

Steve Kuretsky

Formal Education: University Wisconsin, Madison, Bachelor in Soils Science with Turf Specialty

Home Town: Minneapolis, MN

Prior Work Experience: In his 4th season at Cantigny, worked in lawn care for the previous 10 years. Worked at Rush Creek Golf Club in MN, University Ridge, and the O.J. Noer Research Center in WI.

Oversees: Golf Academy and Irrigation on all 36 holes

Best part of Cantigny: Freedom to make my own decisions and run my department the way I see fit.

Favorite Cantigny Hole: Lakeside #1, the butterfly hole. The reconstruction last fall really improved the playability of the hole.

Toughest part of your job: Keeping the 20+ year old irrigation system functioning and together.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: Management skills learned from past positions.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: I can be counted on.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: There are a lot of things but number one is his management style – he is really good at breaking things down in their simplest form and not missing the details.

Mark Kosbab

Formal Education: Associates Applied Science – Turf Management, Joliet Junior College

Home Town: Chicago, IL

Prior Work Experience: Medinah 1998-2003, Riverside Golf Club 1997

Oversees: Hillside

Best part of Cantigny: The outdoor environment that it offers, including the native areas and the wildlife it supports.

Favorite Hole at Cantigny: #4 Hillside, it's an easy hole from the player standpoint, but challenges me as a superintendent.

Toughest part of your job: Labor management, running the crew as efficiently as possible.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: Knowledge and experience, but we all seem to be the same that way. I bring a passion for turf management to the team.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: I'm the comic relief on the team, I love my job and am very passionate about it.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: Being efficient as possible with the resources available to us at any given time.

Jeremy Duncan

Formal Education: Bachelor of Science from Illinois State in Agricultural Business

Home Town: Peoria, IL

Prior Work Experience: Started in the spring of 2006 at Cantigny, worked at Village Greens in Woodridge for 2 years and various courses in central Illinois.

Oversees: Woodside

Best part of Cantigny: The people that I work with.

Favorite Hole at Cantigny: #3 Woodside – has a great look from the tee especially with the new bunker renovations.

Toughest part of your job: Always wanting perfection, but finding it impossible to achieve each day.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: I'd say a positive work ethic.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: I'm easy to get along with.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: Importance of being prepared and having a plan.

Scott has created a great work environment for his staff, it is apparent in the final product they all produce. Scott's greatest challenge at Cantigny is staying on top of the changing soil chemistries. Cantigny is irrigated with effluent water from the Wheaton Sanitary District. Constant fluctuations in water quality, particularly salinity, wreak havoc with the structure of his soils. Scott monitors his soil structure and tweaks his programs to create the best possible growing conditions for his plants.

Scott's newest venture is keeping bees at Cantigny. As with all his undertakings, he has jumped right in and is learning as much as he can about apiculture. He explains, "I'm learning it on the fly" (no pun intended). Scott recently phrased the "Bee Barometer" to communicate with the community that golf courses are valuable environmental assets. Bees don't live in toxic dumps and like birds, are great indicators of a stable and healthy environment. The honey Scott has collected is sold onsite and the proceeds go back into his Audubon program, a buzz, golf can use anytime.

He resides in Bartlett with his wife Sue, his son Alec and daughter Kori. Scott is closing in on his tenure as the Midwest President this fall. He recently learned of a local beekeepers association, I'm sure they could use his help and leadership at some point in the near future.

Cantigny is a unique facility with a unique Superintendent, Scott Witte, CGCS. **-OC**



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EDITORIAL AWARDS

Nominees

Fred D. Opperman Editorial Award is presented to the non superintendent member who has shown excellence in journalism in On Course. This award commemorates the numerous contributions that Fred Opperman has given to the Bull Sheet and On Course while serving as editor from 1983 to 1999. The following is a list of eligible articles and authors for the 2010 award. The Raymond Gerber Award can not be given this year, there needs to be six superintendent authored articles, of which, we sadly fell short. The four articles penned by superintendents will be eligible for the Gerber Award next year.

