

# Cleary Company Going Strong In Its 67th Year— And A Few More Clarifications

*The July issue of On Course included a feature article entitled “Acquisitions, Consolidations and Mergers, OH MY!” Oh my, indeed. In the weeks subsequent to publication, we learned that the article contained several inadvertent factual errors; the most troublesome being the implication that Cleary Chemical Corporation and Bunton Equipment, two companies that are very much alive, were in fact defunct. While the editorial staff of On Course and our writers are always striving for complete accuracy, mistakes sometimes happen, albeit infrequently. On Course deeply regrets these errors, outlined below, and apologizes to those firms we mistakenly “eulogized” in our July issue.*

First and foremost, while the *On Course* article suggested that the Cleary Chemical Corporation was no longer in existence, the company is in fact very much alive and a vibrant player on the turfgrass care scene in its 67th year as a family-owned business. As Richard Fletcher, director of product development for the Cleary Co., reminds us: “As the industry has changed, Cleary has been one of the mainstays of the non-ag product suppliers specializing in fungicide, insecticide and nutritional products for the turf and ornamental industry. We are vital in research and development and actively seek to provide solutions to current and future market problems. In the last three years alone, Cleary has introduced four new products with Spectro, Endorse, Alude and now TriStar.”

Cleary’s Web site, [www.clearychemical.com](http://www.clearychemical.com), also contains abundant information, including this overview:

*For over 60 years, we at Cleary have supplied the fine turf and*

*ornamental industries with superior-quality plant-protection products, utilizing the most up-to-date technology. Ever alert to specific needs, we will be adding innovative pest control products for the ornamental and structural pest markets.*

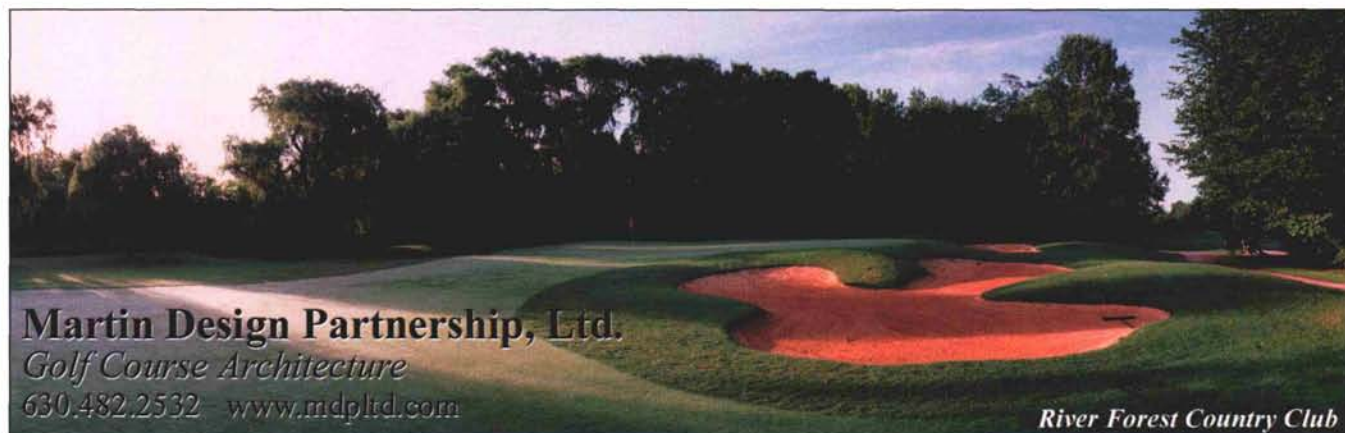
*Firsthand experience with Tara Greens, our corporate-owned and maintained golf course, helps us to appreciate the challenges encountered by the turf and ornamental professionals.*

*Our technical expertise in solving problems related to diseases, insects or application needs, is our outstanding service contribution to the industry. We participate nationally in numerous trade shows, education conferences and field days. Should you have a question or a problem, technical support can be obtained through our recently updated Web site, the field technical sales representative nearest you, or through our toll-free number. Our experts will be happy to provide the guidance necessary to answer any questions.*

Second, rather than suggesting Bunton Equipment’s demise, the article should have stated that “Bunton Equipment became a much smaller supplier in an ever-expanding market.”

