

#BullSheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



FEBRUARY 2013

Dates to Remember

February 3-5 – GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic in San Diego, CA.

February 4-8 – GCSAA Education Conference in San Diego, CA.

February 6-7 – Golf Industry Show in San Diego, CA.

February 6 – University of Illinois Turfgrass Alumni get-together at 310 10th Avenue in the Gaslamp District from 5:30 til 7:00 PM.

February 6 – MAGCS 2013 Hospitality Reception from 7 til 10 PM at the Hotel Salomar at 435 6th Avenue on the Rooftop Lounge.

February 7 – GCSAA's 2013 Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA somewhere.

February 19 – MAGCS Annual Assistant Winter Workshop, Midwest Golf House

March 4 – MAGCS Past President's Meeting, Geneva Golf Club, Ed Braunsky, CGCS hso

March 1 – Deadline for applications for the Billy Casper Golf Agronomy Internship Program.

March 6 – CAGCS Chicagoland Forum, Naperville Country Club, Steven Biehl and Tim Anderson, CGCS MG

March 11 – MAGCS Monthly Meeting at Royal Melbourne Country Club, Dave Groelle, CGCS

March 13-14 – Reinders 21st Green Industry Conference at the Waukesha Expo Center in Suburban Milwaukee, WI.

March 30 – Deadline for nominations for GCM's Most Valuable Technician (MVT) award.

WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE MAGCS FAMILY:

- **Ross Page**, Weber Park Golf Course, Class SM
- **Brian Palmer**, Shoreacres, Class SM
- **Steve Freese**, VGM Club, Class E
- **Jacob Koch**, White Eagle Golf Club, Class C
- **Ronald Townsend**, Exmoor Country Club, Class C
- **Josh Roeder**, Hinsdale Golf Club, Class C
- **Brian Moore**, Chicago Golf Club, Class C
- **Bret Jons**, Green Acres Country Club, Class C

Congratulations to **Cory VonTunglen**, former assistant superintendent at Olympia Fields Country Club who is the new golf course superintendent at Midlothian Country Club.

Congratulations to **Tim Davis**, AA Retired Superintendent of Shoreacres. Tim has joined the staff at Dirt-n-Turf Consulting. If you are looking for him, he can be found at: Tim@dirty-n-turf.com

As the football season came to a screeching halt for most of us when the Vikings beat the Packers on the final day of the regular season (go figure—the Packers screw the Bears even when they freakin' lose), it came to my attention that the three logo balls I keep on my desk may be telling me something...



Guess who turned a year old last month? I know—too easy. Of COURSE it was the Golf Range Association of America (or GRAA as we've all come to know it). The association was launched at last year's PGA Merchandise Show in January, when it also unveiled its Golf Range Magazine digital publication. You can find out more, as well as view archived issues of the mag at GolfRange.org. Really. It's not like you're shoveling snow this winter, right?

Those of you who have been around these parts for a spell might remember **Marty Baumann**, former superintendent at Mount Prospect Golf Course (1988-1992) and Fresh Meadow GC after that. After putting Illinois in his tail lights, Marty headed northwest where he found a home in Anchorage, Alaska as superintendent of Anchorage Golf Course, one of just 14 courses in the entire state. With a seven-month golf season (who'da think that?) and 22 hours of daylight each day, along with some very unique soils and other challenges from Mother Nature, Marty says life on the course is very interesting.

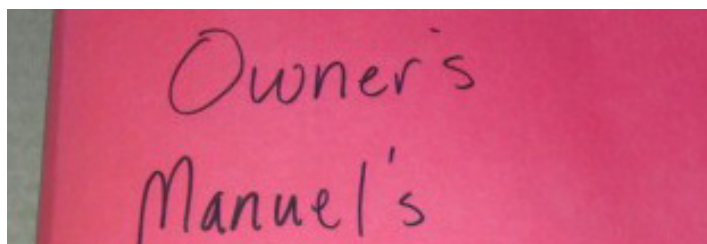


Marty also wants anyone interested to know that he has a summer intern position available for this season. If you know a student or budding golf course superintendent-to-be who wants



a little adventure out of their summer, contact Marty at 907-522-1613, or at mbaumann@AnchorageGolfCourse.com. Deadline for applications is March 15th.

