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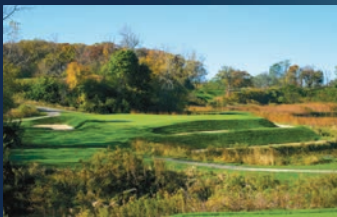
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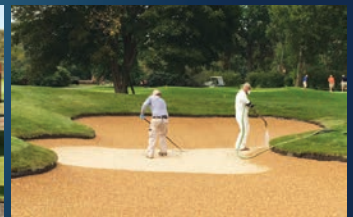
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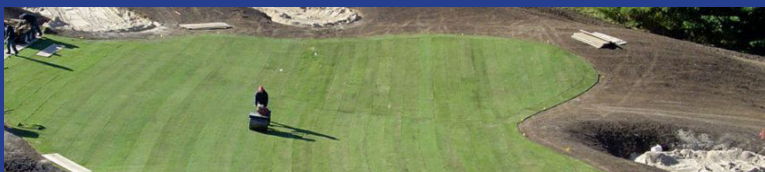
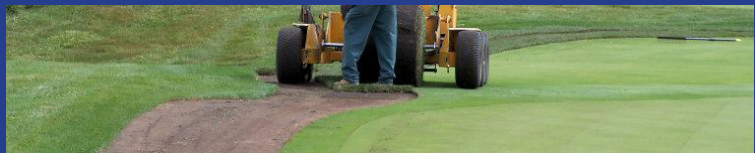
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Larry Collins



Thinking about a new irrigation system? Larry Collins does a great job of highlighting items to think about as you begin the process in his feature article.

front cover

Fall (9/22/16) is a welcome sight this year and for some could not come fast enough. According to Illinois State Climatologists, we experienced the wettest July-August with rainfall of 13.55 inches, 5.88 inches above normal. The old record was set in 1915 with a total of 12.83 inches. Some of our southern courses experienced 9 to 12 inches above a normal year.

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2016 UPCOMING MIDWEST EVENTS

- 10/5 Midwest October Meeting, Bartlett Hills Golf Course
- 12/7 Midwest Annual Meeting and Turf Clinic, Medinah CC

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Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) exists to promote professionalism and integrity, to provide networking, education and career enhancement opportunities to all members who facilitate the growth and enjoyment of golf.

On Course is published monthly with original member content. For advertising opportunities please call 630-685-2420.

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Luke Cella
MAGCS

Club Thrower

I never been a club thrower, but I've done it a few times in the past couple of months and I have to tell you, it felt pretty good. In short, I messed up a couple of shots, ones that I had spent some time practicing this year and I still screwed them up.

I got mad and chucked the club in my hand. It happened twice in two different rounds. I'm not sure why I'm writing about this, a catharsis of sort. I've always had a healthy temper. Most don't know this because as an adult I've been able to keep it in check. Often I'll tease my Mom and tell her it's the Irish in me (her side of the family) where my temper stems and other bad behaviors including the sporadic swear word and the imbibing of a drink or six. When I was younger one of my childhood friends would know when I'd blow my top and he'd just stay away from me for a bit. He'd slowly approach, testing to see if I'd settled down, the timeframe often would depend on the severity of the wrong I felt I had endured. If the infraction was an unintentional trauma caused by a flying ball of sorts, I'd usually settle down in a minute or two. If the transgression to my being was intentional, it could be a quarter of an hour before he'd come back to check my mood. Ask my brothers and sisters, they'll tell you about it for sure.

"Carbon was expensive back in those days; in fact, they didn't even call it carbon, it was graphite."

I believe I never fully developed my club-throwing penchant because of tennis. See, I played a lot of tennis growing up, and like golf, it can be very conducive to throwing a ball-striking instrument. I didn't throw my tennis racquet, most likely because I had to pay for it myself. Carbon was expensive back in those days; in fact, they didn't even call it carbon, it was graphite. I also remember some of the kids that did throw their racquets, thinking I didn't want to be like them. I think this is how I learned to suppress my temper and not throw the implements I used for sport. I carried this with me until a few months ago when I pitched that wedge back down the fairway. I'm not really sure how it happened but something inside me just let go.