Third, the paragraph referencing changes in the nursery industry should have read as follows: “The growth of suburbia has affected nurseries. The present location of Fiore Nursery sits on over 1,000 acres in the city of Buffalo Grove. The land that Schroeder Nursery sits on will be the future site of another housing development. In some cases, nurseries pick up and move to the outskirts of suburbia waiting for the next land development explosion to occur. Of course, that’s if land development has not begun in the outlying counties.”

Finally, Pete Leuzinger, CGCS, of Ivanhoe Club should have been included amongst the author’s references.



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*River Forest Country Club*



# The Prez Showcases Bartlett Hills at August

*The August MAGCS monthly meeting was held on the 11th at Bartlett Hills Golf Course with Kevin DeRoo serving as our host. Big thanks go out to our sponsors, who made the day possible: Syngenta Turf and Ornamental, J.W. Turf, Illinois Lawn Equipment, Ryan Incorporated, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Lohmann Golf Designs, Simplot Partners, Palatine Oil, Nadler Golf Car Sales and Turf Professionals Equipment Company.*



*Host Kevin DeRoo with his arms full of goodies.*



*Education speaker Dave Ross of Syngenta.*

In a departure from our recent norm, the event began with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start and concluded with the education presentation, food service and meeting. The course was in terrific shape, and the threat of rain stayed away, allowing the 126 players to enjoy their round. This must have been the fastest round our group has ever played, which made it that much more enjoyable. After the golf, Dave Ross of Syngenta conducted the education portion of the day, speaking (very technically) on fungicide resistance management. Immediately following the presentation, the trough was uncovered and the VERY hungry guests grazed heartily on the feast. A lightning-quick business meeting ensued, followed by the awarding of the coveted prizes. Winners of the various events were as follows: longest putt holed—**Trent Bradford** (#9), **Steve Bychowski** (#16), **Eli Witt** (#3) and **Russ Stratton** (#13); straightest drive—**John Huber**; shortest drive—**Jay Druhan**; longest drive—**Dave Kohley**; closest to the hole—**Dean Tomaselli** (who won a cash prize of \$125).

The betting hole was managed by Patti Thorsen and **Sharon Resetich**, who not only netted \$1,055 for KARE—the Kane Area Rehabilitation and Education Foundation for Wildlife—but also took all the photos of our groups as they came through. All other prize winners were chosen by random scorecard draw, and almost everybody made a trip to the table in the middle. **Mark Bobb** of Barrington Hills was luckiest, taking home about half a bag of new clubs (one can attest after playing with him, that they are much-needed). Thank you, Patti and Sharon, and thanks again to Kevin, his staff, PGA pro Bob Gavelek and his people, the restaurant folks at Bartlett Hills and our sponsors for this great day.



*Photographers Patti Thorsen and Sharon Resetich.*



# Beautiful Golf Meeting

**MAGCS EVENT**  
John Gurke, CGCS *Contributing Editor*



# 2002-2003 RAY GERBER EDITORIAL AWARD CONTESTANTS

Fred Opperman, Retired

*Time flies when one is busy or having fun. Both of those criteria apply to me. It has been 21 years since the Ray Gerber Editorial Award was started in 1983. I have had the pleasant task for all of those years of compiling the list of superintendents who have qualified for this sought-after award. Articles eligible for the 2002-2003 award had to be written by a member of the MAGCS who at the time of writing and publication was currently a golf course superintendent. All articles published in On Course between September 2002 and August 2003 that meet this requirement were considered; however, "On Course with the President," "Director's Column," and "Super-N-Site" articles are not eligible. Articles originally published elsewhere and then published in On Course are not eligible for the award.*

Year/Month	Article	Author
<b>2002</b>		
September	"Irrigation Strategies During Time of Drought"	Bradley Anderson
	"Thoughts on September 11: One Year Later"	Tony Rzadzki
October	"Environmental Awareness . . ."	Tim Anderson
December	"Roughing It, The Right Way"	Lawrence Flament
	"Avoiding Frostbite"	Bob McCallum
<b>2003</b>		
February	"Back – Middle – Front . . . Where is Your Hole Today?"	Luke Cella
	"The Slop on Slope and Course Ratings"	Dave Braasch
March	"Restoring Classic Golf Courses"	Jon Jennings
April	"Phosphate Technology: Fertilizer or Fungicide?"	Scott Witte
May	"Memories of the Midwest Hospitality Room"	Ed Fischer
June	"Preparing for the 2003 United States Open"	Dave Ward
July	". . . Rinse Pad Compliance"	Jeff A. Donahoe

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# 2002-2003 FRED D. OPPERMAN EDITORIAL AWARD CONTESTANTS

*Cathy Miles Ralston Editor*

*Currently in its second year, the Fred D. Opperman Editorial Award is presented annually in honor of Fred, who served as editor of the Bull Sheet and subsequently On Course for 16 years.*

All original articles by MAGCS members in classes C, D, E, F and G and published in *On Course* from September of one year through August of the next are eligible for the Opperman Award ("Super -N- Site" articles, however, are not eligible). While judging criteria for the Opperman and Gerber awards are similar, this award recognizes the invaluable contributions of an important component of Midwest membership: assistant superintendents, commercial members, superintendent's employees, etc.

