

THE BULL SHEET
John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

September 2010

Welcome to the newest member of MAGCS:
Brian Placzowski, Assistant, Royal Melbourne Country Club
Brendan Dolan, Assistant, Bryn Mawr Country Club
Tyler Dykstra, Assistant, Edgewood Valley Country Club
Jeff Cameron, Assistant, White Eagle Golf Club
Chris Quinlan, Associate, Becker Underwood, Inc.
Craig Klinefelter, Assistant, Hawthorn Woods Country Club
Casey Ballou, Assistant, Rolling Green Country Club
Travis Schnelle, Assistant, Kohler Co.
Thomas Wilson, Regular, Deerpath Golf Course
Kirk Carls, Regular, Spring Lake Country Club

I hope that by now things are back to some semblance of normalcy in the turf world, and that we are all enjoying the cool onset of fall that September usually brings; and may your grass be green and happy for the remainder of this VERY memorable summer. Thank you again to **Dr. Derek Settle** and the team at Golf House and **Ty McClellan** of the USGA for keeping everyone informed with their excellent articles and pest alerts. Well done!

A huge thank you to **Greg Thalmann, CGCS** and Fox Run Golf Links for stepping up BIGTIME at the last minute and hosting this month's MAGCS meeting and College Team Scramble. All the fun photos and results of the meeting will be posted in next month's Bull Sheet, but a quick shout out to our host and sponsors—**Bayer Environmental Science, Burris Equipment Company, Chicagoland Turf, E-Z-GO, Great Lakes Turf, J.W. Turf, Inc./John Deere Golf, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Nels J.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 6-12 – BMW Championship at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club in Lemont, IL, **Kenn Lapp, Frank Jemsek, and Frank Latzko** hosts.
- September 8 – Midwest Regional Turf Foundation Golf Day at Brickyard Crossing in Indianapolis, IN.
- September 16 – MAGCS monthly meeting and College Scramble at Fox Run Golf Links in Elk Grove Village, IL, **Greg Thalmann, CGCS** our last-minute host.
- September 22 – Second Annual iTurf Expo at Midwest Golf House and Sunshine Course in Lemont, IL.
- September 29-October 1 – Green Start Academy 2010 presented by John Deere Golf and Bayer Environmental Science in Clayton and Fuquay-Varna, NC.
- October 4 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Golf Championship at Cantigny Golf Club, **Scott Witte, CGCS, Jeremy Duncan, Mark Kosbab, Steve Kuretsky, John Maksymiu, Tom Weigland, and Mike Nass** hosts.
- October 15 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA's 2011 Excellence in Government Relations Award.
- October 24 – Deadline for applications for the 2010 GCSAA/ *Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Award (ELGA).
- October 28-30 – GIE+EXPO 2010—Hardscape North America at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. More info at www.gie-expo.com.
- November 3 – 58th Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club, **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** host.
- November 15 – Deadline for nominations for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. More to follow.

Johnson Tree Experts, Palatine Oil Co., Inc., Quali-Pro, Reinders, Inc., Syngenta, and XGD Systems—is more than merited. Thank you all for your generosity.

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Condolences to **Mike Murphy** and his family on the loss of Mike's mother Ann on August 16th after a long battle with lung disease.

Multitasking. ITF President and Briar Ridge Country Club superintendent **Erwin McKone** demonstrates another of his many talents—multitasking. Who else do you know that can read a totally awesome magazine, monitor his radio communications, talk on his cell phone, train his dog, oversee his mowing equipment, AND get a tan all while taking the temperature of his topdressing sand the old-fashioned way (the rectal thermometer method)? Nobody. That's who.



McKone sets new standards for multitasking.

A couple of MAGCS-member golf facilities were recently honored by *GOLF Magazine* in its September issue. Cog Hill's Dubsdread course, the site of this month's BMW Championship, was named a Top 100 Courses You Can Play, coming in at 16th overall, and FIRST in Illinois. Congratulations to superintendent **Ken Lapp** and owner **Frank Jemsek** and everyone in the Cog Hill family. Also, Orchard Valley Golf Course, managed by Billy Casper Golf was ranked the 6th Best Public-Access Course in Illinois, besting 496 other daily-fee facilities in the state. Congratulations to superintendent **Matt Senatra** and everyone at Billy Casper Golf.

