

Taylor Behrman, University of Illinois (Chris and **Dave Behrman, CGCS**, Midlothian CC); Samantha Sprouse, Monmouth College (Nancy and **Mike Sprouse**, Randall Oaks GC); and Lauren Witt, University of South Carolina (Lorrie and **Tommy Witt, CGCS**, Northmoor CC). Any child or grandchild of a GCSAA member that is enrolled full time in an accredited institution of higher learning (or be a high school senior accepted at such an institution) is eligible, and the awards are given based on academic achievement, community involvement, extracurricular activities, and leadership skills. The program is funded by the Environmental Institute for Golf, and supported by Syngenta Professional Products. Congratulations to these students and their parents!

.....  
Having trouble keeping up with all the education offerings out there? Need those points to achieve or retain certification, but don't have the time to get around to the seminars? GCSAA reminds us that it offers live webcasts that you can participate in from your office (or anywhere you have access to that crazy interweb thing). Coming up this and next month, for example, are the following webcasts:

- November 13: "Herbicide-Resistant *Poa annua*—Real or Imaginary?" with Scott McElroy, PhD.
- November 18: "Everything You Wanted to Know About Nitrogen" with Kevin Frank, PhD and Brian Horgan, PhD.
- November 20: "Top Notch Communication Skills" with Mike Jousan.
- December 3: "Environmental Management Systems" with Debbie Swartz.
- December 11: "Managing Nutrient Budgets in the Face of Rising Prices" with Jason Dettman-Kruse, PhD.
- December 16: "Bringing More Golf to Your Community" with Dwayne Dillinger, CGCS.

All webcasts are presented in partnership with Syngenta Professional Products and are funded by the Environmental Institute for Golf—visit [gcsaa.org](http://gcsaa.org) for more details, or call 800-472-7878.

.....  
If you have a spare golf cart lying around that you don't know what to do with, consider donating it to Camp Shaw-waw-nas-see in Manteno, IL. The institution has been providing environmental education and experiential recreation to children and adults from all over Illinois and the U.S. for the past 61 years. In return for your donation, you will be featured on the camp's website, as well as in all print, radio, and TV ad spots as a major sponsor of the camp. Call Susan Crisp at 815-933-3011.

.....  
The fall golf season was in full swing recently, with various organizations and associations holding events throughout the Chicagoland area. Starting off the season on September 22nd was the Fifth Annual Wee One Golf Outing at the stunning Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI with Rod Johnson the host superintendent. The biggest participation yet—180+ golfers—made the day a true success in providing great golf, food, and friendship while supporting the Wee One Foundation with valuable funding for its important cause. The golf course was in its usual perfect condition (damn that Rod Johnson!), the Brat Stand and Taco Stand were right where they always are (in a place where they

could be visited and revisited often), and a really great time was had by all. Congratulations to all who participated and went home with prizes, and thanks to everyone who had a part in putting the day together.



*Scott's starts the day off in fine fashion.*



*Krause and Lemanski share a high-five for finding the elusive Brat stand (which was actually difficult to miss).*



*(continued on page 23)*



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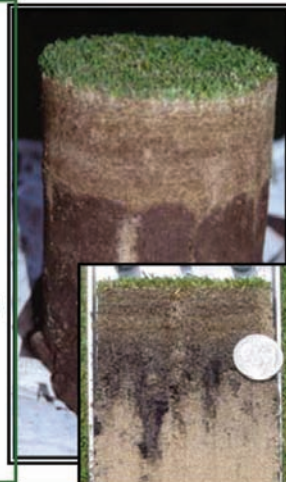


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*Tough par 3, but a chance to meet folks while waiting.*



*What terrible luck to have not only landed in the footprint but to have plugged as well...*



