

Anyhow, thanks to hosts **Tony Kalina, Eric Mundt, and Travis Dykstra**, to the staff at Prairie Landing Golf Club, to our education speaker Rusty Stachlewitz of Pro Grow Solutions, to all the great committee members and volunteers who did all the legwork, and to our fabulous sponsors: **Burris Equipment Company, John Deere Golf and JW Turf, Nadler Golf Car Sales**-an Authorized Club Car Distributor, **Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.**, and **Quali-Pro**. A full write-up of the event will appear in the June Bull Sheet.

What is the Sunshine Through Golf Classic 100 and why is **Luke Cella** going to have blisters on his hands after it? Here's the deal—the event, to be held on May 30th is a fundraiser for Sunshine Through Golf that is more or less a golf marathon. Luke and the other participants will risk sun stroke, exhaustion, and those pesky blisters in order to drive, chip, hack, chase, and hack again through 100 holes of golf. The pledges per hole that are received will go toward this great foundation. If you haven't made a pledge to Luke, please call or email him and help him help others.

The 19th of this month is the new deadline for you to complete GCSAA's Energy Use and Environmental Practices survey—one of the Environmental Profile Surveys that have been conducted over the last couple of years. Filling out the survey, which can be found at [gcsaa.org](http://gcsaa.org), nets you .25 Education Points and a chance to win prizes in a drawing. No word on what the prizes are, but my guess is that they'll have a GCSAA logo on them.

So we've seen that MAGCS members are resourceful where municipal trucks are concerned. Last month we featured a city salt truck spreading lime on fairways. This month's creative entry in the "What I Did With My City Truck" contest comes from **Gary Hearn** at Salt Creek Golf Course, and involved the resurrection of a decrepit old rust bucket headed for the crusher. Gary's crew put some elbow grease into fixing and refinishing the thing, but didn't stop there. I think they may have gone to lunch at a local watering hole before coming back to work and adding some personal touches...



*Some guys use city salt trucks to spread lime...*



*...and some use them to trrrrap the foorry little rodents.*

Last month was, among other things, Masters month, where the golf bug bites all of us Midwesterners while we watch the action on the hallowed grounds in vivid HD color while looking out our windows at typical dreary weather. The lucky few, however, didn't need HD to witness Augusta National with its crazy undulating terrain and awesome chicken sandwiches in green wax paper wrappers—they got on a plane and went. Among other MAGCS members, the foursome of **Scott Speiden, Larry Flament, Pete Kiraly, and John Nelson** made the trip and came back with this one observation: You have to go!



*Larry Flament, Pete Kiraly, John Nelson, and Scott Speiden at Augusta.*



*The iconic 13th green in Amen Corner*

*(continued on page 23)*



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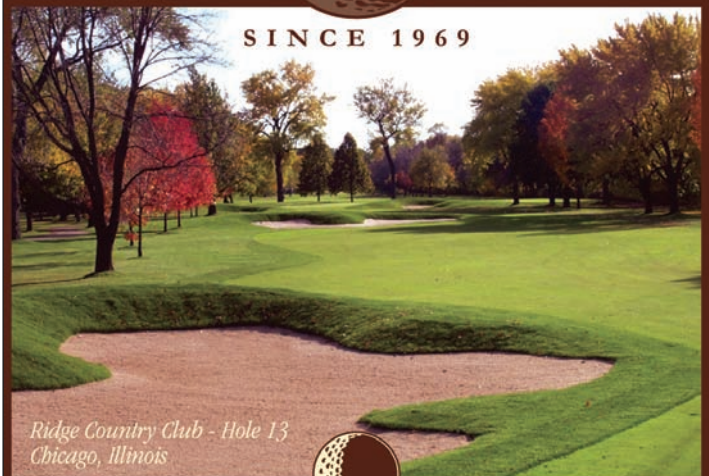


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A couple of our more distinguished members—okay, let's call it what it is and say two of MAGCS' old timers—received great news recently: Long overdue congratulations to **Carl Hopphan** on being inducted into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame later this year. Carl has championed the cause of golf course superintendents for decades, was a past MAGCS president, and is currently Director of Development for the Chicago District Golf Association, and will become only the fourth golf course superintendent—following **Robert Williams, Ray Gerber, and Oscar Miles**—to achieve the honor. The Illinois Golf Hall of Fame is located at the Glen Club in Glenview, and pays tribute to individuals who have made significant contributions to the game both in Illinois and throughout the world. Joining Carl on the list of 2009 inductees are **Frank Jemsek**, Chip Beck, and Steven Lesnik. Again, congratulations to Carl!



