

Who Can You Trust to  
Provide  
& Protect  
Your Water Supply?



**Layne-Western**

Complete Services for  
High-Capacity Water Wells and Pump Stations

Source Development • Wells & Pumps • Maintenance  
Aurora, IL: 630-897-6941 • Beecher, IL: 708-946-2244  
[www.laynechristensen.com](http://www.laynechristensen.com)

RedeximTurfProducts.com

*The*  
**ORIGINAL**  
**DEEP TINE AERATOR**  
**VERTI-DRAIN**



Contact: Grant Rundblade 815-988-6303



Emerald Isle Solutions™

**Emerald Isle True Foliar Nutrition Programs**  
Provide Increased Root Mass,  
Controlled Tissue Growth,  
Color, and Consistency.

**CPR**

4-0-1 Color, Performance, Roots

SEAQUENTIAL  
**Fairway**  
6-0-2 with Liquid Chelated Iron

NUTRI-RATIONAL  
**TrueFoliar**  
10-20-16 NPK Phosphate

NUTRI-RATIONAL  
**TrueFoliar**  
2-0-16 K

NUTRI-RATIONAL  
**TrueFoliar**  
3-0-10 SI

NUTRI-RATIONAL  
**TrueFoliar**  
19-1-6 N

PO Box 1325  
Frankfort, IL 60423



800-732-9401  
Fax: 815-463-8395



Growers of Quality Sod

**SERVICE!**

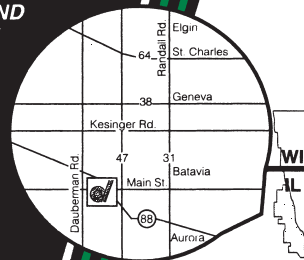
LOCAL GROWING FOR  
EASY PICKUP OR QUICK DELIVERY.  
DELIVERY ON TIME, EVERYTIME.

**QUALITY!**

FEATURING  
ELITE KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS,  
BENTGRASS SOD, AND  
TURF-TYPE FESCUE  
• LOWER MAINTENANCE  
• MORE DROUGHT  
& SHADE TOLERANT  
• BETTER WEAR RESISTANCE

NEW  
PRODUCT

**PRICE!**  
CALL FOR A QUOTE



Chicago

**630-557-2900**

MAIN STREET  
11 MILES WEST  
OF BATAVIA, IL

## SUPER -N- SITE

Steven Biehl, Naperville Country Club



# Phil Zeinert, CGCS -N-

*As I sat down to write about Elgin Country Club, I realized a happy coincidence. The first round of golf was played at Elgin Country Club, 109 years ago, to the day. It is hard to imagine the rudimentary grounds that must have existed during those first rounds of golf on May 10, 1901. It is also hard to imagine the speed of action that those original members exhibited in the 45 days leading up to those first rounds. It was on March 26, 1901, that 32 men met in downtown Elgin to pledge charter membership in a new golf club. They then proceeded to acquire a total of 82 members and a lease on 80 acres for the construction of nine holes. Then, they cleared trees and stones and built fairways, bunkers, and greens—all in time for the May 10th tee times.*

The club played on that original nine-hole creation for over 25 years, until 1928, when more permanent facilities were erected. A new club house was built and another nine holes were added to complete a full 18 holes. Then, in 1948, three of the original nine holes were abandoned to make room for a new driving range, and three new holes were added at the other side of the property.

Phil Zeinert, CGCS grew up in north-central Wisconsin with three brothers, one sister and—like most kids in Wisconsin—cows. The small hobby farm had more than just cows, but in addition to taking care of animals, he found time to play many sports as a kid. Phil first worked on a golf course when he was 14, at a nine-hole course. He now reminisces about those simpler times, when he used the same gang mower for the fairways and the roughs and only needed to change the height of cut. Those first years on the golf course did not make much of an impression.

