

mouth). You might use terms like jammy, big, mellow, chewy and a host of others.


Now that you've gone through the steps of tasting the wine, it's time to figure out what wines go with which foods. There is no magic answer, but I will try to give you a few tips to make the decision a little bit easier. In a nutshell, you never want to choose a wine that will overpower the food, and vice versa. But to help narrow your selection a bit, here are a few helpful hints.

- Serve chardonnay or red wines with butter-based dishes and cheese.
- To make a food seem less spicy, serve a white wine.
- To make a food appear spicier, serve a red wine.
- Serve a more acidic wine with olive oil-based dishes.
- If a wine is earthy in flavors, serve it with root vegetables.
- Anything really goes, as long as you enjoy it!

Regrettably, I have said little if anything about the marriage of cigars and wine, but don't let that stop you from experimenting. There has been many a summer evening where my weary husband has come home from a long day at the course and found solace in a good glass of wine and a good cigar! If he can, you can, too.



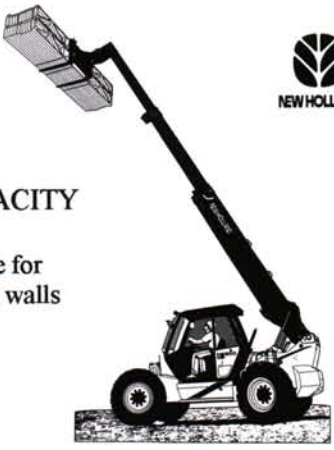
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the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS
Contributing Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 2-4 — North Central Turfgrass Exposition at the Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL.

December 10 — 5th Annual West Side Superintendents Holiday Party at Dave & Buster's. Contact **Gary Hearn** at 630-773-4790 for details.

December 15 — Deadline for applications for the AXA Achievement Scholarship. Details follow.

January 10 — Chicago Steel hockey game outing at The Edge in Bensenville, IL.

January 13 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Arrowhead Golf Course in Wheaton, IL, **Bob Breen** host.

January 19 – February 6 — Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

February 12-13 — MAGCS Hospitality Suite at the Marriott Marina Hotel in San Diego, CA.

Let's start off with a correction: In the November issue, a sponsor for the MAGCS monthly meeting at Shoreacres was inadvertently misprinted—our apologies and many thanks to Clesen Wholesale for generously supporting the day's activities.

Although the date is nearly upon us, time remains for your high school student to fill out an application for the AXA Achievement Scholarship (in association with *U.S. News and World Report*). And given that these scholarships are for \$10,000 and \$25,000, you might want to get busy! The forms for these scholarships were available at the

registration table during the MAGCS Clinic at Medinah Country Club, and can also be obtained by calling **Larry Tomaszewski** at 847-498-7193.

The exciting new times for MAGCS have begun, and our first-ever executive director is officially in place at Midwest Golf House. For your records, the new phone number for **Luke Cella** and MAGCS is 630-243-7900, and the new fax number is 630-257-0154.

Congratulations to **Oscar Miles**, CGCS of Merit Club on his induction into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame on October 10 at The Glen Club. Oscar joins an elite group of just three superintendents to hold the honor—himself, **Ray Gerber** and **Bob Williams**.



Congratulations to Dana and **Brian Baker** (Chicagoland Turf) on the birth of their son Austin Jeffrey on October 11. Austin was a healthy 7 lb., 7 oz. and 22 inches long, and he, mom and dad are doing great.

Spied recently in the pages of *Golfweek's SuperNews*: a couple of MAGCS members (and their pets). The October 24th issue featured **Brian Green**, CGCS of Sunset Valley Golf Course in its article "Bird Land." The article highlights the many projects Brian and staff have completed in the name of habitat restoration on a site that would not normally serve as a sanctuary for

birds and other wildlife. The November 7th issue came with its 2004 Best Friend calendar (no—not like the calendar hanging over the shop tool box, but it still has some real beauties). This calendar features the finalists for Lebanon Turf's first annual 2004 "Dog of the Year," and the dogs that roam the grounds of River Forest Country Club (owners **Joel Purpur**, CGCS and **Erwin McKone**) are the January "models." Henry, Mabel and Roxy (the latter is no longer with us) are shown sitting on a cart patiently awaiting a ride.

