

Hollembeak Construction, Inc.

Golf Course Construction and Remodeling

"We believe in a quality job and take pride in our finished product."

- New Construction
- Feature Shaping
- Bunker Sand Replacement
- Pond Dredging
- Pond Construction
- Boulder Features
- Cart Paths
- Drainage

Mike Hollembeak

P.O. Box 103
Big Rock, Illinois 60511
Phone (630) 556-3891

Jeff Hollembeak

A Continuing Tradition of Quality
in Golf Course Renovation
Restoration and New
Construction



[608] 836-7041

FAX: [608] 831-4236

WWW.BRUCEGOLF.COM

for the Shop Talk get-together at Aurora Country Club coming up on the 23rd of this month. This informal meeting will be a great way for you to exchange ideas, discuss current issues, talk shop and bitch about your superintendent overlords. Call **John Ekstrom** or Keith Krause to reserve your spot. Contrary to its name, the event will not be held in the shop, but in the actual CLUBHOUSE where members go. How can you resist? However, please bring your own bathroom.

.....
The January MAGCS monthly meeting was held at Prairie Landing Golf Club, with the always affable **Tony Kalina** serving as our host. This meeting's education presentation was a departure from the norm, featuring Dr. Harvey Drucker of Argonne National Laboratories and the University of Chicago with his discussion of "Bioterrorism—Risks, Threats, and Cures." I will chime in at this point to mention that Dr. Drucker, if given a scatter gun, an orange vest, and a guy bleeding from like 92 little holes laying next to him would be a dead ringer for our own Vice President Dick Cheney.



.....
Dr. Harvey Drucker.
.....

After getting past the Cheney thing, the actual content of Dr. Drucker's presentation was quite enlightening, albeit a little unsettling. Focusing mainly on infectious diseases, their spread, and their use as terror agents, the good doctor warned us that, in his own words, "any idiot can make a bio-weapon." The nuts and bolts of his talk got down to the nitty gritty of those little viruses and bugs that can travel at the speed of an airplane, infecting huge numbers of people in a short

time, and causing all kinds of mayhem. Yuck! Then we ate lunch. From a buffet line. With no sneeze shields. And then **Ed Braunsky** broke out a pair of those medical inspection gloves during his Dead Poets Society....um, Past Presidents Committee report, keeping everything on subject. When it was all said and done, however, the day was a very nice diversion from our typical meeting subject matter, and all in attendance left with a new appreciation for what really goes into keeping our homeland safe from the threat of bioterrorism. Thanks go to Tony, Dr. Drucker, and the staff at Prairie Landing for a really great day!

.....
Got email? Sign up for MAGCS email notification. It's quick, easy and free. Stay on top of the latest events from the Association. Call Luke at 630-243-7900 or email him: luke@magcs.org and let him know.

.....
On January 24th at 9:11 AM—while many of us were at Prairie Landing for the MAGCS meeting—a very happy event took place. Ethan Derek Florian, the son of Jennifer and Derek, came into the world. It is difficult to imagine any upside to tragedies such as Derek's death, but the birth of this beautiful, healthy, 7 pound, 10 ounce bundle of joy is surely proof that, without sounding too cliché, every dark cloud truly has a silver lining.

Mom and sister Madeline are doing wonderfully and little Ethan has been nothing short of perfect—heck, he didn't even cry when the doctor slapped him. Congratulations, Jennifer, and nothing but our warmest wishes with your new little miracle.



.....
Jennifer and Ethan Florian.
.....



CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale:

- 20 Standard ball-washers, crank-style, red, in good condition with many extra parts. Asking \$20 each. Call Bill at McHenry C.C. at 815-385-0635.
- The Palatine Park District has the following equipment for sale, all in good condition:
 - * 1999 Toro 5200-D Fairway mower with 4,500 hours.
 - * 2003 Toro Greensmaster Flex 21 mower with under 100 hours.
 - * 2002 Toro Greens Aerator, under 50 hours.
 - * 1999, 2000 and 2001 John Deere 220-A Greensmowers.
 - * 1992 Ryan GA-30 Aerator.Call **Brad Helms** at 847-359-4022 or e-mail him at bhelms@palatineparks.org to make an offer or get more information.
- 2004 Toro Sand Pro 5020 in excellent condition—\$6,000 OBO. Call Dan or Mark at Barrington Hills Country Club at 847-381-0140.
- Befco 14' tow-behind rotary mower. Good condition. \$3,000 or best offer. Contact Mike Bavier at 847-358-7030.

