THE BULL SHEET John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



August 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 11 – CAGCS monthly meeting at Biltmore Country Club, **Brian Thomson, CGCS** host.

August 13-16 – PGA Championship at Hazeltine National in Chaska. MN.

August 18-19 – Ping Junior Solheim Cup at Aurora Country Club in Aurora, IL, me 'n' Virg hosts.

August 21 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA's 2010 Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award.

August 21-23 – Solheim Cup at Rich Harvest Links in Sugar Grove, IL, **Jeff Vercautren** host superintendent.

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August 25-26 – Inaugural iTurfExpo at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL, Dr. Derek Settle, Keith Rincker, and Chris Painter hosts.

August 25 – iTurf Golf Classic at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club (Dubsdread course) in Lemont, IL, **Ken Lapp** host superintendent.

September 8 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Annual Golf Championship at Kemper Lakes Golf Club in Kildeer, IL, **Dan Tully** host superintendent.

September 10-13 – BMW Championship at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club in Lemont, IL, Ken Lapp host superintendent.

September 10-17 – 55th USGA Senior Amateur Championship at Beverly Country Club in Chicago, IL, **Keith Peterson** host superintendent.

September 15 – Class C Shop Talk at the Beverly Country Club maintenance department at 5:00 pm, **Tim Nixon** and **Joe Schneider** hosts.

September 18 – Annual Class C Golf Outing and Binge Drinking Championship (optional) at Aurora Country Club in Aurora, IL, **Virgil Range** host.

September 21 – Annual Wee One Golf Outing at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI, Rod Johnson host superintendent. (www.weeone.org to register)



Congratulations right off the bat to **Kerry Anderson** (Valent) who married his sweetheart Jill Obermoeller last month. We wish Kerry and Jill all the marital bliss in the world!



If you have someone in mind whom you feel is deserving of our national association's highest honor, you have until the 21st of this month to nominate them for GCSAA's Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award for 2010. You can go to gcsaa.org and try to find the right place to figure out the specifics, or just call them and they'll be glad to help.

Just a reminder that next month Keith Peterson and Beverly Country Club are hosting the 55th USGA Senior Amateur Championship from the 10th through the 16th, and they could use your help. In order to get the course ready

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for play each day—especially the 10th through the 13th—they are gladly accepting volunteers to assist with course preparation. To take advantage of this opportunity, call Keith at (708) 636-8700, ext. 252 or email him at kpeterson@beverlycc.org.

A couple MAGCS members from the opposite ends of the "life experience" spectrum welcomed new additions to their families recently. First, Sara and **Keith Krause** were blessed on July 7th at 9:26 am when 8-pound, 8-ounce, 20-¾" Maximillian Kane Krause was born, giving sister Lucy a playmate and future tormentor.



Then, a week later Grandma DeeAnn and Grandpa **Peter Leuzinger** added grandchild #6 to their brethren when daughter Megan gave birth to Ruby Lee Mogan, who came into the world at 7 pounds and 12 ounces. Megan and her family live in Tucson, AZ, and the proud grandparents are out there helping with the other two girls. Congratulations to both families!



Imagine being the superintendent at Pinehurst #2—it was recently announced that the course will host the 2014 US Open and US Women's Open in consecutive weeks from June 12th through the 22nd. This is the first time ever for one course to host both tournaments. That will be some MAJOR work, huh? Get it?

Speaking of majors, we have a couple of pretty major events coming to our neck of the woods this summer. This month brings the best junior and professional woman golfers from Europe to Aurora and Sugar Grove where they will do battle against their American counterparts in the Ping Junior Solheim Cup (Aurora CC) and the Solheim Cup (Rich Harvest Links and Jeff Vercautren) from the 18th through the 23rd. Then in September, from the 10th through the 17th, **Keith Peterson** and Beverly Country Club will host the 55th USGA

Senior Amateur Championship. Keith could use all the volunteer help he can get to get the course prepared each day, so give him a call at 708-636-8700 if you would like to help out.

During the USGA Senior Amateur Championship, the MAGCS Class C committee will hold a Shop Talk at the Beverly CC maintenance department at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, September 15th. If you are interested in attending, call Scott Verdun at 847-899-1019.

While speaking of assistant superintendents, a big event is coming up next month that brings assistants from all over the country together for two and a half days of education and networking. John Deere Golf and Bayer Environmental Science are accepting nominations for Green Start Academy which will take place from September 29th through October 2nd at the Bayer Training Center in Clayton, NC and John Deere's Turf Care factory in Fuguay Varina, NC. How does a town get a name like Fuguay Varina? Were people just mad at some guy named Varina? But I degress. To be one of the 50 assistants to get in to Green Start Academy, assistants must be nominated by their superintendent, and follow up with an essay that will be judged by a panel of industry experts including MAGCS past president Bruce Williams, **CGCS**. For more information and to apply, visit www.GreenStartAcademy.com.

So I'm channel surfing the other night, and when I click on Comcast Sports Net, I catch a glimpse of a familiar face in a vaguely familiar place. **Greg Martin** (Martin Design Partnership) was the familiar face, and the bar at Bolingbrook Golf Club was the place. The show was "Golf Chicago", and the particular feature I caught included Greg, Len Ziehm, and moderator Terry Lavin having a relaxed discussion over a couple of adult beverages on various hot topics relating to our industry. The show airs on Saturday evenings at 5, with repeats throughout the week—give it a look-see.

