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Our business is high-tech and an evolving science. Thanks go out to Dr. Randy Kane, Paul Vermuelen, the staff in Champaign and all the industry turf doctors who guide us. Where we would be without their counsel and their research? Our relations have never been better with affiliated organizations such as the CDGA. Their new Midwest Golf House is scheduled to open in the spring; what an opportunity for our Association to be a part of it. Our partnership with the ITF has never been as good. When you are picking up your badge at the NCTE, remember to thank someone for bringing the trade show and all the education to our doorstep.

I would be remiss not to mention the GCSAA. Talk about a growing group! The number of services they provide is mind-boggling and in my opinion, at a serious discount. They have provided valuable leadership to our chapter and we're fortunate to have a voice on their board from our own backyard. I don't know if many could have forecasted the programs, issues and agendas GCSAA has taken on in the past several years.

I've got my own list of people to personally thank. To all of the Board members I have served with—the Board meetings are something I look forward to. An admitted break away from the daily routine at times, it has been an edu-

cation to see things through others' eyes and hear insights beyond what I could perceive myself. Knowing my day was coming (maybe I was just finally starting to pay attention), has helped me recognize the effort required to fill this new responsibility. Thanks, in particular, to Bob and Don for being such excellent examples to me. I appreciate that and look forward to Don's continued input in the year ahead. Thanks also to Greg Thalmann, who is stepping down after several years on the board. The soon-to-be-realized MAGCS scholarship was a product of his efforts.

A big thank you to my assistants, Bryan Widmer and Damon Soderberg, and the entire staff at Bryn Mawr for keeping my head above water. Our membership praises their efforts and supports me in serving our Association. Thank you to the many mentors I have had: Dennis Buck, Pete Wilson, Scott Azinger, Mike Sauls, Tom Brodeur, John Ebel and Danny Quast. They all trusted me with responsibilities way before I believed I was ready. They were never too busy to answer questions, provide insight or recognize my efforts. To my best friend in the business, Kerry Blatteau, for helping me secure my first job after school, urging me to run for the Board several years ago and for routinely humbling me on the golf course.

I grew up in the small town of Dwight, Illinois, and after an unpredictable weekend at the state golf tournament, the village welcomed home a young group of champions as if they had just won the war. The members at the local country club (DCC) treated the junior golfer as an equal. They let me experience the great game of golf and nearly a dozen "Dwightites" from my generation are now in the business. A humbling golf season as a freshman in college confirmed that making a living with a soil probe, rather than a sand wedge, would probably be best for me.

Thank you to my parents for supporting me my whole life. They motored me from Quincy to Chicago as a junior player, well before I was even remotely average. I was excused from farming duties, and left to spend my days working and playing at DCC. To my wife Pam and daughter Bailey, who keep life in perspective and quite frankly, make things like *Poa annua* and green committees seem pretty insignificant. Everyday, I look forward to walking in the door at home. The good Lord has blessed me and I hope I can fulfill this new responsibility in a way that pleases Him. Happy holidays to you and your families! May the Spirit of the season be with you, not just now, but throughout the entire year.



Leave a Legacy: Consider a Conservation Easement for Your Golf Course (continued from page 10)

which made it a desirable candidate for an easement. Today, roughly 180 acres of the course are protected by an easement.

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John Gurke, CGCS, Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 9 — MAGCS Holiday Dinner Dance at Bartlett Hills Golf Course, **Kevin and Cheryl DeRoo**, hosts.

December 11 — Annual West Side Holiday Party at Dave & Buster's, noon to 3 p.m.

January 1, 2001— The beginning of MAGCS' 75th Anniversary. (December 24, 1926 was our founding day.)

January 17-18 — GCSAA's "Managing On The Job Behavior" seminar (1.4 CEUs) in Oak Brook, IL.

January 17-19 — Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show at Navy Pier, Chicago, IL.

January 22 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Poplar Creek Country Club, **Luke Strojny**, CGCS host.

February 14-15 — MAGCS Hospitality Suite at Adam's Mark Hotel, 6 to 10 p.m. in Dallas, Texas during the GCSAA International Conference and Show.

The ITF Golf Day at Gleneagles —**Keith Fuchs** host—was a well-attended success. The course played tough and tight, and had many wondering where the other half of the fairways went. Results were as follows: Low gross—**Mike Doyle** with a 72. Low net—**Bill Davis** (Tyler Enterprises) with a 59. Senior

low gross—**Kerry Blatteau**, CGCS (Oak Brook Hills GC) with an 84. Senior low net—**Roger Johnson** (Johnson and Associates) with a 66. The Dom Grotti Award for low superintendent/assistant combined score went to **Scott Klingberg** and **Ronnie Newman** (Spartan Meadows G.C.) with a net 141. Congratulations to all, and a big thank you to Keith Fuchs and his staff for hosting this event, which raised over \$14,000 for ITF and turfgrass research.



