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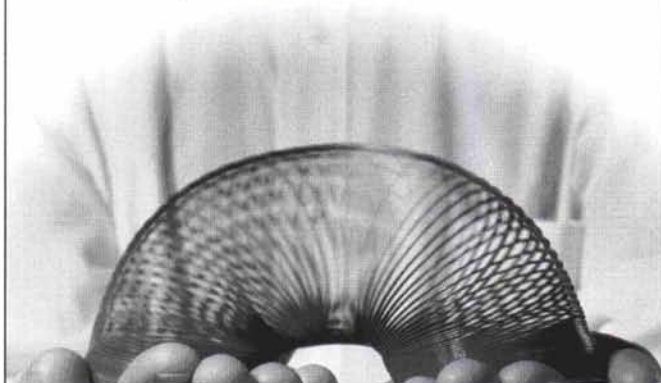
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Revisiting the MAGCS/ITF Combined Spring Golf Day, May 20 at Odyssey Golf Club

So much of this month's "Bull Sheet" highlights MAGCS monthly meetings and ITF golf days, I would be remiss not to recap in full the Spring Golf Day and Second Annual ITF Regional Team Tourney held at Odyssey Golf Club in Tinley Park, IL, on May 20. Hosts **Ray Schei** and **Sam Lehrfeld** did a great job of preparing the course (with no help from Mother Nature, who dumped torrents of rain on our playground the night before). Sponsors for the day's activities were: President's Club—Bayer Environmental Sciences, Griffin LLC, Syngenta Professional Products and Turf Professionals Equipment Company; Director's Club—Arthur Clesen, BTSI, Central Sod Farms, Chicagoland Turf, Grigg Brothers, Illinois Lawn Equipment, Johnson & Associates of Lombard, Lebanon Turf, Olds Seed Solutions, Pro Source One and Simplot Partners/National Seed; Individual Tee Sponsors—Atlas Bobcat, Dow Agro Sciences, Growing Solutions, Palatine Oil, PBI Gordon-Speedzone, Reinders, SePro, Silver Lake Country Club, Spectrum Technologies, Sprinkler Irrigation and the Andersons; and Special Par-3 Event Sponsors—H & E Sod Nursery and Illinois Lawn Equipment. MAGCS

thanks all of these companies for their gracious support.

The day turned out to be a beauty, and the course played long and windy (how did they manage to configure all 18 holes to play directly into the wind?). As with all competitions, a winner must emerge, and this year's regional team champion is Metro South, featuring **Bob Farag, Tim Scott, David Kohley, Bob Morrell, Mark Schmitz** and **Peter Mirkes**. Runner-up was Metro North and **Brian Racette, Dave Radaj, Joel Purpur, Al Fierst, Scott Armstrong** and **Mike Mumper**. Special events winners were: Longest Drive—**Bob Lively**; Senior Longest Drive—**Tom Byrd**; Closest to the Pin No. 2—**Dave Kohley**; and Closest to the Pin No. 15—**John Coghill, Jr.** In terms of special event raffles, H & E Sod

Nursery raised \$465 and raffled a Wilson Deep Red Fat Shaft Driver to winner **Tim Scott**, while Illinois Lawn Equipment raised \$485 and raffled a Trek Mountain Bike to winner **Dean Meyer** (more on that bike in the photo section).

Congratulations to all winners, runners-up and even those of us who went home empty-handed but better off for the experience. The dinner and awards banquet featured several highlights, but two in particular stood out: the presentation of the Charles Bartlett Award by **Dudley Smith** to **Carl Hoppman** (see "the Bull Sheet"), and Ray Schei's retirement ceremony. The owners of Odyssey presented Ray with numerous tokens of their gratitude for his years of service, including a membership certificate to Odyssey C.C. with the inscription "Member #1," airline tickets for a trip anywhere of Ray's choosing, and a trophy in his honor. All in all, the entire day was wonderful, and heartily enjoyed by all in attendance.



Jack Lagershausen, Wally Fuchs, Carl Hoppman and Rick Grant take the yet-to-be-won mountain bike for a test spin.



John Coghill, Jr. does the pose while sticking it closest to the pin.