*Baker and Turner on Hooch.*



*Host Rod Johnson.*

The following Monday, September 29th had supers and assistants going in separate directions with the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) Annual Founders Cup Invitational being held at Olympia Fields Country Club (**Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** host) while **Mike Nass, Scott Witte, CGCS, Jeremy Duncan** and **Pat Maksymiu** and Cantigny Golf Club hosted the Class C Golf Outing in Wheaton, IL. It was a dreary, rain-soaked day in Chicagoland, more so in Wheaton than in Olympia Fields, as the weather forced the Assistants outing to be shortened to 9 very wet holes. Many thanks to everyone at Cantigny for hosting the event. Things were a bit better down south for the Founders Cup, as rain fell early but backed off to a mist during the golf portion of the day. A 2-man best ball was the format, pairing superintendents with a course official of their choosing, and being contested on the North Course—site of both the US Senior and US Open championships in the last decade. Deep bunkers and thick rough made accuracy a huge factor, and the team of **Andy Dauksas** and Marc Raymond from Glen Oak Country Club kept it in the short stuff with the most consistency, taking the Cup home to Glen Ellyn at the end of the day (which also featured the Sox-Tigers make-up game that took the South Siders to the playoffs). Thank you to Sam and everyone at Olympia Fields, and to **Dan Marco, CGCS** and his angel of a wife Bridget for setting it all up and greeting everyone in the rain.



*Host superintendent Sam MacKenzie*



*Andy Dauksas will have his name added to the Cup for 2008.*

*(continued on page 25)*



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A few days later, Chicagoland Turf and Midwest Turf Products held their 4th Annual Customer Appreciation Day at Geneva National Golf Club on a beautiful October 2nd afternoon (evening, night, next morning,...). Invitees were treated to a great day of food, golf, and refreshments on a great golf course, and it was surely a memorable day (for most).

Thanks go out to **Wally Fuchs, Trent Bradford, Brian Baker, John Lebedevs, Keith Krause, Nick Baker, Luke Baker,** and everyone on the Chicagoland turf team for a great time.

Not to be forgotten, MAGCS had its own event the following week at Prestwick Country Club in Frankfort, IL with **Tim White** hosting. The event was the Annual College Team Championship pairing players from their alma maters in a 2-man scramble format. The day was somewhat "Jekyll and Hyde-like," with the first nine holes played in benign conditions and the second nine being doused by a persistent rain that ranged from light and annoying to heavy and bone-soaking. Those who played through the pain were rewarded by a really great gourmet food spread in the clubhouse afterward. In the College Championship, the team of **Brian Bossert, CGCS** (Bryn Mawr CC), **Dennis Buck** (Dwight CC), Brock Burton and **Ron Dohman, CGCS** (Pontiac Elks CC) from Danville Community College won for the second straight year. In a CLOSE second, the University of Illinois team of **John Gurke, CGCS** (Aurora CC), **Greg Rounds** (Sunset Ridge CC), **Justin VanLanduit** (Briarwood CC), and **Brian Winkel** (Syngenta Professional Products) outbattled third place Illini **John Anderson** (Arthur Clesen, Inc.), **Jeff Gerdes** (Bolingbrook GC), **Mark Kowalczyk** (Joliet CC), and **Scot Spier** (Arthur Clesen, Inc.). In the Low Net Individual competition, host Tim White and Chad Walk tied for honors. Congratulations to all winners, and thanks to Tim and the staff at Prestwick for a great course and great time. Special thanks to our generous sponsors, who were **Arthur Clesen, Inc., Burris Equipment Company, Chicagoland Turf, JW Turf, Inc., and John Deere Golf, Nadler Golf Car Sales/Authorized Club Car Distributor, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Palatine Oil Company, Inc., and Reinders, Inc.** Finally, thanks to **Sharon Riesenbeck** (Waupaca Sand & Solutions) for running the Wee One donation hole in the rain, benefiting **Kerry Anderson** who has been battling esophageal cancer. Great job everyone!



*There was only one flag flying at this year's college scramble.*



*Participants in the college event scrambled to stay dry during the latter holes of play.*



*Dan - Gilligan- Sterr finished the round without wrecking his ship.*



*Lots of serious putters, putting around prior to the college scramble at Prestwick Country Club.*



*(continued on page 27)*



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More photos from the MAGCS College Scramble.



