

THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



June 2008



We offer a warm welcome and hearty handshake to the following new members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents:

- Matthew Leinen**, North Shore Country Club, Assistant
- Alan Hoogstraat**, Ravisloe Country Club, Assistant
- Joseph Meier**, Prosource One, Associate
- Adam Lencke**, Calumet Country Club, Assistant
- Matt Hurley**, Standard Golf Company, Associate
- Charles Lundquist**, Biltmore Country Club, Assistant
- Ryan Dunbar**, Green Acres Country Club, Assistant
- Scott Fisher**, Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest & Associates, Associate
- Mike Green**, Flowtronex, Associate
- Ryan Reuter**, Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort, Assistant
- Mike Schiller**, Olsen Distributing, Associate
- Jim Wallace**, Medinah Country Club, Assistant
- Arne Nordenson**, Bittersweet Golf Club, Regular
- Grant Neff**, George Dunne National Golf Course, Assistant
- Matt Reifert**, Butler National Golf Club, Assistant

Congratulations to Nazira and **Larry Collins** (EC Design Group) on the birth of their first child on Saturday, May 3rd. Emmitt Laurence Collins was born at 3:32 pm, weighing 8 lbs., 3 ozs., and 22.5" long. Larry will be needing that iPod he so expertly wrote about last month to drown out the late-night new-baby noises.



Emmitt Laurence Collins

DATES TO REMEMBER

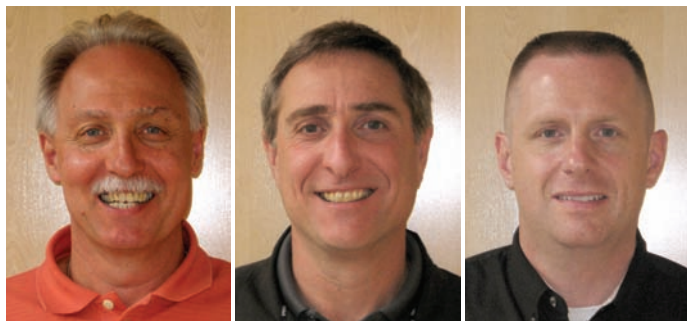
- June 2 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Royal Melbourne, **Dave Groelle, CGCS** host. The Dom Grotti, Class C, and Senior Championships will be (were) contested at this event.
- June 5 – Assistants Shop Talk at Arrowhead Golf Club in Wheaton, IL.
- June 9 – Penn State Alumni Golf Outing at Old Elm Club, **Ed Fischer, CGCS** host.
- June 10 – CAGCS monthly meeting at Ruth Lake Country Club, **Dan Marco, CGCS** host.
- July 7 – John Buck Annual Scholarship Outing at the Highlands of Elgin, **Brad Legnaioli** host.
- July 15 – Midwest Regional Turf Foundation's Turf Field Day at Purdue University in West LaFayette, IN. Call 765-494-8039 or visit www.mrtf.org for specifics.
- July 17 – Iowa Turfgrass Field Day at the Iowa State University Turfgrass Research Station in Ames, IA. Call 800-605-0420 or go to www.iowaturfgrass.org for info.
- July 19 – MAGCS Kane County Cougars Game and Family Picnic at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL. (Tickets are on sale now at magc.org)
- July 24 – CAGCS monthly meeting at Exmoor Country Club, **Kurt Galisdorfer, CGCS** host.
- July 28 – MAGCS Scholarship Outing at Geneva Golf Club, **Ed Braunsky, CGCS** host.

Jason Wolf has been promoted to the superintendent at Whisper Creek Golf Club in Huntley, IL, a Billy Casper Golf managed property. Jason was formerly at Indian Boundary, Chick Evans and Highland Woods golf courses. Jason received a certificate in turfgrass management from Mundus Institute in Phoenix.

We mentioned last month that Reinders Inc. had added more than 35 combined years of experience by hiring **Tim Keating** and **Bruce Woehrli** as Territory Managers for their Soft

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Goods Business Group. Well, it turns out they've also added Bob Hauser, who is the new Territory Manager for the Aerator and Irrigation Business Group. Bob has more than 30 years of industry experience working for a variety of companies including Chicago Turf & Irrigation, Century RainAid, TPEC, and most recently for Spears Manufacturing. Congratulations!



