

# #BullSheet



MARCH 2014

## Dates to Remember

**March 6** – MAGCS meeting at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL, Dr. Ed Nangle and Chris Painter hosts.

**March 11** – Conserv FS Tech Day at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL, Dan Murray, CGCS host.

**March 12** – 30th Annual Chicagoland Forum at Naperville Country Club, Tim Anderson, CGCS, MG and Steven Biehl hosts.

**March 30** – Deadline for nominations for GCM's Most Valuable Technician awards program presented in partnership with Foley United.

**April 9** – CAGCS meeting at Lake Shore Country Club, Jeff Frentz, CGCS host.

**April 27** – 2014 National Club Conference at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, CA.

**April 29** – MAGCS monthly meeting and Spring Scramble at Silver Lake Country Club, David Kohley host.

**May 5** - ITF/MAGCS Combined Event -Country Club of Peoria, Andy Morris Host.

Did you lose a RIGHT-HANDED KING COBRA OVERSIZED 8 IRON at the MAGCS golf event at Chicago Highlands last October? If so, you are in luck! Brian Winkel, upon a recent inspection of his golf bag (which should contain strictly LEFT\_HANDED clubs) made the discovery and would like to get the club back to its rightful owner. Contact Wink at [brian.winkel@syngenta.com](mailto:brian.winkel@syngenta.com) to claim your prize.

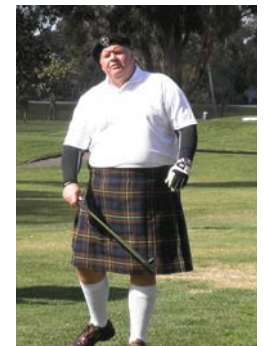
There's more movement to report on the job front: Virgil Range, former superintendent at Maryville Country Club in Maryville, MO has accepted the GM/Superintendent position at Sugar Creek Golf Club in High Ridge, MO. Brian Stout, former assistant at Edgewood Valley



Virgil Range



Brian Stout



and Mike MacMumper

Country Club in LaGrange, IL has been named its new superintendent; and Mike Mumper is the new superintendent at Villa Olivia in Bartlett, IL. Furthermore, Jeremy Duncan, former assistant at Cantigny Golf is the new superintendent at Fox Run Golf Links; and Michael Paciga, former assistant at Biltmore Country Club takes the reins as superintendent of Kemper Lakes Golf Club. Congratulations and best of luck to these MAGCS members!

Our sincere condolences to John Leibold and family on the passing of John's father last month. John H. Leibold passed away on February 8th at the age of 76. Please keep the Leibold family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

The Senior PGA Championship is returning to Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, MI on May 19-25, and volunteers are needed to work the tournament. Superintendent Brad Fry is requesting that anyone interested in helping out during this major tournament contact him as soon as possible at [bfry@kempersports.com](mailto:bfry@kempersports.com) or call him at 269-369-8982.

Always wanted to be a weather spotter but never knew how? Well, here's your chance—NIU Weather, in cooperation with the Northern Illinois University chapter of the American Meteorological Society, will host its annual severe weather spotter training session on Tuesday, March

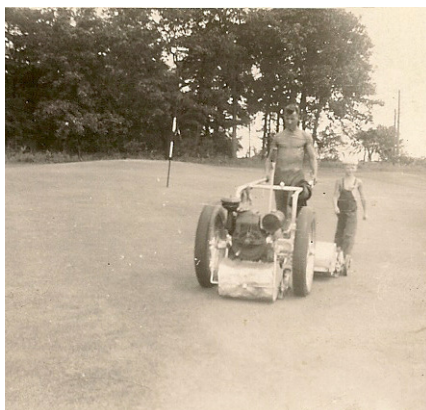
18th at 7:30 PM in Cole Hall on the NIU campus in DeKalb. The program will last roughly two hours and all are welcome. If you want to grow in your knowledge of thunderstorms and severe weather, and serve your community and those downstream from you by accurately reporting weather information to the National Weather Service, this session is for you. There's no cost, no registration, just bring as many people who are interested and go. Sounds like a hoot.

Congratulations to Reinders, Inc. on being named Foley-United's 2013 Distributor of the Year at the Golf Industry Show last month. Jim Letourneau, Foley-United president presented the award to Craig Reinders, Reinders president and his commercial equipment team.



L to R: John Jensen (Reinders), Ron Blodgett (Foley-United), Mark Robel (Reinders), Derek Kastenschmidt (Reinders), Jim Letourneau (Foley-United), Craig Reinders, Tim Snell (Reinders), Joe Etten (Reinders), Steve Stewart (Reinders), and Greg Turner (Foley-United)

March 15th marks the deadline for applications for Par Aide's Joseph S. Garske Collegiate Grant competition. The program offers educational aid to the children and stepchildren of GCSAA members. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors and accepted at institutions of higher learning for the upcoming year. Founded by Par Aide in honor of Joseph S. Garske and administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf, \$7,500 in scholarships will be awarded. To apply, go to [www.eifg.org](http://www.eifg.org) and click on the Education tab, then click on the Scholarships tab.



Name This MAGCS Member hint #1: This gentleman is one of MAGCS' longest-standing living members, and is pictured here on the grounds of the Fox Valley Golf Course in 1939 as a young tike (he's the little fellow next to the big tan guy operating the bad-a\$\$ walking mower).

