

gift of life—of living it, of loving it and of letting everyone around him in on it. His is a gift of loyalty, compassion and humor. His gift might be summed up in these following words—penned by himself—about a stricken comrade. It is, if nothing else, about perspective.

### "Tribute to a Cowboy—Compadres and Coronas"

Many, many years ago I met Don Bridges at our national turf conference. Don was from Memphis Country Club in Hereford, Texas—population 14,000, and midway between Amarillo and Lubbock in north Texas. Don was skinny and bow-legged, stood 5'7" tall when standing erect and sporting his Stetson. Don Bridges was an out-and-out drunk.

Don was disqualified from our golf tournament for not keeping pace and for littering the pristine fairways with his empty beer bottles. His actions gave all of us a good laugh.

We would constantly tease Don about wearing his Stetson, and threaten to remove it from his head. A Gary Cooper glint would blaze forth and in a low voice he'd say, "I wouldn't try that, pardner." We'd order another round, nobody touching his prized hat.

Don was at his mother's bedside when she passed away. He promised "maw" that he would never drink again. He NEVER did.

The police continued to pick Don up many times, but now to help other addicts. Don would counsel the drunks and escort them to AA meetings—a saint in the Texas desert.

When funds got low in Hereford, some Midwest members—call them Samaritans—sponsored Don's expenses to the annual conference. We enjoyed his company, his pride, his Stetson.

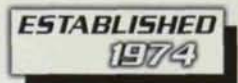
When I heard Don was suffering with lung cancer, I phoned him. "Hello Mr. Voykin," he whispered. "I read about your award in San Diego.

Congratulations."

Now fellows, some of you attend the national conference to win the golf championship; others to achieve points and maintain your certification. But a few of us old-timers go to just reminisce and rehash the tales of the Cowboy.



L to R: Steve Pedersen, Moe Sanchez, Shelly Solow, Paul Voykin, Mike Solow and Willy Steinmiller.



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# What Dad REALLY Does at Work



*In honor of Father's Day, On Course asked the children of MAGCS members to share their comments, drawings or photos of what Dad actually does at the golf course (or in the golf industry) all day long. Here are the submissions we received, in the first of what we hope will be an annual tip of the cap to MAGCS fathers (and a chance for them to show off their beautiful kids!).*



*Rachel and Hannah Anderson.*

## **Hannah Anderson**

Age 9; daughter of Tim Anderson, CGCS, Prestwick Country Club  
My dad helps make the grass green. It is his job to make sure that everything looks good for the golfers.

## **Rachel Anderson**

Age 11; daughter of Tim Anderson, CGCS, Prestwick Country Club  
In the summer my dad takes care of the greens, flowers and other plants. He mows the grass and plants the flowers. In the winter he paints the benches and fixes the machines. All year 'round he has to go to meetings. My dad really likes what he does!

## **Bailey Bossert**

Age 4; daughter of Brian Bossert, CGCS, Bryn Mawr Country Club.  
See artwork, page 23.





Bailey Bossert, here and left.



Kori and Alec Witte.

### Kori Witte

Age 7; daughter of Scott Witte, CGCS, Cantigny Golf

Dad usually makes money at work, and he fixes the grass or "does" the grass. He usually checks around what the people are doing. He rides in a golf cart all day, and he fixes pipes and stuff.

### Alec Witte

Age 5; son of Scott Witte, CGCS, Cantigny Golf

Dad works, but sometimes he plays golf. He works with tools. Sometimes he brings us to work and we have lots of fun.

### Jonah Zeinert

Age 8; son of Phil Zeinert, CGCS, Elgin Country Club

When Dad first gets to work he types up all the jobs that need to be done for the day. He then gets the workers going by telling them what jobs to do. They go do their jobs then dad checks on them at 8 o'clock. When dad is done checking on the workers he goes back to the shop. Then he goes to the sprinklers and turns them on to get the grass growing and the trees growing too.



Jonah Zeinert.