Throughout the month of December, the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago is offering classes in adult, infant and child CPR with first aid in many locations around the Chicago area. Completion of these classes qualifies for GCSAA PDUs or CEUs or whatever they're called now, and it's not a bad idea to know the procedures to boot. Call 1-800-33SAFETY, or visit www.chicagoredcross.org for details (and call GCSAA to figure out what you get in return for completing the class).



Welcome back to the neighborhood to **Tommy Witt**, CGCS. Tommy is the superintendent at Northmoor Country Club, replacing Stacy Wallace (who resigned earlier this year). Plenty of committees could use your input, Tommy . . .

Congratulations to MAGCS member **Sylvia Lima** on her recent change of jobs. Sylvia is the new customer service liaison for Prime Turf as of mid-October.

Congratulations to **Dave Ward** on his exciting new change of address. Dave will be taking over the reins at the new Wood Moor Golf Club in Flossmoor. The course, designed by **Greg Martin** and built by Ryan, Inc.

(continued on page 24)

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Central, sits on the site of Cherry Hills G.C. and is owned by the Flossmoor Park District. Dave will remain with Olympia Fields Country Club through the duration of his contract, which expires March 31, 2004.

Still for sale: Toro Sprinklers—690 Series @ \$35 each and 650 Series @ \$25 each. Contact **Mark Bobb** at Barrington Hills C.C. at 847-381-0140.

For FREE! Cage wire partitions, 4' by 4' by 10' high, including door and frame and assorted partitions. Call Dennis or Glenn at Sunset Ridge C.C. at 847-446-5268. While you're talking to them, ask them what the hell these things are, cuz I'm stumped.

Equipment for sale: 1988 Jac LF-100 with 3,065 hours, good running and cutting condition; 1990 Jac LF-100 with 3,045 hours, also in good running and cutting condition; and a Jac Tri-King 1671-D(iesel) with 4,123 hours, usable. Call John or Nick at Aurora C.C. at 630-892-3600. All offers considered.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The following are highlights of the MAGCS Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, November 11, at Midwest Golf House. This was the first meeting of the 2004 Board with Fred Behnke presiding and Luke Cella present in the capacity of executive director. Full meeting minutes, once approved, are available on the Midwest Web site.

- The Board determined that one focus for 2004 will be "improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige and efficiency of the members."
- Executive Director Luke Cella will be investigating improvements to the MAGCS Web site.
- The Association's archival material will henceforth have a proper home at Midwest Golf House. Luke is to begin collecting archival material for appropriate storage and/or display.
- The Board approved entering *On Course* in the 2003 GCSAA chapter newsletter competition. The Editorial Committee later opted to submit the February 2003 issue.
- Committee co-chairs earned a new responsibility: in the absence of the committee's primary chair, co-chairs will present that committee's report at Board meetings.
- The Board charged President Emeritus Kevin DeRoo with launching the bylaw-change process. Certain bylaws may be updated to reflect newer technologies and procedures, such as e-mail notifications, etc.
- The Board designated Fred Behnke, Scott Witte, Kevin DeRoo, Paul Bastron, Scott Speiden and John Gurke to attend the awards banquet at NCTE on Tuesday, December 2.



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Gain PDI Points Through Chapter Meeting Participation

It's a frequently asked question: Are chapter meetings eligible for both education points and service points? The answer: Chapter meetings are eligible for **EITHER** education or service points, but never both. Here's the breakdown.

Education Points


Members will receive 0.1 education points for each hour of pre-approved education offered at a chapter meeting. If your chapter meeting has received pre-approval for

education points, your members must submit the event approval code as verification of their attendance and to validate the established program criteria. To do this, members must log on to Member Central after the chapter meeting and complete an *Education Point for Pre-Approved Educational Event* education point affidavit.


Service Points

Chapter meetings without pre-approved education would be eligible for service points. Members will

receive 0.1 service points for attending the meeting. Following the meeting, the member must log on to Member Central and complete the *Chapter Monthly Meetings Without Approved Education* service point affidavit to receive credit.


For more information about the descriptions and values of education points and service points, please reference the *GCSAA Class A Code of Standards*. 

A Reminder: State-Specific Pesticide Applicator Database Available Online

You can find state-specific pesticide applicator licensing, certification, record-keeping, posting and notification requirements in the government relations section of GCSAA Online. Go to gcsaa.org. 