L-R: Bob Hauser, Tim Keating and Bruce Woehrli

Jerry Cotton has moved to a new role as the superintendent at River Oaks and Burnham Woods golf courses in Calumet City and Burnham, IL, respectively. Jerry was previously the superintendent at Joe Louis "The Champ" Golf Course in Riverdale. Jerry attended Joliet Community College.

Dan Augdahl has been promoted to the superintendent at Joe Louis "The Champ" Golf Course in Riverdale, IL. Dan was formerly the assistant superintendent at George Dunne National Golf Course in Oak Forest, IL. Dan received a Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Horticulture with a Turfgrass emphasis from the University of Minnesota. This will be Dan's 10th year as a member of the MAGCS.

Attention all superintendents! The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (ITF) needs your expertise. They are searching for superintendents to volunteer 10 to 15 minutes of their time at this year's Illinois Professional Turfgrass Conference (IPTC) to share their unique, innovative, creative, or even newly-invented ideas that they practice at their facilities. Interested parties should please contact **Erwin McKone** at 219-865-9842 or emckone@sbcglobal.net or **Pat Maksymiu** at 630-260-8135 or jmaksymiu@cantigy.org. No idea is too trivial! This is your education event, and a great opportunity to share your ideas with your peers.

A couple of great scramble events were played recently in the same week on 2 of the most unbelievably bipolar days one could imagine. On Monday, April 28th White Eagle Golf Club and **Gilberto Velazquez** hosted our first MAGCS monthly golf event of the season—the Spring Scramble. On a day that featured rain, wind, sleet, snow, dark of night, and all of the proverbial postman's nightmares, the hale and hearty attendees bundled up and hit the links after a REALLY great education session presented by the highly-energetic and thoroughly entertaining Dr. Fred Whitford on Pesticide Safety (see education recap by **Chuck Anfield, CGCS** for details). The brutal weather didn't deter the scramblers from turning in some surprisingly low scores (or possibly fabricating them), with the winning team of **Anfield, Lemanski, Buck** and **Dohman** posting a net 11 under par. Gil and his crew

had the course in great condition, and despite the weather, it was a great day. A nice sit-down meal afterward was the perfect warmer-upper for the chilled players, and a certain Mr. Tommy Nevin provided an evening elixir for many of the weary participants. We thank White Eagle and Gil Velazquez for their hospitality, and our great sponsors—**Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc., JW Turf/John Deere Golf, BTSI, Arthur Clesen, Inc., Palatine Oil Company, Reinders Inc., and Chicagoland Turf**—for their generosity in making the day so great. The golf committee did a great job awarding prizes to First, Second, Fifth, Tenth, Fourteenth, Seventeenth and Last Place. All the prizes were shipped to the winners (our order hadn't arrived by the meeting) in mid-May.



Gilberto Velazquez



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Just three days later the Illinois PGA's Annual Pro-Superintendent Tournament was held at Lincolnshire Country Club in Crete, IL on a warm, mostly sunny and very pleasant May 1st. Host superintendent Brian Racette and his staff had everything on the 1927 Tom Bendelow-designed championship course in fine order (I think they even shrunk the greens for the event), with the postage stamps rolling quick and smooth, and the course in terrific shape. The 2-man scramble format (which thankfully replaced the alternate shot format of several years back) allowed for superintendents to showcase their talents while not potentially injuring their PGA pro partners by putting them in harm's way (woods, fencelines, highways, snake pits, etc.) I was fortunate enough to have played with the winning team of **Brian Thomson, CGCS** and Doug Baumann of Biltmore Country Club, who shot a net 19 under par—all Brian's doing I might add. Hmm... my nose just grew. A truly fine touch by IPGA was the closest superintendent to the pin contest on two of the par 3's which resulted in a \$1,000 donation to the MAGCS Scholarship Fund. **Scott Witte, CGCS** and **Fred Behnke, CGCS** won the contest, but the real benefactors will be this year's scholarship winners. Anyhoo, a lot of fun was had, a lot of free Titleists were generously bestowed upon grateful superintendents and then unceremoniously lost, and the event was once again a great time. Thank you to Brian Racette, PGA Professional Steve Hosack, and all the staff at Lincolnshire, as well as to the IPGA for this fine day.



