

# THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



## May 2009



Happy May, and welcome to our newest MAGCS members!

**Michael Miracle**, Class C, Exmoor CC

**Kevin Goss**, Class SM, Sugar Creek Golf Course, (Villa Park, IL)- needs approval.

**David Jacobson**, Class E, NewStream Golf, Rochester, MI

**James Fee**, Class E, CP Environmental LLC, Indianapolis, IN

**Mark Nega**, Class E, Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements, Minnetonka, MN

Due to a unforeseen conflict, the **MAGCS 2009 Golf Championship** has moved to September 8, 2009 at Kemper Lakes Golf Club. **Dan Tully** will host this event. Those of you that looked forward to playing Elgin Country Club will have the opportunity in 2010. Thanks Dan and Phil for your hospitality and welcoming MAGCS to your fine golf courses.

We also welcome the new student intern at Midwest Golf House. Devin Reese, a Peoria native attending Joliet Junior College started his internship under the watchful eyes of **Derek Settle**, **Keith Rincker**, and **Chris Painter** in mid-April. His major course of study is athletic turf, but Devin wants to gain a better understanding of golf and the other turf types grown on the Sunshine Course. He will also play an important part in preparing for this year's inaugural I-Turf Expo to be held on August 25th and 26th. Welcome, Devin!

The March MAGCS meeting was held at Midwest Golf House on the 25th, with our own Dr. Derek Settle and Keith Rincker taking center stage along with Dr. Megan Kennelly of Kansas State University for a day of education. Topics covered included moss development on greens, dollar spot

### DATES TO REMEMBER

May 3 – JW Turf's Annual Equipment Auction at their headquarters in Hampshire, IL.

May 9 – North American Birdwatching Open held on International Migratory Bird Day.

May 15 – Deadline for MAGCS Scholarship applications to be submitted.

May 18 – MAGCS/ITF Spring Golf Day at Merit Club in Libertyville, IL, **John Nelson** and **Scott Verdun** hosts.

May 19 – Extended deadline for GCSAA's Energy Use and Environmental Practices survey.

May 19 – CAGCS monthly meeting at Glen View Club in Golf, IL, **Tony Frandria** host.

May 30 – The Sunshine Through Golf Classic 100. Details follow.

June 1 – Deadline for applications for the GCSAA Scholars Competition.

June 15 – MAGCS monthly meeting at The Club at Strawberry Creek in Kenosha, WI, **Matt Kregel** host. The Dom Grotti, Class C, and Senior Championships will be contested at this event.

July 8 – Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Pinecrest Golf Course in Huntley, IL, **Brian Comiskey** host.

July 25 – MAGCS Family Night Picnic-Kane County Cougar Baseball game at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.

July 27-28 – Illinois Open at Hawthorn Woods Country Club, **David Schingel** host.

control, abiotic and environmental factors influencing turf decline, fairway fungicide programming, and an evaluation of cytokinin plant extract, iron, and nitrogen products' effects on bentgrass greens (does anyone have bentgrass greens?). Thanks to everyone at CDGA and Golf House, to Dr. Kennelly, and to our sponsors—**Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc. / Authorized Club Car Distributor, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.**, and **Quali-Pro** for a very informative day.

(continued on page 20)



(L to R) Ty McClellan, Tony Kalina, Dan Tully and Scott Witte attend the March meeting.



Keith Krause and Tim Keating



Rick Wilson shares a laugh during a break.



Roger Ogalla and Kerry Anderson

.....  
 Many thanks to everyone who had a hand in making the April MAGCS monthly meeting possible. As I write this, it actually is still 2 weeks away, so I hope I haven't been premature in my assumption that it did in fact take place...

**We Make Sure the Grass is Always Greener on *Your* Side.**

We combine the world's leading professional turf maintenance brands with a team of local experts to deliver the best overall turf solutions to our customers. From creating customized solutions designed to tackle site-specific issues to building customer specific application programs that achieve maximum results, our customer-driven, expert staff is dedicated to the overall success of each and every customer.

