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208 yard Par 3 #13
Photo Credit: Luke Cella.

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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.

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ON COURSE WITH THE PRESIDENT

Tim Anderson, CGCS Naperville Country Club

Project Directory

The MAGCS board of directors is working to develop a project directory. This resource will be made available as a member benefit to all MAGCS members. The directory will list several common golf course projects such as green construction, bunker construction, irrigation installation, fairway regrassing, etc... Each category will be followed by a list of superintendents who have completed a similar project and are willing to share their experience with fellow superintendents.

The MAGCS is founded on the principal of superintendents uniting to share information. This is a great opportunity to be involved in the association and share your knowledge with others.

The project directory will be made available via the "members only" area of the website. The directory will be updated on a regular basis to keep it current. Shortly all class A and SM members will receive an electronic "Zoomerang" survey. We are asking that all recipients take a moment to complete the survey. The survey lists approximately fifteen golf course projects. Simply place a check mark next to the projects with which you have had experience. By completing the survey you will be volunteering to serve as a resource for your fellow members. The survey will only take a couple of minutes to complete. The results of the survey will be compiled and made available later this season. The MAGCS is founded on the principal of superintendents uniting to share information. This is a great opportunity to be involved in the association and share your knowledge with others. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Past Presidents Council

Last month I had the privilege of attending the annual MAGCS Past Presidents' Council (PPC) meeting. The meeting was hosted by Gary Hearn at Salt Creek Golf Course. Despite the rain, a dozen MAGCS Past Presidents took time out of their busy schedules to participate. During the course of the meeting participants were asked to write down the number of years that they had been involved in the association. Those in attendance represented an impressive 311 years of service to the MAGCS. Paul Voykin, MAGCS President 1972, Mike Bavier CGCS, MAGCS President 1975, and Carl Hopphan, MAGCS President 1977, led the way with a combined total of 104 years of service. Kudos to these gentlemen!

The Past Presidents' Council meets annually to provide feedback on the current activities of the association and to offer guidance on how to plan for the future. While the specifics of the meeting will be covered in the May issue of On Course, it goes without saying that the input of the PPC is highly valued. In his GCSAA seminar on Chapter Leadership, Jeffrey Cufaude notes that the future success of an association is largely dependent upon its ability to identify and react to upcoming trends before they become common knowledge. The Past Presidents' Council helps us achieve this goal.

Early on I was nervous about meeting with the Past Presidents. As the date drew closer my nerves gave way to a feeling of anticipation. To have the opportunity to talk with and gain insight from a group of individuals with 300 years of collective experience, individuals who have shared a common experi-

(continued on page 4)

ence, is a rare opportunity. By the end of the meeting my feelings of anticipation had evolved into feelings of respect. Respect for 12 superintendents who were willing to take

time on a rainy March day to help advance our association. Thank you for your continued involvement!

Tim



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DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Dan Sterr Stonebridge Country Club

MAGCS Golf Events for 2007

It is hard to believe another golf season is just around the corner. The month of February was one of the coldest and snowiest on record, and March is beginning where February has left off. Needless to say, the 2007 golf season will be upon us soon, and the MAGCS Golf Committee, along with the Arrangements Committee, has come up with an excellent list of host sites and events for the 2007 season.

*The MAGCS
Championship
will be held
on September 17th
at Stonewall
Orchard with
Larry Flament
as our host and
Al Pondel, CGCS,
as the defending
champ.*

The season will begin on Monday, April 30th, at Indian Lakes with the annual Spring Scramble hosted by Chuck Ardell. On May 14th, the ITF will host the ITF/MAGCS Spring Scramble at Ivanhoe with Tom Prichard as the host. This event is mainly an ITF event, but members of the MAGCS Golf Committee help. The money raised during this event benefits many worthy causes in the turf industry. In June, Shepherds Crook and Craig Lewis will host the annual Dom Grotti Championship, along with the Senior and Class C Championships. August will bring us to Mistwood Golf Club and Dave Drendel will be our host. The event for the day will be individual low net and gross and the Progressive Logo Ball. The MAGCS Championship will be held on September 17th at Stonewall Orchard with Larry Flament as our host and Al Pondel, CGCS, as the defending champ. Finally the 2007 season will conclude with the ITF/MAGCS College Championship at Prairie Bluff on October 2nd, with Ken Shepherd as our host. The Golf Committee would like to encourage all members to participate in this year's golf events. There are awards and prizes for all playing abilities, and the events are a good way to network with other members of our association.