Two new course designs. Two *Golf Digest* awards.
One exceptional firm.



Best New Upscale Public Courses—Mattaponi Springs, Ruther Glen, Virginia



Best New Private Courses—Canyata, Marshall, Illinois

© Joann Dost

When Golf Digest announced its best new courses of 2005, Lohmann Golf Designs walked away with two awards. Unique and challenging holes are our trademark; environmental stewardship and timeless design are our benchmarks.

To learn more about our course design, renovation and construction management capabilities, call Bob Lohmann at 815.923.3400, or visit www.lohmann.com.



Distinctive. Innovative. Memorable.



*Lay it and
Play it!*

CENTRAL SOD
Tour-Redi Turf

- USGA Spec Sand Based
- Available in "Greens" Height
- Multiple Varieties
- Custom Grown to Your Specifications
- Delivered and Installed Throughout the Midwest
- Poa Free!
- Sand Based Low-Mow Bluegrass at Tee height



Water Saver Sod
Fescue Sod Available

1-800-310-0402



7:45 A.M.



11:00 A.M.



4:30 P.M.

www.centralsod.com

RTV900

**The utility vehicle that's built
as tough as a tractor.**



Hard working, dependable and tough: the Kubota RTV900.

- 21.6 HP diesel engine - Designed by Kubota engineers
- Hydrostatic power steering - Handle tight turns with ease
- Variable Hydrostatic Transmission (VHT) - No belts. No maintenance. No loss of torque.
- Hydraulic wet disc brakes - Smooth braking, even in mud and water
- 4-wheel drive - Power through the roughest terrain
- Ground-hugging suspension - Fully independent front and semi-independent rear suspension
- 4 different models - General, worksite, turf and recreational

Tractor tough. Kubota smart.
Martin Implement, Inc.
16400 104th. Ave.
Orland Park, IL 60467
(708) 349-8430

Kubota

EVERYTHING YOU VALUE
www.kubota.com



DUNTEMAN
TURF FARMS

Growers of Quality Sod

SERVICE!

LOCAL GROWING FOR
EASY PICKUP OR QUICK DELIVERY.
DELIVERY ON TIME, EVERYTIME.

QUALITY!

FEATURING
ELITE KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS,
BENTGRASS SOD, AND
TURF-TYPE FESCUE

- LOWER MAINTENANCE
- MORE DROUGHT & SHADE TOLERANT
- BETTER WEAR RESISTANCE

NEW
PRODUCT

PRICE!

CALL FOR A QUOTE



Chicago

630-557-2900

MAIN STREET
11 MILES WEST
OF BATAVIA, IL

TrakMats™

Ground Cover Mats For The Professional

- * Tough, Lightweight
- * Power Cleat Traction
- * 100% Original Material
- * UV protected
- * Light color prevents burnt grass
- * Unaffected by heat & cold
- * Hand cutouts for lifting



No more Ruts,
Damaged Lawns or
Weather Delays.

No more Heavy,
Wet, Rotten,
Broken, Slippery
Plywood.

PO Box 1325
Frankfort, IL 60423
1-800-732-9401
1-815-463-8495 Fax

BTSI



Mud-Vac100

Vacuum Excavation System



**" Less Digging, Less Damage, Less Time
Better Results "**

EXCAVATE

- Tile lines
- Valve boxes
- Sprinkler heads
- Flooded sand traps
- and much more....!

LOCATE

- Irrigation lines
- Sprinkler wires
- Utility cables
- Buried man holes
- and much more.....!

Ideal for superintendents, irrigation contractors, golf
course construction companies, and municipalities.

For additional info or to schedule a spring demo, call 866.365.SOIL (7645)

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

For 23 years, turf technicians have from various parts of the green industry have been coming together as members of Turf Equipment Technicians Association (TETA). What historically began as the Chicagoland Golf Course Mechanics Association (CGCMA), TETA learned from its early struggles and grew to be a strong body today.

TETA is comprised of technicians from park districts, forest preserves, athletic fields, turf equipment dealers, distributors and predominately golf courses. How they came together starts with a one man.

It was January 1983, at a Chicagoland Golf Course Superintendents Association annual shop tour a brave, nervous golf course mechanic asked for everyone's attention. He proposed that the golf course mechanics come together and create an association.



