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iTunes also has a TOP PODCAST section, which is located on the right-hand side. This list is updated daily and orders the Podcasts by number of downloads. This section is definitely worth checking out. Some of the top rated Podcasts include: This American Life, Stuff You Should Know, Savage Love Radio, National Public Radio, Real Time with Bill Maher, and Stuff You Missed in History Class. If you click on any of these, you will be taken to the specific Podcast page where you can download the Podcasts. There are also descriptions and Podcast reviews on each specific page. For example, if you clicked on the Podcast "Stuff You Should Know," the description reads, "Why do humans have body hair? Can lakes explode? Join Josh and Chuck as they tackle all sorts of Stuff You Should Know in this Podcast from **HowStuffWorks.com**." Under the description is the average rating (4.5 out of 5 stars) and various listener reviews.

You can also do a Podcast search, which is located in the upper right of iTunes. For instance, if you want to search for Golf related Podcasts, just type in GOLF and hit enter. You will be directed to a new screen with various boxes labeled: Albums, TV Seasons, Applications, Audiobooks, Podcasts, and iTunes U. Next to PODCASTS box, click on SEE ALL—this will display all the various Golf Related Podcasts. Click on the one that interests you, let the next page load, and download an episode. The episode will then download into

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Podcasts can even be listened to directly from specific websites. For example, Adam Carolla's Podcast can be found all <http://www.adamcarolla.com>. If you go to his website and click on the 'PodTrac Player Listen Now' box, you can listen to the podcast right from there. Bill Simmons from ESPN also has an online Podcast. His can be found at <http://sports.espn.go.com/espn/page2/simmons/index> and is located to the right of the page. Both these Podcasts are also available on iTunes. If there's anyone or anything that you're interested in, try doing a google/yahoo search of the person/ thing and check to see if the website hosts an online Podcast—more and more are beginning to do so.

As I said up top, the majority of Podcasts are free, but some may ask for a fee or donation. You can usually listen to some free samples before deciding whether or not you want to purchase a specific Podcast. Either way, there's enough free Podcasts to keep you busy for a lifetime.

Podcasts allow individuals' access to A TON of interesting and informative information for FREE. If you have the slightest interest in talk radio, I HIGHLY recommend getting an iPod and uploading some Podcasts. It's like having a radio version of TiVo in the palm of your hand. You have access to unlimited information that you can collect whenever it's convenient for you. There are Podcasts out there for everyone.



(continued on page 13)

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MAGCS's Adventure into Podcasting

MAGCS was awarded a matching grant from the GCSAA to start our own Podcast. The grant was funded through the GCSAA's Outreach and Communications Committee to help local chapters expand their own outreach. The purpose of the Podcast will be to inform the world about what we do as golf course superintendents. As the grant proposal states:

"Golf maintenance is not glorious, especially to the non-golfer. However, to the golfer and even non-golfer there is an interest in what our superintendents do behind the scenes on a golf course. The reason for this is twofold. The first, there is a certain peculiarity to the job, our knowledge and training is not mainstream. The second reason dovetails with the first, is that our knowledge and experience is desirable to those that own or manage their own turf. The information that we possess as professional turf managers is a commodity. This outreach proposal will allow the MAGCS to share their knowledge of turf and golf maintenance practices with the golfing and non-golfing communities while promoting our profession in a positive, environmentally sensitive and professional manner. "

While the overall format of our the MAGCS Podcast is being scripted, the idea is simple:

"The expertise of the golf course superintendent will be used to create a one to two minute timely lawn care tip (attracting non-golfing public). This tip will then be expanded to its use on the golf course highlighting the professionalism, sensibility and the environmental awareness of the golf course superintendent (1-2 more minutes, attracting the golfing public). The segment will be wrapped up explaining the science behind the tip or practice, after all, our practices are based upon sound scientific principles."

We are very excited about starting up this Podcast and would like to invite our member's help. There are a number of ways you can help:

- If you have a series of lawn tips you already put out for your golfing membership, send it our way.
- If you would like to be a part of the Podcast, let us know.

We would love to interview you in person or over the phone.

We are hoping to create enough Podcasts to take our listeners through our growing season, keeping the golf course superintendent at the forefront. **-OC**

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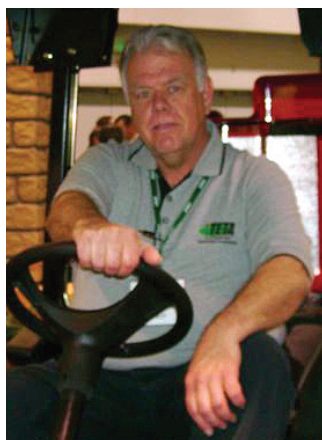
With great pleasure I hand over the title of Turf Equipment Technicians Association (TETA) President to Donald Briggs, Equipment Technician at The Merit Club. Donald has been involved in TETA since the early '90s from all directions and in many forms. He will continue to do a great job for the association because he believes in TETA's mission. If you do not know Donald, then you are new to the business, and you will soon get to know him. I look forward to working with Don for many years to come.