I hit a really bad shot. I pulled a Smalls and let the club fly. I don't even know if I weighed my options, maybe I did and I realized it was my only appropriate reaction left. Swearing wasn't going to do it, slamming the club in the ground wasn't going to do it, keeping it under control was not an option. I don't think I consciously thought about it, it just happened. What surprised me though, was how good it felt afterward. There was an immediate release of energy (that can be very counterproductive to the game) from my body. I think I even laughed a little too, thinking I should have tried this panacea long ago. I went on to par the next 7 holes.

The second time I threw my club, I was playing with a colleague who was a bit surprised when he saw me walking to pick up my club. "I don't think I've ever seen you do that," he commented as we met at the putting green. I nonchalantly answered, "Yeah, it's my new thing – I'm a club thrower now and it feels good, you should try it."

The good news is, I've played a few times since then and haven't thrown a club. I've certainly screwed up as much or maybe even more since these incidents and have not perpetuated the hurling action into a habit. I'm glad I can laugh about it now, it may be my new thing, but I doubt it. At least I know I can do it if I really have to. When was the last time you tried something new? @

New Irrigation System?

Simple or Complex - It's Your Choice.

Larry Collins, EC Design Group

Before the powers that be at a golf facility decide to invest in a new irrigation system, they need to determine whether one is actually needed. One of the best ways for the club to compile data helping to make this determination is to have an audit or system evaluation performed.

System evaluations review all the components (central, controllers, sprinklers, pumps) and provide feedback of the current state of the system. Many times golfers see sprinklers flinging water and assume everything is operating just fine. However, what they don't know is some of the older sprinklers are running on small piping networks and the sprinklers are highly inefficient. Newer sprinklers with proper pressure and flow will put down 1.1" of water in some spots of an irrigated area to get 1" everywhere; older sprinklers can be as high as 1.8" in some areas to get 1" everywhere - if pressure and flow are low, these ratios get worse.

Recently there has also been a big push to reduce mowed turf ... that's a great idea if there is not irrigation being thrown into these areas that are being converted. Many times the water throws partially into the converted areas and into maintained turf which generates a point where a decision needs to be made. Does the maintained turf now struggle due to water being turned off to the new "native" areas or is the "native" going to be watered? Watering of these new unmaintained areas is a huge waste of water, and has to be taken into consideration when looking at a new irrigation system; often times additional sprinklers are required to keep water out of the unmaintained areas.

New systems with proper pipe sizing and sprinkler spacing make it so a superintendent can water much more efficiently. Wall to wall systems are great but if they lack control, they are no better than mass watering a field.

In the past when superintendents were deciding on a new irrigation system, they chose between brand T and brand R. Did they want to stick with a two row system or make the big jump to a three row system? After these choices were made, and the membership revived themselves from seeing the price tag, the systems were installed lasting the next 15-

25 years.

Things have changed a little in the last 10 years. There are still a lot of the aforementioned systems in the ground that are running very well and clubs are happy with their investment. With today's technology and the ability to get more information from peers in the business, this decision making process has become a little more challenging. There are certain buzz words in the irrigation business these days, like "HDPE" or "two wire". These buzz words generate a lot of questions and confusion when starting the process of replacing an irrigation system. It's the job of irrigation consultants, manufacturers, distributors and friends in the industry to help clarify what these terms mean.

There are few things however, that have not changed. The ability to control where water is applied, for a precise amount of time is definitely one of the biggest focuses in today's irrigation systems. The task of getting decision-makers to understand that putting more sprinkler heads in the ground to water less seems counterintuitive, and poses a very realistic challenge. There are going to be sprinklers that are used much less than others, although necessary to help keep the playing conditions to the standard that golfers are asking for. Firm and fast is a tough balance if you also want the rough to be penal. It is the job of the irrigation consultant to design a system that is fiscally responsible as well as one that meets the needs of the golf course superintendent. Every system is different and there are no cookie cutter answers to any system.

The other issue that has become part of this process is cost of ownership. Frequency of repairs, overall maintenance and life of the system all play a major role in painting the picture for a membership to help justify the expense. Reviewing current cost of ownership versus what a new system will save annually is important to present to the facility.

