



Congratulations to **Greg Zumdahl**, former Class C member at Bolingbrook Golf Club on his new position as Turf Specialist for Spectrum Technologies, Inc. Greg's responsibilities will include consulting, educating, and promoting research to Spectrum's turf and golf course industry segments.



Also making the move to the sunny side of the street is **Al Pondel, CGCS** who has joined the sales team at Harrell's Fertilizer, LLC. Al was previously the long-time superintendent/GM at Rockford Country Club. Congratulations Al—and best of luck in your new career.

Harrell's has been busy lately, adding **Pete Kiraly** to the sales team as well. Pete is the former superintendent at Canyata Golf Club. Congrats to Pete.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

July 5 – Deadline for the call for nominations for the 2012 GCSAA Board of Directors.

July 8 – Deadline for applications to this year's Green Start Academy sponsored by John Deere Golf and Bayer CropScience to be held on October 5-7.

July 12 – 11th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing and Scholarship Fundraiser at Marengo Ridge Golf & Country Club in Marengo, IL, **Luke Roth** host.

July 13 – ITF/NWIGCSA Summer Golf Day at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in Galena, IL, **Tom Tully, CGCS** and Kurt Strother hosts.

July 18-23 – U.S. Girls Junior Championship at Olympia Fields Country Club in Olympia Fields, IL, **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** host.

July 19 – Midwest Regional Turf Field Day at the Daniel Turf Center on the Purdue University campus in West LaFayette, IN. Info can be found at www.mrtf.org.

July 26 – Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Summer Field Day at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Facility in Verona, WI. Go to www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org for details.

July 30 – Deadline for submissions to TurfNet for its "2012 Superintendents Best Friend Calendar."

August 1 – Deadline for submissions to Lebanon Turf for its "2012 Dog Days of Golf Calendar" and its "2012 Dog of the Year" contest.

August 1 – Deadline for entries in Rain Bird's 2011 Intelligent Use of Water Film Competition.

August 6 – MAGCS Family Night Picnic and Kane County Cougars game at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL. Register online today.

August 7 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA's Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award.

Finally! The Illinois PGA Golf Hall of Fame has honored the fifth-ever golf course superintendent into its fold in naming Mr. **Paul Voykin** as one of its 2011 inductees. Paul joins the elite company of former inductees **Bob Williams, Ray Gerber, Oscar Miles, and Carl Hopphan**, and for very good reason. It was Paul Voykin who coined the term "overgrooming is overspending," alluding to the need for golf courses to dedicate their out-of-play areas to low-maintenance native plantings that would serve as habitat for wildlife while also reducing maintenance costs. Paul was also a pioneer in being one of the first superintendents in the country to hire Hispanic workers in the early 60's. Among his other accolades, Paul was named Superintendent of the Year in 2003 at the GCSAA Conference and Show, and is a past president of MAGCS. The award will be presented on October 21st at The Glen Club in Glenview, IL. Congratulations, Paul!



In 2004, Eric Nalder (Nadler Golf Car Sales) hands over the keys to Paul's new Club Car Precedent Champions Edition golf car.

For the third year, Syngenta is inviting golf course superintendents across the country to apply to attend the Syngenta Business Institute, an innovative professional business development program. The program was developed specifically for golf course superintendents, in conjunction with Wake Forest University. The four-day program is designed to grow the professional knowledge of golf course superintendents and assist them with managing their courses. It takes place from December 5th through the 8th at the Graylyn International Conference Center on the campus of Wake Forest in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. To apply, go to www.syngenta.com, but do it quickly—deadline for applications is August 17th. 25 superintendents will be chosen from the applications received. Good luck.

Just around the corner is the **3rd Annual iTurfExpo** at Midwest Golf House and Sunshine Course in Lemont. The new and improved 1-day event will feature several noted out-of-state speakers including Dr. Lee Miller from University of Missouri, Dr. Aaron Patton from Purdue, Dr. Jim Kerns from University of Wisconsin, along with our favorite homeys

from Champaign-Urbana and Carbondale. There will be many new twists and lots of great information to glean. Mark the date—September 22nd!

Eddie Braunsky, CGCS averted a near emergency recently when his RainBird irrigation system suffered a setback. Luckily, **Scott Pace** was Scotty on the Spot and climbed through the mess that is Eddie's office to make the necessary repair.



Thank goodness disaster was avoided—here is Scott leaving the property after making the just-in-the-nick-of-time fix (note the puddles from yet ANOTHER June downpour)



Eddie also threw in this photo—his new and ingenious use of business cards to make sure those mowers are sharp. He assured me that there was no malice aforesought when choosing whose card to use.



Happy 75th Birthday to the National Golf Foundation. NGF was founded in 1936 by brothers Herb and Joe Graffis, who also were the first publishers of *Chicago Golfer* magazine, as well as two of the most important early national golf magazines—*Golfdom* and *Golfing*. To celebrate the event, NGF has created a film to document the evolution of the golf business over the last 75 years. Go to www.ngf.org and click on the video thingie—it's well worth the 15-minute time investment.

Do you have someone in mind that has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession? If so, waste no time in nominating them for the Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award, which was first presented in 1932 and has been presented annually by GCSAA since 1975. The deadline for nominations is August 7th, so get on it. You can access the form at www.gcsaa.org.