Affiliated Chapter Officers, Board Members, Committee Members Receive Service Points

One more great reason to get involved at the chapter level . . . affiliated chapter officers and board members receive 0.5 point service points per year of service. GCSAA staff automatically awards these points at the end of each completed year of service. Your chapter's committee members can also receive

service points. They can receive 0.25 service points per committee (not to exceed 0.5 points per year, with a maximum of 1.25 points per renewal period). To receive credit for chapter committee service, please complete a service point affidavit, available through GCSAA. 



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Host Tom Lively receives a gift from Kevin DeRoo.



Scott Witte shares his observations in "It's Been Eight Years . . ."

51st Midwest Turf Ends 2003

Time to blow out that irrigation system, clean up those pesky leaves and make the final preparations for closing down the course. In other words, it's Midwest Turf Clinic time. This year's rendition, held on the 5th of November at the venerable Medinah Country Club (Tom Lively, CGCS host), was once again a season-ending highlight. The heavy rains that fell in the days prior to the event did not seem to deter our members from making the trip and filling the many seats.

The day started off with our annual meeting, featuring reports by all officers and Board members highlighting the past year's activities. Among the more notable innovations was the creation of business-card reminders for the MAGCS hospitality suite in San Diego (which were available at the registration desk); membership also voted in favor of a \$30 dues increase for 2004.

With the annual meeting in the books, and the presentation of an appreciation gift to Tom Lively for graciously hosting, it was "on with the show." Morning moderator Aaron Willing, assistant superintendent at Chicago Golf



Tom D'Avello, Mark Bramstedt and Don Fehrenbacher of USDA NRCS.



Moderators Aaron Willing and Nick Baker.



Dave Ward, the winner of the first-ever Ray Gerber Editorial Award, accepts his third "Gerber" from presenter John Gurke.



Erwin McKone accepts his second consecutive Fred D. Opperman Editorial Award from Dave Braasch.



Dr. Micheal Boehm of Ohio State University speaks on "Microbiology of Soils, Products and Techniques."



Tony Kalina adds his two-cents-worth in "It's Been Eight Years . . ."

Clinic and Annual Meeting Season on a High Note

Club, introduced the day's first speakers—Don Fehrenbacher and Mark Bramstedt of the USDA NRCS. Their discussion revealed the many discoveries that can be gleaned from conducting a soil survey on a parcel of property (from differing turfgrass responses to "inputs" to dead mob guys). Next on the agenda was soon-to-be new Board member Scott Witte, who reflected on what's happened since his last time at the podium in "It's Been Eight Years . . ." Scott provided us with some painful reminders of the common mistakes we have probably all made, including substituting RoundUp for some other gold liquid in the spray tank (and the nasty results thereafter), and becoming so involved in our work that our spouses feel compelled to deliver the old "you gotta kick it up a notch" speech. Tom D'Avello followed Scott with a talk on GIS mapping of soils and its benefits.

Prior to the lunch break, the big moment came—the presentation of the Ray Gerber and Fred D. Opperman Editorial Awards. Dave Ward won an unprecedented third Gerber with his article "Preparing for the 2003 U. S. Open," and Erwin McKone took home his second consecutive Opperman (soon to

be renamed the Erwin McKone Editorial Award).

Then Kevin DeRoo took center stage to recognize donations to the MAGCS Scholarship Fund. J.W. Turf donated \$2,500 toward the John Buck Scholarship, Simplot Partners donated \$4,000 from their Daconil early-order program and AXA Advisors donated \$500, which Larry Tomaszewski generously matched out of his own pocket. Thank you to all contributors to this important cause.

Following lunch (and a hasty trip to the Jewel deli section to replenish the meat tray), Dr. Mike Boehm of THE Ohio State University spoke on the "Microbiology of Soils, Products and Techniques," stressing that most all of the "bugs in a jug" potions being sold are worthless without the employment of sound agronomic principles, first and foremost. Tony Kalina was next, offering his own reflections on the past eight years, and made a great point—that speaking at the MAGCS Clinic is not something to fret about, but an **opportunity**.

