

Also held in late September, on the 28th, the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents held its annual Founder's Cup Invitational golf event at the very pristine Ruth Lake Country Club, with **Dan Marco, CGCS** and **Alan Hill** hosting. This event traditionally pairs CAGCS member superintendents with their invited guests, whether they be green chairmen, club presidents, or municipal officials in a two-man best ball format. It once again provided a great forum for employee and employer to interact away from work on a world-class golf course in a fun yet competitive environment. Many thanks to Dan and Alan and the fine folks at Ruth Lake for hosting, and to all the participants for making it a grand day.



The wind proved to be the toughest opponent at the CAGCS' Founders Cup Invite.



Host Dan Marco, CGCS presented the course at its finest.

..... Several months ago an item about a course somewhere in North Carolina using llamas as caddies appeared in Bull Sheet. Now we hear news from Silver Creek Valley Country Club in San Jose, CA that the trend toward using livestock to perform typical human employee tasks is gaining in acceptance. Superintendent Nick Checklenis hires a company

called California Grazing to keep several acres of hard-to-reach golf course rough "mowed." The livestock of choice? Goats. Checklenis says using goats is environmentally friendly (no fuel used or emissions other than some occasional flatulence), and they are fire-proof (no potential sparks igniting the dried grasses during drought periods). Right. Next thing you know we'll be hearing about people fertilizing their turf with chicken poop or something. Whatever.

..... On October 5th the MAGCS membership converged upon the Arrowhead Golf Club for its monthly meeting and Annual College Championship. Host **Mike Mumper** provided a perfect day (he was responsible for every facet including the weather) and a great golf course for the day's activities. The University of Illinois' **Dr. Bruce Branham** gave a quick "State of the Industry" address focusing on the declining number of turf students in college programs, citing the lack of new superintendent positions and the increased difficulty to either gain admission or afford college as key culprits. The talk then took a much more comical turn when Bruce brought up the completely LAME Fighting Illini football program and its current-season's struggles, citing the economic downturn as the key reason for the University's inability to afford good players. On the golf course things were a bit more upbeat for the Illini, as the orange and blue team of Tom Healy (Layne-Western), **Greg Rounds** (Sunset Ridge CC), **Justin VanLanduit** (Briarwood CC), and **Rick Wilson** (Glenview Park District) were crowned the 2009 MAGCS College Champions after their scintillating rounds of I don't know. By the way, if you found a pocket knife, it belongs to **Mark Gilmour** (JW Turf) and has great sentimental value, so give it back to him will ya? Thanks ever so to our host club and its superintendent Mike Mumper, to the combatants who waged war on Arrowhead's fine battlefield, and to the generous sponsors for the day for their support: **Bayer Environmental Science, Burris Equipment, John Deere Golf and JW Turf, Inc., Nadler Golf Car Sales/Authorized Club Car Distributorship, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Palatine Oil Company, Quali-Pro, Reinders, Inc., and Syngenta Turf & Ornamental.**




(L) Mike Mumper gets framed by Jim Keith, CGCS after hosting the MAGCS College Scramble.

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Dr. Bruce Branham gave MAGCS members an update on the University of Illinois turf program. He stayed away from the football team.



The University of Illinois celebrates one victory this year, the MAGCS College Champions.

(l to r) Tom Healy, Rick Wilson, Greg Rounds and Justin VanLanduit.



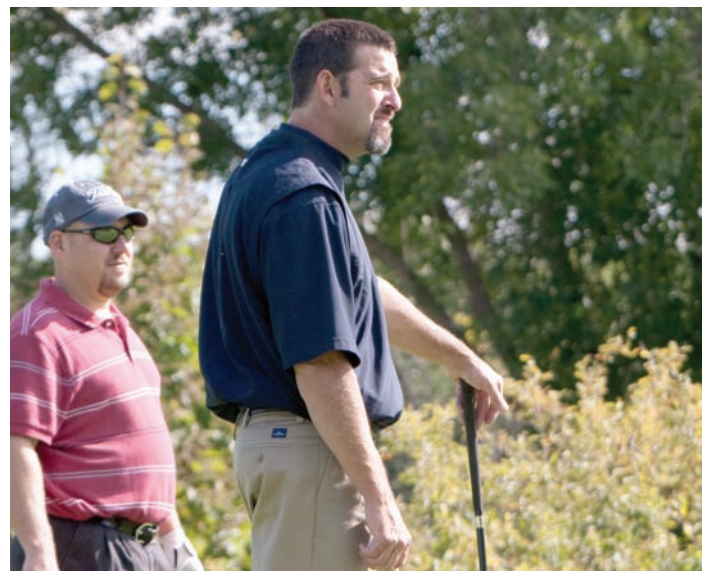
Mild Jim McNair traveled north (l) to knock it around Arrowhead GC. (r) MAGCS incoming VP, Dan Sterr.



