



## DATES TO REMEMBER

September 10 – Midwest Research Field Day at Midwest Golf House Sunshine Course in Lemont, IL.

September 18 – MAGCS monthly meeting and annual championship at Glen Erin Golf Club in Janesville, IL, President **Dave Braasch** host.

September 22 – 5th Annual Wee One Foundation Golf Outing at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI, **Rod Johnson, CGCS** host.

September 29 – CAGCS Founders Cup Invitational at Olympia Fields Country Club in Olympia Fields, IL, **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** host.

September 29 – MAGCS Class C Outing, Cantigny Golf Club, Pat Maksymiu and Jeremy Duncan hosts. Please contact Pat at 630-260-8135 to reserve your spot today.

October 1 – 3 – Bayer Environmental Science and John Deere Golf's 3rd annual Green Start Academy in North Carolina.

October 7 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Prestwick Country Club in Frankfort, IL, **Tim White** host. *Please note the location change.*

October 16 – Annual U of I Turf Alumni Golf Outing at Indian Lakes Resort, **Chuck Barber**, host

It is with profound sadness that we say goodbye to some old friends. James Latham, Jr., former USGA director of our Great Lakes region from 1984 to 1994, passed away on July 16th in his hometown of Hillsboro, Texas. Also, on August 4th, Patricia Clesen (the wife of Art Clesen) passed away unexpectedly. Please remember these two fine friends in your prayers.

The Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) will be holding its annual Founders Cup Invitational golf outing at the venerated Olympia Fields Country Club (**Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** hosting) on the 29th of this month. This event was founded to increase awareness of the superintendent's profession to others in the golf business, to communicate the value of the Chicagoland association, and to raise funds for the CDGA Turfgrass research programs. The event teams superintendents with their invitees—club presidents, green chairmen, municipal officials, general managers, PGA professionals, or hired escorts with low handicaps in a two-man best ball format. Sign up today and take advantage of this opportunity to play one of Chicagoland's premiere golf courses.



*Luke Cella teaches a group from the Kid's Golf Foundation one weekend in August at an event at Rich Harvest Farms about the golf course superintendent profession.*

The 2008 MAGCS Scholarship Golf Outing was held last month at the newly-restored and historic Geneva Golf Club with **Eddie Braunsky, CGCS** hosting. I couldn't attend so I'll just "phone in" my usual blah blah blah great day, great course, great food, great fun, yadda yadda yadda. Actually, I have heard reports from actual flesh-and-bone attendees

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that the day in fact WAS great, the golf course in fact WAS great, the pork chop sandwiches in fact WERE great, and in all there WAS great fun had by all. Over \$7500 was raised for the scholarship fund. Thanks to everyone who played a part in making it such a great day, including **Geneva Golf Club** (the use of the club was donated), the great Eddie Braunsky, the ghost of Albie Staudt, and Tim Johnson of Arrowhead Golf Club. A special thanks to all those that helped to make the day a financial success: **Nadler Golf Car Sales** for the extra golf cars, **Arthur Clesen Inc.** for the bar-b-que lunch, **BTSI** for all of the beverages, **Bayer Environmental Sciences** for the ball caps, **Liebold Irrigation** for the golf towels, **Esler Golf Designs** for the matching donation and these companies and folks that donated products for the silent auction: **Mr. Bob Berry, Mr. Bob Darnall, Arrowhead Golf Club, Prairie Bluff Golf Club, Syngenta, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Waupaca Sand & Solutions.**



*Dave Braasch makes a great recovery from a drive that stood up all day (forward tee in picture).*



*Jim Styka and host Ed Braunsky enjoy the day at Geneva Golf Club*



*Is it real or is it a cardboard cut out of Ed and TJ in pirate get up. Thanks to Dave Esler for providing a fun and different tee event.*



*A pic from the past, Albie Staudt and John Stephenson.*



*Harry Lovero, thanks the crowd as he makes his way to the putting green.*



*Many laughs and good times were shared at Geneva Golf Club in July.*

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Dave Braasch collects his prize for his diminutive drive from our host Ed Braunsky.



Thanks to Arthur Clesen, Inc for cooking up a great lunch at the scholarship outing.