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# Baby Boomers Shift Priorities: Part 2—Baby Boomers Picture Retirement

*Affluent baby boomers have shifted their financial focus towards the future and retirement planning, according to the latest AXA Nest Egg Study, commissioned by AXA Financial, Inc. The study, which was first conducted in 1993, revealed there is a new focus on retirement planning, an increase in financial sophistication and a greater belief in the American dream of success among baby boomers compared to 10 years ago.*

*... those who have prepared well financially for retirement are most likely to place a high importance on a privately created financial plan as a source of retirement income with many citing this as the most important source.*

## **Sources of Retirement Income**

Once in retirement, what do baby boomers see as their source(s) of income? An increased number of baby boomers placed a high importance on their employer's pension plan (57% in 2003 vs. 40% in 1993) and privately created financial plans (49% in 2003 vs. 33% in 1993) as sources of retirement income. Indeed, those who have prepared well financially for retirement are most likely to place a high importance on a privately created financial plan as a source of retirement income with many citing this as the most important source.

Although respondents did not characterize Social Security as a key source of retirement income, they did indicate that it had some importance in planning for retirement (56% in 2003 vs. 44% in 1993). Those who have prepared poorly for retirement are most likely to rely on Social Security and most likely to believe they will have to sell their home in order to maintain their lifestyle in retirement.

These findings are mirrored in respondents who reported not having a financial plan. In AXA's 2003 Nest Egg Study, those *without* a financial plan were more likely to rely on Social Security (11% of those with a plan vs. 24% of those *without* a plan) and were likely to say that they expect to sell their home in retirement (17% of those with a plan vs. 23% of those *without* a plan).

## **On Their Own**

As they age, married baby boomers face increased chances of finding themselves on their own. In the AXA 2003 Nest Egg Study, a large majority acknowledges that their own lifestyle would decrease upon their spouse's death (87%) and that their spouse's lifestyle would decrease upon their death (82%). Women especially believe their lifestyle would be severely diminished upon their spouse's death—19% versus 3% for men.

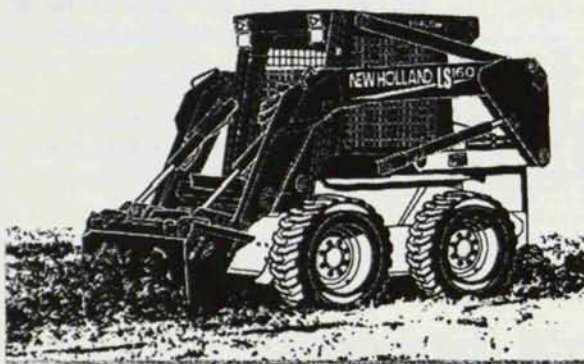
Respondents with less than \$100,000 in household income who do *not* have a financial plan are more likely to believe that their spouse's lifestyle would decrease severely (2% of those with a plan vs. 14% of those without a plan) upon their own death.

## **Looking to the Future**

Despite the political and economic events of recent years, nearly three-quarters of respondents to AXA's 2003 Nest Egg Study believe "the American dream of success is alive" (74%). This increased by 17% from 1993, when 58% believed this to be true. And as with generations before them, more baby boomers believe the future will be better for their children with 53% believing

*(continued on page 27)*



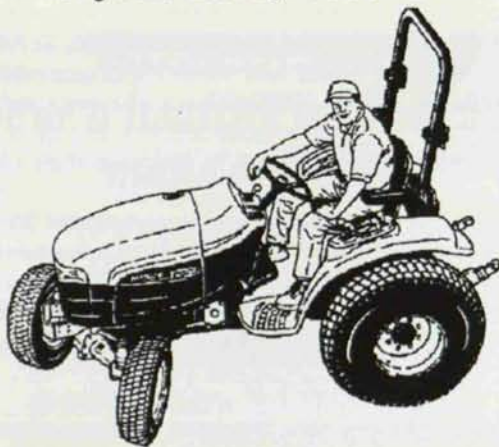


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it is realistic to think that their children will be better off than they are (an increase from 41% in 1993).

### In Closing

As the baby boom generation continues to mature, financial needs, goals and expectations will evolve and change. Results from AXA's 2003 Next Egg Study indicate that this process is underway. Preparing financially for retirement has become significantly important for the generation that declared it would never trust anyone over 30. Having adequate resources in retirement has replaced paying for the children's college education as the single greatest economic concern for a considerable portion of baby boomers. Compared to 1993, more baby boomers expect to assign a higher priority to providing a financial base for retirement.

Yet some things haven't changed. In both 1993 and 2003, more than 60% of respondents reported that they had a formal financial plan. Results further indicate that having a plan means a greater likelihood of achieving financial goals.