When it came time to go to college, it was the farm and a sport other than golf that influenced Phil's decision. He attended the University of Wisconsin to play baseball and study Agri-Business. Phil is still a baseball fan, but don't ask him about the Cubs; he's a Brewers fan. After two years, Phil took a Soil Science course with Dr. Love, who was the head of Wisconsin's Turf Program. Dr. Love talked him into revisiting his days on the

golf course and concentrating on a Turf degree. Phil complied and graduated from Wisconsin with his Turf degree in 1985.

Phil's first job out of college was Assistant Superintendent at Cherokee Country Club in Madison, working for Pat Norton. His path then took him to Elwood Greens for his first Superintendent position. From there he went to Kishwaukee Country Club in DeKalb. In 2001, Phil became the Superintendent at Elgin Country Club, where he has made many improvements. Changes made since 2001 include a new driving range, new irrigation system, new tee boxes, and some fairway re-contouring and greens expansions. Amid all of that, he was able to serve on the MAGCS board, including a term as MAGCS President in 2005.

If he's able to find some free time, Phil enjoys being outside with his family. He has three sons: Zachary, 25; Justin, 21; and Jonah, 15. Phil and his wife, Naomi, have been married for 17 years.

Elgin Country Club sits on a beautiful piece of property. The hilly terrain seems out of place at a club located in the Chicagoland area, but it creates a spectacular set of holes. One hundred and nine years later, you can still play a few of the same holes that were played during the club's inauguration, but you can also count on much better conditions, thanks to superintendent Phil Zeinert, CGCS and his staff. **-OC**



Phil Zeinert









ARTHUR CLESEN INC.

*Dedicated to Service!*

**See the difference.**

**Quality products • Priced competitively • Prompt delivery**

You get fast, courteous service from Arthur Clesen Inc.

We've staked our reputation on it.

Try us and see the difference.

▶ **WHEELING** p. 847.537.2177 f. 847.537.2210 ▶ **MOKENA** p. 708.444.2177 f. 708.479.9477



## MIDWEST BREEZES

Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*



### Winter on the Lake

Winter is always more severe and longer in the Great White North and this past winter was no exception. Granted the north side of Chicago is not close to the Arctic Circle but it does have the more pronounced lake effect of Lake Michigan and the growing season is at least two weeks shorter than down in my "neck of the woods", south of route 80. Many courses got heavy rain on December 23rd and then everything froze solid until March. There were casualties. I called a few guys up to check in on the healing process.

Rick Bowden at Bob-O-Link Golf Club in Highland Park sustained most of his damage on low lying fairways areas and some "bird bath" areas on greens. "It rained and then froze right after Christmas. There was a lot of ice. You could have ice skated down our fairways. Even the Members commented that it didn't look good. I knew problems were coming. Most of the damage was on three fairways that run east to west. It seemed like the damage was more pronounced on the shaded south sides of the fairways". Rick has re-seeded all of the areas and has about 60% recovery at this time. "We seemed to have a lot of snow mold even on treated areas. I think the ice cover exacerbated the snow mold damage. I can't recall the last time we had such significant damage from a winter. The players are

happy with the lift, clean place rule in effect in the fairways and the greens are rolling phenomenal. Our rounds have been up a little with the warmer weather and we have some new Members that have recently joined the Club".

I caught up with Tim Davis at Shore Acres Golf Club in Lake Bluff. He was out setting up the course for an Illinois Senior PGA Match Play event. I asked Tim if he had any ice damage. Never one to mince words, Tim said "oh yeah. I think the shade issue is much larger than we think. It seemed like even the poa would survive better without the September, October shade issues. The plant is trying to produce carbohydrate reserves for the winter. It doesn't get as much sun as the other turf and is more likely to fail. It's just not as healthy as it should be to prepare for winter conditions". Tim has cut seed in four different directions, spiked it with a "job saver" and covered the areas. The cooler weather along the lake has not helped with the grow-in. He expects to get full recovery by mid June. Tim plans on cutting trees down where ever possible especially on south and east sides of holes. "I'm going to raise my mowing heights in the fall to promote more leaf area and create a larger carbohydrate reserve for the poa". Tim had one last tidbit of