John Leibold (Leibold Irrigation, ProGro Solutions, Inc.) recently announced that they have obtained exclusive rights for the Leibold Biological Water Management Systems for the United States. The system offers the latest in biological waste water treatment specifically designed for golf course operations. Growing Solutions, Inc. (Warren Shafer and Scott Speiden) will serve as authorized sales and service representative for the Leibold Water Management Systems for Illinois and Indiana. For information, contact Leibold Irrigation, Inc. at 800-875-4083 or Growing Solutions, Inc. at 800-816-4041.

Heartfelt condolences to **Oscar Miles, CGCS** (retired) and his family on the passing of his wife Mardelle on July 6th.

MAGCS also sends its sympathies to the Gruening family on the passing of Lorraine Gruening on June 26th. Lorraine was the wife of past MAGCS member Marv and mother to Mike, both of whom were superintendents in the Chicagoland area.

Congratulations to **Maureen Clark** on being named Dow AgroSciences' sales representative for its Southern Urban

Pest District based in Tampa, FL. Maureen will be responsible for all turf and ornamental sales in western Florida.

Lots of MAGCS members were spotted in the pages of our industry's most noted publications recently. In the June issue of Club & Resort Business, Onwentsia Club's Skip Willms, **CGCS** was cited in an article about irrigation system renovations called "What Lies Below," while in the same issue Coyote Run Golf Course superintendent **Dave Ward** was interviewed by Dan Dinelli, CGCS on his ability to do more with less in today's economy. In July's GCM, Joel Purpur, **CGCS** of Park Ridge Country Club had his article published about the drip irrigation system he has been installing titled "Watering from Underground." In the June issue of Golf Course Industry magazine, Scott Verdun of Merit Club was interviewed as part of an article titled "A New Course" relating to former superintendents in new careers. Last, but certainly not least, Fred Behnke, CGCS' article that ran in *On Course* earlier this year, "The Best Defense is a Good Offense," was reprinted in The Green Breeze the official chapter publication of the Greater Cincinnati GCSA. Congratulations to all of our famous writers!

How about those stinkin' Japanese beetles and their horny little humpfests? Really not a whole lot more to say about that, except that those sign companies should produce "Tread On Me" signs with a picture of a Japanese beetle on them. Those would sell...



Don't forget about the big new iTurfExpo coming to Midwest Golf House this month on the 25th and 26th. You should have received all the information and registration documents, but if not, call Luke Cella and sign up. This is going to be an outdoor, in-season Trade Show/Research Update/Equipment and Product Demo/Hands-On Education and Training/Golf Event type deal all in two days! And the price makes it a no-brainer for bringing key staff members to experience all that ITF and MAGCS have been collaborating on over the past year. Also, don't forget the iTurf Classic golf event on the 25th at the newly-renovated Dubsdread course, whose recent facelift was performed by the "Open Doctor" Rees Jones, with Wadsworth Golf Construction doing the work. We look forward to seeing you at Golf House later this month!

Have you checked out TGIF (Turfgrass Information File) lately? There is a new feature called "Dig Deeper" that allows you to search a full documents text (not just the words in the TGIF record). For example, searching "Cella"

in the archive site returns 18 results without the "Dig Deeper" box checked; checking the box increases the search results to 49. This feature exists now in several of the archive sites, including *Golf Course Management, USGA Green Section Record* (& predecessor titles), *TurfNews*, and *The National Greenkeeper*. Take advantage of your MAGCS membership and check out TGIF today.

On a rainy Wednesday on the 8th of July, the 9th Annual John Buck Golf Outing took place at Pinecrest Golf Club in Huntley, IL with Brian Comiskey hosting. Even though the weather was rather uncooperative, the venue was in excellent condition, and the field of participants enjoyed a truly fun day of scramble golf. The intent of this annual gettogether is to benefit the John Buck Scholarship Fund, which is distributed to the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, the MAGCS Scholarship Fund, and the Northwest Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association Scholarship Funds. When it was all said and done, the team of...well, me, along with old reliable Jeff Hoste, old faithful Andy Weadge, and just plain old **Dave Blomquist** took top honors for the second consecutive year, carding an unsurpassed 55. Besides the great golf, the day included fantastic food and drink, and a grand time for all who endured the soggy weather. Thanks to Brian and his grounds staff, to everyone at Pinecrest for their hospitality, and to JW Turf and Buck Brothers for their kindness and generosity.



Sharon Riesenbeck tried to keep the marshmallows dry – next time – a campfire might help instead of wimpy umbrellas.



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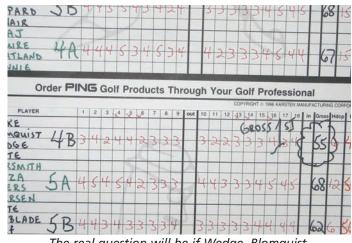
Holly Gilmour lines up her tee shot between the cones.







Everyone had trouble seeing this golfer because he forgot his blaze orange cap.



The real question will be if Wedge, Blomquist, Gurke and Hoste can 3-peat in 2010?

-OC

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