

What's new at...

TPEC

Tanaka
POWER EQUIPMENT

TPEC is a factory authorized
Tanaka distributor for the Midwest



We carry all models
&
Parts



ONLINE

TPEC eStorefront

- Order Genuine Toro OEM parts at your convenience 24/7
- Receive Winter Parts Pricing throughout the year when ordered online
- Track part orders online
- Research part numbers through online parts manual
- Order parts by 3 p.m. (CST) and receive in stock parts within 24 hours and back-ordered items within 48 hours
- Order from TPEC's award winning parts team
- Free freight on orders of \$40 or more through April 30th

Call your TPEC Account Executive for more information on
Tanaka products and to sign up for TPEC eStorefront

Whitey Anderson	630-251-4832
Joe Etten	630-284-8492
Tim Snell	708-284-8497

Larry Collins	630-217-1922
Dave Holler	630-244-6477
Steve Stewart	630-284-8496

www.tpec.com



2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Gary Hearn, Salt Creek G.C.
Home: 630-540-1460, Office: 630-773-4790
E-mail: g.hearn@worldnet.att.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Tim Anderson, Naperville C.C.
Home: 630-718-9601
E-mail: tjanderso@aol.com

SECRETARY / TREASURER

Dave Braasch, Glen Erin G.C.
Home: 608-373-7081, Office: 608-346-9009
E-mail: dbraasch@gleneringolf.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Luke Cella
MAGCS, 11855 Archer Ave., Lemont, IL 60439
Office: 630-243-7900, Fax: 630-257-0362
E-mail: luke@magcs.org

BOARD

Paul Bastron, Glen Flora C.C.
Home: 847-746-7212, Office: 847-244-6305
E-mail: pdbastron@sbcglobal.net

Tony Kalina, Prairie Landing G.C.
Home: 630-690-2683, Office: 630-232-1650
E-mail: tkalina@prairielanding.com

Tom Prichard, Ivanhoe Club
Home: 815-337-9217, Office: 847-566-2050
E-mail: tprichard@tivanhoeclub.com

Todd Schmitz, Phillips Park G.C.
Home: 630-851-5636, Office: 630-898-5296
E-mail: tschmitz@aurora-il.org

Dan Sterr, Stonebridge C.C.
Home: 630-357-4871, Office: 630-898-6139
E-mail: Djsterr@aol.com

Scott Witte, Cantigny G.C.
Home: 630-497-1909, Office: 630-260-8182
E-mail: switte@tribune.com

PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Phil Zeinert, Elgin C.C.
Home: 815-748-5730, Office: 847-622-4823
E-mail: eccsuper@elgincc.com

COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVE

Sharon Riesenbeck, Waupaca Sand & Solutions
E-mail: sharon@waupacasand.com

CLASS 'C' REPRESENTATIVE

John Ekstrom, Cantigny Golf Club
Home: 815-521-4130, Office: 630-260-8135
E-mail: snapp79@aol.com

TURFGRASS ADVISOR

Dr. Randy T. Kane
University of Illinois & CDGA
630-257-2005

EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN

Scott Witte
E-mail: switte@tribune.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

John Gurke
E-mail: Boomding@aol.com
Brad Anderson
E-mail: bradkim@earthlink.net

GRAPHIC ARTIST

Mark Karczewski

This publication is not copyrighted. We would like to share our articles with any who would like to use them, but please give the author and *On Course* credit.

FRONT COVER

The second hole at Sunshine Course, home of the Chicago District Golf Association and the headquarters of MAGCS.
(Cover image courtesy of the CDGA.)

ON COURSE WITH THE PRESIDENT

3 Rites of Spring – Changes Ahead

Gary Hearn

DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

5 Be Bold, Be Brave, Host An Event

Todd Schmitz

SUPER –N– SITE

7 Chris Painter –N– Sunshine Course

Scott Witte

11 MIDWEST BREEZES

Brad Anderson

18 THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke

FEATURE ARTICLE

25 Teaching Technicians: From a Chicago-area Meeting Group to a Leader in National Seminars

Wes Danielewicz

NEWS FROM ALLIED GROUPS

27 Wayne Otto

Mike Handrich

31 MAGCS EVENT PHOTO GALLERY

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS), founded December 24, 1926, is a professional organization whose goals include preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge pertaining to golf turf maintenance.

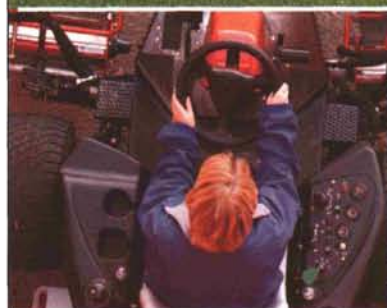
We endeavor to increase efficiency and economic performance while improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige of the members.

