president of TPEC is Mike Anderson, president of MTI, another Toro-owned distributor located in Minneapolis, MN. Best wishes to Bill, and welcome to Mike!

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How about the year **Dr. Randy Kane** is having, huh? This story is proof positive that absence truly does make the heart grow fonder. The dearly departed (for Peoria) doctor is the recent recipient of not only one, but TWO major league big time hoity-toity proverbial feathers in his cap. At the 54th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting on November 1st, President Gary Hearn announced that The Doctah was the winner of the 2006 President's Award for Meritorious Service for his longtime dedication and contributions to MAGCS. Most guys figure that's enough to retire and hang their hat on, right? Wrong! Because not even a month later, this same Doctor Randy Kane was named the winner of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation's Distinguished Service Award at the 2006 Illinois Professionals Turf Conference in St. Charles on November 29th. As a personal friend and longtime user and abuser of Doc's services and expertise, I offer my most profound and heartfelt thanks and congratulations—a more deserving person for these honors does not exist.



Dr. Randy Kane.

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The Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents held its 22nd Annual Forum at Naperville Country Club (Tim Anderson, CGCS host) on the 9th of November. This

year's theme was Planning, and the impressive lineup of speakers really covered the gamut completely. Starting things off, President **Rick Bowden** presented **Chuck Anfield, CGCS** with the Founder's Cup trophy he earned on October 9th at Park Ridge Country Club (**Joel Purpur, CGCS** host) in the 4th Annual Founder's Cup Tournament.



Chuck Anfield, CGCS and the Founder's Cup.

Bill McMahon of the McMahon Group started the day off with a very detailed presentation on "How to Organize and Sell Your Plan," and was followed by Kris Bachtel from the Morton Arboretum who offered his views on "Planning for the Future of Your Trees." Kris' take on the emerald ash borer was very similar to the Dutch Elm disease situation of the past—not all ash trees will be lost, but a large percentage of them unfortunately will. There

have been some positive results from certain insecticide drenches, and Kris feels that resistance in some varieties may help to keep ash trees from total extinction. He also gave some useful guidelines for planting in the future as it relates to the proper trees to plant, and the percentage of the total tree population on a property to consider for each species, genus, and family. Doug Myslinski of Jacobson Golf Course Design then spoke on planning to improve the playability of your golf course, going into detail on several of his more recent projects. A pre-lunch refresher course on financial planning for your future was handled expertly by Mr. Richard Borek with MetLife. After a great lunch, it was back to the planning session with **Jon Jennings, CGCS** and Tom Lively, CGCS detailing their experiences with "Planning for the Big Event." Dr. Derek Settle of the CDGA was next with his thoughts on "Planning Your Disease Control Strategies," followed by **Paul Vermeulen, USGA Green Section** wrapping up the day describing a "Plan to Improve the Agronomics of Your Course." In all, the 50+ members and guests were treated to a fine day of education (while wishing they were out playing golf in the 70° weather in November).

Great job by everyone involved with this forum!



Dale McMahon of the McMahon Group.



Kris Bachtel of the Morton Arboretum.

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This will be a one-time thing, so make a copy of it if you find the information useful, OK? The following is a list of pretty much EVERY web site that has even the remotest connection to our industry.

- American Society of Landscape Architects—Illinois Chapter www.il-asla.org
- Association of Professional Landscape Designers www.apld.org
- Illinois Arborist Association www.illinoisarborist.org
- Illinois Christmas Tree Association www.ilchristmastrees.com
- Illinois Landscape Contractors Association www.ilca.net
- Illinois Nurserymen's Association www.ina-online.org
- Illinois Park and Recreation Association www.il-ipra.org
- Illinois State Florists' Association www.illinoisflorists.org
- Illinois Turfgrass Foundation www.illinoisturfgrassfoundation.org
- Ornamental Growers Association of Northern Illinois www.ogaoni.com
- RISE www.pestfacts.org
- Sod Growers Association of Mid-America www.turfgrassod.org
- Sports Turf Managers Association www.sportsturfmanager.com
- University of Illinois Extension www.extension.uiuc.edu
- University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station www.ag.uiuc.edu/iaes.html
- University of Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences . . . www.nres.uiuc.edu

Surf's UP!



*Doug Myslinski of
Jacobson Golf Course Design.*

Having mentioned Paul Vermeulen, congratulations are in order to our longtime USGA Green Section agronomist on his recent announcement. Paul has accepted a position as PGA Tour Agronomist, and will soon be moving to Florida to begin his new (and LAST, he hopes) career adventure. Paul looks forward to this new challenge, and wishes all of his friends here in the Chicago area all his best.

CLASSIFIEDS

Equipment For Sale:

1991 Smithco 300-Gallon 12 hp tow-behind fairway sprayer. Includes 100 ft. hose and reel, foam marking system, and 15-foot boom. Excellent condition. \$1,500.00. Call Mark or Dan at Barrington Hills CC at (847) 381-0140.

20 brand new squeaky-clean never-been-used Saber Tooth bunker rakes with brand new squeaky-clean never-been-used 5-foot handles and brand new squeaky-clean never-been-used 16-inch wide heads. These are being offered at the low low price of just \$11 per rake, or unit if you prefer, and can be ordered by calling Mike or Brian at Inverness at (847) 358-7030.

Attention Skiers! Anyone interested in going skiing at Cascade Mountain in Portage WI on Jan. 16th? **Ken Shepherd** and **Scott White** are putting together this day trip. Check out cascademountain.com for info on the slope - 15 people or more and tickets are \$32 or less. Please contact Scott White via email purdueturf@comcast.net with any questions.



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