

The other Lively made the news as well. Not only did his course win *Golf* magazine's Renovation of the Year for 2009, it turns out **Bob Lively**, superintendent at Flossmoor Country Club has been nominated for TurfNet's 2009 Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. By the time you read this the winner will have been named (at 2 p.m. on February 11th at the Syngenta booth at the Golf Industry Show in San Diego), so we say to Bob either A) Congratulations!, or B) You were robbed! The finalists were chosen from a field of 44 nominees based on each one's ability to excel in a variety of golf course management areas. Last year's winner was another South side guy and one of Bob's old friends—**Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** of Olympia Fields Country Club.

So you have a goose problem but don't want to commit to owning a dog? **Kevin Carlson** of Naperbrook and Springbrook Golf Courses in Naperville has twenty goose dogs that can stay on the course 24/7, don't need feeding, grooming, shots, or even water, never roll their necks in smelly stuff, and can be made from a few simple Home Depot purchases. According to the *Trib Local*, Kevin employs plywood silhouettes of dogs to scare off nuisance geese that his staff fashioned out of ¾" plywood, some paint, and a hunk of conduit to anchor them to the ground. Kevin places the dogs throughout the course where geese are most prevalent—mainly in the ruff. Get it?

Rick Jacobson (Jacobson Golf Course Design, Inc.) has opened his first 18-hole course in China this past November, when the Moon Course at Lion Lake Resort located northwest of Guangzhou (aka Canton) held the inaugural Ambassador's Cup Invitational, bringing representatives from more than 30 nations together for the international competition. While this is Rick's first course opening in China, he is working on several other projects in that very large and growing market.

The economy is obviously the big news for this coming golf season, as we all look for ways to do the same with less, whether it be at work or at home. Along these lines, Superintendent magazine recently ran an article called "Sink Your Dollars Into High-Priority Areas," and featured MAGCS members **Erwin McKone's** and **Don Ferreri's** take on the subject. The two mentioned such cost-cutting methods as reducing labor, extending equipment life (I'm sure that makes our iron reps real happy), naturalizing more out-of-play areas, applying more growth regulators, and even "carpooling" people from the course to the shop for breaks, leaving more equipment on the course to conserve fuel. Nice job, fellows.

The MAGCS January meeting and Wee One fundraiser was held at Seven Bridges Golf Club (**Don Ferreri** host), and a very special day it was. The morning's education presentations were very interesting, with Jim Yale, a safety and risk assessor for Westfield Insurance and Mark Jordan, CGCS, the superintendent of the company's 36-hole golf facility in Ohio providing a wealth of knowledge on Safety and Risk Management. Some items of interest were that there were 51,000 golf-related injuries reported in 2009, as well as 34 lightning deaths on golf courses, both of which can be reduced in 2010 with a more concentrated effort toward safety.



Jim Yale of Westfield Insurance makes everyone feel like there is more to do to make this safer.

Following these gentlemen was GCSAA Vice President Robert Randquist, CGCS and his views on the Future of GCSAA. Bob presented some thought-provoking numbers which are truly a sign of our times, stating that the revenue from the Golf Industry Show in San Diego is expected to be about half that of previous shows (\$2.1 to \$2.4 million v. \$3.5 to \$4 million previously), and that GCSAA's overall 2010 revenue is projected at \$16 million v. \$20 million in 2009. Mr. Randquist also opined on the question of ethics specifically in regard to certain management companies' procedures when soliciting business from clubs with current GCSAA member superintendents. His opinion, and that shared by GCSAA (and more importantly its legal department) is that while something may be unethical as set forth in GCSAA's code, it is not illegal, and therefore is not enforceable or punishable. He did say that he would take this discussion back to Lawrence, and recommend that a position paper be drafted on this very touchy subject.



Bob Randquist, CGCS addresses the Midwest Members in a sincere and frank manner.

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