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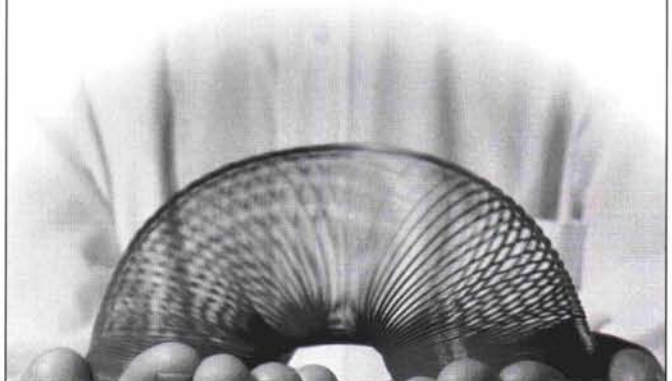
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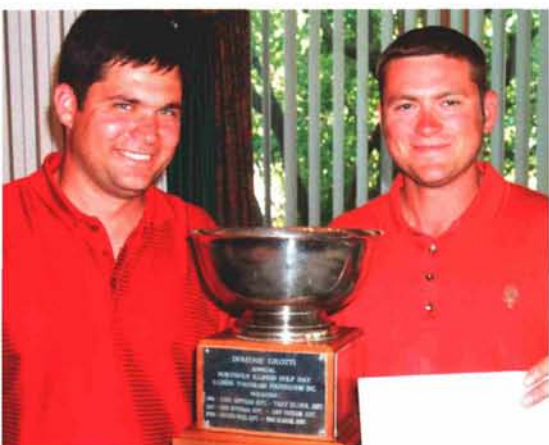


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June Golf Meeting: Picture-Perfect Prestwick Dazzles

Our June meeting was held on a picture-perfect day at a picture-perfect golf course. Tim Anderson, CGCS and the staff at Prestwick Country Club provided those in attendance with a truly magnificent golf experience. Greens were quick and true, fairways were firm and basically most superintendents who played went home with a big "to-do" list based on the depressingly-awesome condition of the golf course.



2003 Dom Grotti Award winners
Dan Marco and Nick Baker
(who also won like every
raffle possible).

Of course, the day could not have been what it was without the generous help of our sponsors (Nadler Golf Car Sales, TPEC, Palatine Oil, Golf Creations, Illinois Lawn, Lemont Paving, John Deere/Hunter Golf, Commercial Turf and Tractor and Simplot Partners). The event featured the Dom Grotti Award for the best superintendent/assistant team, and this year's winning team was Ruth Lake Country Club's **Dan Marco, CGCS** and **Nick Baker**, who eked out the victory over Itasca Country Club's **Scott Speiden** and **Tom Horwath**. Other winners for events such as shortest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt, etc. were as follows: **Bill Davis, Ken Eichler, Shane Kissack, Ed Fischer, Jim Mzhickteno, Dave Behrman** (who, as it turns out, wasn't even there, so Dan Marco took that prize, too), **Dave Holler, Tom Healy, Dave Kohley, Larry Tomaszewski, Brian Mores** and **Scott Klingberg**.

The education portion featured **Paul Vermeulen** of the USGA offering up a pictorial recap of the U.S. Open, which was very eye-opening and featured shots of the many MAGCS members who volunteered their time and expertise to the cause. Much discussion of the perceived easiness of the course took place, and Paul summed it up best by noting that there were only four players who finished under par, and that players who missed fairways more frequently did worse than those who hit it straight. Now, this may sound a bit obvious, but several commentators and news media types simply didn't have a good grasp of the obvious as they continuously made bone-headed comments about the difficulty of the course. The chief boob was (as usual) Johnny Miller, who just can't seem to help but make an idiot of himself every time his mug is on the screen. After it was all said and done, the best player won the tournament, and Olympia Fields beat the rest of them.

Thank you again to Tim Anderson and the people at Prestwick for a great day, and to **Marsha Traves** and **Patti Thorson** for again running the betting hole, which raised \$712 for the American Diabetes Foundation.



The USGA's Paul Vermeulen
recapped the U. S. Open held
at Olympia Fields C.C.

Alan Parkes (far left), with veteran superintendents (L to R) Ray Schmitz, Carl Hopphan and Dudley Smith, who during the U.S. Open volunteered both their mornings AND evenings (and then slept for a week).



on a Glorious Day



Dave Marquardt (genuflecting to the king), Joel Purpur, Tracy Murphy (in throne) and Erwin McKone.