It's that time of year again—the time to get your nominations in for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. The criteria used in judging candidates are: labor management skills, maximizing budget limitations, educating and advancing the careers of colleagues and assistants, negotiating with government agencies, preparing for tournaments under unusual circumstances, service to golf clientele, upgrading or renovating, and dealing with extreme or emergency conditions. Past winners include our own **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** of Olympia Fields Country Club (2008) and **Paul Voykin** of Briarwood Country Club (2003). Nominations can be made online at TurfNet.com, or emailed to jreitman@turfnet.com, and are due by November 15th. Good luck.

Saw this guy on AOL news one morning. No idea why he was in the news. But doesn't he look like Jay Cutler on donuts?



Way to go **Keith Peterson!** Keith and Beverly Country Club were the official FIRST ones to complete the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation's inaugural BigPar3 Competition on August 18th, netting \$700 for turf research. We have all received the information on this novel idea—to hold a closest-to-the-pin contest at multiple venues in order to raise funds for turf research and spread the word to golfers about the important work ITF does. What you may not know is that the event is not held on the same day at all venues—it can be held whenever the host course wants. That being said, you can still participate if you call Luke Cella and get your ducks in a row. There is very little effort involved in this (we're not talking Audubon certification here), and huge rewards await in the form of public relations benefits and of course contributing to the research that you ultimately will put to use at your facility. Give this a try—it doesn't bite!

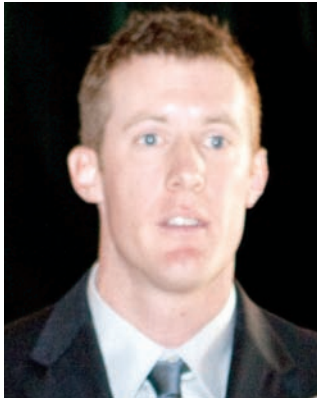
Congratulations to **Josh Therrien**, the former assistant superintendent at St. Charles Country Club who is now the golf course superintendent at Piper Glenn Golf Club in Springfield, IL. Josh has been serving as your Class C Advisory Committee's Board Representative this year, and will be missed. Thank you for your service to MAGCS, Josh, and the best of luck to you in your exciting new career move!



Josh Therrien

OK, enough with the mushy, teary goodbyes. Out with the old and in with the new I always say. And with that, we welcome our newly-appointed Class C Representative **Joe Schneider** of Beverly Country Club to the MAGCS Board. Good luck to you, Joe, and keep up the great work that the Class C Committee does.

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Joe Schneider

Big thanks to **Brian Winkel** and Syngenta for donating the Subdue Maxx Link Pack to the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation for auction. All proceeds for the online auction held last month benefited ITF turf research, and we are grateful for their generosity. **Jim Keith, CGCS** and St. Charles Country Club won the Subdue Maxx Link Pack.

Congratulations to Conserv FS's **Chris Smith**, who recertified in July and now can remain Chris Smith, CGCS.

This just in—you can now purchase AND redeem GCSAA gift certificates online through the GCSAA Merchandise Store by visiting the store at www.store.gcsaa.org. Take a gander—it's like the amazon.com of golf.

Best wishes go out to Roger Stewart, CGCS, longtime MAGCS member and President in 1984, who had a little health glitch in July that involved robotic surgery to correct some clogged artery issues that nearly resulted in a heart attack. Thank God he recognized the symptoms and acted quickly, seeking medical attention. The Rog came out of it like a champ, and is well on his way back to full strength. Thanks for sharing the experience with us, Rog, and take good care!

The 2010 ELGA (the GCSAA/*Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards) are up for grabs and awaiting your applications. The awards, which honor superintendents, golf courses, and chapters for their commitments to environmental stewardship will be presented in partnership with Syngenta and Rain Bird at the 2011 Golf Industry Show. Applications are due by October 24th, and can be found by contacting Greg Lyman, GCSAA's Director of Environmental Programs at 800-472-7878, ext. 3625.

