



THE BULL SHEET
John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

June 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 10-11 – Illinois Arborist Association Summer Conference at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve in Mahomet, IL. Visit www.illinoisarborist.org for details.
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June 14 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Elgin Country Club, **Phil Zeinert, CGCS** host.
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June 29 – 10th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Crystal Woods Golf Club in Woodstock, IL.
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July 2 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA 2011 Board of Directors.
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July 5-11 – 2010 John Deere Classic at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, IL.
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July 17 – Annual MAGCS Kane County Cougars Game and Family Picnic at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.
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July 22-24 – Illinois Women's Open State Championship of Golf at Mistwood Golf Club in Romeoville, IL, **Ben Kelnhofer** host.
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July 26 – Deadline for nominations for the GCSAA Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award (DSA).
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July 27 – Wisconsin Turfgrass Association's Summer Field Day at the O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education facility in Verona. Go to www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org for details.
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July 30 – Deadline for submissions for TurfNet's 2011 "Superintendent's Best Friend Calendar" presented by BASF. This is the ORIGINAL golf course dog calendar.
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August 2 – Deadline to submit your entry to the other golf course dog calendar—the "Dog Days of Golf" calendar sponsored by Lebanon Turf.
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August 11 – Ohio State University Turfgrass Research Field Day in Columbus, OH. Click www.ohioturfgrass.org to learn about it.
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Welcome to our newest MAGCS members:
Todd Zimmerman, Aspen Ridge Golf Course, Regular
Daniel Lopez, Billy Casper Golf Management, Assistant
Kevin O'Rourke, The Care Of Trees, Associate
Tony LaPidus, Russo Power Equipment, Associate
Andrew Andersen, AXA Advisors, Associate
Grant Rundblade, Redexim Turf Products, Associate
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Retirement will have to wait. **Ed Fischer, CGCS** just couldn't sit still with that retirement thing, so he got back in the game. Ed has joined Great Lakes Turf, an exclusive distributor of Floratine products as a sales representative for various accounts in our area. Good luck and congratulations on your un-retirement, Ed!
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Rich Daly, another longtime MAGCS member has a new business card. Rich, formerly with Otterbine Barebo is now with Integrated Lakes Management, Inc. (ILM), specializing in lake and pond management, restoration, and consulting. Congrats, Rich.
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And rounding out the trio of gray-haired guys who've taken up new employment, **Harry Lovero** has accepted a position as Technical Consultant for IHAMMER LLC, a company that manufactures several foliar-applied nutrient supplements. Harry can be reached at 630-460-2750. Congratulations and the best of luck to you, Mr. Goaltender!
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Commercial Irrigation & Turf, which has been in business for 23 years, is now your Rain Bird golf authorized irrigation service provider. For service issues with your Rain Bird systems, contact General Manager of Golf Development **Ryan Kerber** (309-208-6025), or Field Irrigation Service Manager Mike Saliwanchik (616-822-8960).

So let's get these dog calendars off our checklist. July 30th and August 2nd are the deadlines to submit your photos of your canine companions to TurfNet and Lebanon Turf respectively. Each 2011 calendar will feature 14 photos (including December and the cover), so get those high-res (at least 4 megapixels) photos in soon. For the "Superintendent's Best Friend" calendar, call Laura Salinas at 407-515-2604 or John Reitman at 407-563-7049. For the "Dog Days of Golf" calendar, contact Bernie Bross at 800-233-0628 or email him at bbross@lebanonturf.com. Good luck.

Correction from April: Apologies to Marsha Traves and her family on the misnaming of her father, Ronald Ferkula.

April omission: I must be getting flighty in my advancing years—when I reported that two of our member courses had been named to *GolfWorld* magazine's 25 Best Nine-Hole Courses in America, I was dead wrong. THREE of our member facilities were actually named to the list. I got #15 Pottawatomie Golf Course (**Denise Gillette-Parchert**) and #18 Sydney R. Marovitz Golf Course (**Billy Casper Golf**) correct, but failed to mention Woodstock Country Club (**Bob Kronn Sr.** and **Bob Kronn Jr.**), which was on the list at #19. And just for grins, two other neighboring courses also made the prestigious list—The Dunes Club in New Buffalo, MI was top dog at #1, and Signal Point Club in Niles, MI was #7. Mea culpa.

