

**The MAGCS Charles Bartlett Award**

*by Dan Dinelli, CGCS*

Throughout his career Charles Bartlett served as an ambassador for the game of golf. He spent 36 years chronicling the major golf events of his time. He was a confidant to the great players of his era, and earned a wide spread reputation for his devotion to the game. Upon his death, then MAGCS president, Dudley Smith, established the MAGCS Charles Bartlett Award. This award is completely separate from the Bartlett Award given out by the Golf Writers Association of America. The GWAA Bartlett Award did not come into existence until 1970. The MAGCS Charles Bartlett Award was first presented in 1967 (the year of Bartlett's death). The award is presented to an individual who, through his or her devotion to the game of golf, exemplifies the spirit of Charles Bartlett – a true ambassador of the game. The Charles Bartlett Award is unique in that it is not given out annually, and the recipient is not selected by the MAGCS Board of Directors. Instead, past award recipients decide when a deserving candidate is to be acknowledged. During its 45 year history the award has only been presented 16 times. The past recipients are:

**CHARLES BARTLETT AWARD RECIPIENTS:**

Paul Voykin . . . . . 1967	Mike Bavier . . . . . 1990
Oscar Miles . . . . . 1968	Pete Leuzinger . . . . . 1994
Norman Kramer . . . . . 1970	Tim Kelly . . . . . 1996
Ray Gerber . . . . . 1971	Fred Opperman . . . . . 1999
Robert Williams . . . . . 1975	Mike Bavier . . . . . 2000
Julius Albaugh . . . . . 1983	Carl Hopphan . . . . . 2003
Ken Zanzig . . . . . 1986	Dan Dinelli . . . . . 2008
Oscar Miles . . . . . 1987	

This distinguished list includes: innovators, visionaries, authors, poets, mentors, activists, environmentalists, instructors, public speakers, GCSAA Past Presidents, CAGCS Past Presidents, MAGCS Past Presidents, recipient of the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award, Recipient of the GCSAA Leo Feser Award, recipient of the GCSAA Presidents Award and inductees into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame.

It is our pleasure to recognize John Gurke, CGCS with the Charles Bartlett Award in his efforts and support for our industry in golf. To name a few... John serves on the Illinois Turfgrass Foundations Board; has worked with researchers as a cooperater for on-site research; is a member of the Advocates' Circle for his support in the Environmental Institute for Golf; and is the Editor of the Bull Sheet in On Course. As editor, John keeps his readers up to date monthly with past, current and future events, any MAGCS Member life changes and fun facts he creatively squeezes in. John has a special talent for writing that keeps us informed while being entertained. As a hobby John is a meteorite hunter, leaving no stone un-turned. Congratulations John! **-OC**

*Dan Dinelli (L) presents  
The MAGCS Charles Bartlett Award to John Gurke.*