*Danville Community College takes home or actually just keeps the trophy (it was in the car and no one wanted to go and get it) for another year.  
L to R - Ron Dohman, Dennis Buck, Brock Burton and Brian Bossert.*

.....-OC

## New twist to 15th Chapter Delegates meeting

# Delegates experience New Orleans; engage in discussions

*Desiring to give members as much information as possible about the upcoming conference and show, GCSAA took its 2008 Chapter Delegates meeting to New Orleans, Oct. 24-26. A total of 97 of the 100 GCSAA affiliated chapters were represented.*

"We knew there was some concern about New Orleans' ability to host conference and show," GCSAA President David S. Downing II, CGCS said. "We felt the best way to address that was by hosting the delegates in New Orleans. Various association activities have been held there since Hurricane Katrina, so we were confident the delegates would be impressed by what they saw."

Not only did the meeting break ranks by moving from its traditional Lawrence/Kansas City region, but it also included a two-hour tour of the city and a briefing from local officials on the recovery from storms during the past two years.

"I thought it was great that we got to see the city," first time delegate Gary Myers, CGCS said. "I appreciate that we saw everything. There are still some areas that need to be rebuilt, but from the standpoint of attending Conference and Show, everything was fine. I did not hear any delegate say New Orleans would not be a good place for us. It should be a great event."

The agenda for the meeting was developed by GCSAA Vice President Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS. His focus was on presenting a complete picture of New Orleans, providing in-depth discussion on Chapter Effectiveness and giving attendees a look at the future of the association. The meeting also afforded attendees to hear GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Mark Woodward address the delegates for the first time. Woodward, who took over in July, shared his vision for the association. He touched on the following topics:

- The importance of chapter effectiveness.
- The need for member engagement on the chapter and national level.
- Building relationships to advance the association and its members.

- GCSAA and The Environmental Institute for Golf's role as a leader in ensuring golf's compatibility with the environment.
- The role of the GCSAA member now and in the future.

Special attention was paid to sharing tactics with delegates how they could help their chapters to become more effective.

A report on the extensive work of the Chapter Relations Committee, chaired by GCSAA Past President Tim O'Neill, CGCS was presented. The committee identified four key elements to enhancing chapters:

- Strategic Planning
- GCSAA Field Staff
- Executive Paid Leadership
- Sharing of Resources with other Chapters

Peggy Hoffman and Peter Houstle of Mariner Marketing and Management facilitated a session focused on chapter effectiveness that explored means to increase volunteer participation, enhance communications, activate memberships, improve management and engage in strategic planning, all on the chapter level. The key take-away was research indicates that more people volunteer if they are directly asked, and are offered opportunities that are ad hoc or short term in nature.

The delegates heard several presentations and engaged in discussions regarding member programs and services. Topics included:

- Industry efforts to grow the game, focusing on the role of GCSAA and its members.
- Membership growth and retention efforts.
- GCSAA's financial picture.
- Marketing, outreach and advocacy activities.

*(continued on next page)*



The importance of data for GCSAA and member input, including member needs, assessment, compensation and benefits report, and golf course environmental profile project.

GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show.

A staple of every delegates meeting, the opportunity to meet the candidates and discuss issues of importance was also conducted.

Based on the discussions, financial issues were leading area of interest. Downing, Woodward and GCSAA Managing Director of Finance Cam Oury presented the association's financial picture as being strong with no debt, valuable assets and a solid cash reserve. Although revenues will be lower in 2008 than 2007, association leaders indicated expenses were being managed down appropriately. Delegates also asked for assistance in communicating issues during tough economic times. Staff will provide support to help members in this area regarding Conference and Show attendance and in sharing their value and the importance of golf course maintenance in light of budget cuts.

"I appreciate the delegates taking their personal time to meet in New Orleans," Woodward said. We rely on them to be the conduit to chapters. We also need them to give us feedback. The one item that was very clear to me is that when member financial challenges are great, the opportunities and the need to assist our members are at their greatest. We live by the mantra that 'Members Matter Most' and I would contend they need us more than ever right now, and we need them as well because it is truly a partnership." -OC

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