*(continued on next page)*

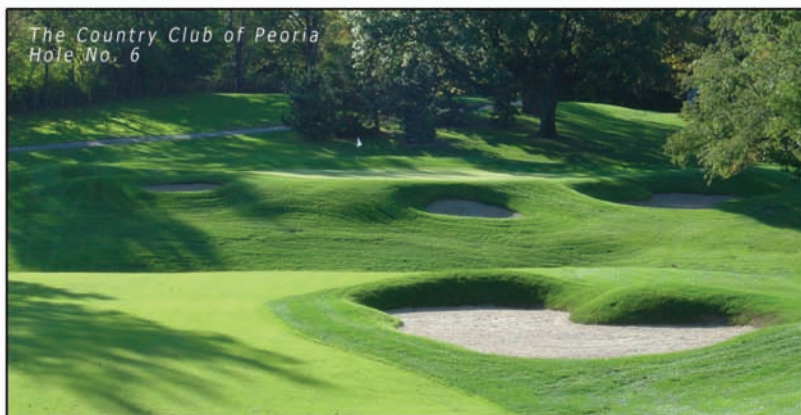


**Michael J. Benkusky, Inc.**  
GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE

Over 20 years of golf course design experience.  
Member American Society of Golf Course Architects



Lake in the Hills, IL 815-474-8385  
www.mjbgoifdesign.com mbenkusky@mjbgoifdesign.com



experience to pass on, "it seemed like there was a lot of poa seed heads this spring. History has shown that you should get your irrigation pumps ready". Good advice.

Mike Matchen from Wilmette Golf Club in Wilmette had only one problem with one green. "Our #6 green has everything wrong with it. It's always been a bad area for crown hydration injury, a forever problem. Its small, tucked in the woods, all poa, no drainage and built out of clay. We tried to cover it but it was a total loss. We plan on rebuilding the entire site this season. We lost maybe a couple of hundred feet of turf in low lying fairway areas. One thing we did was to go out and plow snow off of the ice covered greens just prior to a January thaw. We got lucky and about 85% of the ice was melted. We used applications of black sand to help the melt the remaining ice".


Brian Green, CGCS from Sunset Valley Golf Course in Highland Park was at "ground zero" for the poa ice carnage. "We sustained quite a bit of damage. I've worked here for 30 seasons and this is by far the worst damage I have ever had". Brian conducted a survey from surrounding golf courses to gather information about the ice damage. Its goal was to gather information, assess tactics and trends from the damage that can help Superintendents prepare for recovery and future winter preparations. The common denominator of the survey was the ice sheet that covered turf for 80 days. As we spoke he watched as the puddles formed in the fairways as it rained on the damaged areas. "It's been exhausting, seeding, covering and uncovering. I need to be patient during the grow-in. Everyone always thinks we have it easy along the lake in August. We seem to pay for it in the winter and during the spring with the cooler temperatures

and the slower green up. We still have trees that haven't leafed out yet". Some other trends Brian deducted from the survey: covered greens fared better than non covered, ice removal didn't help, bentgrass greens did very well, shaded sites were worse than direct sun exposure sites, heavy topdressing was a non factor, and low lying non draining areas fared worse than higher areas. I don't think anyone is sure on the actual cause of the kill. Was it crown hydration injury, disease, anoxia: a gas build up, low temperature kill or any and all of the above?

My Golf Course Superintendent friends in the Pacific Northwest went through a poa direct kill in early December. There are no easy answers and it is not pleasant for anyone. Often times, fingers get pointed at people who have very little, if any control with the overly shaded sites and absolutely no control over adverse weather conditions. There is not much research on this phenomenon. Most turfgrass researchers are plant pathologists. It is also difficult to do research in the winter under snow and ice, conditions are brutal. We often hear of this phenomenon happening to courses in the northeast or up north. This year it happened here. This topic is a very sensitive and turf loss is very personal for each one of these guys (and the rest of us) as they go through their recovery process.