Here are the fine contenders for the 2003 Fred D. Opperman Editorial Award.

Year/Month	Article	Author
<b>2002</b>		
October	"The Dirt on Topsoil Testing"	Curt Franklin
<b>2003</b>		
January	"Perilous Pesticide or Tonic for Turf?"	Bruce Schweiger
March	"Golf's Great Cover-Up"	Derek Florian
May	"What I Did On My (Boss') Summer Vacation"	Chad Kempf
	"Tracing Trends in The Golf Industry"	Douglas Long
July	"Acquisitions, Consolidations, and Mergers, OH MY!"	Larry Tomaszewski
August	"Compost Tea: Is It the Brew for You?"	Erwin McKone



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To accommodate this more futuristic way of thinking, the job position was upgraded from executive secretary to executive director and another job position announcement was sent out. Under advise of the GCSAA and in order to reach a greater number of uniquely qualified individuals, we notified the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) of our job opening.

The executive boards from MAGCS and the ITF have narrowed a field of 31 prospective directors to four unique and seemingly qualified individuals. The interview process was to take place during the middle of August.

I certainly want to thank everyone involved so far. To the outsider (and maybe to a few insiders), it may appear that we are dragging our feet. To that presumption, I can only say I disagree. I believe it best to proceed directly but cautiously when traveling uncharted waters. What we are proposing to do is very new to the MAGCS and ITF. We hope to only have to do it once. After all, the doors of tomorrow will be opened by the keys of today.



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*MAGCS members enjoy the pre-game food, drink and conversation while the field gets watered down.*

## A Real Crowd-Pleaser: Kane County Cougars Outing Draws Members' Families Together

*President Kevin DeRoo was busy in August, hosting the monthly golf meeting at Bartlett Hills and partnering with wife, Cheryl, to coordinate the Midwest's annual Kane County Cougars outing, held on August 9 at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.*



*The big "Ozzie" tent was a popular attraction for the kids.*

*Mini-Cella has Kevin DeRoo in stitches—kids say the craziest things!*



Our sponsors for this always-fun family event were Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, TPEC, Palatine Oil and the Women's Center for Health—thank you to all of you for your generosity! The weather could not have been better, nor could the game itself. The event was a sell-out, and the reserved deck in right-centerfield was abuzz with MAGCS members, friends and family greeting and chatting with one another. Most often-heard statement: "I'm not talking shop tonight!"

One difference from last year's event was the earlier scheduling of batting practice—a great idea, as meeting and gabbing and eating and drinking do not mix with baseballs flying and bouncing and striking and hurting people. The game, which was almost an afterthought to the picnic but just as fun, was a doozy, with the home team pulling out a 3 – 2 victory in the bottom of the twelfth inning. The long-awaited fireworks show and running of the bases followed, and the evening finally came to an end. All in all, it was a memorable night for everyone who stuck it out to the end. Thanks again to Kevin and Cheryl, Tim and Linda Anderson and our sponsors for this great event.



*Waiting patiently for the fireworks to begin . . .*



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Phil Zeinert, CGCS *Elgin Country Club*

*The following are highlights of the MAGCS Board of Directors meeting held Tuesday, August 5 at Bartlett Hills Golf Course. Full meeting minutes, once approved, are available on the Midwest Web site.*

- The Board approved accounts payable for July in the amount of \$34,736.03.
- Kevin DeRoo and Fred Behnke reported that the Executive Director Selection Committee had narrowed the field of candidates from 31 to four. The committee planned to interview the four candidates on August 13. Employment Committee chair, Fred Behnke, reported notifying those candidates not chosen for interviews.
- Motion was made to extend complimentary Fall Dinner Dance invites to MAGCS members at The Glen Club, Cog Hill, Stonebridge and Olympia Fields, all of which hosted professional tour events this year. The invitations are to include spouse/guest. The Board approved the motion.
- Fred Behnke reported attending the most recent Green Industry meeting, where he learned and shared with the Board that the Department of Agriculture is soon to offer study materials and testing materials in Spanish.
- The following new members were presented for approval and welcomed to MAGCS:
  - Bryan Bielecki** .....Class A  
Billy Casper Golf Management/  
Cook County Forest Preserve  
Golf Courses
  - Connar Shaw** .....Class E  
Possibility Place Nursery