Carl Hopphan

Also deserving congrats is **Peter Leuzinger, CGCS** who recently became a tenured instructor at Kishwaukee College, where he has been teaching Turf Management related classes since fall of 2006. Among Pete's unique offerings to the students at "Kish" are his Environmental Property Management class, and his stress on mathematics—a seemingly lost science to today's youth—and their practical use in our industry. Well done, Peter!



Peter Leuzinger, CGCS

Boys and their toys—money definitely has its benefits. When former Black Hawk star Jeremy Roenick learned that the golf course he grew up playing on was for sale, he just went ahead and bought it. The Pembroke Country Club on Boston's South Shore is now JR's very own playground, and not having played golf in 25 years, will make a nice place for him to hone his skills for the celebrity tour after he FINALLY retires his sad, broken-down, penalty-shot-missing a#@ from hockey once and for all. Nothing to do with MAGCS, but what the hell.

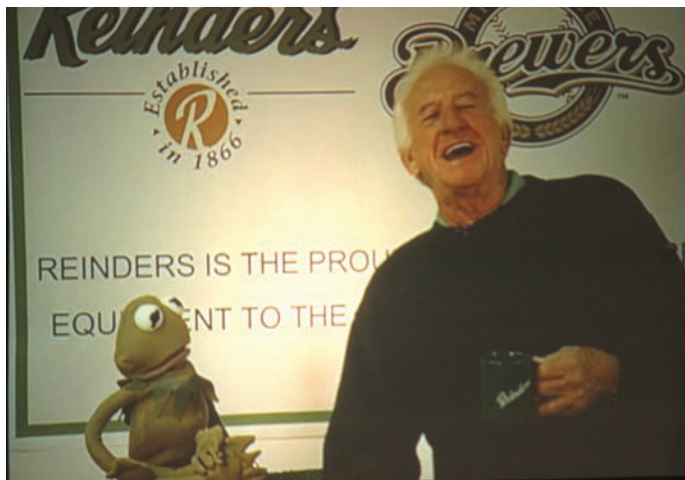
Reinders Wrap-Up—the 19th Reinders Turf & Irrigation Conference took place at the Waukesha Expo center in suburban Milwaukee on March 11th and 12th, with the theme being "Think Green. Be Green. Save Green." Over 1,500 golf industry professionals were in attendance for the 2-day trade show and educational event, while consuming over 3,000 of the now-famous home-made donuts. The biennial event will take place next on March 9-10, 2011.



A great turnout for the 19th Reinders Turf & Irrigation Conference



Trade show floors and beer—a Wisconsin tradition!



Bob Yukker ueks it up with Kermit the Frog at the Reinders show.

(continued on page 25)





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They even let some FIB's come up, evidenced by Illinois' Dr. Bruce Branham's presence at the show.

Another educational event took place last month that you may have attended previously in the fall. The Southern Illinois University Turfgrass Field Day has moved to spring to join the Agriculture Industry Day held on the University Farms in Carbondale, IL on April 17th. For information on future Field Days, contact **Dr. Ken Diesburg** at diesburg@siu.edu.

Congratulations to Wadsworth Golf Construction Company of Plainfield, IL on winning the 2009 Golf Course Builders Association of America's Heritage Award for best reconstruction project for their work at Naperville Country Club (**Tim Anderson, CGCS**). The award was presented at the Golf Industry Show in February.

Ever wonder how you get a four-day complimentary vacation to Myrtle Beach including a free condo and \$500 in free golf equipment? You can qualify simply by being on a plane heading there that takes a detour into the Hudson River in New York City after hitting a flock of birds. We all know the story of "Sully" the heroic pilot that crash-landed his plane in the Hudson, saving the lives of everyone aboard. You may not have heard that several of the passengers were headed to Myrtle for their annual golf junket, which obviously didn't happen. Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday President Bill Golden learned that the survivors included the group headed down there, so he teamed up with Legends Resorts, the PGA Tour Superstore, and members of the Myrtle Beach golf community to invite the guys back whenever they were ready to fly again. They gladly took the offer, but opted to drive to South Carolina instead of winging it.

MAGCS offers its condolences to the families of **Eddie Braunsky, CGCS** (Geneva GC) and **Wes Danielewicz**. Ed's mother Frances passed away on March 30th, and Wes' father Mieczslaw passed away earlier that week.

A new free tool is available to all MAGCS, ITF, and CDGA members that tracks Growing Degree Days for use in determining timing for certain product applications, whether for *Poa annua* seedhead control, early-season fungicides, pre-emergent crabgrass control, or even jock itch. GDD Tracker can be found at [gddtracker.net](http://gddtracker.net).