Spending \$50,000 annually on irrigation repairs doesn't make it better, it just keeps it going.

As the process begins, it is important to realize that the product decisions are obviously based on personal preference, but these decisions have to also be based on what's the best thing for the club for the next 20+ years. Today's superintendents do a good job of mixing these two things.

The first thing that most consider is the type of control system that they want to use—the newer two wire systems or the conventional satellite controller-based systems. The two wire systems have become more and more popular and also are the best answer in some specific applications. Early on, a two wire system was typically chosen if the course flooded or had high vandalism rates, as there are no field controllers on two wire systems so the components that would be damaged in these scenarios are not part of the equation any longer. Manufacturers have progressed in developing the two wire systems as an option for all types of golf courses. The install list of two wire customers ranges from the ultra-high end club to municipal nine-hole course that is investing in making golf better for its community. Many courses just don't want to see controllers anymore, and the two wire systems makes this possible. Even though there are no controllers, there is plenty of logic at the sprinkler and it is not considered a downgrade to use this type of control system.

The conventional satellite controller system is still very popular. The obvious difference between the two wire and this style is that there are field satellite controllers on the course. These satellites give the end user the opportunity to troubleshoot and/or water from each location rather than strictly the central computer. Satellites now are also easily upgradeable as new firmware is released. This style control system is still installed at a higher percentage than two wire, but that gap has closed.

Central control is something that usually is decided upon very early on in the process and the software is always getting better and each manufacturer has features they do very well. Whether two wire or satellites are chosen, each manufacturer's software works with either style of control system.

One item that has made the biggest impact on the new systems in the last 5-7 years has been the type of pipe. First, in regard to PVC piping systems, there is absolutely nothing wrong with a PVC system; there is still a high percentage of systems that are installed with PVC. The good thing about PVC systems is that installers know the best way to install them and specifiers know the best materials to specify for fittings and valves. Properly installed PVC systems last a long time.

A new style of piping networks is High Density Polyethylene (HDPE). The main difference between PVC and HDPE is that HDPE pipe is fused together; there are no fittings and the entire system is monolithic. HDPE is much more pliable than PVC and is a great option for any road or bridge

crossing regardless if the system is PVC or HDPE. HDPE has been around for a while in the gas and oil business, however it's newer to the irrigation business. As mentioned earlier, with reference to PVC, the fittings and valves have mostly been standardized - this is an ongoing process with HDPE. There has been a lot of time spent determining which fusion method (sidewall, electro, butt, or socket) works best. The type of saddles, valves and items of this nature are continually vetted to get the best combination for the piping network. Proper training for the installers is also key with HDPE. Understanding compatible fusion (fusing thicker walled pipe to a pipe with a thinner wall) is critical to the success of the install. Irrigation designers and contractors are continually investing time and effort into specifying the best materials and have the best installation practices used. In the last 5 years over 50% of the systems we have designed and then had installed have been HDPE.



HDPE Pipe (black) vs. traditional PVC piping in blue; Notice how the change of direction is accomplished between the two.

After spending time doing the research, it is now time to design a system. The first thing all courses want to know is how much it will cost. There is a wide variety of answers to give to the club, although none of them mean much until some kind of plan/layout is devised. Every property is unique, every system is unique and to use pricing based on what neighboring clubs spent is not the most responsible way to put budgets together. Once a coverage plan is done, tangible budget numbers can be provided. Systems in the Chicago area have a wide range of dollars spent. The prices on systems in Chicago range from \$1.5 to \$3 million. There are a lot of contributing factors to this range - some of them are as follows:

- Coverage – double row, triple row, ins and outs on fairways
- Piping – HDPE vs PVC. HDPE can add 5%-10% to the total cost
- Piping layout – looped fairways vs herring bone
- Private club vs Public course - Prevailing wage on public courses drives the cost way up
- Two Wire vs Satellite – percentage varies depending on the layout of the course
- Development course vs stand-alone golf course – devel-

opment courses can have several road crossings and the layout can make it difficult for main lines to be shared.

- New pump station – along with pump station, consider whether a new wet well and intake need to be installed with a new pump house.



HDPE piping with valves installed ready for installation.


