

So you might think that working for a municipality like Todd does would be too structured or regimented, right? It does have its perks, though, as the resources a village or city has are vast and can be shared. In my days at the village-owned Bartlett Hills Golf Course, many a tee was built using one of the village's big ol' honkin' endloaders. Todd took that thinking to the next level this winter—he made a bulk lime application to the Phillips Park Golf Course fairways using a City of Aurora salt truck. Saved a bunch of money, and worked like a charm. Thinking outside the box like Taco Bell is what that is.



On March 7th, the CDGA held its annual Directors Seminar at Medinah Country Club. The purpose of these events is to gather officials from golf courses throughout the region together in one venue in order to share information and exchange ideas in an open format. After the general remarks, participants break out into several subgroups that focus on more specific areas of golf club governance, such as finance, house, golf, and grounds and greens. This year, the subject for the grounds and greens group was the current economy and its effect on course conditioning. A panel consisting of moderator Sheldon Solow (green chairman at Briarwood CC), **Dr. Derek Settle** (CDGA), **Dave Esler** (Esler Golf Designs), **Ty McClellan** (USGA Green Section), and golf course superintendents **Bob Maibusch, CGCS**, MG (Hinsdale GC), **Dan Marco, CGCS** (Ruth Lake CC), **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** (Medinah CC), and me fielded questions from the audience of green chairmen, fellow superintendents, and various other course officials throughout a lively morning of open discourse. These seminars are a great way to bond with and educate the people that we answer to at our courses—think about attending next year's event, you won't be disappointed.

Another of our affiliate groups held its annual shindig in March as well—the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) presented the 24th Annual Chicagoland Forum at Naperville Country Club (**Tim Anderson, CGCS**) on the 11th. The morning session featured GCSAA's effervescent Lyne Tumlinson and CAGCS president **Jon Jennings, CGCS** and their "Taking Control of Your Career: Make it Magic" seminar. The afternoon was highlighted by CDGA's Director of Rules and Competitions Jodi Ciotti's talk on "Effectively Marking the Golf Course," followed by past MAGCS member Tom Brodeur of TPC Boston speaking on "Successfully Hosting

an Annual PGA Event." On a personal note, I would have better insights to offer about the presentations had I taken better notes, but I found myself distracted by the near exact similarity between the valances above the windows at Naperville and the tie I chose to wear that day. It was spooky weird knowing that I accessorize in the same manner as a banquet room at a country club. But I digress. Again. Thanks to everyone who made this another great Forum, to the guests who travelled great distances to share their knowledge, and to Tim and the staff at Naperville Country Club—yes, even the decorator who chose the damn valance material—for a great day.



*Tom Brodeur nods off while reading the creed.*

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