The take away messages are clear:


- Bent is better than poa for overall hardiness.
- Shade is bad for sun loving turf plants that need to survive harsh conditions under low mowing heights. Choose turf over trees.
- Winter weather conditions are a "wild card". Prepare for the worst, hope for the best.




**Ask about our special terms for MAGCS Members!**

**342 N. 400 E. Valparaiso, IN 46383**  
**Phone Toll Free: 800-362-6951**


**www.phpdistribution.com**




**Boots/Rainsuits**




**Food/Clubhouse**




**Hardhats/Safety Protection**




**Landscaping**



**Stens Small Engine Parts**



**Cords/Lighting**





- The more drainage, the better. Low lying areas are a "bull's eye" for winter crown hydration.
- Protect the poa.
- Network with your peers, take photos, keep records.
- Anticipate and communicate with your owners.

You can add this to the list of "What do Golf Course Superintendents Do in the Winter"? We worry about our turf under the snow and ice. -OC

## SOIL and WATER

SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS

### V. J. ZOLMAN & SON

*Turfgrass Soil and Irrigation Water Specialists Since 1964*

Locally based services include Physical Soil Testing, Tissue, Lime and Audubon/Environmental Analysis

**Fax (630) 964-9769 Tel (630) 964-9702**

**7100 Blackburn Ave. \* Downers Grove, IL 60516**

*Lab Services by Brookside Laboratories Inc.*

## BATTERIES for your business!



### VILLA PARK

240 E. Roosevelt Road  
**630.279.3478**

### LAKE ZURICH

409 S. Rand Road  
**847.550.6545**

Monday-Friday 9:00 - 8:00,  
Saturday 9:00 - 6:00,  
Sunday 10:00 - 5:00

### OAK LAWN

6227 W. 95th Street  
**708.499.6977**

### CHICAGO

2051 N. Clybourn Ave., Ste. 9  
**773.645.4420**

### NAPERVILLE

115 E. Ogden Ave.  
**630.355.6822**

**BatteriesPlus.**   
Business to Business

BatteriesPlus.com



## Over 40,000 Batteries & Accessories

- > Golf Cart Batteries
- > Auto/Truck/Fleet
- > Industrial Batteries
- > Laptop/Computer
- > Two-Way Radio/Land Mobile
- > Cell/Cordless Phone
- > Cordless Tools
- > Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)
- > Custom Battery Packs
- > Sealed Lead Acid
- > and More!

**Trojan Batteries  
Authorized Dealer**



PALATINE OIL CO., INC.

Chicagoland  
Only  
Full-Service  
Supplier!

# "One Call Does It All!" Discover the difference!

## Budget Broken?

Give us a call and we can be  
**Your Solution to any Fuel Cost Hassles!**

Over **thirty-seven years**  
of caring service  
and delivery of  
Quality products.

visit us online **www.palatineoil.com** or call us at **1-888-358-7621**



## THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



# June 2010

### DATES TO REMEMBER

June 10-11 – Illinois Arborist Association Summer Conference at Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve in Mahomet, IL. Visit [www.illinoisarborist.org](http://www.illinoisarborist.org) for details.

June 14 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Elgin Country Club, **Phil Zeinert, CGCS** host.

June 29 – 10th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Crystal Woods Golf Club in Woodstock, IL.

July 2 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA 2011 Board of Directors.

July 5-11 – 2010 John Deere Classic at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, IL.

July 17 – Annual MAGCS Kane County Cougars Game and Family Picnic at Elfstrom Field in Geneva, IL.

July 22-24 – Illinois Women's Open State Championship of Golf at Mistwood Golf Club in Romeoville, IL, **Ben Kelnhofer** host.

July 26 – Deadline for nominations for the GCSAA Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award (DSA).

July 27 – Wisconsin Turfgrass Association's Summer Field Day at the O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education facility in Verona. Go to [www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org](http://www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org) for details.

