



THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



NOVEMBER 2012

Next month on the 4th and 5th, the Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium will again take place in Kohler, WI at the American Club. This is always a fun and educational getaway for us lowlanders, and this year's theme "What's In Your Tank?" promises to hold up the strong tradition. Highlighting the event will be the keynote address, given by North Shore Country Club's **Dan Dinelli, CGCS** on Tuesday afternoon. Also presenting in the symposium will be GCSAA Field Staff Rep John Miller, USGA agronomist **Bob Vavrek**, and MAGCS member **Scott Verdun** of Kenosha Country Club. For registration information, contact Shelley Mazurek at (800) 287-9645, or go to www.wgcsa.com.

On October 4th, The Club at Strawberry Creek and superintendent **Matt Kregel** hosted the Chicagoland Turf/Turf Ventures annual customer appreciation day. Traditionally a fun and relaxed day of golf and fellowship, this year's rendition didn't disappoint with Matt and his crew providing a perfect golf course for all who ventured over the Cheese Curtain (or should it be **through** the Cheese Curtain?) (I mean, typically if you go over a curtain, that means the curtain is probably on the ground where curtains typically aren't found) Let's go with through instead of over; but I digress. It was fun, and I was able to glean a couple interesting things from the experience: First, I am a really bad golfer, and the fescue areas on Matt's course are now MUCH more populated with my Callaways. Second, **Randy Lusher** and **Tom Prichard** are long-lost twin brothers who were reunited at the event

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DATES TO REMEMBER

November 14 – 60th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club, **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS, MG, Ross Laubscher, Jake Mendoza, and Jim Wallace** hosts.

November 27-30 – Second Annual Golfdom Summit at the Reunion Resort in Orlando, FL. Register at www.golfdom-summit.com.

November 30 – Deadline for nominations for the 2012 TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta.

December 3 – Annual Southside Superintendents Holiday Party at the Bier Stube, Frankfort. Contact Matt Harstad or Ed Esgar for the details.

December 4-5 – The 2012 Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium at the American Club in Kohler, WI.

December 4-6 – Annual Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference and Show at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, OH. Go to www.otfshow.org for information.

December 11 – Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) Holiday Lunch at Pinstripes in Northbrook.

December 11-13 – 2012 Asia Pacific Golf Summit at the Empire Hotel & Country Club in Brunei Darussalam. Go to www.golfconference.org for all the details.

December 13 – Annual West Side Superintendents Holiday Party at Seven Bridges Golf Club, **Don Ferreri** and **Dave Gelino** hosts.

January 8-9 – Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Turf Conference at the Hyatt Lodge in Oak Brook, IL. Go check out www.iturf.org for all the goods.

January 23-26 – 60th Annual PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, FL. The week all of our pro shops are locked up.



Randy Lusher and Tom Prichard

Third, Craig Lewis's daughter Katie definitely got her good looks from her mother.



Craig and Katie Lewis

Added bonus: Chatting with Matt and a skinny guy named Jay, not realizing he was one of the club's developers and owners, and a former All-Pro Chicago Bears center with the last name Hilgenberg. Duh!

We gave it the ol' college try... On October 22nd the MAGCS college teams gathered at Calumet Country Club to contest the Annual College Championship. **Matt Harstad** and **Adam Lencke** and staff had the course primped and prepped and good to go, but alas, Mother Nature had her say in things, deciding that October 22nd was going to be the day the drought ended. The rain started about an hour before the shotgun start was planned, and it never stopped. Although no golf was played that day, a great gathering of the participants in the men's grill room did take place, making the trip more than worthwhile. Thanks to Matt and everyone at Calumet for hosting, as well as to our sponsors for their generosity, who were **Arthur Clesen, Inc., Burris**

Equipment Company, Nels J Johnson Tree Experts, Reinders Inc., and Syngenta Professional Products.

The good news is we are trying to rebook with them for an event next year.

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 This month, 63 years ago, the Bull Sheet ran the following public service announcement: IT IS WITH PROFOUND REGRET THAT WE INFORM YOU THAT THERE IS NO SANTA CLAUS. Those guys running MAGCS back in '49 were a serious lot. It was also reported that Chicago district golf courses spent over one MILLION dollars on maintenance in 1949. That's ALL Chicago district golf courses combined.

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 Congratulations to Shelleigh and Mike Skopik (Leibold Irrigation) on the birth of their 5-pound, 15-ounce, 19-inch long bouncing baby daughter Sydney Michaela on October 17th.

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 Growing Solutions is pleased and proud to introduce their newest team member **James M. Keith, CGCS**, former superintendent at St. Charles Country Club. Good luck, Jimmy on your new endeavor.

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 Also on the move is **Brent Miles**, formerly at Nettle Creek Country Club (and a co-worker of mine MANY moons ago), who is now the new superintendent at Green Garden Country Club in Frankfort, IL. The best of luck to Brent in the new position.

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 Q: If the turf scientist at Golf House bought a winter coat, what would it be filled with?

