

TURFCAT® 600 SERIES



THE VERSATILE MOWERS THAT NEVER SAY, "QUIT"

The new Jacobsen Turfcats 600 out-front rotary mowers are built to tackle almost any task. From golf course roughs to heavily landscaped corporate grounds, Turfcats are up to the challenge.

With maneuverability to spare and plenty of traction, Turfcats weave in and out of landscaping, up and down hills, and around obstacles. Hydrostatic power steering, a compact turning radius and optional traction-assist turning brakes make mowing even tight spots easy. The new Turfcats maintain sure-footed traction with continual weight transfer from accessory to tractor. Available 4WD takes the challenge out of undulating terrain.



www.itcsp.textron.com
ASJA-TC-0599 © 1999 Textron Turf Care And Specialty Products.
All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.





2001 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Brian Bossert, Bryn Mawr C.C.
Home: 847-492-1138, Office: 847-677-4112
E-mail: briancgcs@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Luke Strojny, Poplar Creek G.C.
Home: 630-830-7370, Office: 847-310-3618
E-mail: lukes2@juno.com

SECRETARY / TREASURER

Kevin DeRoo, Bartlett Hills G.C.
Home: 847-697-0595, Office: 630-483-4991
E-mail: kdoo@juno.com

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

George Minnis
MAGCS P.O. Box 760, Batavia, IL 60510
Office: 630-406-5356, Fax: 630-406-5456
E-mail: geo@magcs.org

BOARD

Tim Anderson, Prestwick C.C.
Home: 630-718-9601, Office: 815-469-5903
E-mail: tjanderso@aol.com

Fred Behnke, Mount Prospect G.C.
Home: 773-774-1486, Office: 847-632-9331
E-mail: fbehnke@juno.com

John Gurke, Aurora C.C.
Home: 630-801-0786, Office: 630-892-3600
E-mail: Boomding@aol.com

Gary Hearn, Salt Creek G.C.
Home: 630-350-2634, Office: 630-773-4790

Michael Mumper, Park Ridge C.C.
Home: 773-248-8683, Office: 847-823-8682
E-mail: mumps55@aol.com

Phil Zeinert, Kishwaukee C.C.
Home: 815-748-5730, Office: 815-758-5273
E-mail: PHILatKCC@aol.com

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Donald Ferreri, Seven Bridges G.C.
Home: 630-357-7964, Office: 630-852-1746
E-mail: dsferreri@cs.com

COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVE

Paul Yerkes, LESCO Inc.
Office: 630-904-5255
E-mail: sls133@lesco.com

TURFGRASS ADVISOR

Dr. Randy T. Kane
University of Illinois & CDGA
630-257-2005

EDITOR

Cathy Miles Ralston
68 S. Waterford Drive
Round Lake, IL 60073
Phone & Fax: 847-740-0962
E-mail: on_course@hotmail.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

John Gurke
E-mail: Boomding@aol.com

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Mark Karczewski

This publication is not copyrighted. We would like to share our articles with any who would like to use them, but please give the author and *On Course* credit.

FRONT COVER

Medinah Country Club's hole no. 12 is a 471-yard par 4.
(Photo by Jim Trzinski/Compliments of Waupaca Sand & Solutions)

2 ON COURSE WITH THE PRESIDENT

Home Hole

Brian Bossert

5 DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

The Good Samaritan

Don Ferreri

8 ASK THE "EXPERT":

"Soul Food": Voykin's Russian Borscht

Paul Voykin

11 SUPER -N- SITE:

Thomas Lively -N- Medinah Country Club

Bob McCallum

14 75TH ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE:

The Nineties: Golf's Boom Parallels America's Prosperity

Jon Jennings

25 COMMENTARY

A Thanksgiving Reflection: Profound Gratitude

Dan Murray

26 THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke

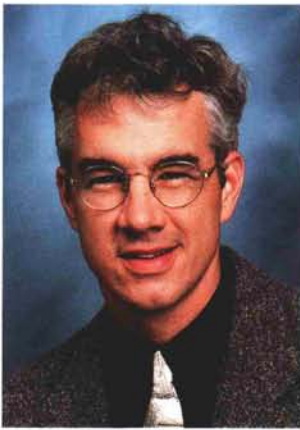
31 MIDWEST VOICES

32 THE WAY WE WERE

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS), founded December 24, 1926, is a professional organization whose goals include preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge pertaining to golf turf maintenance.