Front roll left to right: George Klein, Walla Walla Community College; Jim Letourneau, Foley United; Mark Nelson, Briggs & Stratton Corp; Wes Danielewicz, Executive Director TETA, Maple Meadows G.C.; Back roll, left to right: Bill Hughes, Turftech Online; Joe Prestwood, Toro Co.; Glenn Peters, TETA, Sunset Ridge C.C.; Ted Soenksen, TETA, Wilmette G.C.; Matt Passantino, TETA, Stonebridge C.C.

His name was John McGuire from Sunset Ridge Country Club. McGuire went on to say, he felt it would be great for mechanics to get together each month to discuss any issue specific to equipment or mechanical experience of repairing equipment. His goal was to be able to visit each other's shop and see the different ways that shop was set up, equipped, etc. These were the first meetings.

A few months later, golf course mechanics from all over Chicagoland met and voted on the name, "Chicagoland Golf Course Mechanics Association." Officers and directors were elected, McGuire president, membership dues were set at \$15 per year and so began the first ever golf course mechanics association in the Chicago area.

Records indicate that in 1986 there were 28 paid members with the expectation of membership increasing

to 60 in 1987. Although the membership did increase, it did not reach 60 paid members until 1990, at which point membership went up to 84 mechanics. In 1989, by-laws were introduced, voted on and approved by the membership, they remained the same for five years.

In 1994, the name changed to the Turf Equipment Technicians Association and at the same time the membership voted to expand its membership to a national level. Although TETA has members from the east to west coast, the membership is concentrated in the Chicagoland area.

Only 16 percent of the current paid membership is from outside Illinois, 95 percent of the membership is from golf courses the remaining percentage is made up of park districts, distributors or dealers. The membership continues to grow each year with the possibility of creating chapters in other regions across the nation.

The mission of TETA is to promote the image, stature, reputation and skills of the professional turf equipment industry technician. This is accomplished by offering monthly educational seminars for the membership. Attendees benefit from these seminars not just from the educational content but also from the interaction of other fellow technicians.



TETA members at an educational forum.

Gathering technicians creates a network of information beyond comprehension – likely beyond McGuire's original aspirations. Seminar topics span from the basics of engine, electrical, hydraulic repair and diagnostics to getting the optimum cut from your mowers. A seminar normally begins with a continental breakfast followed by introduc-

(continued on page 26)

tions of speakers and then education begins. Lunch is served and a short business meeting follows, time permitting. These seminars are put on at no cost to members.

TETA has tried so hard in the past to have representatives of equipment manufacturers come and do these educational seminars. Lately it has been extremely difficult for them to commit to presenting for the association.

Hope for the future of TETA involves having the ability to conduct presentations of its own, ones that are not brand specific and still accomplish the educational need of the members. More hands-on presentations and seminars would help in the taking of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Certification Tests are just some of the things to come as TETA approaches its silver anniversary.

TETA is a supporter of the EETC. The EETC is an organization of equipment and engine manufacturers, distributors, dealers, trade schools, high schools and trade associations that are committed to reducing the shortage of equipment technicians. It is the council that writes the certification exams for equipment technicians.

TETA is currently involved in the Reel Technology Certification Test under the Turf Committee. You can find out more by visiting www.eetc.org.


For eight, consecutive years TETA has presented educational sessions at the GCSAA National Conference and Show, now known as Golf Industry Show. It has consistently presented educational sessions at the ITF's Illinois Professional Turfgrass Conference (IPTC). Sitting on the



TETA shop tours and hands on demonstration.

IPTC educational committee, TETA plans to continue to use this conference as a means to educate its membership.

Conducting educational seminars is not the only benefit TETA has for its members. TETA offers members employment referral opportunities; resume services; a network of turf equipment technicians with answers to an array of turf equipment questions and if they do not have the answers, they can find someone who does.

A large majority of members are some of the founding members of this association. With their support and the support from others who believe being a turf equipment technician is the career for them, TETA will continue to be a part of the green industry. 

SERVICE TIPS

Subject:

John Deere Pro Gator 2020 with gas engine

Problem:

Hard to remove spark plug boot from engine

Solution:

First work a small screw driver around the outside diameter of the spark plug boot. Spray some liquid grease such as Zep 2000 down around boot and remove. Before reinstalling, use some dielectric grease around the diameter of the boot. This will allow for the spark plug boot to be removed with ease the next time.

Submitted by: Brian Eilrich
Glenview Park District Golf Club
Director, TETA

The Service Tips submitted are strictly the opinion of the submitter and are not that of the Manufacturer.