The 62nd GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic has a home for 2012—it will take place at five courses among PGA West, LaQuinta Resort, and Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Springs, California from Feb. 24-26.

GCSAA has released the highlights from its 2011 Compensation and Benefits Report that it conducts every other year. In a nutshell, member superintendents, on average: Are 45 years old (I wish). Manage a crew of 21 (I wish). Feel secure in their jobs (I wish). Plan to retire by age 64.4 (I wish). And seasonally, work 55 hours per week in the spring, 60 in the summer, 51 in the fall, and 41 in the winter (I wish). Oh, and the survey also found that member salaries are still rising—by an average of 2.9%. I wish.

Also from GCSAA—the newly redesigned GCSAA.org is up and running. If you haven't had the opportunity to check it out, check it out. It's very fun.

You can finally sleep now—GCSAA has announced the site for its 2015 Golf Industry Show and it is...San Antonio,

Texas. With the downsizing of the Show in our current economy, CEO Rhett Evans stated that it has opened the door to explore smaller venues, and San Antonio—the home of the Alamo and the Stetson hat factory—fit the bill. The Show will take place from Feb. 23-27, 2015.

This is not one of those stupid MAGCS celebrity look-alike things that we've been running lately. This is just a guy (**Greg Johnson**—Eagle Brook Country Club) with his head cover that is also his identical twin. Do you see it?



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THIS is the stupid MAGCS celebrity look-alike thing. Steve Kerr—big-time shooter of 3-point shots and **Keith Krause**—barfs if he drinks 3 shots. Brothers?



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 If you are a TurfNet subscriber and are either a current blogger or are considering it, but have no clue about image editing or graphic design, they can help you. The folks at TurfNet are offering to professionally design a custom theme for your blog AT NO COST. All they need is a good head-shot photo of yourself, several good scenic shots of your course, and a logo and they will handle the rest. Contact Peter McCormick at www.turfnet.com for more info.

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 Did you see the June issue of **GCM**? Prominently featured in it was **Tim Anderson, CGCS, MG's** article that ran in

On Course titled "Shoot the Elephants First." Way to stir things up, Tim!

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 He hasn't even unpacked his bags, and he's already hobnobbing with local celebs. **Brad Anderson, CGCS** at Bittersweet Golf Club recently cozied up to former Bear Tommie Harris when Tommie dropped in for a round of golf. That's Brad on the right.



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 Thanks to all those who attended and to **Luke Strojny, CGCS** for hosting the MAGCS June meeting at Prairie Bluff Golf Course on June 21st. 126 members and friends enjoyed the education, the course, the food, and the camaraderie to honor **Ken Shepherd** as he retires from the industry. Jim Kerwin, General Manager and Head Grower of Terrona



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Farms of Peotone, IL led the day off with a great talk about new flowers and their uses on the golf course. **Luke Cella** videoed it if you missed it—give him a call and he will send you a copy of the talk.

The golf event revealed the newest MAGCS Champions: The Dom Grotti Championship was captured by **Matt Harstad** and **Adam Lencke** of Calumet Country Club. Matt shot his best round ever, 80 beating his single-digit-handicap assistant Adam by one for a net score of 134. They were followed by **Chuck Anfield** and **Dave Roberts** (143), then **Dave Groelle** and **Brian Placzkowski** (144) who edged out **Don Cross** and **Jacob Miskiewicz** (144) in a scorecard playoff for the third spot. 13 teams competed for the Super/Assistant title.

The Class C Champ was also crowned; Jacob Miskiewicz finished first with a 79 beating out Brian Placzkowski by a scorecard playoff. Adam Lencke finished third with an 81. 11 assistants competed for the coveted cup-cutter trophy (yet to be named). Matt Harstad and **Kerry Anderson** captured closest to the flagstick honors. **Lynn Wesson** and **Tom Savage** plugged the longest putts to take home a memento. The winners of the 2-man blind draw were: **Dave Kohley** and **Scott Pavalko**, **Al Pondel** and **Chad Walk**, **Whitey Anderson** and **Rick Wilson**, **Mike Hatton** and **Eric Nadler** (best blind draw partners), **John Anderson** and **Mike Vercautren**, and **Bill Ahlstedt** and **Jerry Cotton**.

Our generous sponsors for the event were: **Arthur Clesen, Inc.**, **Burris Equipment Company**, **J.W. Turf, Inc.**, **Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts**, **Syngenta**, **John Deere Golf**, **BASF**, **Great Lakes Turf LLC**, **The Andersons**, **Harris Golf Car Sales**, **Reinders, Inc.**, and **Chicagoland Turf**. Thanks to all of these fine companies

Ken Shepherd shared a few thoughts with the group as the day wound down. He challenged each of us on two fronts. The first was to embrace our younger generation and encourage them to get into the golf business. Looking around the room, Ken made the point that the business is special because of the people in it (most are here because they worked on courses when they were young). Second was to pass our work ethic on to those that we take under our wing. Ken is afraid that the work ethic he learned from his father and from those seated in the room is quickly becoming a thing of the past. He challenged each of us to give opportunities to those that will carry the business into the future and teach them that there is value in a day's work that goes beyond a paycheck. Luke didn't tape this, although he wished he had.

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