# THE BULL SHEET John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



## July 2009

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

July 21 – MAGCS Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Outing at Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago, IL, **Tony Kalina, Travis Dykstra,** and **Eric Mundt** hosts.

July 25 – MAGCS Family Night Picnic and Kane County Cougars baseball game at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.

July 27-29 – Illinois Open at Hawthorn Woods Country Club in Hawthorn Woods, IL, **David Schingel** host.

August 1 – Deadline for entries for Lebanon Turf's 2010 Dog Days of Golf calendar.

August 1 – Coincidentally, this is the deadline for entries in TurfNet's 2010 "Superintendent's Best Friend Calendar" presented by BASF.

August 18-19 – Junior Solhiem Cup at Aurora Country Club, John Gurke, CGCS and **Virgil Range** hosts.

August 21 – Deadline for letters of support and nominations to be submitted for the GCSAA's 2010 Distinguished Service Award.

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

August 25-26 – Inaugural iTurf Expo at Midwest Golf House and Sunshine Course in Lemont, IL, **Dr. Derek Settle, Keith Rincker,** and **Chris Painter** hosts. **Ken Lapp** hosts the iTurf Golf Classic, part of the festivities with the iTurfExpo. (www.iturfexpo.com to register)

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

September 10-13 – BMW Championship at the newly-renovated Cog Hill Country Club, **Ken Lapp** host.

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

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



Welcome also to **Greg Johnson** of Eagle Brook Country Club who has accepted the open Director's position on the 2009 MAGCS Board of Directors. Thank you Greg for your dedication to this association, and best of luck in you tenure on the Board.

Congratulations to **Luke Cella** on his successful completion of 100 holes of golf in the Sunshine Through Golf Classic 100 marathon on May 30th. Luke competed in the event with the support of many MAGCS members who had pledged money that ultimately will go to the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation to benefit the beginners, juniors, individuals with disabilities, minorities, and economically disadvantaged in the Chicago District. Nice job, Luke.



Bob Berry, past president of the CDGA led the charge both on and off the course during the 100 holes of golf marathon. Thank you to all those that contributed. Over \$113,000 was raised.

(continued on page 22)

Keep the 21st open—Tony Kalina, Travis Dykstra and Eric Mundt will be hosting a unique golf event to benefit the MAGCS Scholarship Fund which will feature a first-ever "Bass Ackwards" format. This day is NOT about competition and winning and all that stuff—it's about fun and fellowship and charity. Get your short game ready and come on over to PLGC for an afternoon of great times.

Back on May 18th **John Nelson** and **Scott Verdun** and the Merit Club hosted the 2009 ITF/MAGCS Spring Golf Day. This was a perfect day on a top-o-the-line golf facility. The golf event was a Four-Ball Match Play format, which was by the Red Team by a very slim 2 points. Proximity prizes were won by **Larry Flament** for his longest putt on #2; Drew Rodgers with his long putt on #16; **Bruce Schweiger** who had the closest to the pin on #11; and Brad Marks who was closest to the pin on #7. Congratulations to all the winners, to Jeff Mazur on winning the waterproof camera raffle, and many thanks to John, Scott, and the staff at Merit Club for a super day. Finally, we thank the day's sponsors for their generous support—they were Arthur Clesen, Inc., Bayer Environmental Science, BTSI, Burris Equipment Company, Dow AgroSciences, Drop Zone Portable Serivces, Inc., Great Lakes Turf, Growing Solutions, Inc., JW Turf, Inc., Lebanon Turf, Lohmann Companies, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Palatine Oil Company, Pearl Valley Organix Healthy Gro, Pendleton Turf Supply, Quali-Pro, Reinders, Inc., Spectrum Technologies, Inc., and Syngenta Turf & Ornamental.



Kevin DeRoo presents John Nelson with his host gifts in May.



Tony Kalina adding a little spit to raffle tickets for luck.









Humble apologies for that photo of me in my Black Hawk Kool-Aid-drinking state I was in last month, but in my defense, it was taken before the Hawks were eliminated in the conference finals, and I had seats THIS close to the action...



Another MAGCS member who wears his team allegiance on his sleeve is **Chuck Barber** of Indian Lakes Resort, who bleeds the black and gold of the Steelers and Penguins (and not only this year when both luckily won their respective championships). Chuck was fortunate enough to score tickets to his first Steelers playoff game last winter, which he attended with his friend Nathan. Chuck explains that the eyewear was to protect from the crazy blowing snow, but more than likely these were just rose-colored beer goggles making the Steelers look more like the '85 Bears...



(L) MAGCS member Chuck Barber with the beer or snow goggles.

