



May 2011

THE BULL SHEET
John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

Welcome to the newest members of our association, who are:
Neal Skelly, Class C, Chicago Highlands Club
Chad Walk, Regular, Old Oak Country Club
Eric Blackert, Assistant, Knollwood Club
Laurie McGhee, Associate, Bailey Nurseries, Inc.
Aaron Reinhart, Assistant, Aurora Country Club
Nathan Bolhaus, Briarwood Country Club
Matt Seibel, Associate, Arysta LifeScience
Steve Olken, Associate, Harris Golf Cars
Chad Hauth, Associate, Harrell's Fertilizer, LLC
Kevin Fuchs, Associate, Harrell's Fertilizer, LLC
Matt Baumgartner, Associate, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc.
Scott Pavalko, Regular, Cog Hill Golf & Country Club

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Other MAGCS members and future MAGCS members on the move recently include **Brad Anderson, CGCS**, who has come back to Illinois where he has taken the golf course superintendent's position at Bittersweet Golf Club in Gurnee.



Brad Anderson

Josh Therrien has joined the team at Arrowhead Golf Club, while Glen Flora Country Club has hired Justin Olmstead, a former assistant at Milwaukee CC as its new superintendent. And last but not least, Scott Pavalko is the new superintendent at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club in Lemont, IL. Congratulations to all of these guys.

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Happy 20th Anniversary to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program! Seems like only yesterday that **Peter Leuzinger** and the late **Tod Hopphan** were blazing the trail for Chicagoland golf courses in this ground-breaking endeavor.

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(continued on page 22)

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 24 – ITF/MAGCS Spring Golf Day at Briar Ridge Country Club in Schererville, Indiana, **Erwin McKone** and **David Miloshoff** hosts.
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- June 21 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Prairie Bluff Golf Club in Lockport, IL, **Luke Strojny, CGCS** host.
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- July 5 – Nominations close for 2012 GCSAA Board of Directors
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- July 13 or 20 – ITF/NWILGCA Summer Golf Day at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa in Galena, IL, **Tom Tully, CGCS** host.
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- July 18-23 – U.S. Girls Junior Championship at Olympia Fields Country Club, **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** host.
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- July 19 – Midwest Regional Turf Field Day at the Daniel Turf Center in West Lafayette, IN. Visit www.mrtf.org for info.
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- July 30 – Deadline for submissions to TurfNet for its "2012 Superintendent's Best Friend Calendar."
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Congratulations to **Beth Whitehouse** of Dow Agrosciences and Zachary Duschack who were married on April 9th. Time for some new business cards!



OK, let's get this out of the way right now so I don't offend anyone else or incite an ASPCA high alert: The squirrel didn't die—it was just playing possum with that dog.



Right after the photo was taken, it got up, said "hah hah" to the dog, and gallivanted back to its wonderful life in the trees. Same thing with these geese, who hatched their brood of poop machines and lived happily ever after (and tasted awesome).

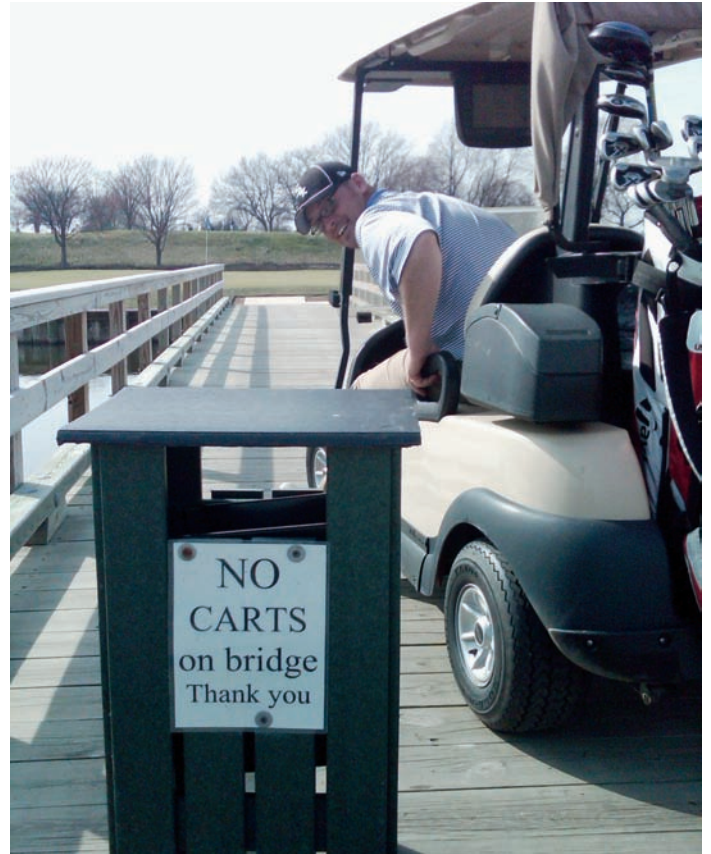
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 Congratulations to **Dave Radaj, CGCS** of Green Acres Country Club on his recent recertification with GCSAA.

Syngenta's turf carbon calculator tool, which is designed to help golf course superintendents and other professional turf managers establish the total carbon footprint for their respective operations has a name now—it is now known as GreenCast EcoMeasures, and is part of a joint effort between Syngenta and Marriott Golf while it has undergone testing on selected Marriott golf courses in the U.S. and Caribbean markets.