Pro I Superintendent tournament sponsor Sicalco made two (2) \$500 donations to the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents Scholarship Fund in the names of Cantigny's Scott Witte, CGCS and Fred Behnke, CGCS from Mt. Prospect G.C. who each won the closest to the hole contest on the 7th and 18th holes.

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Benjamin Grimme has joined the Billy Casper Golf Management team as the superintendent of Meadowlark Golf Course in Hinsdale, IL. Ben was formerly at the Links & Tees Golf Facility in Addison. Ben graduated with an Associate Degree in Ornamental Horticulture / Golf Course Management and another associate degree in Ornamental Horticulture / Landscape Design from Kishwaukee College in Malta and has been a member of MAGCS since 2001.

Dustin Hugen is the new superintendent of Poplar Creek Country Club. Dustin was formerly at Indian Hill Club in Winnetka. Dustin earned his Bachelor's of Science in Horticulture – Turf Management from Iowa State University in

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addition to a certification as an Equipment Technician from Lake City Community College in Lake City, FL.

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If you are a Penn State University alumnus, or play one on TV, get on the phone to Ed Fischer, CGCS at Old Elm Club RIGHT NOW and reserve your spot at the PSU Alumni Golf Outing on June 9th. Having had the privilege to have worked for Ed while also living on the grounds of Old Elm, I can attest that the opportunity to play this Donald Ross gem should not be missed. If you are reading this after the fact, fear not—the event will return to Old Elm in 2067. And Ed will still be there.

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A couple of recent stories have hit the news that are notable: First, by the end of this year you will no longer be able to buy pesticides at any Home Depot in Canada (if that's where you shop for pesticides). Second, two Chicago suburbs have cut off sales of phosphorous-containing fertilizers—deemed a "harmful nutrient" in a recent Tribune article. OK, I can do without phosphorous for my yard, and if I'm ever in Canada, it's not to buy Weed B Gone at the Depot; but the trend to summarily dismiss or ban products based on biased facts is somewhat disturbing, and potentially very costly to those of us who practice the safe use of these products in the execution of our jobs. I would contend that everyone in this business is an environmentalist and embraces the "Green" movement. However, the color green symbolizes more than the environment. It is also used to describe inexperience and a certain naivete' (as in the green rookie), and it is the "color of money"—both of which I fear are playing an important role in this growing topic of concern. Stay tuned.

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Brett Gutekunst is the new superintendent at Indian Boundary Golf Course in Chicago. Brett was previously at Copperleaf Golf Club in Bonita Springs, FL. Brett is not new to Chicago, as he also worked at Beverly Country Club. Brett has a variety of degrees in Golf Course Operations, Web Design, General Education and is continuing his education via Penn State University.

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Ken Hill has been promoted to the superintendent at White Mountain Recreation Center in Tinley Park. Ken was previously at Meadowlark golf course in Hinsdale. Ken received an Associate Degree in Applied Science/ Ornamental Horticulture/Landscape Design and Maintenance from Triton College in River Grove, IL.

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Whisper Creek Golf Club would like to welcome **Brian Smith** as the new Assistant Superintendent. Brian was previously at the Marriott Resort in Lincolnshire. Brian has a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Illinois State University and a Certificate in Golf Course and Athletic Field Maintenance from Harper College in Palatine.

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Grant Neff has joined George Dunne National Golf Club as the Assistant Superintendent. Grant previously worked for D&D Landscape and Construction. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Horticulture / Turfgrass Management from Iowa State University and is a new member to MAGCS.

Nate Iamurri is the new Assistant Superintendent at Poplar Creek Country Club. Nate was formerly at The Grand Hotel in Mackinac Island, MI. Nate was a part of the Golf Turf-grass Management Program at Michigan State.

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Maybe this guy can help the world put all this into the proper perspective: The Environmental Institute for Golf has elected its chairman for 2008 at its winter meeting in Orlando. Bob Wood, president of Nike Golf is the guy, and Ken Melrose, president of Leading By Serving, LLC and retired chairman of The Toro Co. is his vice chairman and treasurer. Also elected to the board were LPGA board member Rae Evans, founder and president of the Evans Capitol Group in Washington, D.C., and GCSAA Secretary/Treasurer James R. Fitzroy, CGCS. Mark Woodward, CGCS returns to the board in his new capacity as GCSAA's CEO. The list of trustees of EIFG is impressive and could very well help influence future policy regarding this sensitive subject. They are: David S. Downing II, CGCS—president of GCSAA; Mark Kizziar—Superstition Mountain Properties, Inc. president; Herbert V. Kohler, Jr.—The Kohler Company chairman and CEO; Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS—GCSAA vice president; Rafael Martinez—The Green magazine publisher/CEO and Republic Capital Corp. president; Victoria Martz, ASGCA—Palmer Course Design Co. vice president; Greg Norman—Great White Shark Enterprises chairman and CEO; David Pillsbury—immediate past chairman and PGA Tour Golf Properties president; and James T. Snow—USGA Green Section national director.