Don't forget about this month's MAGCS Family Night Picnic and Kane County Cougars game on the 25th in Geneva. Tickets are still available and there is no better (nor cheaper!) way to take the whole fam damily out for an evening of professional baseball in a great venue. All the food and drinks are included, and there is plenty for kids of all ages to do. Call Luke and reserve your tickets now!

Kudos to GCSAA's *Golf Course Management* magazine on winning five first place commercial publication writing awards and six merit awards from the Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association's (TOCA) awards ceremony on May 14th in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.

In other industry news, John Deere Golf and Watertronics have teamed up to create a fully integrated irrigation control system. Watertronics will build Orion pump stations customized to interface with John Deere Golf's Aurora control systems for golf course irrigation.

Coming this September (the 10th through the 17th), Beverly Country Club and **Keith Peterson** will host the 55th USGA Senior Amateur Championship. Keith is requesting the assistance of any MAGCS members who can help—especially on the 10th through the 13th when 156 golfers will tee it up off the first and tenth tees, leaving the window for preparation very narrow. If you can help, give Keith a call and sign up for a great experience on a classic golf course at (708) 636-8700, ext. 252 or email him at kpeterson@beverlycc.org.

The 2010 Golf Industry Show web site has officially launched—the interactive site www.golfindustryshow.com has all the information you need to plan your trip to San Diego, CA next February, including details about the USGA joining the show partnership, schedules, and just about everything else. The site will be constantly updated to keep you on top of your game, so check it out regularly.

There are two chances for you to get your dog famous, but you have to act fast. Lebanon Turf in conjunction with *Golfdom* magazine is looking for "cover girls" (or boys) for their 2010 Dog Days of Golf Calendar; while TurfNet and BASF are looking for the next Lassie for their "Superintendent's Best Friend Calendar" as well. Both deadlines for submissions—digital photos of your dog in action on your course—are due by August 1st. For information on the former, contact Cynthia Andrews at 800-532-0090, ext. 253. For the TurfNet/BASF dealie, send images of at least 4 megapixels to amurray@golfweek.com or call Anna Murray at 407-563-7070.

GCSAA has selected its new chief operating officer. J. Rhett Evans, the director of parks, recreation, and commercial facilities for the City of Mesa, AZ will assume his duties on July 9th, and will be responsible for planning and directing key aspects of organizational operations, including policies, objectives and strategic initiatives. He will also develop and implement key programs that support GCSAA's short- and long-term financial and operational goals to ensure future sustained growth. So there.

Wanna save your ash? There is a web site (www.treeresearch.org) that you can log onto to find out the latest successful control measures to combat the devil emerald ash borer. And no—control measure #1 does not involve a chain saw. That's #2.

We at MAGCS pride ourselves as being on the cutting edge—an association that strives to be first in all things turf. We now have reached the next level, as there can be NO other association who can boast of a member with his own baseball card. Thank you to **Chuck** "He's not that bad" **Anfield** for bringing us to this new level of distinction. Chuck participated in the White Sox fantasy camp last winter, and was so impressive to the coaches that he was honored

(continued on page 27)

with his own baseball card (with really bad gum included). Luis Aparicio commented that he's never seen anyone play shortstop like Chuck EVER. What a compliment!



Chuck Anfield showing the "baseball ready" position.

Not to be outdone, another of our members has distinguished himself AGAIN. **Dan Dinelli, CGCS,** in his 35th year at North Shore Country Club, was named one of *Golf Inc.* magazine's 20 most admired operators for 2009. Dan joins fellow GCSAA members Anthony Williams (Stone Mountain Golf Club in Georgia) and David Yanez (The Grand Del Mar in San Diego) as three individuals from our national association to receive this tremendous recognition which further cements the fact that GCSAA (and MAGCS) members are critical to the success of the facilities they operate and are valued leaders in our industry.

Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS will become very busy very soon. The membership of Medinah Country Club recently voted to approve a multi-faceted renovation of the No. 3 Course which will begin on August 15th and reopen next June. Included in the plan, which will bring the famed course up to the world class level its membership wants it to be for the 2012 Ryder Cup are the reconstruction of the 11 remaining soil-based push-up greens, the regrassing of all greens, regrassing all fairways and intermediate roughs, a cart path and hardscape improvement program, and a much-needed renovation and expansion of the golf course maintenance facility. Good luck with this ambitious renovation, Curtis.