Once the plan is approved and sent out to bid, it is critical to hire the right contractor for the facility, making the transition a very painless experience. Typically, main lines are installed first in late summer without closing any of the holes on the course. When laterals begin installation after Labor Day, one hole at a time is closed. It is a relatively easy process for the club to endure. Sod is lifted and replaced on main line

trenches and 2" lateral lines are pulled in leaving very small slits in the turf. Most golfers are surprised at how painless the process is, and feel very excited and proud of the investment in the course.

As you can see, there are a few more decisions that need to be made than there used to be. Once control and coverage are determined, it is important that course representatives spend the time talking to others who have recently installed systems to see how it went. It is also critical to understand what is going to be installed and make sure that it is the best thing for the course long term. A lot of the material specification will be done by the irrigation consultant, but it is important to be involved in the process and make sure there is transparency to all involved.

After all of the above items are discussed, and the irrigation installation is complete, most people will see installing a new irrigation system is not nearly the headache that they thought it would be. There are some big decisions to be made on the front end, and some minor inconvenience during installation, but the end result is an efficient, reliable irrigation system that will continue to improve golf course conditions for years to come. @

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BullSheet



September 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 7 – The 2-Player Scramble celebrating Seven Bridges Golf Club's 25th Anniversary at (this is fairly obvious) Seven Bridges, Don Ferreri and Dave Gelino hosts.

September 13 – Assistant Shop Talk at Wynstone Golf Club in North Barrington, IL, Lucas Palczewski host.

September 19 – 13th Annual Wee One Foundation Golf Outing at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI, Rod Johnson, CGCS host.

September 21 – Feed a Bee Golf Tournament at Cantigny Golf Club, Scott Witte, CGCS host.

September 26 – Midwest Regional Turf Foundation (MRTF) Golf Day at Olympia Fields Country Club in Olympia Fields, IL, Sam Mackenzie, CGCS host.

September 30 – Deadline for applications for the GCSAA/Golf Digest Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards.

October 5 – MAGCS Monthly Meeting at Bartlett Hills Golf Course, Kevin DeRoo host.

October 5-7 – Water Smart Innovations Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

October 20-21 – Green Industry & Equipment Expo (GIE+EXPO) at the Kentucky Exposition center in Louisville, KY. Go to www.gie-expo for info.

Welcome to our new MAGCS members, and thank you for your support!

- Ted Crews, Crews Service Company, Class E
- Ryan McFarlin, CGCS, Wisconsin Turf Support, Class E
- Conrad Pannkuk, Biltmore Country Club, Class C
- Joel Reinhertz, Shoreline Sand Solutions, Class E

Seven Bridges celebrated its 25th Anniversary this month with a scramble event and banquet. Congratulations to **Don Ferreri**, who out-interviewed me for that job and has been there since its



Don Ferreri and Dave Gelino celebrate 25 years of golf at Seven Bridges Golf Club.

inception. There are a couple other big names in the industry celebrating anniversaries as well (none as big as Don, but still some pretty serious players nonetheless), including Harrell's and Jacobsen. On August 1, 1941 Ormond and Lucille Harrell opened their feed store for business in Lakeland, FL. It has since grown into what we know it as today, 75 golden years

later, with 18 locations and 320 employees across the United States. Twenty years earlier, in 1921, Oscar Jacobsen started his namesake company in Racine, Wisconsin by releasing a mower that could cut 4 acres of grass in one day—an unheard of feat at the time. 95 years and countless innovations later we say Happy Anniversary to Jacobsen.

Congratulations to **Trent Bradford** who is the new sales representative in our neck of the woods for Target Specialty Products. Good luck in your new gig Trent!



Congratulations Trent.

There are still a few open spots for the MRTF Golf Day at Olympia Fields CC on the 26th. The format is a 4-person Shamble which is

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always fun, the cause is to promote turfgrass research, and the venue speaks for itself. If you'd like to get in, call Tammy Goodale (who has just an awesome southern drawl) at 765-494-8039.

It was a busy couple of birthin' months for MAGCS members—Bonnie and **Matt Baumgartner** (Nadler Golf) added #3 to the family with the birth of Lydia Bea Baumgartner on the 26th of July, joining 4-year-old Nolan and 2-year-old Charlie as the newest family member;



The Baumgartners will need another cart, making a fivesome with the arrival of Lydia.