Past Dom Grotti winners Ronnie Newman and Scott Klingberg with Mike O'Neill and Sharon Reisenbach.



Steve VanAcker, Bob Lively, Kenny Goodman and Paul Schaefer.



Host Tim Anderson, Ray Schmitz, beverage cart attendant Natalie Smilgius, Dudley Smith and Dick Trevarthan.

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July Golf Meeting: Rainshowers Notwithstanding,



Weather warnings, wall clouds and a couple steady downpours marked the morning hours of July 8, but the lightning abated to permit a slightly delayed 12:30 p.m. shotgun start at Foxford Hills Golf Club in Cary, site for the July golf meeting.



Hosts Tom Jauch (L) and Ernest Johnson (R) with Tony Kalina.

Despite the rain (Foxford Hills tallied more than 0.6" that morning), superintendent **Tom Jauch**, CGCS and site superintendent **Ernest Johnson** had the course—a **Tim Nugent** design now in its sophomore season—in terrific condition for the senior championship. **Tom Robinson**, with low gross, adds his name to the Elmer Bertucci Trophy; low net honors went to **Dave Nadler**. In the Super Seniors division, **Lynn Wesson** and **Hans Hoppfan** were low gross and net, respectively, while **Pat**

McDonagh and **Mike Nielsen** took honors in the regular flight.

Closest-to-the-hole prizes went to **Dan Murray**, **Tom Savage**, **Kenny Goodman** and **Mark Stephan**, while the distinction of longest drive belonged to **Dave Behrman**, **Tom Robinson** and **Harry Nielsen**. Despite cheerleading efforts by this editor, the day's photographer **A.J. Huey** of Simplot Partners and **Patti Thorson** of Illinois Lawn—all of whom spent the entire afternoon stationed on no. 17 despite a sustained cloudburst—nobody shot a hole-in-one to take home the red Dodge truck sponsored by GolfVisions (although shots by **Mark Stephan** and **Pat McDonagh** had us holding our breath). Happily, the rain did not dampen MAGCS generosity as \$465 was donated to the Cary Children's Center for Autism.

Darrick Robbins, assistant superintendent at Ridgemoor Country Club, did a stellar job in providing the morning's education, which was approved by GCSAA for 0.1 educa-

tion points under the new PDI system—a Midwest first! In all respects, too, the day's hospitality was outstanding, with participants enjoying the amenities of a lovely new clubhouse, friendly service and a hearty, lavish spread after golf.

Thanks to our commercial sponsors—**Nugent Golf Inc.**, **GolfVisions**, **J.W. Turf, Inc.**, **Arthur Clesen Inc.**, **Simplot Partners**, **Nadler Golf Cars Sales Inc.**, **TPEC** and **Palatine Oil, Inc.**—for supporting the day's festivities. And a warm thank you to **Tom Jauch**, **Ernest Johnson** and last but not least, **GolfVisions' Tim Miles** for a first-rate day at a first-class facility.



Nobody aced hole no. 17 to drive away in this Dodge truck.

Foxford Hills Shines



(L to R) Fred Behnke, Kevin DeRoo,
Trent Bradford and Don Ferreri.



(L to R) Darrick Robbins and Luke Cella.



(L to R) Jerry Dinelli, Dave Arden,
Curt Franklin and Tim Nugent.



(L to R) Gary Hearn, Scott Speiden,
Sean Creed and Jim Meyer with the
hole-in-one truck that nobody won.



(L to R) Steve Bychowski, Keith Johnson
and Mark Stephan.



(L to R) Dave Oberle, Tony Kalina and
Russ Stratton didn't get the hole-in-one.



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Announcing 2003's Scholarship Winners: Brianne Smith, Bradley McDonald and Paul Schweiger

In July, the MAGCS awarded \$1,000 scholarships to three bright and promising students. Brianne Smith, daughter of Jeff and Peggy, was honored with the George Minnis Scholarship; Bradley McDonald, son of Terrence and Susan, took home the Midwest scholarship; and Paul Schweiger, son of Bruce and Carol, received the John Buck Memorial Scholarship. These deserving young people earned the scholarships based on academic achievement, financial need and essays responding to the following topic: Would you consider today's golf course superintendent a guardian or destroyer of the environment? And why?

Here are the thoughts of the scholarship class of 2003.



Fred Behnke with scholarship winner Brianne Smith, daughter of Jeff Smith.