Scott Witte (bravest one on top), John Gurke (semi-brave), Kevin DeRoo (1/4 brave) and Brian Baker (total wimp).



Marsha Traves, Pete Mirkes, George O'Hara, Nathan Ryan, Chris Johnson and Patti Thorson. (Marsha and Patti once again provided the photography for the day—thank you both!)



Eli Witt, Brian Racette, Brian Bossert and Don Altman.



Mark Winge, Joel Cisneros, Phil Boskey and Sharon Riesenbeck.



Mark Kowaliczko, Jeff Gerdes, Trent Bradford and Jim Hall.



Joel Purpur, Jeff Breniger, Mike Mumper (a.k.a. "The Skipper") and Dave Radaj.



Big hitter Bob Lively with Ed Esgar, Kurt Sams and Keith Peterson.

ropolitan area alone, it is not surprising that members are concerned about how far they have to drive to attend meetings. It would be ideal if all the meetings were centrally located, or some type of a geographical rotation existed to ensure that everyone had meeting sites to choose from that were close by. However, since we are working with sites that have volunteered to host our group and extend us a discounted fee, an old adage applies: "Beggars can't be choosers." We are fortunate to have members who are willing to share their facilities with their peers. The best way to avoid a long commute to a meeting site is to volunteer to serve as a host site. Hosting a meeting is a great way to participate and give back to the Association. Our goal for this year is to line up a full slate of meeting sites for 2004, 2005 and 2006. If you would like to help us achieve this goal, please contact me as many dates are still available.

Providing timely notification of upcoming events to the membership is the direct responsibility of the Arrangements Committee. We work to have final arrangements in place well in advance so that registration information can be sent out to the membership four weeks prior to a meeting. This requires good coordination with both the Golf Committee and Education Committee. To facilitate this process, we are using an event-planning form that was developed with input from all of the involved committees.

For the remainder of the year, our event calendar is as follows:

July 8
Foxford Hills Golf Club
Golf Event

August 9
Kane County Cougars Game
Family Night

August 11
Bartlett Hills Golf Course
Golf Event

September 23
Shoreacres
Golf Event

October 7
Prairie Landing
(ITF Event)

November 5
Medinah Country Club
Turf Clinic

November 15
Aurora Country Club
Dinner Dance

Mark these dates on your calendars and watch the Web site and snail mail for specific registration information!



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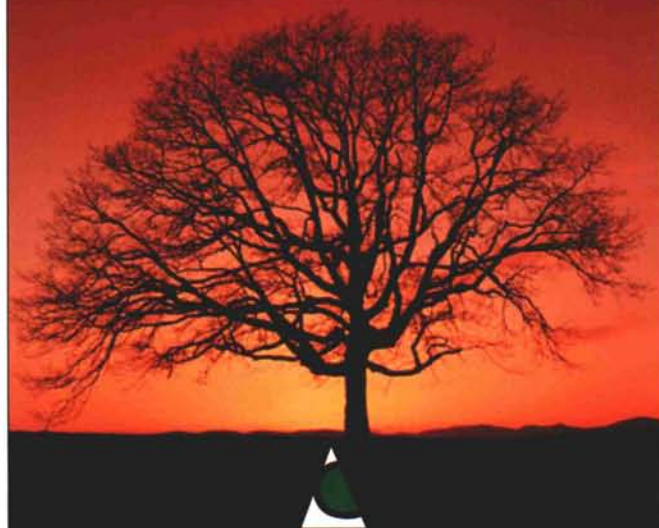
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South Side Shenanigans

Once upon a time, a successful North Shore superintendent, Ima Wizard, was visiting friends and some of his old haunts on the South Side. He stopped at the country club where he was formerly employed and had lunch with the caddie master. Then he placed a few bets at Arlington with his tout, the lockerman. Before leaving, Ima thought it be would be proper to meet the current superintendent, Bruce Babee, and tour the course.

"You see that row of poplar trees, Brucie? I planted them."

"That stone footbridge over there was my idea."

"That meadow with the stand of Kentucky bluestem was my creation."

In short order, Brucie had his fill of Ima Wizard's braggadocio.