President Don Ferreri presents our host, Keith Fuchs, with some office wall décor.



Dom Grotti Award winners Scott Klingberg and Ronnie Newman pose with the big prize.

Sadly, a past MAGCS president has left us—**Joseph Grenko**, who took the gavel from Carl Hopphan in November of 1977 to serve as our president in 1978 (Marriott's Lincolnshire Resort) recently passed away. MAGCS sends its condolences to the friends and family of Joe Grenko.



A big pat on the back goes out to the three MAGCS members who actually CHOSE to run in the Chicago Marathon on October 22. **Scott Adams** of Lesco, **Jon Jennings**, CGCS of Chicago Golf Club and **John Leibold** of Leibold Irrigation, Inc. are the energetic souls who ran the 26.2-mile course on that beautiful Sunday morning. Jennings tore to a 3:20:01 time, followed by Leibold at 3:59:51, with Adams on his heels with a time of 4:01:04. Sounds like a great time—where do I sign up?



Congrats to **Mike Mumper** of Park Ridge C.C. and **Brian Bossert**, CGCS of Bryn Mawr C.C. on their recent acceptance into the GCSAA's Chapter Leadership Institute. The program is

(continued on page 28)

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designed to develop leadership skills for present and future GCSAA chapter members, and involves monthly assignments to achieve this goal. Good luck to you both from MAGCS.

Kudos to **Dave Blomquist, CGCS** of Naperville C.C. for the very fine Chicagoland Forum he presented on November 2. For those who know little about the CAGCS, it is a superintendent-only/education-only organization that thrives on the idea of the free sharing of superintendents' ideas and experiences. The Annual Forum is the culmination of the year's hot topics, with presentations by educators, superintendents and other related experts. This year's topical program included excellent presentations by Dr. Frank Rossi of Cornell University on moss control and eradication; a round-table discussion on compensation issues with the "three-headed monster" (superintendent, manager and golf professional); two superintendents' (**Jeff Leuzinger** of Glen View Club and **Don Cross, CGCS** of Skokie C.C.) successes and failures with restoration projects; a look into the future of the Chicago Golf Club as told by new superintendent Jon Jennings, CGCS; a round-table discussion on union issues with attorney Brian Arbetter and superintendents **Dave Radaj** of Green Acres C.C. and **Tom Brodeur** of Crystal Tree G.C.; and a GCSAA update by **Bob Maibusch, CGCS** of Hinsdale G.C., among others. Great job to everyone at CAGCS for a fine Forum!

MAGCS sends its condolences to **Tim Anderson** of Prestwick C.C. and his family on the loss of Tim's father last month.

MAGCS Supes in the Spotlight: **Ken Lapp** of Cog Hill C.C. was a popular man in the press this November—his "half now, half later" greens aerification program was featured in both *Golfdom* AND *Golf Course Management*. **Dan Dinelli, CGCS** at North Shore C.C. was featured with his two (don't call them pets—they're companions) red-tailed hawks Eyas and Merlyn in an October issue of *Sports Illustrated* magazine. Among all the other irons Dan has in the fire, he is the only licensed breeder of red-tailed hawks in the U.S. Finally, **Gregg Rosenthal, CGCS** at Kemper Lakes G.C. was featured in *Golfdom's* Hole of the Month in its October issue. Photos of Gregg and his par-5 11th hole grace pages 22-23. Congratulations, men.

From the MAGCS Web site . . . Salesperson wanted: **Mike O'Neill** of Masters of the Links/Burdett's is looking for a salesperson to work in the Chicago area. Turf experience is a plus, but not necessary. Confidential inquiries can be addressed by calling Mike at 630-545-2474. Wonder if **Jim Burdett** has become bored with retirement yet . . .

Also off the Web: The Golf Industry Ice Hockey Tournament is scheduled for January 23-24 in Ontario, Canada. MAGCS has sent a team in the past, and will do so again (we just couldn't listen to their warning to "Get out and stay out"). Hockey players of all skill (or unskill) levels are welcome, as are any folks interested in a great time while helping the team. Positions available are trainer, assistant trainer, second assistant trainer, team doctor (Kevin DeRoo is playing), team psychologist (Dave Blomquist is coaching, so this position will be desperately needed), skate tightener, stick taper, blade shiner,

beverage opener and mascot. Contact Erwin McKone at River Forest C.C. at 630-782-4259 or at home (preferably late) at 630-782-4266 for details. Don't miss it!

Assistant superintendent's position wanted: **Christopher Blake**, fresh off a two-year internship at Merit Club under **Oscar Miles, CGCS** is seeking a position as assistant golf course superintendent. Chris has 13 years' experience in the turf industry, is a Penn State certificate-holder and is available immediately. Interested parties contact Chris at 847-543-0626 or via e-mail at psuturf6@hotmail.com.

