



DATES TO REMEMBER

August 6-7 – 2008 Penn State Field Days at the Valentine Research Center in University Park, PA.

August 6-9 – Golf Course Builders Association of America's summer meeting at the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn, MI. Call 402-476-4444 or visit gcbaa.org for information.

August 13 – Ohio State University Turfgrass & Landscape Research Field Day at the OTF Research & Education Center in Columbus, OH. Call 888-683-3445 or go to ohioturfgrass.org for details.

August 19-21 – 2008 Independent Garden Center Show at Navy Pier in Chicago, IL.

August 26 – CAGCS monthly meeting at Midlothian Country Club, **Dave Behrman, CGCS** host.

September 10 – CDGA-Sunshine Course Turfgrass Field Day at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL. Watch your mail and email for more information.

September 12 – University of Illinois Turfgrass Field Day in Urbana, IL. Call 630-243-9483 or go to illinoisturfgrassfoundation.org for the goods. Or call Luke Cella and ask him.

September 18 – MAGCS Golf Championship at Glen Erin Golf Club, **Dave Braasch** host.

September 29 – CAGCS Founder's Cup at Olympia Fields Country Club, **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** host.

MAGCS welcomes the following new members and wishes them the best in their future endeavors:

- Dale Bates**, Class E—Cooper Oil Company.
- Maureen Clark**, Class E—Dow Agrosiences.
- Ken Hill**, Class SM—Billy Casper Golf/White Mountain.
- Aaron Johnson**, Class E—Spectrum Ttechnologies.
- Nick Marfise**, Class C—Glenview Park District.
- Rick Wilberschied**, Class E—All That's Wildlife.

Following a 2-year stint with Hydrologic, Reed Irrigation Service is back in business. **Jim Reed's** company will offer services including irrigation and recharge project reports, staking and construction management, programming of field satellites and central control systems, GPS mapping, sprinkler changeouts, and sprinkler verification for precipitation rate operation. Jim can be contacted at 630-675-5028 or at reedirrigation@aol.com.

Another MAGCS member has hung his shingle over his door. **David Oberle**, formerly with BASF, has founded Excel Turf and Ornamental based in Eagan, Minnesota. Excel will offer both product and technical support for the turf and ornamental industry in the upper Midwest.

It is with deep regret that we part with one of our dear old friends. On July 1st, **Kenny Goodman**, the retired superintendent of Bull Valley Golf Club passed away after a battle with cancer. Prior to Bull Valley, Ken had served as superintendent at Green Acres CC and Mt. Prospect GC.

Grant Neff has been promoted to the superintendent position at Joe Louis "The Champ" Golf Course. Grant was formerly the assistant superintendent at George Dunne National Golf Course. Grant has worked for Billy Casper Golf since the spring of 2008. Congratulations Grant.

GCSAA news: First, if you are a class A, AA, ART, SM, or SMRT member, you should have already received your 2008 Membership Directory in the mail. If this is not the case, call 800-472-7878 and raise a beef. Second, a new certification brochure is now available that provides a step-by-step guide

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to pursuing the CGCS designation. "Climbing the Ladder to Success through the GCSAA Certification Program" can be obtained by calling the same above number and then punching in extension 4484 or 4424.

How about this news from MAGCS member **Dean Styburski** of Western Acres Golf Course to put things into perspective: Dean will be leaving on August 28th to join his unit, and arrive at Fort Bragg, North Carolina on September 30th for a 45-day training stint before being deployed to Afghanistan. AFGHANISTAN. Dean gives his wife Ro (Rosetta) all the credit for taking care of the homestead while he has been training at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, and also mentions their son Steve will complete basic training on August 22nd and is loving Army life. Steve is working toward attending Airborne school, and his unit is set to deploy in the same time frame as his dad's. Let's all wish the Styburskis the best and keep them in our thoughts—they are the guys that are keeping us all safe here at home, and they are heroes. If you want to keep in touch with Dean, contact him at dean.w.styburski@us.army.mil.