Overall, baby boomers seem to be anticipating retirement and have begun to face the task of building a nest egg for their future.


If you would like to learn more about what you can do to build or enhance your financial nest egg, please contact your financial professional.



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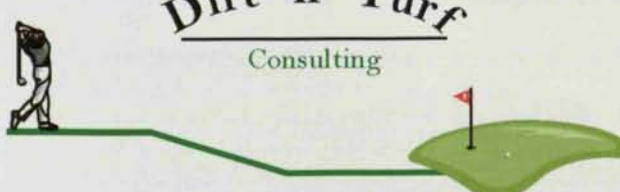
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# the Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS  
Contributing Editor

## DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2-6 – LPGA's Kellogg-Keebler Classic tournament at Stonebridge Country Club in Aurora, IL, **Dan Sterr** host.

June 10-13 – 2004 LaSalle Bank Open at The Glen Club in Glenview, IL, **Steven Daurer** host.

June 22 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Glen Erin Golf Club in Janesville, WI, **Dave Braasch** and **Dave Nadler** hosts.

June 30 – Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Pinecrest Country Club in Huntley, IL, **Brian Comiskey** host.

July 1-4 – Cialis Western Open at Cog Hill Country Club in Lemont, IL, **Ken Lapp** host.

July 19 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Fox Run Golf Links in Elk Grove Village, IL, **Greg Thalmann**, CGCS host.

This month's meeting will be held at the beautiful new Glen Erin Golf Club in scenic Janesville, Wisconsin with Dave Braasch and Dave Nadler hosting. The education topic will be "Digital Photography—Applications For the Golf Course," presented by our own **Luke Cella**. Application has been made to GCSAA for 0.1 education points for the session. Come on up and enjoy the day!

On a related (i.e., digital photography) note, **Mark Karczewski**—the individual responsible for the graphic design of this magazine—has created some useful guidelines for members who wish to contribute digital photography to *On Course*. If you are planning to submit digital imagery for publication herein, either to

accompany an article you are finally going to write, or as part of an advertisement, please contact **Cathy Ralston**, editor, and she will send you these guidelines. Or, reach Mark at 708-771-5936 or at cool-hand500@comcast.net. Mark offers a wealth of information and stands ready to help your article be the best it can be (without joining the Marines).

Keep June 30th free—the Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing is back, and at a new locale to boot. This always-fun event will take place this year at Pinecrest Country Club in Huntley, and will include lunch on the course, scramble-format golf, followed by dinner, awards and raffle drawing. Call J.W. Turf at 847-683-4653 to sign up.

MAGCS welcomes the following new members into the fold:  
**Jerry J. Cotton** of Joe Louis Golf Club;  
**Fernando H. Diaz** of Black Sheep Golf Club;  
**Jeremy L. Duncan** of Village Greens of Woodridge;  
**Tom Gray** of Olympia Fields Country Club;  
**Benjamin E. Hills** of Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest & Associates;  
**John P. Maman** of Beverly Country Club;  
**Mark A. Martinez** of Tuckaway Golf Course;  
**Christopher A. Painter** of Downers Grove Park District;  
**Patty Reedy** of Skokie Country Club (about time);  
**Jarred D. Samski** of Briar Ridge Country Club;  
**Cainan L. Shaddick** of Geneva Golf Club; and  
**Justin P. Wheeler** of Prairie Landing Golf Club.

Welcome, all of you, to the greatest professional association there is!

Thanks to the detective work of **Jon Jennings**, CGCS of Chicago Golf

Club, we can confirm that an old MAGCS friend has been found out East and is safe and sound. Tom Brodeur, who was previously at the Crystal Tree Golf & Country Club in Orland Park, is now (still) alive and well and loving life at the TPC Boston.



Tom Brodeur.