Since being elected to the TETA Board of Directors back in 1997, I have gained numerous invaluable tidbits of knowledge. I have also met new friends and acquaintances. They will continue to be a part of my career in golf. To all who have been a source of knowledge and enrichment to me in this industry, thank you.

I have had many opportunities to share my experiences in equipment repair and service in front of group sessions both locally and at the GIS. On most occasions, I took back more knowledge than I presented.

I want to thank each of you for your continuing support of the association. TETA will continue to grow in membership and knowledge as long as all of you see the benefits of such an association in partnership with MAGCS and its supporters.

Thank you. It's been a great ride, and it is not over by a long ball. -OC



Don Briggs, the newly elected TETA President takes the wheel of the Association.

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THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



June 2009

Committed to the Indian

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 1 – Deadline for applications for the GCSAA's Scholars Competition.

June 15 – MAGCS monthly meeting at the Club at Strawberry Creek in Kenosha, Wisconsin, **Matt Kregel** host. The Dom Grotti, Class C, and Senior Championships will be contested at this event.

July 1 – Deadline for receipt of nominations of candidates for the 2010 GCSAA Board of Directors.

July 8 – Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Pinecrest Golf Course in Huntley, IL, **Brian Comiskey** host.

July 25 – MAGCS Family Night Picnic and Kane County Cougars baseball game at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.

July 27-29 – Illinois Open at Hawthorn Woods Country Club in Hawthorn Woods, IL, **David Schingel** host.

August 1 – Deadline for entries for Lebanon Turf's 2010 Dog Days of Golf Calendar.

August 18-19 – Junior Solheim Cup at Aurora Country Club, Aurora, IL, John Gurke, CGCS and **Virgil Range** hosts.

August 21-23 – Ping Solheim Cup at Rich Harvest Links in Sugar Grove, IL, **Jeff Vercautren** host.

August 25-26 – Inaugural iTurf Expo at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL, **Dr. Derek Settle, Keith Rincker,** and **Chris Painter** hosts.

A big welcome to the new members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, who are:

Bret Rush, Class E, Arysta Lifescience,

Christopher Holt, Class C, Highland Woods Golf Course

Todd Kerry, Class E, Water Well Solutions

And a big thank you to the Toro Company for contributing \$500 to the Environmental Institute For Golf in the name of MAGCS 1, the winners of the Gross Division of the Chapter Team Flight at the 2009 GCSAA Golf Championships in Gulf Shores, AL. The team members were **Dave Kohley, Al Pondel, CGCS, Tommy Robinson** and **Tim Scott, CGCS**. Way to go, guys.

Congratulations to Highland Park Country Club's **Dan Cherrstrom** on his recent certification with GCSAA, making him now and for evermore (unless he doesn't keep up with those pesky points) **Dan Cherrstrom, CGCS**.

