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the Bull Sheet (continued from page 30)

Jon Jennings, CGCS and Cleve Carnev from Chicago Golf Club, Maggie Brizzolara (KB Professional Resources) and Paul Vermeulen (director, Mid-Continent Region, USGA Green Section). Starting off the day was Tom Meeks-the guy in charge of tournament preparation and set-up for the USGA-relating his many memories and U.S. Open highlights (and lowlights, including mention of the misguided back-left hole location on no. 17 at Olympic Club, the excessive length of no. 10 at Bethpage and the decision not to irrigate Shinnecock on Saturday night). Tom's comments were a breath of fresh air coming from an organization that has been notorious for its lack of candor in matters of this sort. In fact, at last year's annual meeting in Lake Buena Vista, FL, the USGA initiated a tighter policy on speaking to the media on USGA matters, and the April 8th issue of Golfweek's SuperNEWS pointed out that, "Tom Meeks . . . must not have gotten the memo. The USGA's senior director of rules and competitions, speaking a few days later at a Chicago District Golf Association/ USGA Green Section Mid-Continent Region [event], touched on topics that included controversial course set-ups at recent U.S. Opens." Oh well, what can possibly happen to him now? After 30 years with USGA, Tom is retiring at the end of September to a much quieter life. You gotta love a guy who espouses a "basal pruning" program for the many overplanted golf courses across the country!

Next up was Bradley Klein of Golfweek, whose topic was "Golf-A Great Game But a Lousy Business." Brad's insight into the business of golf over the past decade was both illuminating and at-times depressing, citing the era of "irrational exuberance" in the '90s that fueled the huge building boom, the stress on high-end public courses with "theatrical designs" a la Desmond Muirhead, and the "edifice complex" method of clubhouse design of that time and the troubles it left in its wake. Brad summed up his thoughts with this challenge to our industry: "Adapt or die." Oscar

MAGCS March Meeting

MAGCS members got an inside look at Soldier Field, thanks to the generosity of **Holly Gilmour** and J.W. Turf. The Cadillac Club conference room is where it all went down on March 21st. Ken Mrock and John Nolan, co-superintendents of Soldier Field, Halas Hall, The Payton Center and the Bourbonnais practice facility, were on hand to explain the behind-the-scenes maintenance procedures. After the education and lunch, Ken and John treated everyone to a VIP tour of the stadium.

-Scott Witte, CGCS

Miles, CGCS took the podium next to present the CDGA's Randy Kane with a check for \$5,000 for dollar spot research from the Miles Scholarship Turfgrass Research and Education Award in cooperation with the Illinois PGA. To learn more about this award, intended to benefit the future of our industry, go to www.illinoispga.org. Maggie Brizzolara of KB Professional Resources spoke next on "Improving Employee Retention and Productivity," stressing the idea of equating employees to customers and treating them as such. Paul Vermeulen gave a highly entertaining PowerPoint presentation on "How to Find the Perfect Boss," during which he touched on all the basics of recruiting and working with a green committee. Paul generously offered printed or disk copies of his presentation to any interested parties, so give him a call if you would like a laugh while you learn.

Finishing off the day were Jon Jennings, CGCS and Cleve Carney of Chicago Golf Club, who talked about the preparations for hosting the Walker Cup this August in their "Walker Cup Preview." The Walker Cup pits the top 10 amateurs from the United States against the top 10 European amateurs, and dates back to 1922. This will be the second time CGC has hosted the eventthe first being in 1928 when Americans Bobby Jones and Chick Evans helped the U.S. team thrash Britain 11-1. The only real difference this year will be the addition of TEMPO- RARY air-conditioning in the very same clubhouse. In all, it was a grand day at Medinah, and congratulations go out to everyone who had a part in putting it together.



Tom Meeks reacts to the question, "Any thoughts on the Shinnecock set-up?"



Bradley Klein and Paul Voykin.



Oscar hands over the Miles Scholarship check for \$5,000 to Dr. Kane for dollar spot research.