We endeavor to increase efficiency and economic performance while improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige of the members.

The MAGCS member is also an environmental steward. We strive to uphold and enhance our surroundings by promoting flora and fauna in every facet in a manner that is beneficial to the general public now and in the future.



Home Hole

Last message. Putting these together for the past 12 months has helped me identify a few things about myself.

- 1. I do not like working up against a deadline and find it downright painful when I feel like I'm holding someone up (like our poor editor).*
 - 2. I enjoy writing about people and life and family and faith. I am a whole lot less passionate about writing about my occupation.*
 - 3. I like expressing myself in print. I feel as though this might lead to doing more of it.*
- Thanks.*

... how do we improve our level of service in the future? I'm not entirely sure, but it starts with moving ourselves into the Midwest Golf House. We need at least a part-time physical presence there so that we can begin to forge and improve relationships with the other allied golf organizations that call the Golf House home.

Last November at Medinah, Pete Leuzinger pulled me aside and offered his ear if leading our organization ever made for a trying day. Specifically, he said to call if the complaints ever got to be too much. I can say that the complaints were very few and I hope that means that most of the members enjoy our Association and feel there is good value in being a Midwest member. The Board is to be congratulated; it is at times trying when one is balancing a life, trying to keep a golf course alive and attending to Midwest affairs. These duties can require more time than is available.

For all the things that went well and that we did accomplish this year, a few visions and goals didn't get far from the drawing board. It's not my nature to dwell on all that went right. Without being specific about where the details fell through the cracks, how do we improve our level of service in the future? I'm not entirely sure, but it starts with moving ourselves into the Midwest Golf House. We need at least a part-time physical presence there so that we can begin to forge and improve relationships with the other allied golf organizations that call the Golf House home. Those in the golfing community that frequent the Golf House need to see us there. We've acted prudently and slowly to date and this move may not be without a few growing pains. However, our current executive secretary, George Minnis, does a great job for us and will help make our transition as smooth as possible. We are still examining our vision for that position in the future, but the time to grow our Association with a new address is now.

Another step forward will involve improving the Board's management of their respective committees. In some cases, the Board member **IS** the committee, and we need more members to participate. The more people sharing the workload, the more that gets done and the easier it

(continued on page 30)

Unearth the Treasures at Mid-Am



**January
16-18, 2002**

**Navy Pier
Chicago**

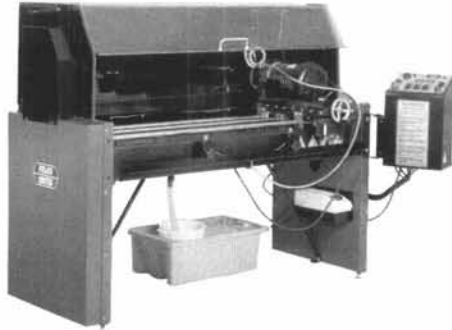
**It's all here waiting
to be discovered.**

**Equipment
Services
Plants
Tools
Education
Information
Advice
Student Career Center**

SPONSORED BY:
Illinois Landscape Contractors Association
Illinois Nurserymen's Association
Wisconsin Landscape Federation



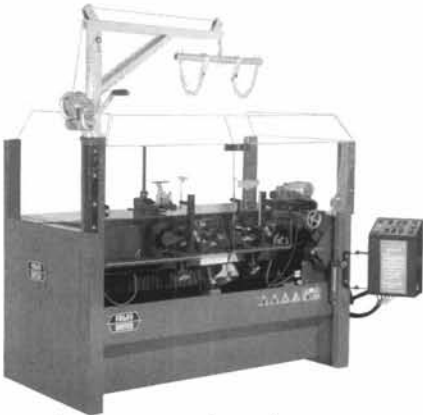
Accu-Pro Grinders



Bedknife Grinder- magnetic bed bar system for the straightest, most accurate grind possible.

630-773-5555
FAX 630-773-4273

Spin Relief Grinder - automatic indexing and a patent pending relief grinding mechanism provide dependable, accurate and fast unattended grind cycles.



Chicago Turf & Irrigation Inc.

1170 W. Ardmore • Itasca, Illinois 60143



Reelmaster® 6500-D/6700-D

The first truly mid-sized mowers for perfect fairways. With abundant power to superbly cut even the toughest, thickest turf.

708-773-5555
FAX 708-773-4273



Chicago Turf & Irrigation Inc.