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50 years ago this month in MAGCS: Ray Gerber of Glen Oak C.C. and **Bob Williams** of Beverly C.C. applied Chlordane to fairways and greens to control earthworms. Rates of 10 lbs. Chlordane per acre successfully put an end to worm casts within a week of application (this was the top story in the December, 1950 *Bull Sheet*).

40 years ago this month in MAGCS: Lansing, MI city forester—Theodore Haskell—began using zinc chloride to control Dutch Elm Disease. Two methods were used: Pounding zinc-treated (galvanized) nails into the trunks on 2" centers at breast height; and drilling 1/2" holes at a downward angle around the trunk at breast height on 2" centers and filling them with zinc chloride, followed by stopping the holes with 1/2" dowels.

30 years ago this month in MAGCS: President Dick Trevarthan passed the gavel to Joe Canale at the 18th Annual Turf Clinic. Also, W.A. Cleary announced they were anticipating U.S. Department of Agriculture registration on their new, exciting fungicide, CLEARY'S 3336.

20 years ago this month in MAGCS: President Lenny Berg had no idea he'd be driving the Lesco truck one day (nor how difficult it is to get to some of the maintenance facilities with that behemoth). C-15 decline had ravaged golf courses throughout Chicagoland, with the most publicized case hitting Butler National before the Western Open. Ed Stewart at River Forest C.C. had a new Toro

automatic irrigation system approved (and he reported 44,000 rounds for 1980—things really don't change that much, do they?).

10 years ago this month in MAGCS: *Bull Sheet* reported that the 1990 College Championship winners were—take a guess—Kerry Blatteau, a very brown-haired Brian Bossert, a very BIG-haired **Bob Rigney** and Mike Raymond of Danville Community College. Nope, things just don't change (with the exception of the format for the college tournament, but that's another issue . . .).

Hey, MAGCS members! Anything interesting going on at your course? Anything off the

beaten track that you'd like to share with your colleagues? New additions to the family? Cool vacations? Whereabouts of ex-members? Everything is news, so send us your photos, stories and updates. *Bull Sheet* strives to keep up with the goings-on of the MAGCS membership, and needs your help in doing so. Send any submissions via e-mail to booming@aol.com or to on_course@hotmail.com, or via snail-mail to John Gurke, 1218 Ridgeway, Aurora, IL 60506. Faxes work, too—send them to John Gurke at 630-892-7447, or to Cathy Ralston at 847-537-7883. Any photos sent will be returned (and digital photos are accepted). Get involved!

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The 48th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic, Revisited

As has become tradition, Medinah Country Club was the host of the 48th Midwest Turf Clinic. Registration numbered over 175 members in attendance. With a strong program in place, none were disappointed.

The MAGCS Annual Meeting kicked off the day, including all of the committee reports with President Ferreri presiding. Following adjournment of the business portion of the meeting, Cathy Ralston, editor of *On Course*, presented the Ray Gerber Editorial Award. This year's recipient was Dave Braasch, superintendent at Hughes Creek



Dave Braasch of Hughes Creek G.C. won the 2000 Ray Gerber Editorial Award for his article, "Be A Lifesaver! Basic Medical Procedures You Should Know."

Golf Course. Dave's winning article, "Be a Lifesaver! Basic Medical Procedures You Should Know," came from the June 2000 issue.

Fred Yelverton, Ph.D., N.C. State, was the first speaker to take

the podium. Dr. Yelverton discussed his research on *Poa annua* reduction on golf course putting greens. This topic is timeless and new technology has yet to make a significant impact. Dr. Yelverton is available for questions via e-mail at Fred_Yelverton@ncsu.edu.

A roundtable discussion was the format used to pose questions to the Midwest's new superintendents. Panelists were Jon Jennings, CGCS, Shane Kissack, Alan Perkinson and Keith Peterson. For each, this was his first season in his present position. They all discussed the challenges and unique situations encountered in their first year at a new facility.

Oscar Miles, CGCS brought the morning session to a close with his presentation of "Inside the

Ropes," related to conducting the 55th U.S. Women's Open Championship at Merit Club. Oscar explained the procedures needed to run a major tournament at your golf course. In typical Oscar fashion, he was very animated and spoke his mind freely. It was truly a learning experience.

The afternoon session was divided among two exceptional speakers. Steve Mona, CEO, GCSAA, delivered a very informative "state of the association." He included all aspects of the GCSAA, past, present and future. Following his presentation, he entertained questions regarding our national association. There should be no question as to the position of the GCSAA on any topic we currently face. All expenses for Mr. Mona were paid for by the GCSAA.



New superintendents (L to R) Alan Perkinson of Broken Arrow G.C., Keith Peterson of Calumet C.C., Shane Kissack of Riverside C.C., and Jon Jennings, CGCS of Chicago G.C. share their first-year experiences with Dave Gelino of Seven Bridges G.C. moderating.

Photos by Derek Florian of Prairie Landing G.C.