FAR be it for me to point out someone's grammatical imperfections or their butchering of the English language, but



really?? I won't name names, but let it be known that this was found in the desk of an assistant superintendent at St. Charles Country Club and his boss says his name is Travis. Oops. Just as I was beginning to bask in my grammatical glory, I took a walk into my shop locker room and stumbled across this.....Nobody's perfect.



Q: What is it called when **Tom Prichard** throws a big ol' country-style bash in his maintenance barn?
A: An Ivanhoedown.

It was 60 years ago this month that *Bull Sheet* reported on 11 cases of the recently-discovered Dutch Elm Disease in our state. The reports all originated in a 150-mile long belt from Urbana-Champaign southeast to the Indiana state line. The northernmost case was in Urbana, about 140 miles south of Chicago. Stay tuned to find out if it makes it here.

50 years ago this month two revolutionary advancements in fertilizer technology were being discussed in the pages of *Bull Sheet*: Hydraulic Feeding and Coated Controlled Release granules. The former, it was reported, could lightly feed fine turf areas without burn by mixing a slurry of water and fertilizer in a barrel, making sure to keep it well-agitated "with a canoe paddle," and applying it through a hose attached to the barrel in 8-12 foot swaths for even distribution. The former was even more of a mystery, the report stating simply that the fertilizer granules will be "coated for controlled release, similar to some of the cold tablets that are on the market." Wonder if either of those will pan out...

And 40 years ago this month, *Bull Sheet* ran **Jim Burdett's** (pictured right)

article (which he based on the speech he gave at the Midwest Turf Clinic) on the newfangled idea of watering with sewage effluent. My guess is that 40 years from now we will still be talking about this.



MAGCS sends its condolences to the family of **Bruce Schweiger** on the passing of Bruce's mother last month. Please keep the Schweiger family in your prayers.

Does your equipment technician deserve a day in the sun, a tip-of-the-cap for all he does to ensure your success? If so, then nominate him for GCM's Most Valuable Technician (MVT) award, presented in partnership with Foley United. Nomination forms are available at gcsaa.org, and are due by March 30th.

It's that time again—the much-anticipated Golf Digest "America's Greatest Golf Courses" rankings are out for 2013-2014. Of the top 100 courses listed, seven are maintained by MAGCS members, and here is how they ranked: #4—Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, **Jon Jennings, CGCS**; #18—Chicago Golf Club, **Scott Bordner**; #20—Oakland Hills Country Club South Course, **Steve Cook, CGCS, MG**; #31—Medinah Country Club No. 3, **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS, MG**; #50—Butler National Golf Club, **Mike Sauls**; #62—Olympia Fields Country Club North Course, **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS**; and #73—Rich Harvest Golf Links, **Jeff VerCautren**. The magazine also came out with its Top 100 Public Courses for 2013-2014, and on that list, The Wilderness at Fortune Bay in Tower, MN (**Vince Dodge, CGCS**) was #59; while Cog Hill No. 4 (**Scott Pavalko**)—the Dubsread course—came in at #64. I really thought this was going to be Aurora's year, too.

Pitching and peddling—another mysterious case of MAGCS member hidden identity has come to our attention. Jim Palmer, when he wasn't pitching fastballs for the Orioles was usually peddling underwear for Jockey. **John Turner**, when he isn't pitching a spiel to a vendor is usually peddling Bayer products to end users. Is there a chance they are one and the same?



- A. The Pitcher
- B. The Peddler
- C. The Pitcher/Peddler

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



The Brian Winkels

What are the odds of this happening?? On a recent visit to the Old Memorial Country Club in Tampa, FL, **Brian Winkel** of Syngenta was randomly assigned a caddy from the caddy pool to tote his bag around the course (and I'm pretty sure he saw every square inch of it, too). His caddy's name? Brian Winkel. Wink thought he'd met his double until he learned that Brian Winkel the caddy was a scratch golfer (and probably a righty), ending any doubts he may have had.