1170 W. Ardmore • Itasca, Illinois 60143



The Good Samaritan

We speak often of being a Good Samaritan, but what defines this terminology? It is a widely used phrase that covers a broad category of acts that often occur in an instant. Laws have been passed to protect the Good Samaritan. The intent of these laws is to assure that someone who voluntarily undertakes to help an injured or suddenly ill person at the scene is not liable with any fault or legal responsibility for errors or omissions in the care rendered.

... I am not comparing what we do in our industry to those who risk their lives to rescue others. They are true heroes. But while we preserve the environment, bring enjoyment to our guests and members, and volunteer with the many activities that we are involved in, we also make a difference.

In the wake of a national crisis, it is with a heavy heart I write this column. How could an individual ever be held liable for coming to the aid of a person in need! I believe and hope this all changed on September 11, 2001, when we saw firsthand what true evil can accomplish. We witnessed more than 400 men and women rush to the aid of fellow Americans they had never met. Some trained in such capacity, some not. Good Samaritans with families, future and promise. Without regard for their own personal safety, they paid the ultimate price. This image has left a gaping hole in the fabric of our society. The truly amazing thing about Good Samaritans is that given the chance, they would do it again. This time, with more determination to make a difference than the first time. There is a passion that burns deep in the belly of an individual to perform this way.

When Tod Hopphan died suddenly last summer, we were all given a wake-up call as to how precious life is. We tried to prioritize our own existence and hopefully become better children of God, family members and employees. But as time passes, we forget these lessons and begin to take many of life's blessings for granted; this, unfortunately, is human nature.

The difference between Monday and Tuesday that week in September is really the silver lining in this tragedy. On Monday, people went to work as usual at the World Trade Center . . . on Tuesday, many walked in the door for the last time. On Monday, people fought against praying in schools . . . on Tuesday, you would have been hard-pressed to find a school where someone was not praying. On Monday, people argued with their kids about picking up their room . . . on Tuesday, those people could not get home fast enough to hug their kids. On Monday, people were trying to separate each other by race, sex, color or creed . . . on Tuesday, they were holding hands. On Monday, we hailed entertainers and athletes as heroes . . . on Tuesday, we learned the true meaning of what hero

(continued on page 6)

meant, what it is to be a Good Samaritan. I for one am looking at every sunrise a little different since September 11. I hope and pray that will continue forever.

I would like to think that all people are potential Good Samaritans, but I know this is far from the truth. I would, however, like to commend one small community known as the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. We openly share our time and talent with anyone in need, continually rising to meet the challenge of people in need. I feel blessed to stand side by side with some of the kindest individuals I have ever met. There is a constant sincerity in the way we greet each other. The promises we make are kept and exceeded in many instances. In a world where we are all too busy, we manage to

find time for the important issues of our lives. During the past 75 years, we have not become a strong association by accident. This has occurred because of a willingness to do our best and improvise accordingly, if needed, to succeed. I believe that in many respects we embody the qualities of the Good Samaritan; there is not a person in our Association that does not do what he or she is asked to do, and many who do so much more. We need to pride ourselves in that knowledge and make a positive contribution when opportunity presents itself. That is my interpretation of being a Good Samaritan.

Make no mistake about it, I am not comparing what we do in our industry to those who risk their lives to rescue others. They are true heroes. But while we pre-

serve the environment, bring enjoyment to our guests and members, and volunteer with the many activities that we are involved in, we also make a difference.

As eight years of article- and column-writing come to a close, I would like to thank all of you. It has been an honor working with fellow Board members and committee members. I also thank the membership of MAGCS for their continued support throughout the years. I also encourage all of you to stay involved, give what you can and carry on a wonderful tradition of caring. God bless and have a wonderful holiday season.



NEW LOGO



NEW TEAM



The logo may have changed but Andersons and Reinders commitment to quality products and unmatched service has not.

CONCORDE DF (Chlorothalonil)
\$165/case

Buy a case and Reinders will donate \$5.00 per case to the Illinois Turf Foundation (ITF).

TURF PRODUCT SPECIALISTS
Scott Adams • 630-632-8468
Bruce Schweiger • 608-206-3500



Solutions & Supplies for the Green Industry
www.reinders.com



"The Water Quality Company"

Testing • Evaluation • Treatment



Exclusive Distributor of the Prime Turf Series 900 Injection Station

For All Your Water Quality Needs Call:

14200 S. Parker Road • Lockport, IL 60441
(800) 677-8097 • Fax: (708) 301-3351

Quality Energy Products Since 1928



- Diesel Fuels
- Gasolines
- Pumps
- Heating Oils
- Auto Trans Fluid
- Greases
- Engine Oils
- Hydraulic Oils
- Gear Oils
- Tank Installation



27310 W CASE RD
WAUCONDA, IL
(848)526-0007

6730 SOUTH STREET
TINLEY PARK, IL
(708)532-4723



any more advanced and it would be a government secret.