The last couple of years have seen a decrease in new course construction in our area, but the number of course renovations has really skyrocketed. Medinah #3, Chevy Chase (now the Legends of Chevy Chase) and Indian Lakes Resort (now called Blackhawk Trace) are three prime examples of this. The trend seems to be continuing this year, with the June opening of Makray Memorial Golf Club on the site of the previous Thunderbird G.C., as well as completed renovations at Exmoor C.C., Midlothian C.C. and the Village Links of Glen Ellyn, to mention a few. This fall, Ruth Lake C.C. is launching a major project involving architect Arthur Hills. **Dan Marco**, CGCS says the project entails closing the course on August 2 in order to rebuild eight greens and "gas 'n' grass" the others (probably to an A4/A1 blend); reconfigure the parking lot to gain additional parking and expand the range tee; expand the range to 275 yards with target greens, bentgrass tee and fairway and mist system on the tee; convert the second hole to a par 5 (currently a par 4) and convert the third hole to a par 3 (currently a par 4); rebuild and reconfigure all bunkers; expand water features throughout the property; and add new tees where necessary to lengthen the course and provide four sets of tees per hole. Whew! The course is scheduled for reopening the first week of June,

(continued on page 30)





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2005. Also slated for a 2005 opening is Coyote Run, the new **Greg Martin** project on the site of old Cherry Hills G.C.

.....  
The April MAGCS meeting was held on a . . . how can I put this . . . blustery day at Nettle Creek Country Club in Mayberry . . . uh, Morris, Illinois. **Pat Norton**, CGCS hosted the day, and it couldn't have been more fun. Most of the players thanked their lucky stars that the format was the four-person Modified Oldsmobile Scramble, as the wind absolutely howled and it was quite common for three of the four shots to simply be blown away (like into other counties, into cow patches, wherever). Par 3s into the relentless wind were unreachable with drivers, while downwind 300-yard pitching wedges were common. This was a FUN day!

Before the games began on the course, Dr. Brian Horgan of the University of Minnesota gave a pretty scary presentation titled "The Fate of Phosphorous in the Environment," highlighting current legislation in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan that heavily restricts the use of phosphorous as a fertilizer due mainly to its adverse effects on water bodies.

The results of the scramble were as follows: 1st Net—**John Gurke**, **Randy Kane**, **Luke Cella** and **Scott Witte** (59); 2nd Net—**Kurt Sams**, **Dave Holler**, **Ed Esgar** and **Keith Peterson** (60); 3rd Net—**Steve Poole**, **Paul Carlson**, **Keith Copersmet** and **Larry Flament** (61—decided by scorecard playoff). 1st Gross—**Brian Bossert**, **Brian Racette**, **Chuck Anfield** and **Dennis Buck** (65); 2nd Gross—**Don Ferreri**, **Dave Kohley**, **Trent Bradford** and **Rick Wilson** (67); 3rd Gross—**Brian Baker**, **Joel Purpur**, **Erwin McKone** and **John Maksymiu** (68—decided by scorecard playoff). Proximities were won by **Randy Kane** (closest to the hole), **Lynn Wesson** and **John Anderson** (longest putt) and **Eric Nadler** (longest drive).

On the charitable giving hole run by

**Sharon Riesenbeck** and **A. J. Huey** (thank you both for donating your time), 69 of 100 players contributed a total of \$950 to the Utica Tornado Relief Fund. We thank everyone at Nettle Creek, everyone who partici-



*A couple of Pat's new self-propelled mowers hard at work.*



*Another of Pat's tributes to Hans—the memorial wood shop (memorializing the tree, obviously, and not Hans who in most people's minds is still very much alive).*



*Two of MAGCS' skinniest members—Dr. Randy Kane and John Gurke—get pumped up in the gale.*



*Tony Kalina completes the gift lavishing on Pat by presenting him with the customary plaque of thanks.*

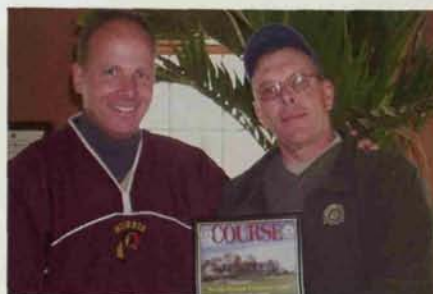
pated, and most importantly, our sponsors—TPEC, J.W. Turf, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Syngenta and Palatine Oil—for a wonderful day.



*Hans Hopphan shows off the honorary range ball presented to him by Pat before the shotgun start.*



*Dr. Brian Horgan with Sharon Riesenbeck.*



*President Behnke presents Pat Norton with his copy of On Course in a lovely \$2.49 frame.*



*Many thanks to the day's sponsors!*