Subject:

Bedknife replacement

Problem:

Rust on threads of bedbar/excess anti-seize used
A long, long time ago someone gave a mechanic an idea to use anti-seize on the threads of the bedknife screw. This was feasible except when the mechanic decided to use it he thought that more would be better. By using an excess amount of anti-seize you are not helping in any way. In fact you may be causing the bedknife to actually bow out wherever you have a screw.

Solution:

If you are using anti-seize for the sole purpose of ease of removal of the screws then when replacing the bedknife, I suggest trying some Loctite #272 (the blue stuff) on the threads instead. Begin by making sure the threads are free of dirt and oil. Apply a small amount of Loctite #272 on the threads of the screw and torque to manufacturer's specification. Loctite is an anaerobic and coats the threads. The lack of oxygen prevents rust from forming. Removal is just as easy as with anti-seize.

Submitted by: Wes Danielewicz
Maple Meadows Golf Course
Executive Director, TETA



WAYNE OTTO

Inspiration for the Wee One Foundation

When you are faced with the daunting task of writing about a legend like Wayne Otto, where on earth do you start? For the record, Wayne served as the golf course superintendent of Ozaukee Country Club from 1969 through 2002. He was president of the WGCSA in 1977 and 1978. On November 12th, 2002, Wayne became the 12th recipient of the prestigious WGCSA Distinguished Service Award. After a very successful career as a golf course superintendent he became the spokesperson for the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and formed his own business, Turfgrass Support Services. In addition, Wayne co-authored a book with Danny Quast titled "Turf Management – Tools and Techniques. After a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer, Wayne was taken from us on October 21, 2004.

Long time executive director of the Wisconsin State Golf Association Gene Haas said it best about Wayne in his newly published book, *Caring for the Green*: "Wayne was one of the most sharing golf course superintendents in America. It didn't matter who you were. If you had a problem, call Wayne and he would jump at the chance to help you out. He was a true legend and a nice guy. Wayne was a good friend and mentor to a countless number of people."

It surprises me how many times during the summer I am going about my daily business on the golf course that I recall profound statements made by Wayne through the years relating to virtually all aspects of golf turf management and even about life in general. Most "Waynisms" were short and to the point. Many pop into my head time and time again, and they have prevented me from doing the wrong things to my golf course. I cannot tell you how many times Wayne said to me, "I wouldn't do that if I were you."

Wayne always had an answer for everything and most of the time he was right. I am not afraid to ask questions, and I am glad I had the chance to ask Wayne many, many questions. Most of Wayne's responses reflected his philosophy of managing turf. Ironically, shortly after graduating from the UW-Madison turf program and assuming my first position as a golf course superintendent in Milwaukee, I was told that Wayne and Danny Quast pretty much stuck to themselves and most likely would not be much help to a UW-Madison grad. I took the chance of calling both men, and the rest is history. If I ever ran into a problem and needed help, either one of them or both would be there on that same day.

Wayne was a true pioneer of our industry, and he was never afraid to take chances to find a better method or way of accomplishing something. This is just one reason why he knew so much about turf. Some of his experiments turned out less than successfully, but that never stopped him from embarking on the next one. As we all know, it takes a very bold man to conduct experiments in this business, and Wayne was as bold as they come. We continue to reap the benefits from this curiosity and innovation yet today.

(continued on page 28)

*"I am glad
I had the chance
to ask Wayne many,
many questions."*

Wayne was the Energizer bunny of golf course superintendents. He was never shy about asking questions himself. In the last 20 years he asked the most questions at educational conferences and seminars across Wisconsin. If you ever needed to find Wayne during an educational seminar or lecture, you most assuredly could find him in the front row, dressed neatly, listening intently and feverishly taking notes. After the presentation, you generally would find him asking more questions of the speaker until the session monitor, the next speaker or the janitorial staff would have to end it! Later you could find him enjoying a beer and still talking about the same topic.

His cup was always half full. I cannot recall a single instance when Wayne was down or depressed. He was always smiling, happy to be around his peers, and always anxious to talk to you. I was fortunate to make a few trips with Wayne to various turf conferences. On one occasion I rode with Wayne, Danny Quast and Jim Latham to a Mid-Am Turf Conference in Indianapolis. We drove down in a snowstorm, and the ride lasted about five hours. I think I learned more about turfgrass management in those five hours than at any other time in my life. Not once was there a silent or a dull moment, and we only talked about turf! The five-hour trip seemed to last about an hour and a half.