**chicagolandturf**

Ph: 630.268.8871 | Fx: 630.268.1357  
[www.chicagolandturf.com](http://www.chicagolandturf.com)

LEADING TURF BRANDS, LOCAL EXPERTISE

Anyhow, thanks to hosts **Tony Kalina, Eric Mundt, and Travis Dykstra**, to the staff at Prairie Landing Golf Club, to our education speaker Rusty Stachlewitz of Pro Grow Solutions, to all the great committee members and volunteers who did all the legwork, and to our fabulous sponsors: **Burris Equipment Company, John Deere Golf and JW Turf, Nadler Golf Car Sales**-an Authorized Club Car Distributor, **Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.**, and **Quali-Pro**. A full write-up of the event will appear in the June Bull Sheet.

What is the Sunshine Through Golf Classic 100 and why is **Luke Cella** going to have blisters on his hands after it? Here's the deal—the event, to be held on May 30th is a fundraiser for Sunshine Through Golf that is more or less a golf marathon. Luke and the other participants will risk sun stroke, exhaustion, and those pesky blisters in order to drive, chip, hack, chase, and hack again through 100 holes of golf. The pledges per hole that are received will go toward this great foundation. If you haven't made a pledge to Luke, please call or email him and help him help others.

The 19th of this month is the new deadline for you to complete GCSAA's Energy Use and Environmental Practices survey—one of the Environmental Profile Surveys that have been conducted over the last couple of years. Filling out the survey, which can be found at [gcsaa.org](http://gcsaa.org), nets you .25 Education Points and a chance to win prizes in a drawing. No word on what the prizes are, but my guess is that they'll have a GCSAA logo on them.

So we've seen that MAGCS members are resourceful where municipal trucks are concerned. Last month we featured a city salt truck spreading lime on fairways. This month's creative entry in the "What I Did With My City Truck" contest comes from **Gary Hearn** at Salt Creek Golf Course, and involved the resurrection of a decrepit old rust bucket headed for the crusher. Gary's crew put some elbow grease into fixing and refinishing the thing, but didn't stop there. I think they may have gone to lunch at a local watering hole before coming back to work and adding some personal touches...



*Some guys use city salt trucks to spread lime...*



*...and some use them to trrrrap the foorry little rodents.*

Last month was, among other things, Masters month, where the golf bug bites all of us Midwesterners while we watch the action on the hallowed grounds in vivid HD color while looking out our windows at typical dreary weather. The lucky few, however, didn't need HD to witness Augusta National with its crazy undulating terrain and awesome chicken sandwiches in green wax paper wrappers—they got on a plane and went. Among other MAGCS members, the foursome of **Scott Speiden, Larry Flament, Pete Kiraly, and John Nelson** made the trip and came back with this one observation: You have to go!



*Larry Flament, Pete Kiraly, John Nelson, and Scott Speiden at Augusta.*



*The iconic 13th green in Amen Corner*

*(continued on page 23)*

A couple of our more distinguished members—okay, let’s call it what it is and say two of MAGCS’ old timers—received great news recently: Long overdue congratulations to **Carl Hophan** on being inducted into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame later this year. Carl has championed the cause of golf course superintendents for decades, was a past MAGCS president, and is currently Director of Development for the Chicago District Golf Association, and will become only the fourth golf course superintendent—following **Robert Williams, Ray Gerber, and Oscar Miles**—to achieve the honor. The Illinois Golf Hall of Fame is located at the Glen Club in Glenview, and pays tribute to individuals who have made significant contributions to the game both in Illinois and throughout the world. Joining Carl on the list of 2009 inductees are **Frank Jemsek**, Chip Beck, and Steven Lesnik. Again, congratulations to Carl!



*Carl Hophan*

Also deserving congrats is **Peter Leuzinger, CGCS** who recently became a tenured instructor at Kishwaukee College, where he has been teaching Turf Management related classes since fall of 2006. Among Pete’s unique offerings to the students at “Kish” are his Environmental Property Management class, and his stress on mathematics—a seemingly lost science to today’s youth—and their practical use in our industry. Well done, Peter!