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A past MAGCS member and 2007 president of GCSAA was recently honored by his chapter. Sean Hoolehan, CGCS of Wildhorse Resort & Casino in Pendleton, Oregon received the Richard W. Malpass Distinguished Service Award by the Oregon Chapter of GCSAA, which recognizes outstanding service and leadership to the profession of golf course superintendent. You may remember Sean when he worked at Butler National Golf Club under **Oscar Miles, CGCS** WAY back in the early '80's. Congratulations, Sean! Yeah, like you're reading this.

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If you are a TurfNet member, you've hopefully noticed their new Webinars that have been offered recently. Before you ask, webinars are 1-hour internet-based seminars conducted by renowned industry leaders that are free to TurfNet subscribers and \$25 for non-members, and are worth .1 GCSAA Education Points. Check out www.turfnet.com (although I can't for the life of me find anything about the webinars, but there is a contact icon that may be helpful).

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Big doings at Mistwood Golf Club—Superintendent **Dave Drendel** and assistant **Ben Kelnhofner** had their new revetted sod wall bunkers on the 12th hole showcased in the Mid-April issue of Chicagoland Golf, with a photo of Ben, right arm fully extended upward while standing in the bunker and still not reaching the top. Dave says he plans to continue adding these dramatic features to the course as time and funding permit. Like bunkers aren't difficult enough to get out of.

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Ben Kelnhofer and Dave Drendel

Also seen in print recently was **Matt Breeden**, assistant superintendent at Evanston Golf Club. Matt contributed the "Assistant's View" article to the April issue of *Golf Course Industry* magazine. His article detailed the Habitat For Humanity project undertaken in Aurora by the Class C Committee this past winter/spring, titled "Lending a Helping Hand."



Matt Breeden

Golf Course Industry must really like MAGCS, as its April issue also highlighted Crystal Tree Country Club's **Les Rutan** and his club's in-house bunker renovation project.

Actually, GCI must really REALLY like MAGCS—its May 5th internet news release had a great write-up about Lohmann Golf Designs, Inc. and its work on Brookfield, Wisconsin's Westmoor Country Club. The work entails the conversion of all 18 greens to A1 bentgrass, as well as to continue what architect William Langford began when he redesigned 5 holes in 1957, following the fashion of steep-faced bunkering and strategic angles at greenside and along fairways. LGD founder and past-president of the ASGCA **Bob Lohmann** was chosen for the project based on his extensive portfolio of Langford renovations, including West Bend and Ozaukee in Wisconsin, Happy Hollow in Nebraska, and Minnehaha in South Dakota.



Bob Lohmann

Finally, a MAGCS member's brush with fame. **Doug Davis**, superintendent of Flag Creek Golf Course had the wonderful opportunity of participating in the filming of a major motion picture called "Public Enemies" in early April. Directed by Michael Mann, the movie stars Johnny Depp as John Dillinger and Christian Bale as G-man Melvin Purvis, and is due to be released in 2009. In the film Doug plays a deputy sheriff for the city of Tucson, AZ, and his scene was filmed in an abandoned police station in downtown Chicago. The basement had about 8 old cells, which were where Doug and a retired Chicago police officer took Johnny Depp's character down the stairs in handcuffs into a cell, removing the cuffs once inside. Doug says they shot the scene about 15 times, and in between takes he was able to chat with Mr. Depp, who was a really nice guy. Doug will travel to Oshkosh, WI this month to shoot additional scenes—no speaking parts, but still a great thrill, and he even gets PAID for his acting talents! Doug fears the itchy scissor fingers of the editor, saying "I only hope I don't end up on the cutting room floor!" Thanks for that cool story, Doug—we'll look for you at the movies.



Doug Davis and Johnny Depp

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