The MAGCS member is also an environmental steward. We strive to uphold and enhance our surroundings by promoting flora and fauna in every facet in a manner that is beneficial to the general public now and in the future.

All editorial and advertisement inquiries should be directed to Luke Cella, Publisher, *On Course*, 11855 Archer Avenue, Lemont, IL, 60439. (630) 243-7900 or visit www.magcs.org for rates and requirements. Statements of fact and opinion are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers or members.



Mission: Greens quality cut. Less compaction.



Accomplish it with the only Super Lightweight Fairway Mower. Jacobsen® SLF-1880™

The Jacobsen Super Lightweight SLF-1880 Fairway Mower was specifically designed to deliver a greens quality cut, faster fairways and reduce turf compaction. Narrow 18" floating cutting heads handle contours perfectly for a precision, Jacobsen cut on undulating fairways. And the SLF-1880 delivers an 80 inch cut with little or no turf compaction due to its light weight. Plus, the ergonomic cockpit helps improve operator productivity.

You also get CustomerOne™ support with every Jacobsen product which means exceptional warranties, OEM parts, dealer service, and superior technical assistance. So, when you want the most productive, greens quality cut for your fairways, depend on Jacobsen. For a free demonstration of the SLF-1880 or other Jacobsen equipment **come see us or give us a call.**



JACOBSEN
A Textron Company

Jacobsen, A Textron Company
www.jacobsen.com Tel. 1-888-922 TURF (8873)

©2003 Jacobsen, A Textron Company

Burris
EQUIPMENT
COMPANY

Burris is proud to combine its 45 plus years of sales and service experience with Jacobsen's eighty years in manufacturing.

Waukegan, IL 847.336.1205

Ingleside, IL 815.363.4100

Frankfort, IL 815.464.6650

www.burrisequipment.com



Rites of Spring – Changes Ahead

On behalf of the MAGCS Board, I would like to begin by wishing Cathy Miles Ralston much success in future endeavors. Ralston brought professional style to the magazine as Editor for the past seven years. She elevated On Course to a higher standard of quality and presentation. Ralston's guidance and excellence in journalism are certainly appreciated. I wish her the best of luck.

Through much thought and deliberation, MAGCS Board and I decided to seek another direction with *On Course* by contracting the management of the magazine with Luke Cella, our Executive Director. This magazine is one of the Association's greatest assets. The Board and I felt that centralization of the management of *On Course* with the management of the affairs of the Association will streamline both operations. As we have seen the management of the Association reach new levels in recent years, I look forward to the future of *On Course* with Luke at the helm.

Atlanta Show

I trust everyone had a great time in Atlanta during the Golf Industry Show. I also hope that you indulged yourself at one or both of the Hospitality Receptions. I would like to thank our most generous sponsors for making those two events successful. When I return from the Golf Industry Show my head is always full of new ideas and theories. I always hope I am able to digest and incorporate all that I have seen into my scheme and plans for my golf course.

My biggest enjoyment from the show is just meeting colleagues and spending time with friends. As you get older, these precious moments – being brief, tend to shape your existence. I would like to congratulate Dr. Joe Duich, Professor Emeritus at Penn State University, on winning this year's Old Tom Morris Award.

New Life

Spring is in the air and this is one of the best times of the year. I enjoy the 'smell' of freshness and knowing that the new season is just around the corner. Spring brings in new life as tree buds are swelling, grass is turning green, crocuses are blooming and wildlife becomes more abundant.

I start to get excited during this time of year as I anticipate the new challenges ahead. As I begin getting projects started, my staff returns from hibernation with new hope. And – of course – I start swinging a golf club again. You know that winter is past and the rites of spring are upon us when you are looking forward to touring the course, reviewing winter's damage and socializing with customers/members as I am.

March Madness

I really enjoy college basketball, especially during tournament time. I was on pins and needles last year when the Illini went through the tournament bracket to the championship game in St. Louis. I hope the Illini can repeat this year; however it might be a very tall order. For this to occur, the underclassmen will have to step up and meet the new challenges that Dee Brown and James Augustine have given them. March madness is soon to begin, I enjoy watching the double-digit seeded teams play hard to win or lose by a few points by over-rated powerhouse teams. Those first four days of the tournament are truly maddening. Sit back on a comfortable couch and enjoy the basketball madness before the golfing madness kicks in. GO ILLINI!



Experience...



HYDROLogic and Rain Bird understand that renovation is a major commitment, and we want to be your complete renovation partner. We can help you justify and implement a cost-efficient renovation package that's right for you. We ensure that our latest innovations will always be compatible with your existing Rain Bird system. After the installation is complete, we'll be there to help you maintain the quality of your entire system.