I always looked forward to rides to conference and back with Wayne and friends. At any conference, state or regional or national, you couldn't walk down one city block without someone from somewhere stopping Wayne and striking up a conversation with him. These reunions could last anywhere from five to ten minutes, and if the guy was lucky he may have ended up having dinner with Wayne that evening.

Wayne's sense of humor is truly legendary. I was managing ryegrass fairways during that first year I spent in Milwaukee and had the tendency to use lots of fertilizer. Wayne referred to my course as "Zebra Country Club." Needless to say, my fairways were the brightest in all of turf management. My members frequently carried cameras and took pictures while they played

golf. We had a wet and icy winter that first year and, predictably, my fairways were virtually dead in the spring. I was in trouble, so I naturally called Wayne and Danny. As we were all kneeling and looking at the dead turf, Wayne became very serious. He looked at me sternly and asked me what alcoholic beverage I liked the most. When I said brandy, he suggested I should get the biggest bottle I could possibly find. I never laughed so hard; Wayne had an answer for everything!

Earlier I referred to quotes and one-liners as "Waynisms." JoAnn Otto has heard so many of these so often that many are now a part of her everyday vocabulary. Here are a few of them:

- "You're trying to put five pounds of mud into a five pound bag."
- "I was born at night, but not last night."
- "Put a fork in me; I think I'm done."
- "The best color on the golf course is white and about 12 inches deep."
- "Don't let your battleship mouth take over your rowboat tail."
- "I'm so hungry I could eat the southbound end of a northbound skunk."

On gaining weight:

- "Just like the State Fair, I get bigger and better every year."

- On filling up your plate too full: "These plates need sideboards."

Wayne was truly the king of the one-liner, and he had many more of these truisms than I have noted here. I always thought if Wayne had been born in a different era, he would have made a great philosopher.

But Wayne's passion was turf, and it was only equaled by his passion for life. His love of tacos, beer and sports is widely known throughout the country. Once you loaded him up with tacos and beer, look out. This is when Wayne would start talking about topics other than turf, things like the Packers, the Bucks and the Brewers. He loved conversation about college sports, the hottest peppers and politics. Wayne also loved to play golf, cribbage and a variety of other games. Wayne was a true competitor, but win or lose, he always had a great time and the camaraderie was always more important than the outcome of the match. Wayne was tagged with "The Wee One" nickname on a golf trip to Scotland when one of the caddies decided to put his money on "The Wee One." Legend has it that the caddie made lots of money that day!

Wayne touched the lives of many people. I will remember Wayne as an extremely intelligent man with-

Save Some Green on Green Sand!

- ✓ Annual March Sale on green sand...call today for discounted pricing!
- ✓ Great for filling divots
- ✓ Repair high profile areas
- ✓ Available with sphagnum peat moss



715-258-8566 • www.waupacasand.com
Proud member of MAGCS for 15 years

out an ego, who showed great respect and regard for his fellow man. He was a generous person who you enjoyed being around. Everyone wanted to associate themselves with him. Wayne was the consummate professional. Though small in stature, Wayne had the tenacity of a tiger and a heart made of pure golf. "The Wee One will never be forgotten."

Through the Wee One Foundation we have a great opportunity to keep Wayne's legacy alive forever. The Wee One Foundation was established in 2004 as a tribute to Wayne Otto to assist golf course management professionals or their dependents that incur overwhelming expenses due to medical hardship and are without comprehensive insurance or adequate financial resources.

To make the Wee One Foundation a true success, we need a strong "grass roots" support. I challenge every superintendent to become a member during our spring membership drive in March. Memberships are \$50 a year and with your membership you will receive a Wee One Foundation membership pin you can wear with pride. In addition to memberships, we