Always nice to see our AA's come out for a day of fun, Lynn Wesson, Mike Bavier and Carl Hopphan.



MAGCS members pen their names to items up for sale in the silent auction.

Catch any of that PGA Championship? BIG props to MAGCS members **Steve Cook, CGCS, MG, Ben McGargill**, and the staff and volunteer crew for an outstanding job of course preparation at Oakland Hills Country Club. That was truly one of the most exciting majors we've seen in recent years (apologies to Tiger, Rocco and Torrey Pines). The best players in the world were challenged by one of the most difficult tests of golf in the world, and in the end, the guy who managed the course the best won (the guy who made the putts that is). Congratulations Paddy, Steve, Ben and staff!



Steve Cook

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 On a related note, Arysta LifeScience North America held a drawing at their booth at the GIS last February which sent winners to the five majors (the Masters, U. S. Open, British Open, PGA Championship, and Ryder Cup), and **Tom Prichard** of the Ivanhoe Club was the winner of the trip to Oakland Hills. Tom brought Ivanhoe's General Manager along for a little "business and pleasure" mix. Business??

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 "There'll never be another **Paul Voykin**." This was the title of GCM magazine's "Front Nine" article in its July issue, referring to the 77-year-old superintendent's impending retirement from Briarwood Country Club after 48 years at the helm. Not enough can be said of this amazing professional accomplishment, nor can enough praise be showered upon the man in the spotlight. So he's retiring, he's finally walking away from the golf course he's tended for the last half century, and he's going to Disney World, right? Not Paul—he's got a membership waiting for him at Briarwood, which he plans to use while serving as a consultant on the course. More to come...

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 Another MAGCS long-timer has found a couple of ways to spend retirement. **Hans Hopphan**, who was superintendent of Aurora Country Club, The Bourne, and Blackberry Oaks Golf Course and has always been a hobbyist of sorts, has been enjoying his retirement by exercising his green thumb, among other things. Hans has turned his back yard in Aurora into a virtual planter's palette of color and texture,

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with water features, hand-made garden ornaments derived from doorknobs of all things, and a plethora of plants creating a summer-long display of beauty. When he tires of gardening, Hans steps into his workshop and logs a few hours in building VERY intricate doll houses for his granddaughters. If that gets old, he gets together with his OLD golf buddies like Lynn Wesson for a round here and there, followed by a round here and there. If all that gets boring, Hans keeps in top physical condition doing his favorite exercise—the limbo. That retirement thing looks pretty OK to me.



*Hans Hopphan*



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 Park Ridge Country Club is looking for a Second Assistant golf course superintendent. Interested applicants should REALLY think hard about what they are getting themselves into, and then contact **Joel Purpur, CGCS** at 847-823-8682 or prsupt@sbcglobal.net.  
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Unless you're an insect, this should be good news. New research from the University of Massachusetts Amherst shows that residues from two widely used insecticides picked up by golfers during a typical round of golf poses no health risk. Sevin SL and Dursban Pro were the insecticides used, and what they did was spray the stuff on turf, then get volunteers to walk 6,500 yards on it while taking 85 swings and 85 practice swings. The lucky group got to wear long-legged and sleeved cotton clothing with veils covering their faces; the unlucky ones (the ones promised crack for their efforts) wore shorts, golf shirts, ankle socks, and golf shoes. Turns out they all came in off the "course" between 19 and 68 times under the U. S. EPA's set values for exposure, and most reported a reduction in lice, bedbug, and crab infestations lasting several weeks after their exposure.  
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Guess what? Fertilizer prices are rising still. I've read almost everything there is to read about this, and all I can surmise is that it comes down to a combination of India, China, Brazil, the yet-to-be-found Steve Fossett, and ball bearings.  
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**Tommy Robinson**, superintendent of Ravinia Green Country Club and dead ringer for that "most interesting man in the world" guy who "doesn't always drink beer, but when he does, he prefers Dos Equis," has a nice pretty feather to add to his cap—he qualified for and played in the U. S. Senior Open at The Broadmoor Resort's East Course in Colorado Springs, CO from July 31 through August 3.