### Leadership and Stewardship (continued from page 5)

mentalists—for their suggestions and insights. Our goals for 2003 were to promote participation in Audubon International's Bird Watching Open, work on a Web site, delve into pesticide testing and better inform the public outside the golf arena of golf's positive environmental impacts.

The 2003 North American Bird Watching Open was more successful than the 2002 event, and hopefully will be even bigger next year. Out of a

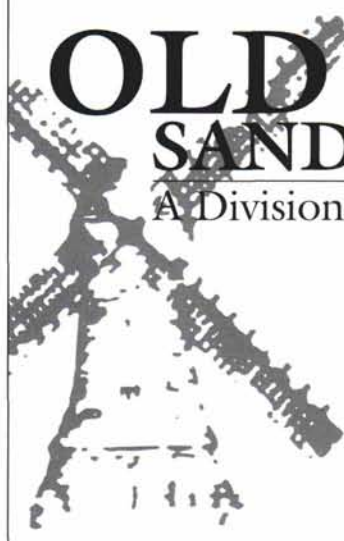
total 82 participating clubs nationwide, 15 were from the Chicagoland area! Congratulations to Dave Ward and crew at Olympia Fields Country Club in leading the nation with 94 birds identified. Also, I would like to recognize the other area participants: Heritage Bluffs, Village Links, Thunderhawk, Oak Grove, Mount Prospect, Aldeen, Bryn Mawr, Prestwick, Renwood, Cress Creek, Beverly, Pottawatomie, Salt Creek and Midwest Golf House. Honorable mention goes

to Aurora, Bartlett Hills and any other golf courses that did not officially register but took time to participate on the designated day. Thank you to all superintendents for making time in your busy schedules and weathering the damp, dreary weather.

In terms of pesticide testing, vice president Fred Behnke addressed this in attending a Green Industry meeting held in July. Fred and I have discussed this topic and more information will be conveyed to membership in the future. There are some positive forces at work within the industry and the MAGCS, with the University of Illinois, will pursue all avenues to find a better solution.

I know that in our hearts, we are all environmentalists striving to use IPM (integrated pest management) to the best of our ability. Please show concern for our #1 resource—our children—and the community at large. Educate kids and tell them about mistakes along the way. Take them to Morton Arboretum, the Chicago Botanic Garden or any local wildlife sanctuary. Better yet, take them camping! Keep the faith.





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Name: **Mark Stephan,**

**Rob Roy Golf Course (9 years)**

Job title: **Golf Course Superintendent**

Date of birth: **September 8, 1955**

Place of birth: **Freeport, IL**

Current residence: **Hoffman Estates, IL**

Spouse: **Elizabeth, 12 years**

Children: **Blake-26, Luke-24, Taylor-11**

Pet: **Georgie Girl (dog)**

MAGCS member since: **1992**

College/degree: **Associate's degree in plant science**

My favorite childhood memory is: **Playing baseball.**

My personal hero: **My father**

Favorite actor: **Kevin Spacey**

Favorite musical performer: **Cher**

Favorite cuisine/restaurant: **Chinese, Ming Ho**

Favorite "pigout" food: **Tacos**

Favorite sports team: **Fighting Illini basketball**

Favorite pro athlete: **Sammy Sosa**

Favorite pro golfer: **Tiger Woods**

My favorite place to play golf is: **Anywhere**

My Handicap Index: **12**

My best/most memorable round ever:

**At Kemper Lakes, won A-Flight Club  
Championship in 1988.**

The most interesting/exotic place I've ever traveled:

**Ixtapa**

The book I've been recommending lately:

***A Good Walk Spoiled***

The last great movie I saw (rental or theater) is:

***Hardball***

Favorite TV show: **"Everybody Loves Raymond"**

Favorite color: **Blue**

In my spare time, I enjoy: **Golf, coaching, softball.**

Three words that describe me: **Patient, caring,  
intuitive.**

What I enjoy most about my job: **Flexibility.**

I'm a Midwest member because: **Networking  
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