Dean with his favorite MRE (meal, ready-to-eat) vegetarian style.

Looks like **Mike Vercautren** will be very busy in the coming year—Butterfield Country Club has retained the services of golf course architect Steve Smyers to do a major renovation to all 27 holes of the 1922 William Langford design. The scope of the project will include major drainage improvements and stabilization of the eroding Ginger Creek and Midwest Club tributary that run through the property, as well as restoring the Langford philosophy to the golf course design, including bringing back the traditional landing areas, restoring original bunker patterns and green contours, and increasing the yardage of the 18-hole course from 6,600 yards to 7,200 yards. Best of luck to Mike and his staff in this ambitious project.

News from one of our retired friends: **Jim McNair**, former superintendent at Orchard Valley Golf Course and currently residing in Eureka, IL recently went through knee replacement surgery. Jim says he hardly ever hits the "drip" button to relieve the pain, and has been home and rehabbing since July 17th. Still no news as to what happened to the original knee and how it was lost, but conventional thinking has Jim's rigorous exercise regimen as the culprit. If you want to hear from Jim, give him a call at 309-530-5462 and say hello to an old buddy.

Great news from **John Ekstrom** recently—he and his wife Erica welcomed their new son Aiden Roger into the world on July 15th at 11:43 AM at Edward Hospital in Naperville. Aiden arrived in "typical Ekstrom fashion—1 week late," and was delivered by Dr. Linda Anderson (wife of Tim Anderson, CGCS). Congratulations to the Ekstrom family!



John and son, Aiden

There was a great article in June's *Golf Course Industry* magazine featuring MAGCS member **Steve Cook, CGCS, MG** of Oakland Hills Country Club. "Motown Major Man," written by Pat Jones details Steve's rise to his current position and his knack for hosting major championships such as the Ryder Cup and this month's PGA Championship. Steve mentions **Dan Anderson** as the friend who got him interested in the golf maintenance business and professes his lifelong love of the Cubs as one of his favorite pastimes.

Had enough of those Penalty-Stroke.net "AST/Toro Company spitting match" emails yet?

On July 7th the Highlands of Elgin and **Brad Legnaioli, CGCS** hosted the 8th Annual John Buck Golf Outing to a packed house. This event has become a yearly must-do for MAGCS members as it honors the man whose name it bears while providing scholarships for 3 separate organizations: MAGCS, Northwest Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association, and the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation. As usual, the golf event was a four-person scramble with many fun surprises on the course throughout the round (such as the stuffed bra hole—figure it out from the photo). When the dust had settled and the scores were tabulated, the winning score of 61 was carded by the team of **Dave Blomquist, John Gurke, Jeff Hoste, and Andy Weadge**. Longest Putt was holed by **John Maguire**; Longest Drive was belted by Ryan Knox; Closest to the Pin on #8 was finessed by **Tim Johnson**, while Ken Bartels took that honor on #13; and Straightest Drive was striped by **Jeff Rehberg**. Many thanks to the Highlands of Elgin and Brad and Mike Lehman, to the folks at JW Turf including **Holly and Mark**

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Gilmour, Danna Eberly, Nick Hongisto, Joe Hustler, John Maguire, Jeff Rehberg, Rick Uthe, and Kelli Zopfi, to everyone who either volunteered, participated and/or donated to the cause, and to John Buck for being the kind of gentleman that he was.



A little humiliation for all the men that played . . . each had to add a few pounds to their pectorals for this tee shot.



Host, Brad Legnaioli, if only one i was a u in his last name he would have all the vowels, that is if you didn't count the y. Thanks Brad, great job.



How many decks does it take to make 14 royal flushes to the king?



Keith Krause with none of his customers.



Bruce Schweiger with all of his customers.



Help from all around. Kaycee DeRoo, (r) daughter of Kevin came out and helped during the event.



Thanks to all those that participated in the John Buck Outing, helping to fund MAGCS the scholarship fund. -OC