Chalk up another legal victory for us duffers. A judge in Montana ruled that a couple who bought a house along a golf course should have known that their yard might be littered with golf balls. The couple sued the course alleging trespass, nuisance and breach of duty after nearly 1,300 golf balls landed in their yard during the course of a season. The judge said that should not have come as a surprise to the couple, both former golfers. "The couple failed to fulfill their independent duty to see what was plainly apparent before purchasing the piece of real estate," quoted the judge. A truly rare instance where common sense was applied to the law—hope that catches on.

Building on the success of its nearly 20-year presence in the golf turf industry, TurfNet has launched a companion service for sports turf managers called TurfNetSports.com. Much like our TurfNet, the public and members-only content areas include news, discussion forums, educational webinars, blogs, used equipment classifieds, job listings, resumes and videos. Take a look if that's your thing.

Q: If Batman moves his operation to **John Burke** and **Dale Nissen's** course, where would he live?

A: Old Wayne Manor.

On the 8th and 9th of last month, the inaugural Turf Conference—the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation's all-education 2-day event—was held at Hamburger University on the McDonald's corporate campus in Oak Brook, IL. Judging from feedback from attendees, presenters, and commercial people alike, the event was a rousing success. Intensive 30-minute education sessions covering the gamut of all things turf in Illinois, including golf, sports turf and lawn care were conducted in a facility seemingly built for the event. A very strong list of educators from around the Midwest certainly didn't disappoint the 235 attendees, and the reception at the closing of day one was one for the books. Much hard work went into the creation of Turf Conference, and the ITF board members and advisors who toiled for months to bring it all together are to be commended—you know who you are (and I know who I'm not). Thanks to

everyone who participated, and especially to the sponsors of the event, who were: Driver: **Syngenta**; Iron: **JW Turf, Inc.**, and **Reinders, Inc.**; Wedge: **The Andersons, Arthur Clesen, Inc., BASF, Burris Equipment Company, Chicagoland Turf, CS Turf, Lebanon Turf, Pearl Valley Organix, Pro Gro Solutions, Tyler Enterprises, Water Well Solutions, and Waupaca Sand**; Putter: **Bayer Environmental Sciences, Commercial Turf & Tractor, Dow Agrosciences, FMC, Harrell's, Knox Fertilizer, Lohmann Companies, Martenson Turf Products, Inc., Shoreline Sand Solutions, and XGD Systems.**

Check out GCSAA TV at gcsaa.org—a new segment features **Justin VanLanduit, CGCS** of Briarwood CC describing “What’s In Your Cart?” for the millions and millions of viewers. And what did those millions and millions of viewers learn about Justin? Besides the fact that he has most of the same stuff we all do in our carts, the dude has a MAJOR caffeine addiction. Or he has a sweet deal with the Mountain Dew people.



The Venue's new name, if John Turner had his way



Ray Kroc's office was a neat bit of trivia just inside the entrance



The facility—very comfortable

GCSAA_{tv}

Produced by EPIC Creative

Maybe Justin's video was responsible for this stat—in less than four years of its existence, GCSAA TV videos have been viewed more than 400,000 times! Additionally, over 550 videos on the website have reached viewers in 151 countries. Keep on watching—the lucky viewer of the 500,000th video will win a free iPad.

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Bonus MAGCS celebrity look-alike feature: While patrolling the vendors area at last month's Turf Conference, Chuck Barber had an epiphany when he saw the Reinders folks all decked out in their best blue Hawaiians. Do we have another case of MAGCS member moonlighting in Hollywood?

Welcome and congratulations to MAGCS newest member **Brian Palmer**, former Senior Assitant at Merion Golf Club, and the new golf course superintendent at Shoreacres.

Among the many honors and awards given out at the Education Conference this month, the Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award is one of the biggest, and this year four men were recognized by GCSAA. Frank Lamphier, Ken Mangum, CGCS, Dennis Lyon, CGCS and Roch Gaussoin, Ph.D. were all recipients of the 2013 award, which was presented on Feb. 6th in San Diego. Congratulations to all four of these deserving men.

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