Worried about the economy and its effect on golf here in the States? You might want to start learning to speak Mandarin. According to an article in the Chicago Tribune recently, golf in China is rocketing and poised to surpass the United States in players over the next 10 years. Golf development began 26 years ago in China with an annual growth rate of 50%, and about 4 million golfers currently playing at approximately 400 clubs. Predictions are that by 2020 China will have the world's largest golf population. Yippie.

Congratulations to Kathryn and **Darin Habenicht** who are the proud parents of Riley Kathryn, born on April 5th and entering the world at 10 lbs. 4 ozs., and 23.25 inches long.



Darin Habenicht and daughter Riley Kathryn.

Don't forget to sign up for the John Buck memorial Golf Outing which takes place at the end of the month on the 29th at Crystal Woods Golf Club in Woodstock, IL. The format, as usual, is a 4-person scramble which kicks off at 11:00 a.m. Following golf will be a huge dinner spread with steaks and all the trimmings, and prizes to boot. Sign up your foursome and take a shot at unseating Team America, the reigning 2-time champs who will not relinquish their throne without a fight.

The PGA Tour paid a visit to one of our members last month. **Tom Lively, CGCS** and TPC San Antonio hosted the Valero Texas Open on their AT&T Oaks Course by Greg Norman just months after opening the course on January 22nd following a tough grow-in during record drought and heat last summer and record cold this past winter. Awesome work, Tom, but who put that bunker in the middle of the 16th green?

Congratulations to **Brian Widmer, CGCS** who re-certified with GCSAA in April.



Brian Widmer

In case you read Dates to Remember and wondered what the Don "Iron Man" Cross reference was all about, just check out GCSAA TV and find out. Or keep reading—Don was featured on GCSAA TV in a video called "Off the Course – **Donald Cross, CGCS** and Iron Man" recently. The piece details Don's transformation from a hobbled (his ankle was severely injured in a car accident), overweight (he says 45 pounds or thereabouts), and energy-starved golf course superintendent who decided to make a change. Don started working out, and with the loss of weight, he was able to begin running on the grounds of Skokie CC. Setting his sights on competing in a triathlon, Don also took advantage of the club's pool, swimming up to 200 laps at 4:30 in the morning. Eventually Don was ready for the big challenge, which entailed a 112-mile bike ride followed by a 2.4-mile swim, and chased down with a nice 26.2-mile marathon run, which he successfully completed. Go to gcsaa.org to see the whole video.

Kane in Maine—**Dr. Randy Kane** recently chimed in from his new home in Steven King country. Doc says winter was fairly mild for that neck of the woods, as he only spent \$250 for driveway plowing and \$1,500 on heating oil. Randy remains

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active in all things turf, having attended a Maine GCSA meeting in Bangor, and speaking at a New England Regional Turf Foundation Conference in March. Drop him a line sometime at drkane85@yahoo.com.

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 Congratulations to Molly and **Mike Hatton** on the birth of their baby daughter Nora Elizabeth on April 2nd. Nora joins brothers Charlie and Jack in rounding out the Hatton family.



Nora Elizabeth Hatton

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 You've been hearing about the bigpar3 coming this August 21st, right? Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (ITF) is the brains behind this unprecedented event which will raise funding for the invaluable research it sponsors. In a nutshell, bigpar3 is the World's Largest Closest to the Flagstick Contest, taking place on as many golf courses throughout the Chicagoland area simultaneously. Each participating course will run a

closest-to-the-pin contest on a par 3 hole at yardages of 150 for men and 120 for women and juniors. Measurements will be recorded and winners will be announced. The cost to participate is \$10 per player, a donation which will help ITF to continue its mission to improve turf quality on every golf course. The statistics of the event will be submitted to the Guinness Book of World Records to establish it as the World's Largest Closest to the Flagstick contest, which is also cool. To enter your course in the event, or to learn more about it, go to www.bigpar3.org and get involved—it will directly help YOU in your career.

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Craig Lewis. Nothing more needed to be said. Just Craig Lewis.