July 30 – Deadline for submissions for TurfNet's 2011 "Superintendent's Best Friend Calendar" presented by BASF. This is the ORIGINAL golf course dog calendar.

August 2 – Deadline to submit your entry to the other golf course dog calendar—the "Dog Days of Golf" calendar sponsored by Lebanon Turf.

August 11 – Ohio State University Turfgrass Research Field Day in Columbus, OH. Click [www.ohioturfgrass.org](http://www.ohioturfgrass.org) to learn about it.

Welcome to our newest MAGCS members:

**Todd Zimmerman**, Aspen Ridge Golf Course, Regular  
**Daniel Lopez**, Billy Casper Golf Management, Assistant  
**Kevin O'Rourke**, The Care Of Trees, Associate  
**Tony LaPidus**, Russo Power Equipment, Associate  
**Andrew Andersen**, AXA Advisors, Associate  
**Grant Rundblade**, Redexim Turf Products, Associate

Retirement will have to wait. **Ed Fischer, CGCS** just couldn't sit still with that retirement thing, so he got back in the game. Ed has joined Great Lakes Turf, an exclusive distributor of Floratine products as a sales representative for various accounts in our area. Good luck and congratulations on your un-retirement, Ed!

**Rich Daly**, another longtime MAGCS member has a new business card. Rich, formerly with Otterbine Barebo is now with Integrated Lakes Management, Inc. (ILM), specializing in lake and pond management, restoration, and consulting. Congrats, Rich.

And rounding out the trio of gray-haired guys who've taken up new employment, **Harry Lovero** has accepted a position as Technical Consultant for IHAMMER LLC, a company that manufactures several foliar-applied nutrient supplements. Harry can be reached at 630-460-2750. Congratulations and the best of luck to you, Mr. Goaltender!

(continued on page 21)



In 2005 we made history  
introducing them.  
Now, they're starting to make  
other mowers history.



**E-Cut™ Hybrid Fairway & Greens Mowers.** It's the fifth anniversary of E-Cut™ Hybrid technology. And the honeymoon's still not over. No wonder: they offer a flawless consistency of cut only electricity can deliver. Save up to 30% on fuel. And banish hydraulic-leak anxiety forever. Our latest models, the 7500/8500 E-Cut Hybrid Fairway mowers, even won the prestigious AE50 award.

Have a spot open in your fleet? Try one on your course. See what all the buzz is about. **Consider us part of your crew.**



**J. W. TURF, INC.**  
14 N 937 US HWY 20  
HAMPSHIRE, IL 60140  
(847) 683-4653



## Integrated Eco Agronomic Solutions

Looking Forward  
to Serving you in  
2010

**PROGRO**  
solutions

Aaron Goy  
Eco Agronomist, Managing Partner  
Cell: 859.991.0828  
aaron@progro-solutions.com

Rob Colby  
Agronomist, Central Illinois Region  
Cell: 317.379.5117  
rob@progro-solutions.com

Rusty Stachlewitz  
Agronomist, Chicago Region  
Cell: 630.779.0761  
rusty@progro-solutions.com

Craig Shepherd  
Agronomist, Chicago Region  
Cell: 563.213.1632  
craig@progro-solutions.com

[www.progro-solutions.com](http://www.progro-solutions.com)

**The tank mix fix for  
disease control and  
reliable resistance  
management.**



Put 'em together and put an end to a broad spectrum of turf disease, including Dollar Spot, Anthracnose and others.

Today, golf course superintendents need both quality and value. And that's exactly what Quali-Pro has been delivering since day one — proven products featuring the newest formulation technologies at an unprecedented value.

**Unsurpassed Quality. Outstanding Value.  
Since Day One.**

For more information, contact Doug Suttor at 616-403-3983 or any of these authorized Chicagoland distributors:

Arthur Clesen Inc • BTSI • Conserv FS

**QUALI-PRO**

Quality Turf & Ornamental Products

©2010 Quali-Pro. Quali-Pro is a registered trademark of MANA. Know The Sign is a trademark of MANA. Always read and follow label directions.