Topping off the day was keynote speaker Dave Kaplan of WGN Radio, who basically enter-

tained us with his views of the Chicago sports scene. Dave's team recaps were memorable: Bulls—Suck; Bears—Buy their quarterbacks at Costco, and wouldn't let Shoop be coordinator on his Madden Game Boy game; Sox—Ozzie was a good hire; Cubs—When will fans forget Steve Bartman?; and Hawks—Are they still playing?

After Dave (or Kap, as Mumper calls him) answered just about every question possible, it was time for the election of the 2004 Board of Directors. Your Board for 2004 comprises: President—Fred Behnke; Vice President—Phil Zeinert; Secretary/Treasurer—Gary Hearn; Directors—Tim Anderson, Dave Braasch, Scott Witte and Paul Bastron, along with Scott Speiden and Tony Kalina. Congratulations to all, and good luck!

MAGCS humbly thanks the sponsors of the Clinic: BTSI, Arthur Clesen, Simplot Partners, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Palatine Oil, TPEC and Nadler Golf Car Sales.



Keynote speaker Dave Kaplan of WGN Radio kept things amusing.



Incoming president Fred Behnke presents outgoing prez Kevin DeRoo with a token of appreciation for all the great work he accomplished in 2003.



Kevin does his last presidential thing—passing the gavel to Fred.

Aurora "Glorialis": A Record Turnout Dines

*A record 100 members and significant others turned out for the 2003 MAGCS Fall Dinner Dance, held on November 15 at Aurora Country Club with John and Julie Gurke hosting. As it turns out, hosting is the **easiest** job in making this wonderful evening so enjoyable. Arrangements Committee chair Tim Anderson (who made all the preparations), Aurora C.C. manager Robert White, assistant manager Peggy Hess, the club's fine staff, Dave and Debbie Nadler and the folks at Nadler Golf Car Sales, and Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts were the people who really ensured a successful evening.*




Not quite Club Car material, but this cart served its purpose well.



The president presents the host with an appreciation gift—a bottle of VERY fine wine that will indeed be appreciated!

Of course, along with these "behind the scenes" folks, the record 100 people who came to dine and dance the night away at the gala event helped create a special mood. From the get-go, the evening had the feeling of a somewhat haughty affair, as evidenced by the well-dressed gentlemen and beautiful ladies on their arms (which prompted President Fred Behnke to comment that perhaps we gentlemen had "married above our stations"). A nice touch was the presentation of a red rose to each of the ladies as they arrived. The cocktail hour featured a sumptuous appetizer table (sponsored by Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts) and open bar (which stayed open all night long, and was generously sponsored by Nadler Golf Car Sales), followed by a first-rate dinner.

Following the leisurely meal, the band tried VERY hard to encourage attendees out on the dance floor (with moderate success); all turned out well and no serious injuries were reported. As the evening progressed, many seemed to lose their inhibitions and stomped their feet to the music—and happily, no Chicken Dance to be seen. All in all, it was a glorious evening, and a perfect way to close out the long season: enjoying the company of our friends in a cozy atmosphere. The MAGCS thanks all who made it happen, including our generous sponsors, the Aurora Country Club, and finally, our members who came out in record numbers to be a part of it all. 



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Kristin and Erwin McKone, Dan and Jodie Sterr, Kevin and Cheryl DeRoo, and Joel and Debbie Purpur.



Bryan Widmer and Julie Olszowka, Bob and Sandee Kronn, and Al and Cindy Pondel.



Mike and Gina Murphy, Bob and Angela Breen, Dave and Penny Meyer, and Steve and Karen Stewart.



Mike and Sharon Riesenbeck, Garry and Carole Anderson, and Jim and Cindy Pedersen.



Debbie and Dave Nadler, Julie and John Gurke, Catherine and Dan Anderson, and Sara and Keith Krause.
(continued on page 30)



Jean and Tim Davis, Randy and Chris Wahler,
Joyce and Brad Johnsen, and Sue and Tracy Murphy.



Cheryl and Bob Maibusch, Yoka and Dave Ward,
and Steve and Cathy Berning.



Phil and Cathy Ralston, Rusty and Jenny Stachlewitz,
Jaime and Dave Braasch (some day?),
and Diane Dickson and Jim McNair.



Alex and Sylvia Lima, Nancy and Fred Behnke, Nora and
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Tina and Todd Schmitz, Linda and Tim Anderson, and
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