

#BullSheet



August 2014

Dates to Remember

August 11 – Billy Casper Golf's 4th Annual World's Largest Golf Outing benefitting the Wounded Warrior Project.

August 11 – Central Illinois GCSA August Field Day at the University of Illinois Lincolnshire Fields. Go to www.ci-gcsa.com for details.

August 13 – Michigan State University Turfgrass Field Day at the Hancock Turfgrass Research Center in East Lansing, MI. Check www.michiganturfgrass.org for details.

August 15 – Northwest Illinois GCSA Wee One Golf Outing and Fundraiser at Prairie View Golf Course in Byron, IL.

August 19 – 8th Annual Sunshine Through Golf Foundation White Sox Fundraiser at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago, IL.

August 25 – Turf Science Live at Merit Club in Libertyville, IL, John Nelson host. More info follows.

August 26 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Annual Golf Championship at Harborside International, Ryan Tully host.

September 11 – CDGA Turf Field Day, Sunshine Course, Lemont, IL.

September 15 – 11th Annual Wee One Pine Hills Golf Outing and Fundraiser in Sheboygan, WI, Rod Johnson host.

September 22, 2014 - Michigan Wee One Golf Outing, Orchard Lake Country Club, Orchard Lake MI

A hearty welcome to all of our newest MAGCS members, who are:
Dennis Hamilton, Class E, Tyler Enterprises
Jeffrey Orr, Class C, Royal Melbourne Country Club
John Carman, Night Light, Inc.

Dare I start by saying, "BEST. JULY. EVER!?" I can't help but think that all this crazy good weather we've been experiencing will somehow turn around and bite us in the rear, but for now I can't complain. It's 9:00 and it hasn't hit 65 yet!

This month, on the 11th, Billy Casper Golf is holding its 4th Annual World's Largest Golf Outing at over 120 of its golf facilities in 26 states. The event benefits the Wounded Warrior Project, and has raised over \$1.1 million for the cause thus far. In our area, these Casper courses will be participating: Chick Evans, George W. Dunne, Highland Woods, Indian Boundary, Orchard Valley, River Oaks, Waters Edge and Whisper Creek.

On August 25th, **John Nelson** and Merit Club will host a new event called Turf Science Live, presented by Syngenta, Jacobsen, Smithco, and Turfco. It is an exciting, hands-on event showcasing the latest research and technological innovations in turf agronomy that will offer attendees the opportunity to interact with leading specialists in many aspects of turfgrass management. As a bonus, attendees are invited to play the course after the education event. Sounds like a gotta-be-there event.

Reinders, Inc. has had a busy month (which includes the 100th anniversary of the Toro Company). First, they announced the hirings of **Brian Placzkowski** as a territory manager for its commercial equipment division (which we reported last month), and the re-hiring of Jerry Kershasky as territory manager in the soft goods business group serving the south side and Northwest Indiana. Then, at the Toro Company's 100th anniversary celebration in Bloomington, MN, Reinders took home a couple prestigious awards. Mark Robel, SCPS received the 2013 Green Blazer award which recognizes his accomplishments in customer-focused sales and service programs in the turf equipment market) And to add to their haul, the company was named 2013



L-R Boyd Montgomery of Toro, Mark Robel, and Jim Heinze of Toro



Rick Olsen of Toro, Mary Reinders, Executive Vice President, Craig Reinders, President, and Blake Grams of Toro

Partner in Excellence for Best in Parts. Congratulations Reinders!

More news from the Toro Company: the Irrigation Association board of directors has named Toro to a platinum membership—the highest level of IA membership. Congrats to Big Red.

Congratulations to **John Patrick Maksymiu**, formerly superintendent of the Woodside/Lakeside nines at Cantigny Golf on his big move to green pastures of a different kind. Pat has accepted a position with Northwestern Mutual, one of the country's largest life insurance and financial service companies as of August 1st. Best of luck and good fortune to Patrick!



Our deepest sympathies go out to everyone at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club and the family of **Frank J. Latzko**, superintendent of the #1 and 3 courses on his sudden passing last month.

Nice work MAGCS! Your participation in the June Rounds 4 Research auction helped raise \$115,500 toward turf research, with over 600 rounds being donated to the cause (which is a 7% increase over last year).

Hank Hill would be proud. The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) is making headlines in our industry by first announcing in late July that it will be partnering with Audubon International, AND that it has now approved a major investment to get more propane-fueled mowers on golf courses around the nation. The council has allocated \$929,976 (where they came up with that number is a mystery not worth solving) for a "Propane Powered Golf and Turf Equipment Demonstration Program," with R&R Products as the principal contractor, and Audubon International, Marriott Golf and Billy Casper Golf as project partners. Locally, the project will place four pieces of propane-fueled mowing equipment on George W. Dunne National Golf Course in Oak Forest, IL (Jeremy Turton superintendent). This could be the start of something big.

It was with heavy heart that we learned of the passing of **Pat McDonagh** on June 12th. In his memory, an education fund for his children has been set up at BMO Harris Bank. To contribute, you can go to any BMO branch and simply specify

that you are donating to the McDonagh family.