*Peter Leuzinger, CGCS*

Boys and their toys—money definitely has its benefits. When former Black Hawk star Jeremy Roenick learned that the golf course he grew up playing on was for sale, he just went ahead and bought it. The Pembroke Country Club on Boston’s South Shore is now JR’s very own playground, and not having played golf in 25 years, will make a nice place for him to hone his skills for the celebrity tour after he FINALLY retires his sad, broken-down, penalty-shot-missing a#@ from hockey once and for all. Nothing to do with MAGCS, but what the hell.

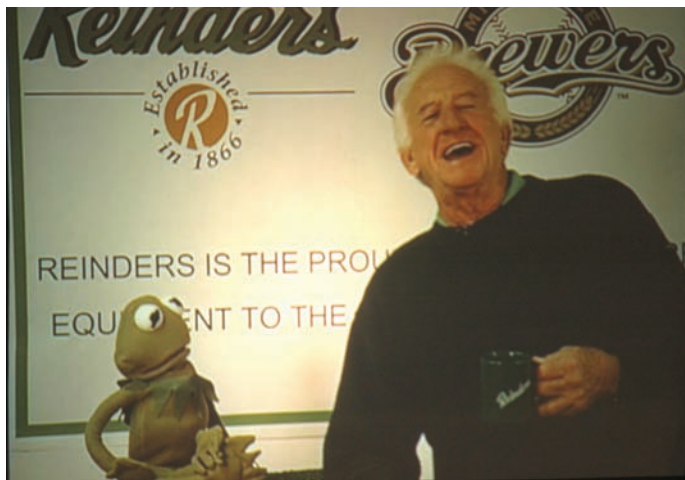
Reinders Wrap-Up—the 19th Reinders Turf & Irrigation Conference took place at the Waukesha Expo center in suburban Milwaukee on March 11th and 12th, with the theme being “Think Green. Be Green. Save Green.” Over 1,500 golf industry professionals were in attendance for the 2-day trade show and educational event, while consuming over 3,000 of the now-famous home-made donuts. The biennial event will take place next on March 9-10, 2011.



*A great turnout for the 19th Reinders Turf & Irrigation Conference*



*Trade show floors and beer—a Wisconsin tradition!*



*Bob Yukker ueks it up with Kermit the Frog at the Reinders show.*

*(continued on page 25)*



They even let some FIB's come up, evidenced by Illinois' Dr. Bruce Branham's presence at the show.

Another educational event took place last month that you may have attended previously in the fall. The Southern Illinois University Turfgrass Field Day has moved to spring to join the Agriculture Industry Day held on the University Farms in Carbondale, IL on April 17th. For information on future Field Days, contact **Dr. Ken Diesburg** at diesburg@siu.edu.

Congratulations to Wadsworth Golf Construction Company of Plainfield, IL on winning the 2009 Golf Course Builders Association of America's Heritage Award for best reconstruction project for their work at Naperville Country Club (**Tim Anderson, CGCS**). The award was presented at the Golf Industry Show in February.

Ever wonder how you get a four-day complimentary vacation to Myrtle Beach including a free condo and \$500 in free golf equipment? You can qualify simply by being on a plane heading there that takes a detour into the Hudson River in New York City after hitting a flock of birds. We all know the story of "Sully" the heroic pilot that crash-landed his plane in the Hudson, saving the lives of everyone aboard. You may not have heard that several of the passengers were headed to Myrtle for their annual golf junket, which obviously didn't happen. Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday President Bill Golden learned that the survivors included the group headed down there, so he teamed up with Legends Resorts, the PGA Tour Superstore, and members of the Myrtle Beach golf community to invite the guys back whenever they were ready to fly again. They gladly took the offer, but opted to drive to South Carolina instead of winging it.

MAGCS offers its condolences to the families of **Eddie Braunsky, CGCS** (Geneva GC) and **Wes Danielewicz**. Ed's mother Frances passed away on March 30th, and Wes' father Mieczslaw passed away earlier that week.

A new free tool is available to all MAGCS, ITF, and CDGA members that tracks Growing Degree Days for use in determining timing for certain product applications, whether for *Poa annua* seedhead control, early-season fungicides, pre-emergent crabgrass control, or even jock itch. GDD Tracker can be found at [gddtracker.net](http://gddtracker.net).