Recently one of our most distinguished and recognizable members celebrated a milestone. John Ekstrom of Hinsdale Golf Club, whose musings can be found in the Assistant's View column of Golf Course Industry magazine turned 30, and his friends were kind enough to throw him a little party. The group, consisting of Scott White (Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Golf Club), Matt Breeden (Evanston Golf Club), Joe Schneider (Beverly Country Club), Chad Kempf (Epic Creative), Andy Johnsen (Arrowhead Golf Club), and Scott Verdun (Merit Club) enjoyed a great day of golf and good cheer at Prairie Bluff Golf Club, helping John cope with hitting this big milestone in his life. Wish I could remember what I did for my 30th...



Happy 30th John.



Oops!

The membership of MAGCS offers its heartfelt condolences to **Brian Winkel** (Syngenta Turf & Ornamental), his wife Jeune, and their family on the loss of Brian's father Vernon on June 4th; and to **Dave Louttit** (The Andersons), his wife Cheryl and their family on the passing of Dave's father Philip on May 22nd.

Spotted in other publications: Scott Hillyard, the assistant superintendent at Lake Shore Country Club was cited in an article in the May issue of Golf Course Industry titled "Is Social Media Right for Your Career?" which focused on Scott's use of LinkedIn as a "virtual rolodex." Also in that same issue, Dave Schlagetter, CGCS of Indian Hill Club shared his technique for keeping the edges of his greens from shrinking in the "Incredible Shrinking Greens" article, and **Bob Lohmann** of Lohmann GOLF Designs, Inc. had his company's renovation of Westmoor Country Club in Brookfield, WI featured in an article titled "Long Time Coming." In June's GCM, Jon Jennings, CGCS (Chicago Golf Club)' competitive running exploits (first reported in these very pages) were highlighted in the Front Nine section; and Burris Equipment Company was recognized as Smithco's North American Distributor of the Year, with a photo that included George O'Hara, Mike Thornton, John Maman, and Jake Vollbeer. And finally, Dr. Derek Settle's article

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"Foliar Product Evaluation for Greens: Back to the Basics is a Good Thing" was reprinted in the *Green Breeze*, the official publication of the Greater Cincinnati GCSA in May. Congratulations to all of these notable MAGCS members.

A full field of MAGCS members made its way to lovely Kenosha, WI on the 15th of June for the monthly meeting and golf event at the Club at Strawberry Creek. Host superintendent Matt Kregel and his staff had the course in US Open (or Member-Guest at the least) condition for the various championships that were contested on the ideal day. The trek north was well worth it, with two full meals, a unique education session, and 18 holes of golf winding through the spectacular **Rick Jacobson**-designed course. What a great opportunity to play this new gem! Everyone in attendance battled their opponents, the course, and in some case their own personal golf demons until the last men standing were crowned the victors. The winners of the Dom Grotti Tournament (Superintendent/Assistant championship) were **Justin VanLanduit** and **Moe Sanchez** of Briarwood CC, while **Dave Schlagetter, CGCS** and **Thom Irvin** of Indian Hill Club took a close second. This year's Class C Champion was Thom Irvin; the Senior Champion was Al Pondel, CGCS of Rockford CC; and our 2009 Super Senior Champion was **Bob Kronn** of Woodstock CC. Congratulations to all of you guys, and to everyone who competed. Also enormous thanks to Matt and all the people at Strawberry Creek, and lastly but not leastly we tip our caps to our sponsors for the day, who were Arthur Clesen, Inc., Burris Equipment, John Deere Golf & JW Turf, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc./Authorized Club Car Distributor, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Palatine Oil Company, Quali-Pro, Reinders, Inc., and Syngenta Turf & Ornamental.



(L) MAGCS President Tony Kalina hands host Superintendent Matt Kregel his On Course cover shot.





The majestic new clubhouse as viewed from the 18th fairway.



Roly-poly green complexes and undulating terrain were the flavor of the day.



Brian Winkel salutes the course in a "you've broken me and I give up" sort of way.



Another tee shot in the cabbage. "you've broken me and I give up" sort of way.



And that cabbage is a golf ball graveyard! Get it? See, there's a graveyard right there...













Moe Sanchez and Justin Vanlanduit take home the Grotti Cup.



Thom Irvin and Dave Schlagetter finish a close second in the Grotti Championship.



Thom Irvin wins the Class C Championship.



Al Pondel won the Senior Championship at Strawberry Creek and took home the Bertucci trophy a week later.



Bob Kronn couldn't believe he won the Super Senior Flight at Strawberry Creek.









How coincidental that there's a strawberry patch right next door?



Thanks to our generous sponsors!

#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### For Sale

13 OSMAC controllers—make an offer. 1 Jacobsen 60" FLAIL MOWER—\$500. 75 Toro 650 sprinklers—\$15 each. Contact George Ott at Hillcrest Country Club at 847-540-5146 or at gott@hillcrestcc.org.

-OC





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