It was also learned that one of our longtime members passed away last month. On July 23, Edward M. Smith, the superintendent at Deerpath Golf Course in Lake Forest from 1964 to 1982 left us. Condolences to his friends and family.

You still want to hang out near those trees during a thunderstorm? Might want to rethink that—**Todd Schmitz** (Phillips Park Golf Course) sent this photo of a tree that had been hit by lightning more than 12 hours prior to his snapping the shot. PLUS it poured rain all night, and yet the tree still burned through the night. Todd took advantage of the event by grabbing a bag of marshmallows and some graham crackers and Hershey bars and had a little S'mores feast for breakfast.



Q: What are **Kurt Sams** and his assistant called when they don the sans-a-belts and rayon shirts and cruise chicks in the singles bars?

A: Two Idlewild and crazy guys.

Another feather in the cap of Mistwood Golf Club (**Ben Kelnhofer** superintendent) was added when Golf Inc. magazine announced that the course ranked third in the world among public course renovations over \$1 million. The two-year Ray Hearn renovation was completed last year, and it was most definitely more than a million bucks.

On September 11, 2014 **Ed Nangle, Ron Townsend** and **Chris Painter** will host a Turf Field Day at the Sunshine Course in the morning. Registration and more information can be found at cdgaturf.org

You know that actor that you see all the time in movies but don't know his name? That guy with the beard and the smooth voice that plays the accountant? We've found where he works when he's not acting, and it's at Joliet Country Club.

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Mark Kowaliczko or Ricky Jay?

Condolences to the family of **Bruce Woehrli** on the passing of Bruce's mother last month.

And our sympathies to **Chris Pekarek** of the Village Links of Glen Ellyn and his family on the recent passing of his father Lawrence L. Pekarek. Our thoughts are with you all.

Best wishes to **Mike Mumper** for a full recovery from back surgery which he underwent last month.

Mike has been seeking advice on the best rehab strategies from many of his closest friends who have gone through similar difficulties. Most recently, Mike sought the sage advice of Gayle Sayers—a notorious fast healer—while he was rehabbing his back at Wrigley Field.



Have you hopped on the bug bandwagon? The one where you get these little Rolaid-sized pellets that have all kinds of microbes (so we are told) in them that you just throw in your pond and they eat all the sludge on the bottom? Ever try heaving 300 or so of them out to the middle of your pond? Holy Tommy John! There is an alternative to that pain and suffering, and it can be found at your local Walmart—works like a champ, and with practice (and a little luck) it does a pretty good job of ridding your water feature of geese, too.



The EIFG has announced two appointments to fill Board of Trustees vacancies for 2014. Bill H. Maynard, director of golf course management at the Country Club of St. Albans in St. Louis, MO and Darrell Crall, Chief Operating Officer for the PGA of America were named to the board at the organization's June meeting.

There have been some fun events in the last month at some great venues that hopefully you were able to enjoy. First, on June 30th, **Brian Racette** and Sand Creek Country Club hosted the Michiana Superintendents Golf Outing on a picture perfect day. What an aptly-named golf course! I believe every hole included some interaction with Sand Creek (or any of its many tributaries), and if you came to Chesterton, Indiana without an ample supply of golf balls, you were like me digging them out of the water just to be able to continue playing. That aside, Brian and his crew had the course in marvelous shape,


and it was a thoroughly enjoyable day. Several attendees opted to wait out the impending bow echo that the radar showed bearing down on them by enjoying a cold beverage at a local Mexican restaurant (outside on the patio, of course), where a new cocktail was discovered---the Indianarita. Many thanks to Brian and everyone at Sand Creek for their hospitality.



On July 10 the 2nd MAGCS 9-holer was held at the beautiful Woodstock Country Club, with Bob Kronn, Sr. serving as our host. What a golf course! Conditions were perfect, as anyone knowing Bob would expect; but what was unexpected to this first-time visitor to the property was how scenic and undulating the golf course was. Oh, and the width of the fairways! There was obviously a shortage of bentgrass seed when they were built—I've seen wider expanses in a "People of Walmart" photo collection than on Woodstock CC. The format was a 4-man team hi-lo, with each foursome recording its best and worst score combined on each hole. Not surprisingly, the team of Bob Kronn Sr., Bob Kronn Jr., Ed Fischer and Tim Davis won with an 81 (their average age). The post-golf feast was wonderful, too, with some down-home comfort food including some really fine ribs to send everyone home happy and full. Thanks to Bob and the staff at Woodstock, to the participants, and to the day's generous sponsors for a fantastic time.

And lastly, on July 21st the 14th Annual John Buck Golf Outing was held at the Highlands of Elgin with Brad Legnaioli, CGCS hosting. The event benefitted the John Buck Scholarship Fund, which is distributed to the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation, the MAGCS Scholarship Fund, and the Northwest Illinois GCSA Scholarship Fund, and it included the usual fun and games throughout the course. The scramble format made



for a competitive day, with the team of (above) **Don Ferreri, Scott Witte, Luke Cella** and **Dave Kohley** besting the field on the immaculately conditioned golf course. A voluminous Mexican-themed buffet followed golf that was enjoyed by all in attendance. Thanks so much to everyone who helped run the event, and to Brad and the people at Highlands of Elgin for another great rendition of "the Buck." 

July Meeting Sponsors

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