Call your HYDROLogic Representative
-Authorized Rain Bird Golf Distributor-

630-761-9400 800-422-1487 www.hydrologic.net



*You can relax when you renovate with HYDROLogic & **RAIN BIRD***



ARTHUR CLESEN INC.

Dedicated to Service!

See the difference.

Priced competitively, quality products, prompt delivery.

You get fast, courteous service from Arthur Clesen Inc.

We've staked our reputation on it.

Try us and see the difference.

WHEELING p. 847.537.2177 f. 847.537.2210 MOKENA p. 708.444.2177 f. 708.479.9477



Be Bold, Be Brave, Host An Event

The Midwest's 2006 golf season is nearly here, which means another Conference and Show is right around the corner. The difference this year is the weather that we are experiencing. I had more rain in January of 2006 than all of last June and August combined. I am not too sure what the 18 days of temperatures above 40 degrees we've had in the last month will do to turf conditions, however, I know the ground is too soft to do any of the usual winter projects this year like tree pruning.

*"For those of you
who have hosted
an event, and
some of you
more than once,
Thank You!"*

I sit here trying to decide whether to fire up the sprayer for another snow mold application or a greens mower to remove some of the growth accumulated over this mild winter. I'm not certain we will get another snow cover, only time will tell. Winter doesn't usually pass us over like this. Maybe the worse is yet to come. I am looking forward to some winter weather to slow down those avid golfers a bit. It just seems like the "down time" has become shorter year after year.

As chairman of the Arrangements Committee, I now have the privilege of setting up our events for the year. Maybe one reason why the winter months seemed to have slipped away is the fact that I have been busy lining up this year's sites and making the necessary arrangements.

The only event we do not have a definitive site for is the Fall Dinner Dance (hint, hint). I'm finding quickly the most challenging task of my position is finding sites for our future events. All of us have heard this before, but the fact is if individuals do not volunteer to host events the events cannot take place. Whether it is one of our golf events, a January meeting, or the Fall Dinner Dance, we are always looking for sites for MAGCS events.

For those of you who have hosted an event, and some of you more than once, Thank You! The rest of you: be bold, be brave, host an event. With the quality members we have in our association, finding host sites should not be this difficult. If you are interested in hosting an event, just give me a call.

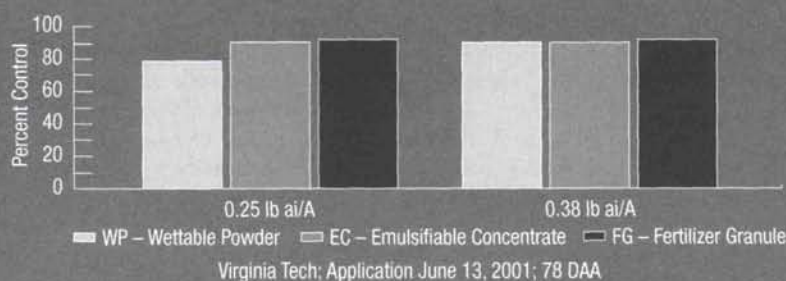


THIS YEAR'S REMAINING EVENTS.

Thursday, February 23:	Assistants Workshop at Golf House
Thursday March 2:	Midwest Golf House- Seminar
Monday April 24:	Chuck Anfield and Heritage Bluffs Golf Club
Monday, May 22:	ITF/MAGCS-Dave Behrman and Midlothian Country Club
Wednesday, June 7:	Chad Walk and Old Oak Country Club
Saturday, July 15:	Kane County Cougar game
Monday, August 21:	Bill Humphres and McHenry Country Club
Monday, September 25:	Chris Blake and McKray Memorial Golf Club
Monday, October 2:	ITF/MAGCS-Tom Prichard and Ivanhoe Country Club
Wednesday, November 1:	Tom Lively and Medinah Country Club MAGCS Turf Clinic
Saturday, November 18:	TBA- Fall Dinner Dance

COUNT ON DIMENSION[®] TO CONTROL NEWLY EMERGED CRABGRASS.

Early Postemergence Crabgrass Control



 Dow AgroSciences
Dimension[®]
Specialty Herbicide

WORKS ALL SEASON | CONTROLS NEWLY EMERGED CRABGRASS | NEVER STAINS

Visit www.DimensionHerbicide.com for more university trials.

*Trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC. State restrictions on the sale and use of Dimension apply. Consult the label before purchase or use for full details. Always read and follow label directions.
T14-813-001 (6/05) BR 010-60366 510-M2-402-05

Chris Painter -N-



Chris, Heather and Zachary enjoying the White Sox season.



Sunshine Through Golf Foundation

Chris Painter's golf course career path started early. Starting under Mike Nass at Bryn Mawr Country Club as an equipment technician in 1984, he continued to work with Mike at Cantigny from 1987-1991, with Tony Rzadski from 1991-1995 and with Scott Witte from 1995-2002. Chris wore a lot of hats at Cantigny.