Brianne Smith

Since government studies show that today's pesticides and fertilizers no longer leach into ground water when properly applied, it is obvious that golf course superintendents are not destroyers of the environment. They take care of large open spaces of nature in cities where there is little other greenery. The golf courses that superintendents care for are similar to forest preserves and can serve as homes for native plants and trees as well as a sanctuary for birds and other wildlife. At golf courses, the turf itself is an important protector of nature as it can filter contaminants from rainfall. By growing healthy turf, superintendents aid in the turf's abilities to cool the atmosphere, prevent soil erosion, produce oxygen and recharge groundwater. All of these things are vital to keeping a healthy environment.

Golf course superintendents do more than directly help nature; how-

ever, they also raise public sentiment on environment issues. When office-dwelling business workers go out for a round of golf with their buddies, they play in the beautiful outdoors which has been cared for by the superintendent. When these people see how great nature can be on the golf course, it raises their awareness of how important it is to protect it. In conclusion, golf course superintendents are guardians of the environment not only because they take care of large spaces of nature, but because they provide a place for everyone to see the beauty of the great outdoors.



Fred Behnke with scholarship winner Bradley McDonald, son of Terry McDonald.

Bradley McDonald

Natural beauty usually determines the status of the environment. Today's golf course superintendent maintains the environment's beauty and therefore is a guardian of the environment. It would be difficult to find an area that maintains its plants better than a golf course. A superintendent and his/her staff devote a great amount of time keeping the grass and trees of the golf course in tremendous condition. In addition to maintaining

the environment, golf courses improve the area by planting trees every year. Another aspect of the environment is wildlife. In my two years of working at a golf course, I have seen many different species. The animals range from birds, such as hawks, to larger animals such as fox and deer. In my life, there have only been a few places where I have seen animals such as these, and I have the opportunity to see them on a regular basis at a golf course. These courses even help the animals inhabiting the area. Many golf courses have bird houses installed on the course. No matter what the situation, some damage could be done to the environment. However, I feel that superintendents have minimized this compared to other people. With new technology such as electric mowers, less exhaust fumes are created. Also, most superintendents are reducing their pesticide use, while increasing organic fertilizers. Golf courses, unlike many places, have recycling programs installed. Overall, the golf course superintendent contributes in many ways to protecting the environment.

Paul Schweiger

The golf course superintendent of today would be considered a guardian of the environment. Golf course superintendents protect the environment by maintaining the environmental health of the grounds in and around the golf course. Through proper use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers, superintendents help to maintain healthy vegetation on the

(continued on page 38)

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Phil Zeinert, CGCS *Elgin Country Club*

The following are highlights of the MAGCS Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, July 1 at Bartlett Hills Golf Course. Full meeting minutes, once approved, are available on the Midwest Web site.

- The Editorial Committee reported being busy with a survey that will guide the content and appearance of the *On Course* magazine in the future. Response rate has been satisfactory and possible changes will be implemented as dictated by the responses.
- The Board approved accounts payable for the month of June in the amount of \$14,917.04.
- Discussion occurred over the "no nonmembers" policy currently in place for monthly golf meetings. At present, none of the meetings are selling out. A motion was made to allow guests to participate in certain

golf events at the discretion of the Arrangements Committee, while still affording priority registration to members. The motion passed.

- The following new members were presented for approval and welcomed to MAGCS:

Justin BarkerClass C
Evanston Golf Club

Chris BordeleauClass C
North Shore Country Club

Paul WitteClass E
Earth Works Natural
Organic Products

Brett PacherClass C
Orchard Valley Golf Club

Eric GakstatterClass E
Discovery Management Group

- On behalf of the Environmental Committee, Gary Hearn gladly reported that more than 15 clubs participated in the Bird Watching Open with Olympia Fields Country Club taking top honors with 94 species of birds identified.

- Fred Behnke reported that more than 30 applications had been received for the executive director position. The executive members of the MAGCS and ITF will interview and select a candidate, tentatively by September 1, 2003.

- The next meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at Bartlett Hills.



People Make The Difference (continued from page 5)

representatives, from educators to Board members, indeed all MAGCS members. We have a wonderful team of people, in both elected and non-elected capacities, putting forth tremendous efforts for the betterment of our profession and Association. I am proud to be a small part of it!

Paul was right in saying, "It's all about the people," and I say, "It's the people who make the difference and our Association special."

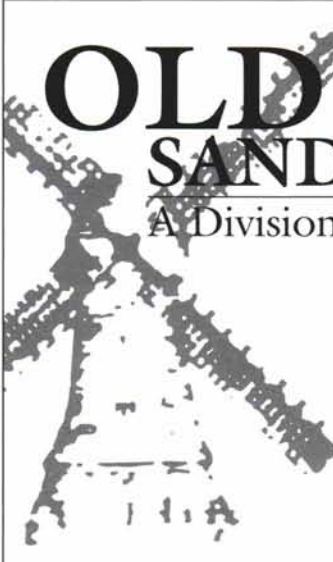


Scholarship Winners . . .