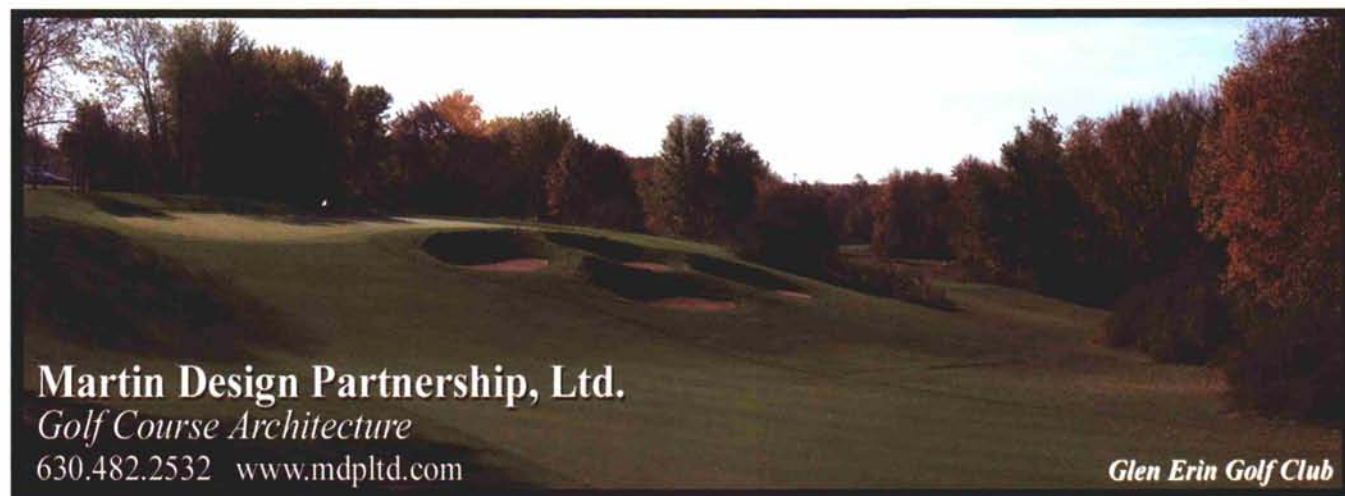
hold an annual golf fundraiser in the fall. Pine Hills Country Club and Rod Johnson have been gracious and generous hosts the past two years. Please consider joining us for this fun outing at a marvelous venue.

Already the Wee One Foundation has gifted \$96,000 to people in need. As time goes on, the need for help will only increase. We need your help and support.

Thank you for your consideration. For more information on the Wee One Foundation or to join, please visit weeone.org [This article was reprinted with permission from the WGCSA, Grass Roots]



Wayne was tagged with nick-name on a golf trip to Scotland when one of the caddies decided to put his money on "The Wee One."



Martin Design Partnership, Ltd.
Golf Course Architecture
 630.482.2532 www.mdpltd.com

Glen Erin Golf Club



Timberline
 Golf Course Remodeling & Renovation

D.B.A. Bill Boyd

30 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE
 FEATURE SHAPING IS OUR BUSINESS

411 York Street, Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440
 (630) 759-7807, Cell (630) 732-9088

Paving the Finest Golf Courses on the North Shore

KAPLAN
 TRUCKING & PAVING CO. INC.

847 • 949 • 1500

M.A.G.C.S. Member

P.O. Box 200 • Lincolnshire, IL 60069 • www.KaplanPaving.com



Says...

*You're
the
Best*

This year's MAGCS Hospitality Suite in Atlanta was a tremendous success. The Association expresses its utmost gratitude to the following commercial members, whose generous contributions made the event possible.



Ryder Cup

Arthur Clesen, Inc.
Bayer Environmental Science
Central Sod Farms
Esler Golf Designs, LLC.
Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts
Phoenix Environmental Care
Syngenta
Turf Professionals Equipment Company

Hole-In-One

Aspen Valley Landscape Supply/Paveloc
BTSI
Chicagoland Turf
J. W. Turf

Eagle Class

BASF Corporation
Burris Equipment Company
H & E Sod Nursery
Hollenbeak Construction, Inc.
Prime Turf
Pro Source One
Rabine Paving

Birdie Class

Golf Creations
Huber Ranch Sod Nursery, Inc.
Leibold Irrigation, Inc.
Lemont Paving Company
Lesco
Lohmann Golf Designs
Waupaca Sand and Solutions

Par Class

Anton's Greenhouse
Cleary Chemical
DHD Tree Products
DowAgrosciences
DryJect Midwest
Duntelman Turf Farms
EX-GO / Textron
Grigg Brothers
GRO Horticultural Enterprises, Inc.
Growing Solutions
Halloran & Yauch, Inc.
Harris Golf Cars
High PSI, Ltd.
HydroLogic
Illinois Pump
Jacobson Golf Course Design, Inc.
Johnson & Associates of Lombard, Inc.
Kaplan Trucking
Kasper Trucking
Layne-Western
Legacy Products
Palatine Oil Company
Pearl Valley Organix
Peat, Inc.
Pendelton Turf Supply
Reinders, Inc.
Riverwalls Ltd.
Ryan Inc. Central
T. J. Emmerich Associates, Inc.
Tyler Enterprises