Perennial partner of our host Dave Radaj sporting MSU green and white, or is it white and green?



Assistants Ryan Gilmore and Brian DiGise enjoy the day at Arrowhead.



Greg Coyne on the first tee has that look in his eye that it is going to be a long day.



Brian Bossert's CGCS, Danville Area Community College team(s) and 2008 MAGCS College Champions just couldn't get it going this year. Maybe it was bad luck to forget the trophy.

(continued on next page)



Brian Winkel got half his school's color right. What happened to the dark blue Wink?



Penn State's Dave Blomquist (foreground) and Joel Purpur spent a lot of time looking for their balls in the rough.



VanLanduit puts one close, hoping his partner Rounds can sink the putt.

coined event included training on sharpening reels with the Express Dual grinder and the Foley 670 grinder, comparing and contrasting both spin grinding and spin/relief grinding, with discussion and debate about the pros and cons of both methods. Thank you to the hosts and to all who participated in this interesting day.

Need some more education? The ITF is delivering to you. Mark your calendars for December 14-16, 2009 for high quality turf education, the kind you might find at IPTC. With the iTurfExpo this past summer, the ITF has planned three days of straight education for the turf pro. Mark your calendars today and look for info to come.

It was 1991 when RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) was founded with a new director and 12 members and a \$40,000 budget. Since that time, Allen James, RISE's first and only to date executive director has presided over its growth from that seedling organization to its current status with 5 full-time staffers, 200 members that account for more than 90% of the nation's specialty pesticide production, and a \$3 million annual budget. Mr. James will retire as of August, 2010, moving back to his home state of North Carolina with his wife Ann. You may remember Allen James for the presentation he gave at the 54th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic on the first of November, 2006, when he addressed the importance of establishing a grass-roots movement for preventing and challenging local municipalities' attempts to restrict product choice, along with the overall need for those in our industry to be more involved with local, state and federal government officials when decisions on pesticides are being considered. Mr. James will leave some very big shoes to fill, and the RISE board vows to find the right person for this important job. We at MAGCS wish Allen James all the best in his retirement.

With apologies for the Illini-heavy content of this issue, I turn this space over to **Craig Shepherd** (ProGro Solutions) for his recap of the Annual University of Illinois Turfgrass Alumni Golf Outing:

I woke up to the prospect of a glorious day of golf. It was "a balmy 40 degrees with rain in the forecast all day. After arriving at Coyote Run Golf Course in Flossmoor (**Dave Ward** host superintendent) and enjoying a couple of swing-lubricating cocktails, the U of I crew was ready to tee it up. Despite the weather there was still a great turnout (26 golfers) and a lot of fun to be had. I really advocate any alumni of any university to participate in their respective alumni events to see familiar faces and meet new ones. The format was a 4-man 2-best ball team event, and the winning team of **Gary Hearn, Scot Spier, Rick Wilson, and Brian Winkel** came in with a blistering 154. The proximity events were nearly swept by **Dan Anderson**, with the exception of **Dan Tully's** one victory that earned him the coveted helmet of shame. Many thanks to these alumni for donating prizes: **John Anderson** and Scot Spier (Arthur Clesen), Brian Winkel (Syngenta), **Jay Hensley** (Burris Equipment), **Eric Reed** (BTSI), Craig Shepherd (ProGro Solutions), and **Greg Rounds** (Sunset Ridge CC).

Just a week later, members of the Turf Equipment Technicians Association (TETA) and their guests gathered at the Skokie Country Club's maintenance facility (**Don Cross, CGCS** and **Shaun Hill** hosts) for a day of technical education titled "Reel Sharpening—The Best of Both Worlds". The aptly-

Also big thanks to **Matt Kregel** (The Club at Strawberry Creek) for his dedication in organizing the event, and of course Dave Ward for hosting and providing some of the nicest greens we've seen all season.



Host Dave Ward holds all the proximity event markers that he didn't win.



Dan Tully won the helmet, which came with a mandatory "invitation" to suit up against the Illini's next opponent.



The winning team of an invisible Scot Spier, Rick Wilson, Gary Hearn, and Brian Winkel are joined by ACES Alumni Association president Greg Oltman.