Now before leaving the course, Ima thought he should compliment Brucie about something. "I like the color of your greens, what is your secret?"

"I am using a seaweed extract from the River Shannon called Viagrass. Gorgeous George sells it," replied Bruce.

"Have George send me some, right away," said Ima.

Now Bruce and George got their heads together, and delivered Ima a 55-gallon drum of plain water with a little "Greens It" dye for camouflage purposes.

A month later, Bruce Babee's phone rang; it was Gorgeous George. "Will wonders never cease! The Wizard just reordered another drum of Viagrass."



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Reflections on the Passing of Midwest Members, Friends

Our good friend Dudley Smith deserves plaudits for his terrific job in writing recent obituaries in On Course for two good friends to so many of us, John Coghill and "Buz" Didier.

John Coghill and I came together on three distinct occasions of note: we first met as students in 1936 at the University of Massachusetts turf management school in Amherst. This was also Grace and John's honeymoon. Our next "meeting" was when John and I met by chance as patients in an Army hospital in England (1944); both of us had survived action in Normandy. He was an officer in the infantry and I was an officer in the combat engineers. The third time we came together was in 1949, when we attended the Dale Carnegie School of Public Speaking together in Chicago. Many fond memories, to say the least.

As to "Buz" Didier, I became acquainted with Buz when he and his brother David were working with their father, Raymond, in golf course construction. However, I had known Raymond from the 1940s when he was the superintendent at Tam O'Shanter in Niles. Raymond was our first Midwest GCSAA president in 1945 and 1946. Ray was a great innovator and a central figure in promoting golf via television. Ray rebuilt all of their greens and installed phone lines to every tee for the use of the press. After leaving Tam O'Shanter, Ray and his two sons bought a tree nursery in Mundelein, sold off some of the trees and built the Village Green Golf Club, which the family operated for a number of years.

This winter we also lost Peter Voykin, whose passing was well-reported by his brother Paul. This was quite a shock for all of us Midwest members.

The passing of these Midwest members leaves me with the feeling that at the present time, we have probably the greatest camaraderie within our membership that we have ever witnessed in our long history, dating back to 1926. Incidentally, MY first attendance dates back to approximately 1930! May I congratulate our present membership of today, each and every one of you, on your professionalism and enthusiasm—attributes we should and can all be proud of.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Phil Zeinert, CGCS Elgin Country Club

The following are highlights of the MAGCS Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, June 3 at Bartlett Hills Golf Course. Full meeting minutes, once approved, are available on the Midwest Web site.

- On Course contributing editor John Gurke presented a survey authored by Cathy Ralston working in collaboration with Dave Braasch and his entire Editorial Committee. It is a comprehensive On Course readership survey that was to be e-mailed/mailed to all Midwest members in June. The goal is to gain input to further improve an already solid magazine. The Board recommended several minor changes to be implemented before sending out the survey. Sylvia Lima indicated she would encourage commercial members to respond to the survey.
- Fred Behnke reported 20 applicants for the MAGCS executive director position.
- The Board voted to switch from the charge-it system presently used to process credit card transactions to the service provided by Fifth Third Bank. This will significantly reduce our expenses associated with credit card transactions.
- Tim Anderson has secured monthly meeting sites for 2004 and is still looking to fill the slate for several months during the years 2005 and 2006. He reports that our commercial members have been very gracious with their efforts to sponsor this year's monthly golf meetings.
- Luke Cella and the Education Committee will feature Darrick Robbins discussing deep-tine aerification at the July 8th meeting at Foxford Hills; Joe Diapoala will share his views on the chemistry and branding of new pesticides on August 11 at Bartlett Hills.
- Gary Hearn presented membership applications and the Board welcomed these new members to the MAGCS:

Samuel J. Wineinger	
Lesco Inc.	Class E
Nick A. Hongisto	
TPEC	Class E
- Gary Hearn and the Environmental Committee report that 22 member clubs participated in the Bird-Watching Open. Also discussed was a recent article from the *Chicago Tribune* concerning West Nile virus and those areas of Chicagoland experiencing the most sensitivity to the virus.
- The Board approved May expenses totaling \$28,549.67.





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