Maya welcomes her little sister, Rose Grace Lemanski.

while Candace and **Jay Lemanski** (Sherwood Forest GC) welcomed the 7-lb., 7-oz., 20" long Rose Grace Lemanski into the world on the 25th; and Kate and **Aaron Reinhart** (Fox Valley Park District) added to the brood with 7-lb., 11-oz., 21" long Lucy Eve Reinhart on the 30th. Congratulations to you all!



Lucy Eve and Aaron Reinhart

In case you hadn't heard, Nike is getting out of the golf equipment business. You'll still be able to wear the swoosh on your head, torso, feet and so on; you just won't be able to hit a Nike ball with a Nike club anymore. Which, by most accounts, is a good thing.



bunker. He makes a stroke at the ball and it comes to rest in the same bunker, a great distance from its previous spot. He rakes the area where he played his stroke. What is the ruling? Answer at the end.

Rules of Golf Quiz: In match play, a player's ball lies in a large fairway

Lose a few ash trees to the borers over the last few years? Don't fret it—the latest and most comprehensive census on global forestation estimates that there are slightly more than 3 TRILLION trees on the planet—a figure that dwarfs all previous estimates. Three trillion of anything is a huge number (unless it's dollars and the topic is the national debt).

If you were to pick up your phone right now and call all of your closest colleagues in China and ask them what the greatest new thing to hit the Asian golf scene is, my money is on this Yep—**Mike Bavier's** and Gordon Witteveen's book, *Practical Golf Course Maintenance* is now in Chinese! Get 'em while they last.



So the Olympic Golf thing happened, and it seemed to go pretty smooth. The course looked and played great, and nobody got Zika or was eaten by a capybara to my knowledge. If you've read of the absurd challenges that superintendent Neil Cleverly, architect Gil Hanse and their team endured in getting that piece of land from what it was to what we saw, you'd be amazed that it turned out so well. Cleverly in particular was very candid about the experience, saying a year ago, "In all seriousness, the project is probably going to kill me by the time I'm through with it." Then, on the eve of the competition, "It's been painful, it's been frustrating, it's been immensely aggravating. I've had some challenging projects. This one takes the biscuit. I'm about ready to retire after this. It's three years of my life that I'll never get back. How we got to this day is a minor miracle." Those silly Brits are always sugar coating it—tell us how you REALLY feel, Neil!

As if hosting the 2018 U.S. Open isn't enough on one's plate, Shinnecock Hills Golf Club in Southampton, NY is proposing to eliminate a portion of Tuckahoe Road, which runs through the property, and reroute it around the perimeter of the course. Golfers cross the road six times throughout a round, and club officials argue that the high volume of commuters during normal play times could lead to a tragedy. Regardless of the outcome, superintendent and MAGCS member **Jonathan Jennings** has his plate in front of him, and this may add an extra helping or two to an already full one.



Jon Jennings

Q: Speaking of Jennings, what is it called when he tells a little white lie?

A: A Shinnecock and Bull story.

He may have left Prairie Landing, but he didn't stay idle for long!

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Is Tony Kalina the new head coach of the San Francisco 49ers, Chip Kelly?

John Deere and The First Tee are out to attract girls to golf. Through the next five years, the John Deere Foundation will donate more than \$600,000 to The First Tee, which uses golf to teach core leadership and life skills to children. Deere's support, which runs from 2017 through 2021, will focus on community service and volunteerism, leadership skills for girls and program support of The First Tee activities in select Deere communities. Another example of one of life's simple truths—it takes money to attract girls.

We may have another championship-caliber golf facility in our midst before too long. President Barack Obama's planned presidential library will be built in historic Jackson Park, where plans for a lakefront 18-hole golf course utilizing the Jackson Park and South Shore public links are in the works. The project would also include a par-3 course and learning center, and could debut by 2021 according to journalist Brandi Shaffer of the Chicago Tribune. There is even talk of the course taking aim on being a permanent home to the BMW Championship. Stay tuned.

Bonus Q and A: What does a *Euphorbia supina* do when he spends a buttload (pardon the pun) on his male preventive health and wellness?