Another article originally published in *On Course* has found its way in the magazine of another chapter. **Greg Martin's** "Golf's DNA" was reprinted in the *Green Breeze*, the official publication of the Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association. We rock.

New Rule: Chicagoland Turf employees may NOT play sports. This is in response to **Brian Baker's** blown Achilles tendon while playing basketball and **Keith Krause's** punctured lip and broken tooth suffered in a men's league hockey game last month. We wish you a speedy recovery and rehab, Brian, and a pretty new toof and facial scar for you, Keef.



Sports + Middle age = Owies.


If you get those *Golf Course Industry* magazine emails, you may have read the 3-part article by a Dr. Mike Healy about his experiences as a ball hawk at the old York Country Club in Oak Brook (now the Oak Brook Golf Club). Turns out the good doctor is a bit of a self-professed historian on the York Country Club, sharing some interesting facts (or folklore) about its past. Apparently, York was the course of choice for Al Capone back in the day, who would on many occasions park his Packard touring car (complete with Thompson submachine gun mount and bullet-proof armor) next to the larger of the 2 putting greens while sleeping off a long night. Tom also mentioned that there were two known gangland hits at York—one a Berwyn city official who was machine-gunned in a bunker on the first hole, the other a low-level hood found floating in Salt Creek. Aah the good ol' days...



Alphonsus Capone

(continued on page 27)





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A couple sad signs of the times—the April 19th Chicago Tribune Sports section ran a full-back page article about the economy and its effect on golf, focusing on the sale of Ravisloe Country Club and its reopening as a public course. It quoted several of Ravisloe's ex-members and really brought out the human aspect to the story out to the forefront. I suppose it's a glass-half-empty or half-full proposition—a great and historic golf course has been spared and is available to be played by anyone who wants to in the midst of an economic climate that saw 72 18-hole courses open across the country in 2008 versus 106 that closed their doors.

On the lighter side, some Whacky Winter Moments for MAGCS Members...



*Joel Purpur, Dave Blomquist, Kevin DeRoo and a few friends taking a shortcut to the hunting ground*



*Andy Weadge doing what he does best on the rink*



*Jason Lemanski getting pumped for go-kart racing*



*Nick Baker sporting the NASCAR fan look*



*Mike Mumper keeping afoul of the fowl*



*Dan Murray grabbing some major air*

(continued on next page)





Keith Krause working some major powder



And Dave Groelle after some major wiping out



And then there's this—the sad ending to the “What ever happened to Ernie from ‘My Three Sons?’” question.

.....  
Have any goofy photos of yourself being yourself that you're crazy enough to share with your peers? We'd love to capture the lighter side of our membership in these pages, so please feel free to share them with us. Send digital images to booming@aol.com or to luke@magcs.org. -OC  
.....

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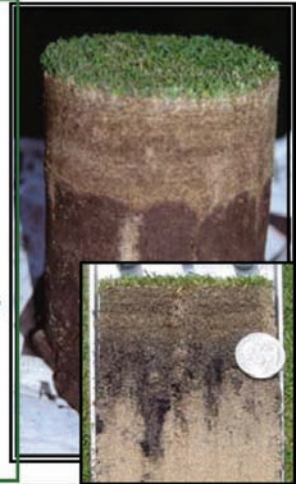


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## EDUCATION RECAP

Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

# March 2009



(L to R) Ty McClellan, Dr. Megan Kennelly, Keith Rincker and Dr. Derek Settle.

*The March MAGCS meeting was held at the Midwest Golf House in Lemont, Illinois. I hate to harp on the same topic, but that place is so nice for educational meetings with its stadium seating, comfortable adjustable chairs and a great stage, top notch. "March Education Madness" featured a lot of "technical stuff". I'll try to summarize the presentations but you really needed to be there to get the full effect. This was the third year of spring presentations of cutting edge turfgrass research that you requested. Some of the research work was done at the Sunshine Golf Course. Derek and the CDGA Staff are looking for ways to improve your turfgrass management through better/faster/cheaper methods of controlling diseases, stress and helping with overall growth.*

"Moss Madness" started the day featuring Megan (pronounced Meegan) Kenelly of the Department of Plant Pathology from Kansas State University. Her studies were conducted at courses throughout the Kansa City, Missouri area.

What is moss and why is it so hard to control? Silvery Thread Moss (our main culprit) is a Bryophyte and lacks a vascular system and chlorophyll. Moss reproduces with spores and favors moist conditions. The spores are transported by water and by fragments or little chunks. It can also grow in hot sunny locations and can withstand extreme desiccation and temperatures above 100°. It's found throughout world. Typically moss is found in locations of low mowing heights, scalping, low fertility, shade and poorly drained sites.