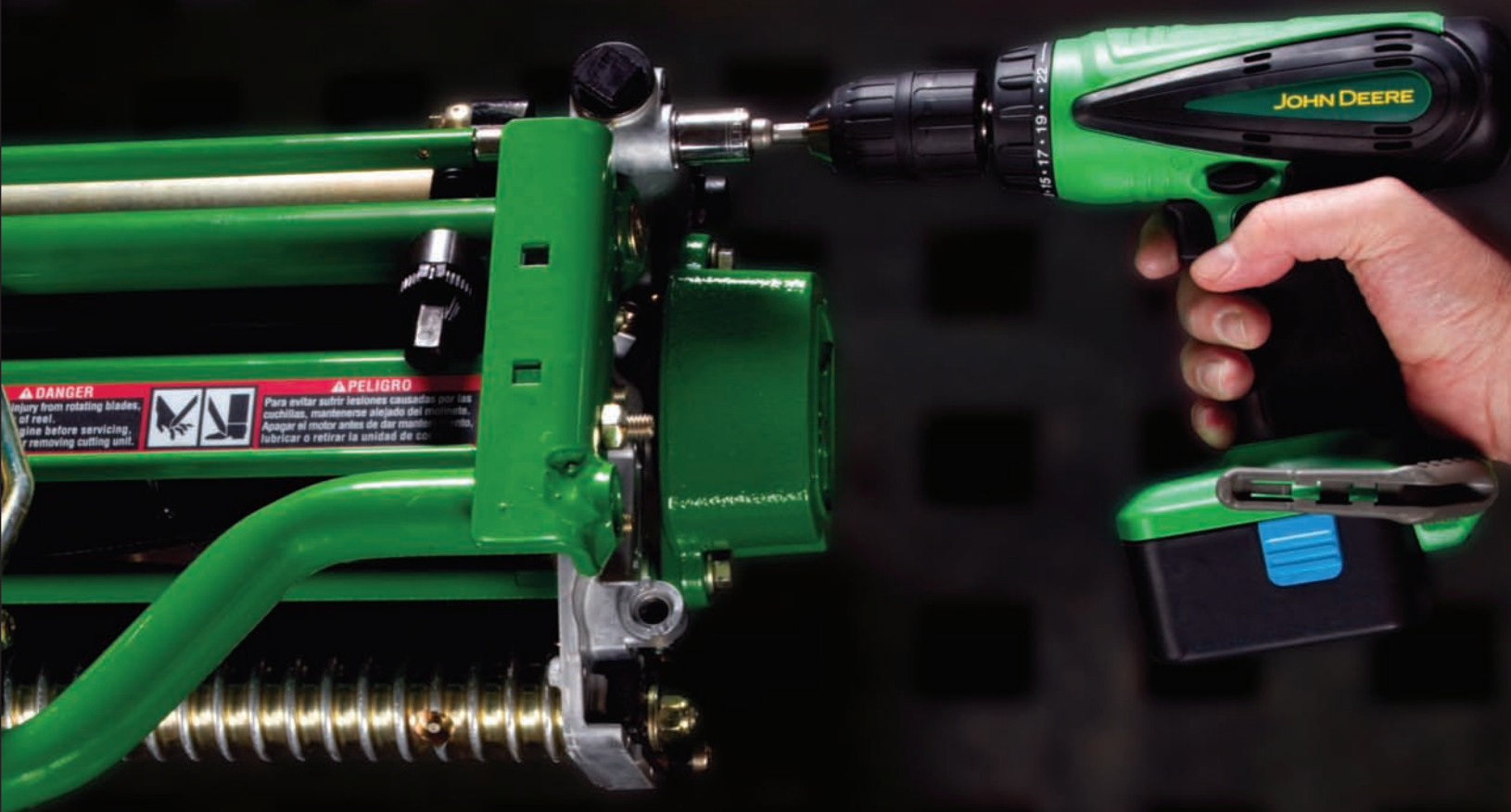
Longtime MAGCS member **Jim Reed** (Reed Irrigation Services) has been named the sales representative for the Sto-Cote Industries GreenJacket impermeable and permeable turf covers for the entire state of Illinois. For information, go to www.greenjacket.com.

Layne-Western (**Joe Eisha** and **Tom Healy**), which has been in business for 80 years in Northern Illinois and is a division of Layne Christensen Company, announced on May 5th that they have purchased certain assets of Meadow Equipment Sales and Service, Inc., including key field equipment, selected inventory, client lists, files, and records pertaining to

projects, and a special phone forwarding service to Layne when calling in to their main phone number.

The 21st of April was a big day for **Dr. Randy Kane** (CDGA). On that day, Randy and his longtime girlfriend Anne Desjardins were married "in a ceremony that was short compared to the courtship" at noon in front of Judge Dave Dubicki in Peoria, IL. Randy and Anne have big plans for their future as well—they recently received an offer on their house in Peoria and are headed out to Bangor, Maine to start their married life together. Congratulations and the very best of luck to both of them!

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Randy and Anne take the plunge in front of Judge Dubicki.



Randy in a trap—a sign, or just a coincidence?

For the second consecutive month, I am privileged to report a new face added to the team at Midwest Golf House. Dr. Settle and Keith Rincker welcome the new CDGA Turfgrass Program intern Nick Devries to the fold. Nick grew up in Michigan, went to college in Florida, and completed an internship at Cape Cod National Golf Course in Cape Code, MA under superintendent Steve Cadanelli, CGCS, past president of GCSAA. Apparently Nick is drawn to peninsulas. Nick will assist with all the research projects underway at Golf House, and hopes to begin working toward his Masters in Plant Pathology with a focus on Turfgrass. Nick was hired with a grant from the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation to help in an effort to help for the upcoming iTurfExpo. Welcome and good luck to Nick.

Following up on the news that our own **Carl Hopphan** will be inducted into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame was a very complimentary article in Carl's hometown *Aurora Beacon News* newspaper on May 7th by staff writer Jim Owczarski. The article details Carl's 31 years as Aurora CC's superintendent, along with the 12 years he spent at Evanston CC and his most recent post with ITF, and features a photo of his flawless backswing.