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 Condolences to **Dale Morrison** of Trappers Turn Golf Club whose mother Dolores Joy Morrison passed away on March 13th in Momence, IL at the young age of 80. Dale fondly describes her middle name of Joy as being what she brought to the lives of everyone around her.

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 If you haven't been able to catch up with longtime MAGCS member and President in 1984 Roger Stewart, CGCS in person, check out the April issue of Golf Course Industry magazine. Pat Jones' article "Championing a Cause" features Roger's career-long experiences in prepping courses for senior events (he's hosted nearly a dozen events at 3 different courses), as well as his persistent efforts to both improve the ecological performance of the facilities he's managed and to spread the gospel of eco-golf in the communities and states he's lived

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in throughout his career. I always knew that guy would go places. He used lots of big words.

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Congratulations to the following MAGCS members who were recently recognized by GCSAA for maintaining CGCS status for over thirty consecutive years: **Michael R. Bavier, Edward W. Fischer, and John M. Krutilla.** Well done!
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Another list of notables came out recently—*GOLFWEEK* magazine's 2010 Best courses. In the Classic category (pre-1960), the following MAGCS member courses made the prestigious list: Chicago Golf Club (**Jon Jennings, CGCS**) was 12th, Oakland Hills CC South Course (**Steve Cook, CGCS, MG**) 17th, Shoreacres (**Tim Davis**) 26th, Olympia Fields CC North Course (**Sam MacKenzie, CGCS**) 42nd, Medinah CC No. 3 (**Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS**) 62nd, Skokie CC (**Don Cross, CGCS**) 92nd, Point O' Woods G&CC (**Ron Fox**) 95th, and Beverly CC (**Keith Peterson**) 99th. In the Modern category (1960 to present), Butler National GC (**Mike Sauls**) was 56th, Cog Hill CC No. 4 (**Ken Lapp**) 64th, and Black Sheep GC (**Dave Biery and Dave Esler**) 68th.

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The MAGCS April monthly meeting took place at sunny Joliet Country Club with **Mark Kowaliczko** hosting. The event was the Spring Scramble, and a perfect day was offered up by the weather gods. But before heading out to the course, a must-have-been-record crowd of over 80 members enjoyed a very enlightening presentation from Ted Werenski of Richmond Fisheries on everything pond-related, from fish stocking to aquatic weed control to fish surveying. It was especially interesting to learn that those big White Amurs (the triploid grass carp used to eat vegetation in ponds) can get too big to be effective. When asked how to rid a pond of these oversized slackers, Ted replied, "In Missouri we shoot 'em with a .22." A ton of useful information was presented, and everyone came away smarter than when they walked in the room. Great job by Tony Kalina and the Education Committee in arranging the day's education.



Shoot this with a .22 and it might bitch-slap you for wakin' it up.

On the course, it was all business for the scramble. Mark and his staff had the course in beautiful condition, and it showed with some great scores. Taking top honors with a 59 was the team of **Dave Kohley, Don Ferreri, Rick Wilson, and Tim Scott** (how does that team NOT win?). Second place with 63 in a scorecard playoff was the Ski team—**Larry Tomaszewski, Mark Karczewski, Darin Habenicht-ski, and Ski Runblade-ski.** Closest-to-the-pin winners were **Mark Bobb** and **Kurt Sams**, while **Steve Stewart** won the Straight Drive and **Tim Davis** won Longest Putt. Congrats to all prize-winners! The great day was made possible by many people, including Mark and everyone at Joliet CC, the volunteers who worked registration and scoring, and the generous sponsors whose contributions to our monthly events are so greatly appreciated. Thank you to **BASF, Burris Equipment Company, Chicagoland Turf, DryJect Chicagoland, Harris Golf Cars, JW Turf, Inc./John Deere Golf, Nadler Golf Car Sales—An Authorized Club Car Distributor, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Palatine Oil Co., Inc., Quali-Pro, Reinders, Inc., and Syngenta.** You all rock!



Tim Scott, Rick Wilson, Dave Kohley, and Don Ferreri.



Darin Habenicht, Mark Karczewski, Larry Tomaszewski, and Grant Runblade.



Tim Davis, Mark Bobb, Kurt Sams, and Steve Stewart.

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