(continued from page 37)

golf course, which leads to an increase of nutrition of the grounds and its surroundings. With increased environment health comes increased wildlife. The areas of improved ecological health help to attract animals, and additional wildlife takes up residency in the surrounding area. This will happen because of increased vegetational nutrients supplied by the improved plant life. Some tend to think that chemical runoff from pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers would contaminate surrounding waterways and soils, but dense grass has been shown to be one of the best biological filters, consequently decreasing contaminant runoff to surrounding areas. The area of high-density grass may also help to filter out many other chemicals from agriculture or industry, which would actually clean areas of surrounding water. Green grass also supplies a great percentage of the oxygen necessary for aerobic life. The healthier a superintendent can make a golf course, the more oxygen the golf course can supply. Today's golf course superintendent is a guardian of the environment, not a destroyer. They increase vegetation and increase wildlife in the area, help filter out chemicals from run-off and help generate a significant amount of oxygen.





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"The Rest of the Story": The Advent of Fairway Fungicide Spray-Control Programs

As I watched television coverage of the recent U.S. Open golf tournament at Olympia Fields C.C., where our good friend and super golf course superintendent Dave Ward is in charge, I was truly impressed with the excellence of the conditioning throughout the course.

The close-mowed fairways of 3/8" (or possibly less) especially caught my fancy as I reminisced 43 years ago to 1960, when golf fairway maintenance made a giant step in progress to give today's golfers the terrific, smooth and manicured fairway turf they are playing on today.

Allow me to fill you in on some details that I feel will interest you and remind you that our Midwest GCSA has a reputation of having contributed considerably to the technological advances and improvements in our profession over the years.

In 1958, as the superintendent at Beverly C.C., I was involved with some practical field research for the control of crabgrass in fairways and rough areas. At that time, we did not have specific chemical controls for crabgrass in general use. The Cleary Chemical Company of New Jersey and their research chemist, Dr. Paul Sartoretto, introduced me to a new chemical product named PMAS (phenyl-mercury-acetate-soluble).

We applied to some test plots on both rough and fairway as a start. In brief, we were able to eradicate the crabgrass, but more important, we noticed a complete control of the dreaded "dollar spot" disease in the fairway.

The following spring, of 1959, I had moved to the Bob O'Link

Golf Club in Highland Park, IL. By 1960, we were experiencing a very hot and humid season and dollar spot disease was rampant on fairways at most of our local clubs. So I got back to the Cleary Co. and Dr. Sartoretto for help.

We planned a program for control and sprayed all fairways using PMAS. The results were phenomenally successful and thus began the practice of fairway fungicide spray-control programs. It is also of interest to note that in 1960, fairways of bentgrass and *Poa annua* were mowed at a height of 1/2" to 1-1/4" and disease could render very poor lies and unhappy golfers.

We used the three-nozzle boom on the sprayer that we had developed at Beverly C.C. with about a 25-30' spread with this new 3' boom attached to the front of the tractor.

The results of this program were near-perfect and a new era for greenkeeping had arrived, even though some supers felt the cost would be prohibitive. But the golfers were delighted.

While we were working on this project of dollar spot control, my good friend Sherwood Moore, a classmate at the University of Massachusetts turf program and superintendent at the famed Winged Foot C.C. in New York, was also working on the same pro-

ject with Dr. Sartoretto and had achieved identical results. That is the history of the beginning of fairway fungicide programs for all bentgrass/*Poa annua* fairways.

A sideline to the preceding narrative was a phone call I received during that summer of 1960 from the staff of the famous radio personality, Mr. Paul Harvey. Evidently he had played at Bob O'Link and was impressed with our (at the time) disease-free fairways, and he wanted to do a story on the details. After I gave them the details of our program, he used our experience on his "The Rest of the Story" national radio broadcast. And now you too know the rest of the story of a practice that has become standard operating procedure to this day for most fairway turf disease problems.

Another sideline: on the day after Mr. Harvey's presentation, I had a phone call from an a retired superintendent friend who was living in Phoenix, AZ. He had heard Paul Harvey's story on the radio and wanted to let me know. My caller was Leo Feser, one of our renowned superintendents, formerly from the Woodhill C.C. in Minnesota.

Mr. Harvey, incidentally, is a member of Oak Park C.C., where superintendent Al Fierst does such a fine job.





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