If you're heading to Augusta this April for the Masters, there will be a new look to the 17th hole. The 65-foot high loblolly pine known as the Eisenhower Tree (or Ike's Tree) will not be there, having been removed after a storm damaged it beyond

hope last month. The tree stood about 210 yards from the tee on the left side of the par-4 17th, and was believed to be 100 to 125 years old. President Dwight D. "Ike" Eisenhower, an avid golfer and member of Augusta National, hit his tee shots into the tree on a regular basis, prompting him to propose cutting it down at a meeting in 1956, only to be ruled out of order by Masters co-founder Clifford Roberts who then adjourned the meeting. Cool bit of history there, and if the tree spade exists that can plop a 65-foot tree in the same spot, you can bet Augusta National will find it and have it done.

Congratulations to Jim Hall of Inwood Golf Course on his retirement last month—enjoy your salad days, sir!

Get your nominations in for your favorite equipment technician—GCM magazine's Most Valuable Technician awards program presented in partnership with Foley-United is accepting nominations until the end of this month. Go to [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org) to nominate your guy.

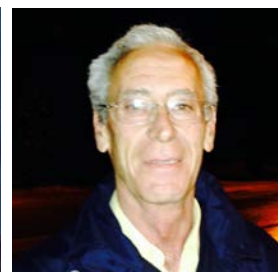
Name This MAGCS Member hint #2: His superintendent father and he once saved the life of a boy who had fallen through the ice on a pond at Aurora Country Club where he worked as his dad's assistant in the mid-fifties. (He's 2nd from left).



Congratulations to Scot Spier, CGCS and Roger Stewart, CGCS on their successful recertification through GCSAA.

We hear it all the time—our twin is out there somewhere. In Mike Bavier's case, that twin was halfway around the world. In Spain. Driving a bus. That Bruce Williams happened to be riding in while he was there speaking to the Federation of European Golf Greenkeepers Association in Catalunya. Or did Mike actually move to Spain and hook onto a sweet bus-driving gig? He DOES like to travel...

## MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Congrats to Dave Kohley (Silver Lake Country Club) and Tim Scott, CGCS (Stony Creek Golf Course) on their fine showing at the GCSAA Golf Championship last month in Orlando. Dave finished in tenth place with a 150, and Tim's 151 earned him thirteenth place. Nice work guys!

Q: If Dave Groelle, CGCS had spent his entire life at his current club, what would he be?

A: Royal Melbourne and raised.

Congratulations to Jeff Rehberg (right) of J.W. Turf on being recognized for Outstanding Sales Achievement by John Deere Golf at the Golf Industry Show last month in Orlando.



This walk down memory lane came to us via Pete Cookingham of the Turfgrass Information Center at the Michigan State University Libraries. They are proud to announce the launch of the website for the Noer/Milorganite Image Collection which has a bounty of old scanned images of golf courses in our area depicting the people, tools, and practices of our predecessors. Your course may be in there, so take a moment to have a gander—it can be found at <http://noermmsd.lib.msu.edu/>.

The IRS has finalized its Employer Mandate Requirements regarding the new health care laws, adding a new delay in which clubs with 50-99 full-time employees do not have to comply with the law until 2016. To qualify for this extra delay, a club must show: 1) That it employed less than 100 full-timers in 2014; 2) That from 2/9/14 to 12/31/14 it does not reduce the size of its workforce or cut hours of its employees to meet the 50-99 full-time threshold (bonafide reasons for changes are ok); 3) That it did not eliminate or materially reduce the insurance it offered as of 2/9/14; and 4) That it did not change its health plan's start after 2/9/14. This additional delay is meant to "ease the transition to covering employees working 30 hours or more per week." So you got that going for you.

For those of you who may have missed it, there was a retirement party for a pretty special guy on January 17th. Randy Wahler, the superintendent at Knollwood Club for the past 33 years—yes, 33 years!—was honored by friends and family on this evening, and for very good reason. I've known Randy since I was a snot-nosed assistant at Old Elm Club under Randy's great friend Ed Fischer. These guys, along with Tim Davis at Shoreacres among others, formed the group of gentlemen I would aspire to emulate as a golf course superintendent. Consummate professionals to a man, they went about the business of golf course management the way it should be done—with a dedication to excellence and a desire to share their experience with the next generation. Randy was the paragon of our profession, the mold from which all superintendents should have come—a great grass grower and agronomist, a communicator without equal, a teacher and motivator of future industry stalwarts, and a damn fine golfer

to boot. He truly was and is someone to know and learn from.



Congratulations Randy—may you take from retirement what you've given to our profession!

Name This MAGCS Member hint #3: He was a long-time superintendent of Butterfield Country Club, and in his retirement you might run into him at the Sandwich Fair in the summertime, or in Harner's Bakery in Aurora with his wife Phyllis in the winter, where Eddie Braunsky took this photo.



Give up? It's Art "Artie" Benson, Jr. of course! Artie was born in the business and remained in it throughout his career in the west suburbs, and if you ever run across him, you're in for a treat—he can spin a yarn like nobody else!

Do you want to get involved with GCSAA Education? The proposal deadline for presenting at the 2015 Education Conference in San Antonio, Texas is March 31st. If you have something to say that you feel others may benefit from hearing, go to [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org) and click on the Teach for GCSAA thingie. @