Megan tested soaps, oils, copper, baking soda, iron and copper fungicides. She discovered there is little published on moss control. A summary of her results:

- Junction fungicide. Yes it works, but be wary of copper in the soil that can build up and induce iron chlorosis.
- Daconil fungicide. Yes, sometimes, but it is labeled for algae, not moss.
- Quicksilver herbicide. Yes but repeat applications are required and timing is important to help the bentgrass colonize the moss encroached areas.
- Baking soda. Yes. Her label rate is 6 oz/gal water. It can cause some discoloration.

Her research indicates that cultural practices such as higher mowing heights and more frequent use of nitrogen can play a big part in moss management.

Dr. Derek Settle of the CDGA made his presentation on a USGA Biostimulant Study titled "Evaluation of Cytokinian Plant

Extract Biostimulants, Iron, and Nitrogen Products for their Effects on Creeping Bentgrass Summer Quality". Derek's goal of the study was to present an "unbiased assessment of organic products containing cytokinins". Six products were evaluated for growth and color.

A biostimulant is a broad term often referring to one or more of broad range of ingredients, nutrients, organic acids, hormones, vitamins, microbial inoculants, plant extracts and other additives. It is very difficult to quantify the effects of each specific product so the ratings were measured by visual quality 1-9 and by using the NDVL (Normalized Difference Vegetative Index). The NDVL is an electronic device that uses light to measure biomass.

Spoon feeding has been around the 1960's and before. The goal has been to maintain a steady and consistent growth. Derek applied the different products at two week intervals.

More specific information on the results of his study can be found at: <http://usgatero.msu.edu/v08/n01.pdf>

Keith Rinker of the CDGA made his presentation on "Fungicide Programming for Dollar Spot Control on Bentgrass Fairways".

Dollar Spot is the #1 disease in golf course turf. Seasonal changes can vary the amount of dollar spot pressure. Spring dollar spot is usually not as damaging because turf growth is more vigorous. Fall dollar spot can cause more foliar damage and leave lasting scars into the winter.

Keith's study was to compare the effectiveness of different fungicide programs and on a cost per acre. Products were

*(continued on next page)*



varied as were the rates. Labeled fungicides were compared with off label fungicides. Systemic products were compared with contact products. Preventative programs were compared with curative programs.

The four programs reviewed were:

- Coyote Run
- North Shore Country Club
- CDGA "Bookend"
- Dernoeden 3 Way 21 Day

Dr. Megan Kennelly came back after lunch to make her presentation on Nozzles and Dollar Spot Control.

Some of the nozzle variables are: spray patterns and droplet sizes. Her ideal pressure flow rate is between 30 to 60 PSI. Her 2007 Test Study indicates there is less disease control when using certain nozzles. She found that using certain carrier volumes had similar results of being more or less effective.

Ty McClellan from the USGA made his presentation on "Practical Applications of the USGA Trufirm Testing Device". The USGA was looking for a way to test greens and bunker sand and quantify overall firmness with the objective to predict ball response, measure for consistent roll, eliminate or identify extremes, and determine/track progress of corrective maintenance practices.

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The tool will be used at all USGA events, PGA Tour events and TAS visits. There is some fear it may become like the stimp meter. Club A is thumping .35 and Club B is only thumping at .47! Oh oh.

Ty indicated more research is needed to quantify affects and to provide the most useful information a Club can use. Don't worry; the cost (\$8700) may discourage your Green Chairman from running out and purchasing a unit.

Another great education event was put on at the Golf House. Much of the information was very technical and you really needed to be there to the full impact of the Power Point Presentations complete with graphs, charts and question and answer sessions. This is good stuff! **-OC**

(continued from page 5)

company that supports the GCSAA. I'd like to think that the MAGCS's numbers are comparable to this.

Our industry partners play an important role in ensuring the growth and success of the profession of superintendent. The efforts of the Partnership Task Group are now focusing on new and creative ways for the MAGCS to recognize those industry partners who have provided significant support to the association. Their investments make it possible to provide MAGCS members with the programs, services, and research that advance the profession and the industry. In turn, sponsoring partners have the advantage of year-round exposure through a variety of communication vehicles and events.


Associations perform best when members are connecting on a regular basis. Don't fall into the trap of becoming "dissociated" or "unconnected." Come to monthly meetings on a regular basis; take advantage of educational events; and golf with someone new! Active participation is an essential component of making CONNECTIONS that begin to form PARTNERSHIPS, and strong PARTNERSHIPS make strong ASSOCIATIONS. Please join me in thanking our industry partners and make an effort to support the companies that support our association. **-OC**



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