USGA's Paul Vermeulen.

(continued on page 34)

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the Bull Sheet (continued from page 32)

March is past, and that means that *Golfweek* has come out with its "America's Best Courses" lists. Several MAGCS members happen to be tending these classic (pre-1960) and modern courses, and deserve recognition.

- In the Classic category:
- #14—Chicago Golf Club and Jon Jennings, CGCS
- #19—Oakland Hills Country Club (South Course) and Steve Cook, CGCS

- #22—Shoreacres and Tim Davis
- #40—Medinah Country Club and Tom Lively, CGCS
- #74—Point O' Woods Country Club and Ron Fox, CGCS
- #86—Skokie Country Club and Don Cross, CGCS
- #100—Beverly Country Club and Jon Sundvold
- In the Modern category:
- #47—Cog Hill Golf Club (Dubsdread Course) and Ken Lapp
- #74—Black Sheep Golf Club and Dave Biery

#87—Butler National Golf Club and Mike Sauls

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Equipment for Sale:

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Bunton Model G813 walking greens mower in excellent condition. This mower was privately owned and was used to mow a personal putting green. It has been meticulously maintained, and the owner will entertain all offers. Call John Beckway at 847-683-0541 or 847-791-6446.

Inverness Country Club has a Jacobsen TriKing 1900D

in excellent condition for sale or trade—\$4,500 cash or equivalent. Please call Mike at 847-358-7030 or e-mail questions to MagicGrKpg@aol.com.

- 1988 Toro Greens Aerator: Model 09110, good
- condition—\$950.
- 1992 EZGO GXT804 with steel cage for range use, needs engine—\$450.
- 1993 Toro Tri-Rollers for triplex, good condition— \$400.
- 1982 Ryan GreensAire II with quadratine coring heads and newer short block—\$350.
- Toro VertiCut units for triplex, age unknown, good condition—\$150.
- (20) Toro 750 complete sprinklers-\$20 each.
- 1982 Turfco Meter Matic self-propelled topdresser—still runs—almost free!
- 1968 Rogers Model 40 blower for 3-point hitch, well-rested—almost free!

Call Kurt or Mike at Exmoor C.C. at 847-433-1177.

Timber Trails C.C. still has the following items for sale:

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- Jacobsen GK IV heavy blades.
- Myer 300-gallon 25 gpm sprayer.
- TI International reel/bedknife grinder.
- (2) LF-100s, new reels/bedknives.
- Call Don at 708-372-4482.

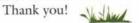
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significant equipment at crazy low prices—they're practically GIVING the stuff away:

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- AgriMetal 3-point hitch blower, almost never used, come see it and make your offer.
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- · Sort-of-old Jacobsen 3-point hitch blower-best offer.
- TIP Spiker-Seeder, almost new, purchased just before bensumec application—best offer.
- John Deere 2653, 2,450 hours, make an offer after seeing this beauty!

Call Dave at 847-528-6656 to schedule an appointment and prepare to be wowed. No calls before 8 a.m. please.

Flossmoor C.C. has four complete sets of blue, white, red and gold artificial pine-log tee markers for sale. They are in very good condition and ready to be used. We have decided to use a different style, and would like to find a home for these where they'll actually get used. Contact Bob Lively at 708-798-4700, ext. 241 or 708-906-8817. brought before them, and I thank them for all that they do for me. I have received a lot of support and words of encouragement from the MAGCS Board, which keeps me motivated and pushes me to do the best I can with this appointed position. But most important, it is other assistant superintendents I have talked with and have been able to represent who give me the most encouragement. I would like to invite anyone who has questions, comments or suggestions regarding my position as a representative of the assistant superintendents to contact me at **chadk@hinsdalegolfclub.org** or 630-986-1323. I took on this position not for myself, rather for the benefit of all assistants.



I have received a lot of support and words of encouragement from the MAGCS Board...

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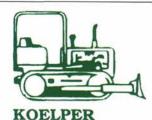


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