

the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

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 in the Hilton Anaheim (GCSAA Headquarters hotel) from 6:00 PM til 10:00 PM. Pacific Ballroom D.

February 22 – University of Illinois Turfgrass Alumni reception in the Monterrey room of the Hilton Anaheim from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

February 23 – GCSAA Annual Meeting and Election at 2:30 PM in the Anaheim Convention Center.

March 13 – MAGCS Chapter-administered GCSAA Education seminar at Midwest Golf House featuring Dr. Derek Settle of CDGA and Dr. Bingru Huang of Rutgers University speaking on management of the new bentgrass cultivars.

April 19 – Chicago Golf Summit – Location TBD. MAGCS, CDGA, ILPGA, IJGA, and CMMA will host all members for this first ever event. Golf industry leaders will speak on the state of the game.

April 30 – MAGCS Spring Scramble meeting at Indian Lakes Resort, **Chuck Ardell** host.

MAGCS welcomes its newest members:

Nathan Hoegger—Class C, Flossmoor Country Club.

Kurt Reynolds—Class C, Inverness Golf Club.

Ryan Tully—Class A, Harborside International.

Adam Hanson—Class C, Bob O'Link Golf Club.

Eric Lindgren—Class SM, Blackstone Golf Club.

Greg Mark—Class E, E-Z Go Textron.

Bill McDonald—Class E, E-Z Go Textron.

Josh Bebeau—Class C, Highland Park Country Club.

Edward Bart—Class E, The Natural Edge LLC.

Josh Anderson—Class C, Prairie Landing Golf Club.

James Williams—Class C, Prairie Landing Golf Club.

Best of luck to you all in your new endeavors—now join a committee!

As we all know by now, **Paul Vermeulen** has left his post as USGA Green Section agronomist for our region (after 20 years with the organization) and has joined the PGA Tour. Replacing Paul in the upper half of the Mid-Continent Region is **Ty McClellan**, our new USGA Green Section agronomist. Ty hails from Lawrence, Kansas where he has been with GCSAA working with local chapters throughout the country strengthening their educational programs as one of their new field staff. Prior to his work with GCSAA, Ty worked with Dr. Roch Gaussoin in Lincoln, Nebraska on issues related to organic matter accumulation near the surfaces of putting green profiles, earning a Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska in the process. Let us all welcome Ty while trying not to keep him too busy...

Former MAGCS member Tom Gray, CGCS (Olympia Fields CC) has

been appointed to the position of golf course superintendent at CordeValle, a Rosewood Resort in San Martin, California. Congratulations, Tom.

Another former MAGCS member and friend—Gene Thompson, Indian Lakes Resort—is living the high life in St. Simons Island, Georgia. Gene has been working as a carpenter for the Sea Island Company for the past 6 months, and was recently promoted to Engineering Supervisor. Gene also continues his music career, performing his solo act several times monthly. To see more about Gene, check out www.genethompson.net.

Turf Professionals Equipment Company and The Toro Company announced the following changes as of December 15: **Mike Murphy**, Vice President, Commercial Sales has assumed the additional responsibility of General Manager of the TPEC Chicago location. Terry Plemons, Vice President, Golf Irrigation retains overall responsibility for the golf irrigation business in the TPEC territory, as well as the day to day operations of all TPEC St. Louis and Kansas City commercial and golf irrigation personnel. Jim McGovern continues as TPEC's Director of Service, while John Elsea continues as Operations Manager. By the way, TPEC has moved locations from Itasca to Franklin Park- 3816 Franklin Street, Franklin Park, IL, 60131.

Fun Fun Fun until somebody gets hurt...

NASCAR's 2006 champion Jimmie Johnson had no problems driving his car to victory last season, but put him on a golf cart and watch out. While playing in a celebrity tournament in Florida in December, Johnson broke his left wrist falling off the roof of the cart (driven by longtime friend Ricky Bobby). It was probably the right-hand turn that threw him.

MAGCS Member Winter Fun:

Winter is here and it is the time of year that many MAGCS members can reconnect with their hobbies and interests apart from the world of golf. Vacations, winter sports, even a golf junkie for those who just

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can't put the sticks in the closet for a winter nap are all ways we unwind during the off-season. Granted, the start of this winter was far from winter-like, and many area courses remained open for play; but eventually winter comes to us all. One activity that it seems is growing in popularity among MAGCS members is hunting. Whether it is the exercise, the connection with nature, or the thrill of following a good dog through dense cover while it tracks and finally points or flushes its quarry, more and more of our members are bringing home wild game for dinner—a much more intricate process than walking down the aisle at Jewel and picking up a whole fryer.



L-R: Charlie Brugler, Sean Creed, Scott Speiden, and Chris Plumb.

These 4 gentlemen are truly the veterans when it comes to pheasant hunting, and if you are fortunate enough to be invited along for a hunt at the Des Plaines Conservation Area, you will have the privilege of hunting with some world-class dogs. Left to right are **Charlie Brugler** (BTSI), **Sean Creed** (Oak Brook GC), **Scott Speiden** (Growing Solutions), and **Chris Plumb** (Absolute Service). On the entirely opposite end of the spectrum is Reinder's own **Keith Krause** who pursues his love of improvisational theater during the holidays. Friday nights in December found Keith and his troupe at Donny's Skybox Theater in Chicago (just one floor above Tony and Tina's like 9,000th wedding) performing their "Brian and Patrick's Holiday Show II" to packed seats.



One of the sketches featured an 8-foot tall Krause as Abraham Lincoln going through the usual holiday trials and tribulations that families experience. Details are difficult to explain, but a gift of tickets to a play at Ford's Theater for Abe and the missus from the kids kind of gives you an idea of the show's "flavor."

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Congratulations to Keith Rincker of Southern Illinois University, and Timothy Hoyt and Thom Irwin of University of Illinois on being 3 of the 31 students to receive 2006 Bayer Undergraduate Scholarships. The scholarships, which were awarded in \$250, \$500, and \$1,000 increments, recognize students pursuing careers in the Green Industry who have demonstrated academic excellence and leadership skills.

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The big show is right around the corner (whether it be in your high beams or your rear-view mirrors), and this year's rendition is different from any in the past. For starters, the Golf Industry Show features a variety of allied associations' annual events, including the National Golf Course Owners Association's Annual

Conference, the GCSAA Education Conference, and the newest addition, the Club Managers Association of America's World Conference on Club Management. Supporting organizations include the Golf Course Builders Association of America, the American Society of Golf Course Architects, and the National Golf Foundation. As part of its education conference, GCSAA again offers the very popular Golf Course Solutions Center. This year's theme is bunker construction and renovation presented by the Golf Course Builders Association of America, American Society of Golf Course Architects, the Irrigation Association, and GCSAA. Another highlight of the show is the presentation of the 2007 USGA Green Section Award to Dr. Joe Vargas Jr., turfgrass scientist and a professor at Michigan State University for the past 38 years. Dr. Joe receives this prestigious honor on February 23rd at the USGA Green Section Education Session. And don't forget the finest hospitality suite in the business—the MAGCS 2007 version in the Hilton Anaheim (Pacific Ballroom D) is THE event to attend. The format has changed from years past, and is now a 1-night affair with 4 hours of food, drink, and debauchery (if you so choose to debauch). Hopefully, your trip has a mix of great education, great fellowship, and a little fun thrown in to boot. See you there!

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Keep a close eye on your e-mail for important news and meeting notices from MAGCS. If you are currently not receiving these, please contact Luke Cella at Midwest Golf House. Luke can be reached at 630-243-7900 or at www.magcs.org. You can always just send him an email (luke@cella.us) and let him know you want email.