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued its initial list of pesticides that will be screened for any potential disruption to the endocrine system, and it includes several commonly used golf course products. Among the 67 active ingredients on the list are 2,4-D, chlorothalonil, and imidacloprid. The testing is

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being conducted through the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Process, an initiative under the broader Food Quality Protection Act. This initial list was developed on the basis of exposure potential, and EPA says it should not be construed as a list of known endocrine disruptors. So put that in your pipe and smoke it. But wash your hands first.

'Tis the season to call all golf course dogs. Lebanon Turf, in conjunction with *Golfdom* is looking for dogs for its 2010 Dog Days of Golf Calendar. All photos accepted, including fully nude dogs. Deadline for photo entries is August 1st, and more information can be obtained from Cynthia Andrews at 800-532-0900, ext. 253.

May 15th was a big day for the **Jemsek** family, when the long-awaited renovations to the No. 4 Dubsdread course at Cog Hill Country Club were debuted to the public. The project, which was designed by Rees Jones and built by Wadsworth Golf Course Construction, was initiated to update the course for today's players and equipment, provide a better playing experience for the public, ratchet up the challenge for PGA Tour pros, and be selected as the site for the U. S. Open when it returns to the Midwest, perhaps in 2017 (all this according to Chicagoland Golf's Phil Kosin). Can't wait til September 10 through 13 when the BMW Championship comes back to Dubs and we see **Ken Lapp's** new baby.

A pretty cool thing happened at Cantigny Golf Club (**Scott Witte, CGCS** and a cast of thousands) just prior to Armed Forces Day. Y'know all those helicopters our guys use that you hear about and see in movies like *Apaches* and *Chinooks* and *Blackhawks*? Well they all landed on the parade ground over there, and it was pretty awesome. Amazing they found dry ground to land on, huh?



Best quote heard about the crazy wet weather we've witnessed (or would we say WETnessed?) this spring came from **Dan Anderson, CGCS** (City of Aurora): "Mother Nature needs to get laid." Yeah, huh?

As if we've had it bad, the guys down in Southern Illinois had a freakin' inland hurricane blow through there last month that really wreaked havoc. This was like a tornado but worse, and left behind all the same devastation.

Without the whole saltwater deal or the storm surge since they don't have an ocean down there. And of course no shrimp boats ended up in people's yards. But it was still bad.

The Illinois Open takes place at Hawthorn Woods Country Club on July 27th through the 29th, with **David Schingel** hosting. Here's a couple other interesting tidbits you might not have known. Before Dave and his assistant Alfonso Nava came to Hawthorn Woods, they built the Canyara Golf Club in Marshall, IL—*Golf Digest* magazine's 42nd ranked course in the nation. Also, Davis was named "Superintendent of the Year" by Kemper Sports, who manages over 90 courses nationwide. We're not done yet—Hawthorn Woods became the 49th course in Illinois to attain Certified Cooperative Sanctuary status by Audubon International in March, and Dave was featured on a special with Dan Roan of Channel 9 sports relating to the "Green to a Tee" program that he developed for Kemper for all its properties. Great work by Dave, eh?



David Schingel

Nice item about the Aurora City golf courses (Fox Valley and Phillips Park—**Todd Schmitz** superintendent) in May's *Golf Chicago* magazine. That's the one where three guys named Link Rat, Lefty, and TV Guy go and play public courses and rate them, and they enjoyed their day in Wayne's World on the 2 old tracks. Good pub for some good inexpensive courses.

Condolences to our members who have lost loved ones recently. Mary Ann Clesen, mother of **Arthur G. Clesen** and wife of the late Arthur N. Clesen passed away in late April. Shirley Burge, mother of **Jim Burge** of Reinders passed away in January after a courageous journey with metastatic breast cancer. Finally, on April 26th Jerry McNair, brother of Leon and **Jim McNair** passed away in his home.

Mark your calendars for September 8th—the MAGCS Golf Championship will take place at Kemper Lakes Golf Club (**Dan Tully** host). This event was originally scheduled to be played at Elgin Country Club, but an unforeseen conflict arose and Dan took the reins. **Phil Zeinert, CGCS** and Elgin CC will be our host in 2010. Thanks to both of these clubs and their superintendents for their generosity.

MAGCS members recently spotted in print include **David Marquardt**, whose "Labels, Marketing, and More" article was reprinted in *The Green Breeze*, the publication of the Greater Cincinnati GCSA in May, and **Paul Vermeulen**, our

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