A: He goes on a prostate splurge.

And the latest trend in private clubs is? How about "Country Club of Cannabis?" In San Francisco, it will soon be a reality. Harvest, a "posh, upscale" dispensary of medical marijuana, has not only secured permission from the city to allow pot smoking on-site, it will be the first to introduce a private-club component that will give members access to exclusive space and social and educational activities. I'm picturing a room with rich woodwork, high-backed leather chairs, walls with book shelves from floor to ceiling, the occasional game of Whist taking place and porters at the beck and call of the members who are smoking something other than a big stogie. Gives a whole new angle on the phrase "smoke-filled room."

OK, why not?

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

MAGCS members in the News

The August cover of Club & Resort Business magazine featured the CC of Peoria, and the article inside (Refreshing the View at CC of Peoria) had **Andy Morris'** take on the golf course layout and the recent renovation. On Comcast Sports Net, two shows featured the courses of MAGCS members. Golf360 with Jill Carlson had nice segments on **Greg Martin's** work at Oak Meadows in Addison and **Mike Benkusky's** Arlington Lakes renovation. The Golf Scene with Steve Kashul featured **Arne Nordenson** and Chalet Hills as well as Bartlett Hills, where **Kevin DeRoo** got mentioned while assistant pro Paul Galvan hogged all the camera time.

The end of this month marks the deadline for applications for GCSAA and Golf Digest's Environmental Leaders in Golf

Awards (ELGA) in partnership with Rain Bird and Syngenta. If you or someone you know are doing amazing things at your workplace in water conservation, water



quality management, IPM, energy conservation, pollution prevention, waste management, wildlife and habitat conservation, communication and outreach, and/or leadership, why not make it known and apply? You can find the application at www.gcsaa.org/elga.

GCSAA has announced that Paul R. Latshaw, who prepared golf courses for nine major championships over 38 years as a golf course superintendent, mentored countless turf professionals, and elevated the profession through his influence and innovation, will be the recipient of the 2017 Old Tom Morris Award. Mr. Latshaw joins some elite company in Sherwood Moore, Walter Woods and Col. John Morley as the fourth-ever superintendent to win the award.

Cushman announced that for every purchase of a new Hauler utility vehicle, it will donate \$50 to the GCSAA chapter of the purchasing course. Nice.

On a perfect August 29th, **Matt Kregel** and Jeremy Dahl and the Club at Strawberry Creek welcomed us over the border first to the Brat Stop for the mandatory ... stop for the mandatory ... brat, and then to the golf course where some of the best conditions imaginable awaited the competitors in the MAGCS Annual Golf Championship. Even the wind cooperated by taking a day off on the notoriously windy links, and the scores showed it. Congratulations to Tommy Robinson, the MAGCS 2016 Champ and the other winners. Also congratulations and many thanks to Matt and the great people at Strawberry Creek for hosting us. And finally, to our sponsors, we give sincere thanks for their generosity in supporting our association on its big day.

Quiz Answer: There is no penalty per Rule 13-4, Exception 2. @

2016 Midwest Golf Championship Results



Championship Flight	1st Place Tommy Robinson (73)	2nd Place Tim Scott (75)	3rd Place Justin VanLanduit (76)	4th Place Brad Legnaioli
Flight	1st Gross	2nd Gross	1st Net	2nd Net
Superintendent	Dustin Hugen (78)	Dave Radaj (80)	Steve Bychowski (68)	Dave Arden (73)
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My Friend Molly

Chuck Barber, St. Charles Country Club.

“You don’t write because you want to say something. You write because you have something to say.”

- F. Scott Fitzgerald, “The Great Gatsby”

Chuck Barber, MAGCS contributing author, wasn’t sure if On Course was the proper place to publish his article. The article is not about superintending, turf, or golf and that’s where his apprehension lies in sharing it with this audience. After a read, I felt it was the right place – and I think you’ll agree. Without our loved ones and what they are for us, and we for them, especially in the maelstrom of our busy season, may it never be all for naught.