I would like to thank all the members of the Golf Committee, Todd Schmitz, and the Arrangements Committee who worked hard to secure the sites for this year's events and also the Superintendents who are hosting the events. Without all of these people working together our golf events for the year would not exist. So, if you can join us for one, there are prizes and fun for everyone.





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Chuck Ardell -N-



Chuck Ardell, wife, Jeannette and son Connor.



INDIAN LAKES
R E S O R T

Indian Lakes Resort, located just 30 minutes from O'Hare on 260 acres in Bloomingdale, is the home of both Blackhawk Trace and the East Trail, 36 holes of championship golf. Blackhawk Trace has played host to three NGA Hooters Tour events and two local qualifiers for the 2005 and 2006 LaSalle Bank Open which is a Nationwide Tour Event. East Trail has its own reputation, hosting the 1995 U.S. Open local qualifier. The resort also features three putting greens, a warm-up area, two pools, a world class spa, four dining outlets, and four bars. The resort has 308 guest rooms with many hospitality suites and six penthouses.

Chuck Ardell has been Superintendent at Indian Lakes Resort since March of 2003. Chuck started his career in Detroit when he was 15 years old. After deciding that a career in the golf industry was what he wanted to pursue, he attended Michigan State University, graduating in 1996. Chuck's first official position was at Western Golf and Country Club in Detroit, where he completed one season while the course was under construction. In 1996 he moved to Chicago and took the 2nd Assistant's position at Wynstone Golf Club. In 1998 he became the 1st Assistant and worked there until he started at Indian Lakes Resort in 2003.

Indian Lakes recently completed an 18 hole renovation done by Jacobson Golf Course Design and Ryan Incorporated Central Golf Construction.

#11 Green Complex

(continued on page 8)



Then-superintendent Vince Dodge, CGCS who is currently superintendent at the Wilderness at Fortune Bay in northern Minnesota, started the renovation at Indian Lakes in 2002. After Vince moved on, Dan Charlton took over. When Dan headed up the road to Evanston Golf Club, Chuck stepped in and completed Phase Two of construction. Robert Bruce Harris is the original architect, but Doug Myslinski of Jacobson Golf Course Design decided to go with an Alistair McKenzie-esque design. With fingered bunkers and fescue around all the bunkers it adds character to the course. They squared all the tees and surfaced them with Princeville bentgrass, and added four tees to every hole. Some of Chuck's ongoing projects are irrigation upgrades and establishment of native trees throughout the course.

Chuck is 34 years old and has been happily married for five years to his wife Jeannette. Together they have a son Connor, age two, one cat, and one golden retriever. Chuck enjoys golf, family, travel and is on the landscape committee for his Homeowner's Association. Chuck has been a member of GCSAA since 1994 and is continuing

his education in order to obtain certification soon. The most rewarding part of his job is the satisfaction of the golfers who play his facility. He conducts periodic surveys to help motivate the staff and to commend them on a job well done.

Chuck's unexpected on the job experiences include having an intoxicated hotel guest toss a cigar off the penthouse balcony during the dry summer of 2005. Subsequently, the cigar was thrown into a fescue hillside along #18 hole of the Blackhawk Trace course, which ignited the entire hillside. The fire department was called, and they did a nice job of extinguishing the area.

Overall Chuck loves working outdoors and enjoys the game of golf. He wishes to thank the people who afforded him the opportunities to learn and grow in the business that he has gained throughout his career, and looks forward to hosting the membership of MAGCS on April 30th.



Par 4 #15 looking back towards the tee





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