Congratulations to James B. Hyler of Raleigh, NC on his nomination for presidency of the United States Golf Association (USGA) for 2010. The election of officers and the 15-member Executive Committee will take place on February 6th at the USGA's Annual Meeting in the Village of Pinehurst, NC.

Looks like the end is finally here for Methyl Bromide—EPA has demanded an immediate cancellation of its use on golf courses and has rejected a registrant proposal for a cancellation timetable to allow sufficient time for golf facilities

to adjust operations or implement alternatives. GCSAA is urging superintendents to contact their Congressional representatives to encourage EPA to accept the registrants' proposal for orderly cancellation.

GCSAA reminds you that registration for its 2010 Education Conference held in conjunction with the Golf Industry Show and its National Championship and Golf Classic are both open now. You can also book your room(s) for both—the deadline for GIS room reservations under the special conference rate is December 18th. You can access the various sites for the "Kick It West to Success" extravaganza, including information on the new schedule in San Diego at gcsaa.org. And if you're really just out of things to do, you can start planning your Conference activities at the golfindustryshow.com web site by launching the "My Planner" feature which allows you to plan your sessions in advance, map your route across the show floor (in theory a useful tool; in reality, useless the minute the first hottie in a booth not on your route waves you over), communicate with exhibitors to set in-booth appointments, search the show by exhibitor or product categories, and manage your entire week using the Event Calendar. Have fun with all that.



Cella goes to new heights for October's On Course. The aerial shots of Arrowhead were taken 91 feet above the course by Luke on a crane that just happened to be on property.



Joel and Nick's poodles make the dog calendar from Park Ridge Country Club. Who are you going to vote for?

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Hopphan Inducted in the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame



On Friday, October 23, 2009 Carl G. Hopphan was inducted into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame. He was nominated by the Chicago District Golf Association (CDGA) and the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation for this honor.

Carl was the golf course superintendent at Aurora Country Club, the club of his hometown for thirty-one seasons before he moved to Evanston Country Club for another twelve years. During this time, Carl was the President of the MAGCS for two seasons in 1979-81. He was instrumental in working with the CDGA Board of Directors to hire a "family doctor" for the golf courses in our area. To fill this new position the CDGA and the University of Illinois hired Dr. Randy Kane in 1983.

Upon "retirement" from his profession, Carl began to help the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation with its mission of raising funds for turf research and education. Carl has always been a strong believer in formal education, an opportunity he never had for turf, except "for a few seminars" along the way.

In 2001, the CDGA opened its new headquarters, the Midwest Golf House and started work on Carl's next project, the Sunshine Course. The course was developed for a dual purpose. The first was under the careful planning of Dr. Randy Kane as a turfgrass research center. The course would mimic real world conditions and be built with different turf species, cultivars, sands and soils, all in the name of science. The second purpose was a place to grow the game of golf and progress the mission of the CDGA's foundation that "brings the benefits and resources of the game of golf into the lives of beginners, juniors, individuals with disabilities, minorities and the economically disadvantaged throughout the Chicago District".

Carl jumped in with both feet and was responsible for the acquisition of many features of the Sunshine Course utilizing his industry resources and contacts. While Carl asked for donations of goods and services, he often told of the future of the Sunshine Course as a "living laboratory", a place where the golf course superintendent could come and learn about the latest techniques, tools and products.

Upon the major completion of the Sunshine Course, Carl felt the course was in capable hands of the CDGA and it's turfgrass team (at the time, Dr. Randy Kane, Lee Miller and golf course superintendent, Doug Pool). Being Carl, he still wanted to help and began to focus on those who would benefit from the course itself. He joined ranks with the CDGA's Foundation and continues to help with course programming and fundraising today.

Carl accepted his induction into the Hall of Fame in memory and to the dedication of his late son Tod, who was killed in an accident on his way to work at Elgin Country Club as the Golf Course Superintendent.

In true Carl fashion, all his accolades have been passed on to others; however, we are the ones that benefit from knowing and having him as a part of our profession. Carl still continues to give back to the game and touches many lives through it.

Three others were inducted with Carl—Steve Lesnik (chairman of KemperSports), Chip Beck (PGA professional), and Frank Jemsek, (owner of Cog Hill Country Club). Congratulations to the 2009 Illinois Golf Hall of Fame Inductees. **-OC**





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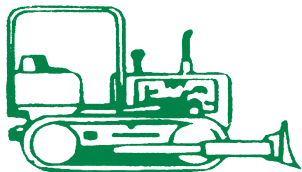
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