GCSAA has chosen World Golf Hall of Fame member Nick Price to receive the 2011 Old Tom Morris Award to be presented during the Celebrate GCSAA! session at the deal over by there in Orlando on February 8th. This is GCSAA's most prestigious honor, and is presented to an individual who "through a continuing lifetime commitment to the game of golf has helped to mold the welfare of the game in a manner and style exemplified by Old Tom Morris." Morris (1821–1908) was greenkeeper and golf pro at St. Andrews Links in Scotland, a four-time winner of the British Open, and one of the top designers of his era. Congrats to Zimbabwe's Nick Price on this great honor.

The 22nd of this month marks the Second Annual iTurf Expo at Golf House, and this year's event has some very cool stuff in store for you. This year's event is a one-day only deal that is an outdoor trade show/research event combining the best aspects from the Illinois Professional Turf Conference (IPTC) and the popular Midwest Field Day. The morning will feature research and education, highlighted by presentations by such renowned researchers as Dr. Jim Kerns of University of Wisconsin, Dr. Cale Bigelow of Purdue University, Dr. Ron Calhoun of Michigan State University, and our own **Dr. Bruce Branham, Dr. Derek Settle, and Dr. Ken Diesburg** and their support staff. The afternoon will allow attendees to walk around the trade show and kick some tires, meet with vendors, and check out the research plots on Sunshine Course. There will also be various social events including a beer garden to relax after a long day and kibbutz with friends and colleagues. Don't miss it!

The National Golf Foundation—you know, that place where Steve Mona went after leaving GCSAA—has launched the American Golf Census to count the country's estimate 27 million golfers. How much more accurate they'll get than the estimate, and how useful that number will be is anyone's guess. However, one benefit to be derived from this project is that all golfers who participate will be automatically entered into a sweepstakes—the largest in the history of golf—to win more than \$100,000 in prizes, including great golf equipment, dream vacations to Pebble Beach, Pinehurst, Scotland, and Ireland, and golf instruction at the ANNIKA Academy in Orlando. For information, go to www.ngf.org or www.americangolfcensus.com.

The ITF Summer Golf Day took place on July 26th at the lovely Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Golf Club in scenic Rockford, IL. **Scott White** and his crew had the course in unbelievable shape, especially considering all the rain and heat that preceded the event. Greens rolled true and quick, and a great time was had by all in attendance. Thank you to Scott, his staff, the fine folks at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See, the attendees, and of course, the sponsors, without whom none of these golf days could take place at such a reasonable price. Our hats are off to **Arthur Clesen, Inc., BASF, Bayer Environmental Science, Burris Equipment, D&K Turf Products, Dow Agrosciences, Great lakes Turf, LLC, Pendleton Turf Supply, Premier Greens & Turf, Syngenta, and The Andersons.**



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Hopefully this is old news now, but last month, in the August 24th version of GCSAA THIS WEEK, there was a link to a YouTube video called "Why Does Turf Die in the Summer?" The video featured Wendy Gelernter, Ph.D., of PACE Turf, and was kinda fun to watch as she compared cool-season turf during a scorching summer to an egg being fried in a skillet. Look it up—in a strange way she's kinda hot. And she fries a mean egg.

MAGCS on the move: **Kevin Knudson, CGCS**, formerly at Arthur Clesen, Inc., is now with Reinders, Inc. **Jacob Mendoza**, former Class C member at Medinah Country Club is now a Superintendent Member at Medinah. Congratulations to these gentlemen.

Gary Galecki's older brother Glenn is going to run the Chicago Marathon on October 10 in support of lung cancer research.



"On October 10, I will be running again in the Chicago Marathon as part of Team LUNGevity raising money for cancer research. The LUNGevityFoundation matches all money raised by Team Gary Galecki. The monies go to research for early detection of lung cancer so that treatment options may be provided before it is too late. Current research grants are in place at Northwestern University and University of Illinois School of Medicine in Chicago, MD Anderson in Houston, John Hopkins University, UCLA, and other leading research laboratories. I'm participating in this activity in memory of my young brother, Gary who was my personal little buddy. I miss most our almost daily phone calls solving family problems, arguing about sports, and talking about "dumb guy things". I'll be running in this race with his son, Josh and his girlfriend Kate in support of lung cancer research." MAGCS will be sending a link to sponsor Glenn and Team Galecki in this upcoming event.



"I just want to know what it feels to be a Blackhawk," Gurke pool hopping with the Grotti. -OC