The most interesting adjustment that Chris has had to make at the Sun-shine Course has been the fact that he is now cultivating disease as well as turf.

He started out as the turf equipment technician, became a plant health care technician and finally earned the roll of assistant superintendent at the Youth Links in 1997. During Chris's time at Cantigny, he studied hard and completed his studies in Turfgrass Management at Joliet Junior College.

In 2002, Chris got his first head superintendent position at Downers Grove Golf Club where he stayed until 2005. Since then, Chris has been at the CDGA's Three-Hole Sunshine Course serving as Superintendent and Facility Manager.

As a true south-sider, Chris is a proud White Sox fan and resides in Chicago. He is currently in the process of building a home in Lockport with his girlfriend Heather and her son Zachary. Chris has been performing the roll of contractor for the home, and has encountered many challenges along the way.

He has always been a "jack of all trades", and is always the guy to call when I get stuck on a project. No matter what the challenge, I always admire Chris's "can do attitude".

Chris's "jack of all trades" abilities have served the CDGA well as he is always helping out with various projects throughout the grounds and facilities at Midwest Golf House. You might find him repairing light fixtures, working with the HVAC system or acting as an intermediary for the CDGA meeting with several contractors.

The most interesting adjustment that Chris has had to make at the Sunshine Course has been the fact that he is now cultivating disease as well as turf.

"It's always interesting to see Randy Kane and Lee Miller's eyes light up when they've got some good dollar-spot or brown patch brewing," said Painter. Chris just has to restrain himself and look the other way as the pathogens do their thing. He waits patiently until Randy and Lee agree it is time to spray.

Chris admits the best part of his job is being able to see some things you normally do not get to see as a superintendent. He gets to see first hand how all the different varieties of turf respond to normal and extreme conditions. Much can be learned from watching the natural progression of turfgrass diseases in different varieties of turf.

There also are times when Chris goes on site visits with Randy and Lee.

(continued on page 8)

It helps for him to see that as superintendents.

"We are all kind of the same", Painter said. "We all face the same challenges from time to time, and we all get stuck once in a while. It is based on the realization that mother-nature has a tendency to keep any superintendent second-guessing from time to time."

Chris thinks it is a joy to see other superintendent's willingness to give Randy and Lee a call for some back-up and take advantage of CDGA's ability to help.

Chris is a big believer in learning by doing. He has gained tremendous experience over the last 22 years by working with individuals from whom he knew he could learn.

He especially enjoys working with Carl Hoppman. Carl is the Director of Development for the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation. Chris has a tremendous amount of respect for the energy and passion that Carl brings to the table on a day to day basis. Seeing Carl's relentless pursuit of his vision for excellence at the Sunshine Course has really inspired him.

"It's easy to get energized when I'm around Carl," Painter affirms.

When Chris is not spending time on the golf course, he escapes his normal routine by going to his house in Silver Lake, Mich. Of course there is never a shortage of projects for Chris to dive into.

This wonderful getaway retreat has been Chris's special project over the last several years. He has spent countless hours refining his creation for himself and those closest to him.

So while we are on the topic of "those closest to him." I'll take the time to say that I have known Chris for eleven years now. Not only has Chris been a joy to work with, but he's always been a great friend with whom I enjoy spending "time away from turf!"

Thank you for that Chris. We'll see you at Midwest Golf House.



"We are all kind of the same",

Painter said.

"We all face the same challenges from time to time, and we all get stuck once in a while..."





COMPOST

- 15 Yard Loads
- 30 Yard Loads
- Screened ½ inch
- Screened ¼ inch

COMPOST MIXES

- Compost/Soil Mixes
- Compost/Sand Mixes

For more information and pricing, call Caroline
At 847-441-6606



GreenCycle Incorporated
400 Central Avenue, Suite 115
Northfield, Illinois 60093
847-441-6606
www.greencycle.net



24 hr. support • 1-866-SYNGENTA
syngentaprofessionalproducts.com



Conditions worthy of devotion.

Introducing Headway,[™] a new fungicide solution for fairways. And better fairways mean better play. With a dual mode of systemic action, Headway provides broad-spectrum control at low rates — including outstanding protection against both brown patch and dollar spot. Headway continues the tradition of innovative disease control from Syngenta. Our unique formulations perform on a daily basis, bringing value to your course. Not only do they provide superior control, they are engineered for practicality with no clogging and even coverage.

To a golfer, dedication is wanting to be the first on the course each morning.
To Syngenta, dedication is creating conditions that make that commitment worthwhile.



Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using this product. ©2006 Syngenta. Syngenta Professional Products, Greensboro, NC 27419. Headway[™] and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.