Tommy qualified by shooting a 5-under par 67 at The Club at Strawberry Creek in Kenosha, WI (**Matt Kregel** superintendent) on July 1st. A total of 2,810 entries were received to fill the field of 156 players—74 of whom were exempt from qualifying, leaving Tommy to battle for one of a mere 82 spots. Think about this—you decide you've got enough game to try to qualify for a major international event, so you give it a whirl. Next thing you know you're on a plane to

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Colorado about to tee it up with the likes of Tom Watson and all those other old guys with game. Only they're old guys with game that have played in front of big galleries and cameras before. I'd soil myself, sure as ... soil. Congratulations on your really cool accomplishment Tommy!



Tommy Robinson

Lohmann Golf Designs (**Bob Lohmann**) has tackled a very ambitious project with its renovation of the Jefferson City Country Club in Missouri's state capital. The course closed to member play on July 7 and construction is expected to be wrapped up by October, with the course scheduled to reopen on June 1st, 2009.

The renovation includes rebuilding all 18 push-up greens to USGA specs with A-series bentgrass, rebuilding all greenside bunkers and green surrounds, adding 15 additional tees, as well as some major drainage improvements. The club selected Lohmann after an exhaustive search, interviewing several golf course architects before deciding on Bob's firm. Bob, on the other hand, feels that his selection may have been inevitable or even fate...kismet...karma. You see, before the community was given the name Jefferson City and named the capital in 1821, it was known as...Lohman's Landing.

On Tuesday, August 12th, the members of MAGCS converged upon Sportsman's Country Club in Northbrook for a terrific day of golf and education. Host **Mike Siefken** and his staff had the undulating and recently-renovated greens vexing everyone, and the entire course was a delight to play.

The golf event was the Progressive Logo Ball competition, whereby you try for 18 holes to keep that stinkin' ball around—even going to such lengths as trekking through mosquito-infested forests and slogging into waist-deep water hazards to retrieve it and preserve that hope, and in most cases to no avail. The education portion of the day was, in most attendees' opinions, one of the best yet, with original on-camera Weather Channel personality and "Skiing Weatherman" Herb Stevens offering his views on climate change and man's influence on it. He's a HUGE Al Gore fan. More on Herb's presentation can be found in **Chuck Anfield's** controversial education wrap-up (controversial only because he actually gets PAID to "write" that thing). But I digress—back to golf.

A few teams managed to finish their 18 holes with their (or someone's) logo ball in hand. The winning team was #7B with **Dean Tomaselli, Craig Lewis, Mike Hatton, and Chris Smith**. In second was **Scott Speiden, Pete Kiraly, Steve Bychowski, and Mike Vukmir**. Rounding it out in third was the team of **Ernie Kaplan, Greg Mark, Jim Lohmann, and Kevin Stieneke**. In the Gross competition,

the grossest was **Beau Breunig**, followed by **Mike Hatton** and **Greg Mark**. The Net division was netted (clever, huh?) by **Scott Fisher**, with second going to **Jason McIntyre**, and third to **Scotty Speiden**. All in all it was another fine day which was made possible only through the generosity of Sportsman's Country Club, host superintendent **Mike Siefken**, and through the day's sponsors: **Anton's Greenhouses, Arthur Clesen, Inc., Bayer Environmental Science, BTSI, Burris Equipment Company, J. W. Turf Inc.—John Deere Golf, Nadler Golf Car Sales—Authorized Club Car Distributor, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Palatine Oil Co., Inc., and Reinders, Inc.** Thank you all!



MAGCS August Meeting host, Mike Siefken accepts a thank you from Arrangements Chair, Bob Kohlstedt.



Kevin DeRoo and Fred Behnke are smiling when they realized there is PBR on the refreshment car.



Brian Winkel goes in to retrieve his group's logo ball in his "It's no big deal, my shoes are Dry Joy's"



Golf Committee Chair Dan Sterr demonstrates the proper way to search for a logo ball in knee deep water.



Old friends reunite at Sportsman's.



It was nice to see the group from Medinah Country Club make a meeting, MAGCS welcomes new member Curtis Tyrell (left). -OC

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