A: Derek Settle down.

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 Recently BASF announced that it will move its education program for turf and ornamental professionals closer to the North American headquarters of its agricultural products business unit. The new program will bring customers to Pinehurst Resort, and will include an educational and recreational component, and allow for visits to BASF research and development facilities in Research Triangle Park and Holly Springs, NC. The move away from Farmlinks expects to bring approximately 350 end users annually to Pinehurst to learn about its products. The new program will begin in January, 2013.

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 Just caught the movie "Office Space" on cable the other day, and realized something remarkable. Not only can **Dan Charlton** keep a great golf course, as he does so at Evanston Golf Club; he's also a pretty dang good actor. PLUS he got to snuggle up with Jennifer Aniston as a bonus. Want that job!



Dan Charlton



Ron Livingston?

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For the second consecutive month I regretfully must report the passing of a turf industry icon. C. Reed Funk, Ph.D., the former Rutgers University turf breeder responsible for the development of hundreds of cultivars of cool-season grasses, died on October 4th at the age of 84. Among the many awards and honors bestowed on him, Mr. Funk was recipient of GCSAA's Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award in 1979, and the USDA Distinguished Service Award for agricultural research in 1990.

Mark your calendars for January 8th and 9th, when the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation will hold its Turf Conference at the Hyatt Lodge on the Hamburger University campus in Oak Brook, IL. All information, including a printable conference program and registration form can be found at the new and improved iturf.org website. Go there now!

As inevitable as the changing of the seasons, another golf season has come and gone. The leaves have been cleaned up, the pipes drained, and the courses all put to bed. And of course there's the REALLY important stuff—the end of all the golf leagues and the final matchups between leagues for the ultimate bragging rights. In the case of the Fox Valley Golf League, which played its 19th season this summer, the bid to retain the Cheryl Cup (yes, there is a story, but not here) over offshoot rival Homeless League (and yes again, there is a story about that, too) was once again a success, and "The Cheryl" is in her rightful home again.

The victorious team included: Front row—Paul Carlson, Steve Stewart, Todd Schmitz, Jan Jarvis, Gil Velazquez and Rusty Stachlewitz. Back row—Aaron Reinhart, Chuck Anfield, Chad Rotert, John Gurke, Eric Nadler, and Brian Winkel

The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) has announced its first "Design Excellence Recognition Program" honorees, and of the six American projects cited, two are local AND were designed by MAGCS members. Receiving the honors were Bowes Creek Country Club (**Brad Legnaioli**, CGCS superintendent) in Elgin and architect **Rick Jacobson** as well as Phillips Park Golf Course (**Todd Schmitz** superintendent) in Aurora and architect **Greg Martin**. Congratulations to Rick and Greg on this impressive honor.



Rick Jacobson



Greg Marin



Another calendar marker: The two big holiday parties are nearly upon us, and here are the particulars. The Annual West Side Superintendents gathering will happen on Thursday, December 13th at Seven Bridges Golf Club in Woodridge, IL (Don Ferreri and Dave Gelino hosts). Cocktails start at 11:30 followed by lunch at noon. As always, poker will be available to any and all players. Cost for this one—a mere \$35. The South Side Superintendents bash will happen at its traditional location—Chef Klaus Bier Stube in Frankfort, IL—on the 3rd of December at 11:30. Cost for the feast is \$40 (and you will NOT go home hungry).



The GCSAA Education Conference brochure is now available online at www.golfindustryshow.com. The brochure includes all event schedules, sessions, presentations, and registration forms (registration is now open), and gives you the opportunity to save it to your desktop, print a PDF, and access it from your smart phone. The Conference will take place in San Diego, CA from Feb. 4-8, 2013.

If you are considering becoming a CGCS, you can now keep your certification portfolio online through OneFile, an online assessment tool for GCSAA members to use when applying

to the program. Users of this option will incur a \$25 user fee which will be credited back toward the application fee. Information can be found at www.gcsaa.org.

Calling all ice hockey players of ALL skill levels (even NO skill level is ok)—if you're looking to get a little exercise this winter, come on out and skate with your fellow MAGCS members on Thursdays at the Addison Ice Rink. It's purely recreation, so no teeth will be lost, PLUS it has a bar overlooking the ice, so really no more needs to be said. Call **Matt Harstad** at 708-921-2858 or **Dave Blomquist** at 219-871-4073 for details.

Equipment For Sale:

The following items are in good working condition, and are being offered up for sale:

- 5- John Deere 220A walking greens mowers—\$1,000 each, or all 5 for \$4,000
- 1- John Deere 260B walking tee mower—\$1,500
- 1- 2002 John Deere 3215B 2wd fairway mower with 2200 hours—\$3,250
- 1- 2004 Jacobsen T628 4wd with Lastec deck, 5200 hours—\$4,000
- 1- Toro Hydroject with 860 hours—\$1,500.

Call or email Scott White or Gordon Watson at The Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Club at 815-399-2961 or purdueturf@comcast.net. **-OC**



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