My close friend, Martha “Molly” Woodroffe passed away July 20th nine months after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Molly would have turned 41 on November 11th of this year. Molly’s diagnosis was a rarity according to the American Cancer Society. Nearly ALL diagnoses are made after age 45, two-thirds of diagnoses are those 65 or older and the average age is 71. Molly was unique in life and in death.

I moved to Western Pennsylvania July 4th of 1984. Molly and her sister Louise played on the same softball team as my sister, Stacy. The team played and practiced at our neighborhood school. It didn’t take long before the Woodroffe and Barber families became extensions of each other. Stacy and Molly played soccer together until 1992 when my sister Stacy graduated high school and went on to Harvard. Molly and I were in school together until she graduated in 1993 and went on to Yale that fall.

Molly was an exceptional athlete who played basketball and soccer in high school. She went on to play soccer at Yale. Molly excelled at most athletic and academic efforts to which she turned her attention. Indeed, I played golf from age 11 onward and Molly picked it up when she was 18. Within a few years of learning to play she could come close to beating me. Molly was a competitor and did not like to lose at any-



thing. It didn’t matter to her if I had 7 more years of experience playing golf than her. Those losses stung.

The Harvard versus Yale rivalry provided an opportunity for us to get together during those early college years. Some of my fondest memories are of spending weekends in New Haven for football games with Stacy and Molly. It is my opinion that New Haven is much more fun than Cambridge although my sister always disagreed.

This background is a pretext to explain how I knew Molly Woodroffe. What’s more important for all of us who share special friendships in life is how I came to understand Molly Woodroffe. I came to understand Molly as a brilliant, warm, caring, funny, energetic force of nature.

I explained she excelled at academic endeavors. Molly pursued education through her adult life after graduating from Yale. She earned her Masters from Georgetown then went on to share her love of learning as a teacher at three prep schools in Connecticut, Washington D.C. and New York City.

I explained she was a gifted athlete. A car accident in 1998 left her unable to participate in athletics at the same level she had enjoyed through college. Instead, she began to focus on athletic administration and coaching. Molly became St. Albans School’s (an all-boys prep school in Washington D.C.) first ever female varsity coach when she began coaching their soccer team upon her arrival in 2003. One of her players, Matt Bowman, made his major league pitching debut for the St. Louis Cardinals in April of this year. When Matt found out she was sick he commissioned his teammates on the Cardinals to provide well wishes in a video he made for her to help her in her struggle with cancer. People loved Molly.

I loved Molly. When I was younger I didn’t realize it be-

cause teenagers don't know what that really means. As I got older (not matured) I fully appreciated what she meant to me. Molly was one of the most important things in my life at one of the most important times in my life. I've loved 3 women in my life. Molly was the first. We were always friends. That's as far as that ever went. By the time I woke up to what life and love were really like we had moved on and started our lives. I don't look back through the prism of time and feel regret. Rather, I look back with gratitude that there was someone patient enough to teach me things about being a good person and partner.

We shared milestones and happiness together. Stacy was married in 2002 and Molly and I had a blast in the wedding party together. Molly was a reader at my own wedding when Tina and I were married two years later. My older daughter was born in 2010 and we decided long before if we had a girl we would name her 'Martha' and call her 'Molly' in honor



Two of the Chuck (Tom and Molly) Barbers with Molly Woodroffe.

of my friend. Tina was able to see the difficulty of naming someone one thing and calling them another. We walked out of Hinsdale Hospital with our daughter, Molly Michelle Barber, on Thanksgiving Day of 2010. The kids referred to Molly Woodroffe as 'Other' Molly and loved when she would be around.

I loved Molly. So did everyone else. There was a galaxy of friends, family and loved ones orbiting around her. I can't tell you how many people attended her memorial service at The National Cathedral in Washington D.C. I can tell you that it was awfully crowded and that is a BIG place. Facebook exploded with sadness as well because Molly didn't share her illness with many. Pity wasn't something she was interested in. When her classmates, students and friends from the West Coast learned of her passing they arranged a memorial service in San Francisco for those unable to attend in D.C. How many of us could lay claim to nearly simultaneous, bi-coastal memorial services after our passing? Everyone loved Molly.