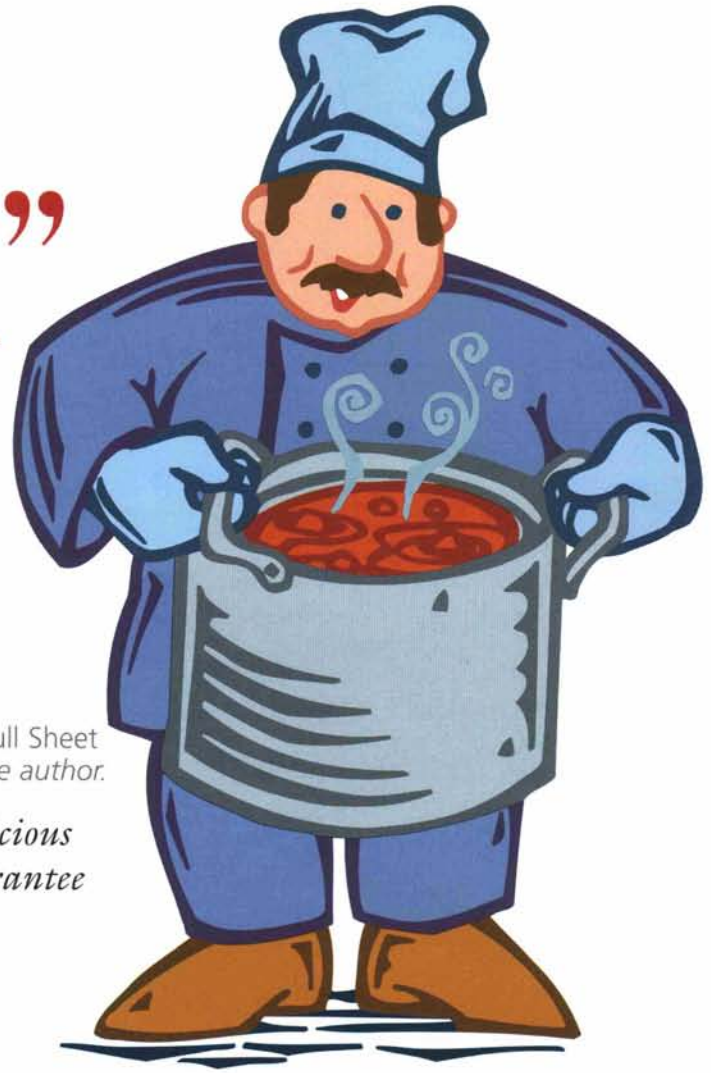
Lebanon Turf Product's exclusive Composite Technology™ Country Club® and IsoTek³¹® fertilizers offer you the best in controlled release nitrogen. Composite Technology delivers better particle dispersion, better particle integrity and the highest nitrogen activity of any homogeneous fertilizer made. For more information on IsoTek³¹ or Composite Technology Country Club contact your local Lebanon Distributor or call 1-800-233-0628.

**COMPOSITE
TECHNOLOGY**



"Soul Food"

Voykin's Russian Borscht



Editor's Note: A version of this article appeared in the Bull Sheet many years ago. We reprint here with the blessing of the author.

As golfing season winds down, I present a delicious soup recipe, a famous Russian one that I guarantee will stick to your soul.

The recipe is secret and has been handed down from Voykin to Voykin for hundreds of years. It was given to me and my healthy brothers by my dear mother just before we left Canada, where her borscht was famed far and wide for feeding not only a big Russian family, but a wandering Romanov or two.

Reading "special occasion" recipes makes me laugh, especially those by celebrities and famous chefs, who do their conjurings with meats and vegetables for our very commercialized holidays. These recipes are frustrating and expensive to prepare; another example of the "keeping up with the Joneses" syndrome. But now, dear friends, your worries are over. From now on, instead of keeping up with the Joneses, you'll just have to keep up with the Voykins. And that, I assure you, will be easy and inexpensive because we enjoy Russian borscht for all the important holidays, and also in between. Frankly, our Russian borscht is a soup for all seasons.