Another article originally published in *On Course* has found its way in the magazine of another chapter. **Greg Martin's** "Golf's DNA" was reprinted in the *Green Breeze*, the official publication of the Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association. We rock.

New Rule: Chicagoland Turf employees may NOT play sports. This is in response to **Brian Baker's** blown Achilles tendon while playing basketball and **Keith Krause's** punctured lip and broken tooth suffered in a men's league hockey game last month. We wish you a speedy recovery and rehab, Brian, and a pretty new toof and facial scar for you, Keef.



Sports + Middle age = Owies.

If you get those *Golf Course Industry* magazine emails, you may have read the 3-part article by a Dr. Mike Healy about his experiences as a ball hawk at the old York Country Club in Oak Brook (now the Oak Brook Golf Club). Turns out the good doctor is a bit of a self-professed historian on the York Country Club, sharing some interesting facts (or folklore) about its past. Apparently, York was the course of choice for Al Capone back in the day, who would on many occasions park his Packard touring car (complete with Thompson submachine gun mount and bullet-proof armor) next to the larger of the 2 putting greens while sleeping off a long night. Tom also mentioned that there were two known gangland hits at York—one a Berwyn city official who was machine-gunned in a bunker on the first hole, the other a low-level hood found floating in Salt Creek. Aah the good ol' days...



Alphonse Capone

(continued on page 27)

A couple sad signs of the times—the April 19th Chicago Tribune Sports section ran a full-back page article about the economy and its effect on golf, focusing on the sale of Ravisloe Country Club and its reopening as a public course. It quoted several of Ravisloe’s ex-members and really brought out the human aspect to the story out to the forefront. I suppose it’s a glass-half-empty or half-full proposition—a great and historic golf course has been spared and is available to be played by anyone who wants to in the midst of an economic climate that saw 72 18-hole courses open across the country in 2008 versus 106 that closed their doors.

.....  
 On the lighter side, some Whacky Winter Moments for MAGCS Members...



*Joel Purpur, Dave Blomquist, Kevin DeRoo and a few friends taking a shortcut to the hunting ground*



*Andy Weadge doing what he does best on the rink*



*Jason Lemanski getting pumped for go-kart racing*



*Nick Baker sporting the NASCAR fan look*



*Mike Mumper keeping afool of the fowl*



*Dan Murray grabbing some major air*

(continued on next page)



Keith Krause working some major powder



And Dave Groelle after some major wiping out



And then there's this—the sad ending to the “What ever happened to Ernie from ‘My Three Sons?’” question.

.....  
 Have any goofy photos of yourself being yourself that you're crazy enough to share with your peers? We'd love to capture the lighter side of our membership in these pages, so please feel free to share them with us. Send digital images to boomding@aol.com or to luke@magcs.org. -OC  
 .....

## ORGANIC SEDIMENT REMOVAL SYSTEMS

A Leader in Pond Restoration Since 1991



Restore your pond



Enhance your pond



Remove Accumulating Muck



Protect Irrigation System

Restore ponds to their original bottom by removing bottom sediments without disturbing existing aquatic life or damaging existing landscape. OSR will dramatically reduce weed and algae problems and greatly increase water quality for a healthier environment while costing up to 75% less than the conventional dredging.



For Information, Sales or Service call

Rich @ 608-565-7105  
[www.Pondclean.com](http://www.Pondclean.com)

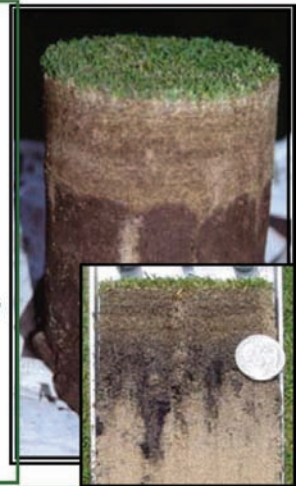


**USGA Physical  
 Analysis and Quality  
 Control**

**Profile Management**

**Soil & Tissue Analysis**

**Independent  
 Irrigation Analysis**



David Marquardt - Consulting Agronomist  
 630-251-1511 Dave@dirty-n-turf.com  
[www.dirty-n-turf.com](http://www.dirty-n-turf.com)