I do look back in time and feel regret. This sounds silly now. After she graduated high school Molly told me that we should go to my senior prom together. Those of you that know me won't find it too hard to believe I didn't have a girlfriend in high school. I saw no need to waste the time and

energy on something as silly as the prom. Molly just wanted to go and have fun. It would have been a great time. We could have laughed and danced and made another memory to look back on and smile. I didn't go, we didn't make that memory together and I regret it. It would have been fun. Everything with Molly was always fun.

I regret not visiting her when she was sick. Stacy told me of her diagnosis over the phone in October of 2015. While Stacy was relaying to me her illness, condition and prognosis I was on the computer looking for flights to New York City where she had made her home in 2013. My sister, ever smarter and wiser, told me in no uncertain terms that any mad dash to 'say goodbye to the dying friend' visit would be met unkindly. Again, Molly wanted no pity. I respected Molly's wishes and at one point her partner Blair had to halt all visitors except immediate family because the guest visits were too overwhelming and numerous. I admit it is a selfish regret. As Molly's condition worsened I shared my regret with her older sister, Louise. Louise assuaged my grief only a little when she told me that Molly knew how much I cared for her and that a last goodbye was unneeded. My friend Molly died before I could hug her one last time. I respected her wishes. I regret it.

The last time I saw Molly was in October of 2013 at my father's 70th birthday party (Geneva Golf Club, Ed Brausky, CGCS Host). We had a great time partying with the old folks. We drank a few beers and had a bunch of laughs. She had just moved to New York and was excited about her role at The Spence School as Head of the History Department. I was celebrating my 2nd anniversary at St. Charles Country Club and was excited for the future. None of us know how the future will turn out. Tomorrow is not a guarantee.

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Three Scholars & Someone You Should Know

Fourteen children and grandchildren of MAGCS members applied for the Midwest Scholarships this year. Our three winners were announced this past month and all applications went through the judging process. Applicants are judged on several criteria, including: school & community involvement, quality and completion of the application, GPA, and an essay on a provided topic. This year, our Scholarship Committee asked high-school seniors "How has your family background affected the way you see the world?" and asked those in college, "How has your education contributed to who you are today?"

Madelyn Langell, daughter of Josh Langell, Superintendent at Ridgemoor Country Club won the George F. Minnis III Scholarship*. Madelyn started her college career at the Ohio State University this August where she plans to major in Marketing. Madelyn, in her essay, referred to her parents, "the most important thing they have ever taught me is acceptance. From day one, my parents have always stressed that being different is okay."



Our John Buck Scholar is Taylor Esgar, daughter of Ed Esgar, Superintendent of Ruffled Feathers Golf Club. Taylor attends the University of Findlay where she is studying Environmental Safety and Occupational Health Management to one day oversee worker safety programs. She credits many different teachers that she has encountered along the way that, "allowed me to feel comfortable in academic setting and gave me a strong desire to ask questions and become immersed in my education."



Our third Scholar is Patrick Snell, son of Tim Snell, our Territory Sales

Manager for Jacobsen / Textron. Patrick currently attends the Kelly School of Business at Indiana University in Bloomington. In his essay, Patrick relayed the importance of getting out of your comfort zone and learning from the challenge these situations can present. "Not every class you take in college is something that you're naturally interested in, and that is a good thing....It's easier for us to apply ourselves to the subjects that we enjoy and when we take a positive attitude to something new, that we really grow as a student and as a person."



Congratulations to all our MAGCS Scholars and thank you to all those who applied. We extend our well wishes for a safe and prosperous academic year.

*George F. Minnis III was the Midwest's Executive Secretary from 1995 until 2003 when he died from cancer, a cancer he fought for the same time span, that most did not know about until his passing. Kevin DeRoo (MAGCS President at the time) wrote, "'Facing adversity can build character, but dealing with adversity will build strength.' If that is true, then there is no stronger man than I know than George....Over the years, he has been through a regime of chemotherapy, radiation and any other new experimental drug that happened to surface.....Through all of this, he never passed off his responsibilities or failed to meet the needs of our membership." George was incredibly organized and responsible for bringing the Association into the computer age. But far beyond his commitment to the Midwest, was his kind and unselfish demeanor who he shared with all. After his death, the board named one of our scholarships after George in order to honor him and his commitment to the members of the Midwest.



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