In early April, GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans announced the beginning of an "open test" of the redesigned website and new forums product. The goals of the test are to put the site and forums into use so that any glitches or needed improvements can be identified, and to give you the opportunity to become familiar with them before they are officially launched. The current website is still the primary site, but you can access the new site by clicking the icon on the upper right hand corner of the home page. I did it. It's fun.

Also from GCSAA, you can renew your membership online by following these easy steps: Log on to gcsaa.org, click the "Renew Now Online!" button in the upper right corner (I don't get the exclamation point either), update your contact and business info, enter your credit card info, submit your renewal, and check your email for payment receipt. Piece of cake.

This is just the kind of thing that makes us all want to ring a golfer's neck, isn't it?

Oh, wait—that's not a golfer, it's a superintendent, and superintendents are allowed to do that. On their own courses. Which in this instance is Indian Lakes Resort. Where **Chuck Barber** is superintendent. Just sayin'!

A February court ruling by a DuPage County judge makes playing golf for us hackers, sprayers, slicers and hookers a little less nerve-wracking. In a nutshell, a guy hit a big hook while playing at St. Andrews Golf & Country Club in West Chicago that left the property and hit a woman on the head while she was out in her adjacent yard gardening. The woman sued, claiming the golfer was negligent by failing to properly aim and execute the swing of his golf club. The suit was dismissed because, among other things, a golfer cannot be held negligent for a ball that veers from its intended path (which would create *prima facie* liability that is not the law in Illinois), and there is inherent risk in living adjacent to where golf is played. Hack on.

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of **Steve Partyka** of White Pines GC on the loss of Steve's father Edward Partyka on April 4th at the age of 84. Ed had been the superintendent of White Pines for 50 years prior to Steve's taking the reins, and was a longtime GCSAA and MAGCS member.

H.R. 872, the federal bill to negate the need for Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) pesticide general permits for aquatic pesticide applications has passed the U.S. House of Representatives by a 292-134 vote. This good news was made possible thanks to the 650-plus GCSAA members who participated in the action alert

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last month. There is still work to be done, as the bill needs to be passed by the Senate and signed into law. Keep tuned in for updates, and make your voice be heard when the opportunity presents itself.

Nice April, huh? April 18th, 3,582 miles southeast of Dutch Harbor, Alaska on the 156-acre Park Ridge Country Club, superintendent **Joel Purpur, CGCS** took this photo from his wheelhouse...er, clubhouse.



And while on both subjects (Joel and the obvious allusion to "Deadliest Catch"), am I the only one who wonders how Joel juggles his superintendent responsibilities, his world-famous hobbies and pastimes, AND has time to narrate all those Discovery channel shows AND sell Fords on the TeeVee AND star in "Dirty Jobs?"



That's one busy guy.

So the USGA people have been busy too. After exhaustive studies on use of the word "green," they have at long last reached a determination. Green is a noun and has two proper golf meanings. The first meaning is chiefly of Scottish origin—it simply defines all territory of a golf course, or all areas outside the confines of the clubhouse. Thus, it can be used in relation to all outdoor areas of a golf course. The second meaning, most readily known to modern audiences, means the area of short grass surrounding a hole. In keeping with the first meaning, a greenkeeper is someone whose responsibilities entail maintaining all areas outside the clubhouse. They also concluded that in most cases of using the



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word green in golf terminology, the use should be singular. Green fee, greenkeeper, green committee, and of course USGA Green Section are all correct uses. In no way does green refer to any particular color found on a golf course. So now that's all straightened out.

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 It seems like a year ago, but wasn't that Masters Sunday a hoot? At one point I think six or seven guys were tied at -10. **Scott White** (Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Golf Club) was one of the fortunate MAGCS members to make the trip down this year (by car no less). Unfortunately, Scott's young son Jackson could not make the trip; but he got to experience the next best thing—his Curious George doll went in his stead, and word is he had more fun than a barrel of monkeys. Looks like Augusta has really loosened the entry requirements, huh?



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 Congrats to Idlewild Country Club's **Kurt Sams, CGCS** on being the winner of a painting of a scene at Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club and Lodge in Orlando, FL, presented by Arysta Life-Science. Kurt won the painting by entering a drawing at the Arysta booth at the GIS in February.

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 Anyone who does not receive the weekly CDGA Turf Scouting Reports is really missing out. Dr. Derek Settle, Tim Sibicky, and their dedicated contributors put together a very useful and informative tool that is delivered to your computer every Friday throughout the season. To start receiving these reports, go to the new website www.cdगतurf.org and click on the subscribe button. It's FREE!

The National Golf Foundation held its fourth annual Golf Business Symposium in conjunction with its 75th anniversary in Chicago last month, with a host of issues being addressed. Among the items they worked on were: Generational Risk in Golf, The Geography of Golf, State of the Industry, and the Image of Golf. Crazy fun was had by all as you can imagine.

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 Our sympathies go to Jim Reed and his family on the passing of Jim's mother Ruth Reed on April 15th.

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 Got Roseman mowers? Brad Roseman, the grandson of Joe Roseman is searching for a few of his grandfather's Roseman mowers. If your facility has any, please contact him at 847-445-6660. He is trying to preserve a little bit of history before it winds up in the scrap pile.

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