A little-known but true fact is that Russian borscht is a delicious and powerful aphrodisiac. Coin-

identally, it is also a well-known fact that Russian families never number less than five children. And so it is with the interests of the many love-starved and hungry greenkeepers in my heart that I pass on my recipe for Romantic Russian Borscht. And I do this at the end of the golfing season because I feel strongly that Midwest wives would welcome a little tender recreation.

However, before I relate this recipe, I must clear up what I regard as a serious misconception throughout the Western world. My recipe is for Russian borscht, which is made with a basic ingredient of sweet cabbage with pieces of meat, and not for Ukrainian borscht, containing red beets in a broth. You can perhaps understand my amazement and frustration in New York one January at the Russian Tea Room, the gathering place for many years for Manhattan's elite in the arts. Unfortunately, what the Tea Room called Russian borscht was actually Ukrainian borscht. This "goulash" mixture of beets and cabbage

topped with sour cream is a good soup, but not a great one. Except for this major mistake, the other food in this famous restaurant was authentic Russian. (If you ever go there, be sure to order their cream of chicken soup, called Roszolnick, made with chicken giblets, potatoes and numerous vegetables.)

Okay, here's the recipe.

Ingredients


6 quarts water
4 pounds lean beef short ribs
1 teaspoon salt
1 medium cabbage, coarsely chopped
1 large green pepper, seeded and chopped
1 bunch green onions, sliced
6 medium potatoes, diced
2 cloves garlic, crushed
1 stick butter
2 large cans stewed tomatoes
black pepper to taste
2 teaspoons fresh dill or dried dill weed

In a large stock pot, bring the water to a boil and add the short ribs. When water returns to a boil, add salt, reduce heat to a simmer. Cover and allow to simmer for 1-1/2 hours, or until meat is tender and falling off the bone. Skim off fat from the surface.

In a large skillet, melt the butter. Add the chopped cabbage, green pepper, onions, potatoes, garlic and canned tomatoes. Saute to coat the vegetables with butter, and allow the cabbage to become translucent, about 20-30 minutes. Do not overcook, as the potatoes will become mushy. Add to meat and broth. Adjust with salt to taste, add black pepper and dill weed.

The mixture should be thick, but water may be added if desired. Crushed red pepper may be added if a spicier soup is desired.

Now bring out your borscht bowls (any large deep bowls will do), ladle a generous portion in each, and start to eat with Russian rye, black or pumpernickel bread. Then, for an ecstasy shot, put that chilled bottle of Stoli vodka on the table. Open it and pour down a shot, and immediately lift yourself right into the borscht ethos. In this manner, you are ready for the most elite and sumptuous meal you will ever taste. Hopefully, after enjoying this super soup – Russian borscht – a romantic evening will follow.

For an added bonus, put any leftover borscht in the refrigerator. To reheat, place in saucepan and simmer until heated through. Never, never reboil leftover borscht. I find borscht tastes even better the second day after flavors have a chance to settle. 

Have You Got The Low Mow Blues?

Arthur Clesen, Inc. has a special
blend of Kentucky Bluegrass
for 1/2" mowing height.



Low Mow Blues is now available



543 Diens Dr.
Wheeling, IL 60090
ph: 847-537-2177
fax: 847-537-2210



ARTHUR CLESEN INC.

www.aclesen.com

8050 W. 186th St.
Tinley Park, IL 60477
ph: 708-444-2177
fax: 708-444-2199



MINI-EXCAVATORS

Kubota



**Kubota mini-excavators
available in 5 sizes to fit your job.**



16400 S. 104th Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60467
(708) 349-8430



2040 Lehigh Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025

Telephone 847.724.8660
Fax 847.724.8659

- * Irrigation & Pump Station Design
- * Irrigation Installation
- * Drainage Systems
- * Pump Station Installation
- * Irrigation Pipe & Supplies
- * Pond Aerators

Simplot

PARTNERS



Timing is Everything



**Introducing New
PolarKote™ Fungicide**

- Puts the Freeze on Gray and Pink Snow Mold
- Easy to Use
- Will Be Delivered When You Need It

Contact Simplot Partners:

John Lebedevs - 630.514.8745
Tim Keating - 630.514.8997
Brian Baker - 630.514.8744
Eric Foerster - 630.514.8750
Cubby O'Brien - 630.514.8754
John Meyer - 630.514.8748

© 2001 J.R. Simplot Company. All rights reserved.