G/O	ARTICLE	AUTHOR	MONTH	YEAR
Opperman	Turf-type Tall Fescue Variety Trial makes its debut at CDGA Sunshine Course	Keith Rincker, Kenneth Diesburg, Derek Settle, Nick DeVries, and Chris Painter	September	2009
Opperman	Invigorate Your Body, Mind and Soul with a Hobby!	Larry Tomaszewski	September	2009
Opperman	Prolonging the "BIG DIG"	Virgil Range	October	2009
Opperman	Save Some Green with CDGA Research	Keith Rincker	November	2009
Opperman	A Look at Communication	Jason Sarna	December	2009
Opperman	The Superintendent's Five-Foot Shelf	Steven Biehl	January	2010
Opperman	Lessons Learned Along the Way	Robert Fraley	February	2010
Opperman	As a Superintendent, What is Your Next Career Step?	Scott Verdun	February	2010
Opperman	Getting Their Hands Dirty	Ty McClellan	March	2010
Opperman	Professional Social Networking	Nick Walters	March	2010
Opperman	Sometimes the Good Guys Win	Elliott Dowling	April	2010
Opperman	Why "New" Greens Fail	David Marquardt	May	2010
Opperman	Take Care of Yourself...Literally	Scott Kuebel	May	2010
Opperman	Know the Genetics of Your Next Bentgrass Variety	Keith Rincker	June	2010
Opperman	Quality Used Turf Equipment: Creating Options for Superintendents	Colin White	July	2010
Opperman	Powered by Google	Nick DeVries	July	2010
Opperman	Joint Restraints versus Thrust Blocks for System Fortification	Erik Christiansen	July	2010
Opperman	The NPDES Permit System: What Does It Mean to Our Industry?	Kevin Dahm	August	2010
Opperman	Water on the Web	Darrick Robbins	August	2010
Opperman	Simple Solutions at Ruth Lake Country Club	Alan Hill	August	2010
Gerber	Budgeting Tools	Jeff VerCautren	October	2009
Gerber	Ten Years After	Fred Behnke	November	2009
Gerber	Going Brown, a Poor Message	Dan Dinelli	April	2010
Gerber	Meat and Potatoes Stew at the Links	Rick Bowden	June	2010

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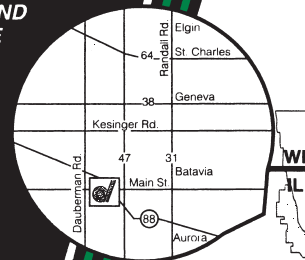
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Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*



"What Worked for You This Year?"

As the 2010 golf season gets put into historical perspective, it's been compared to 1988, 1995 and 2005 as difficult seasons to maintain cool season turf. I decided to not dwell on the carnage, destruction and havoc wreaked by Mother Nature. We all found out the hard way how much control over our turf we really have. That being said (probably not for the last time), this season is over.

It's time to look forward and find ways to improve and learn from our collective experiences. It's always nice to try to put a positive "spin" on a season like this past year and believe it or not, there were success stories out there. So I asked a bunch of "seasoned veterans", what worked for you this year?

John Gurke, CGCS, Aurora Country Club: "I'm convinced the phosphites are all you need to control pythium". We had great success with them for pythium control on our fairways with regular applications. I also used a TIP spiker once a week and I feel this helped our greens make it through in good shape".

Todd Schmitz, Phillips Park Golf Course: "We used our Bannerman once a month on greens and this worked very well".

Greg Johnson, Eagle Brook Country Club: "Communication was very important". Greg said he had more course tours, sent more emails and wrote more newsletters than ever before.

Tim Anderson, CGCS, Naperville Country Club: "I was glad I had a large nursery. I also used moisture meters for irrigation management and they really helped me dial in my green irrigation."

Don Ferreri, Seven Bridges Golf Club: "My mechanic really did a great job".

Andy Weadge, Morris Country Club: "I spent a lot of time on communications, emails, on the telephone and posting CDGA Interactive Turf Reports. We added a bunch of drainage and are taking a hard look at tree removal".

Chuck Barber, Indian Lakes Resort: "Rolling in place of mowing greens during certain times worked terrific. Solid rollers on the greens mowers worked well and I needle tined my greens once a month. Umaxx nitrogen applications worked great".

Brian Thompson, CGCS, Biltmore Country Club: "Raising the height of cut on the greens".

Scott Witte, CGCS, Cantigny Golf Club: "The phosphites worked well and I went to exclusively foliar applications for nutrients".

Dan Sterr, Stonebridge Country Club: "It was a good year to have a lot of bentgrass. Water management was very important. I tried to be more dry than wet, so if we did get a summer thunderstorm we had a better chance of absorbing the water. Correct hand watering technique and application volumes were critical. It's more difficult to do than it appears. It's an acquired skill".

Charles Anfield, CGCS, Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club: We have a Turfbreeze II fan on our seventh green that can blow 5 M.P.H. of air, 125 feet. I compared it to other greens that were tucked in low air movement microclimates and the performance of the green with the fan was remarkably superior to the greens that did not have a fan. Also, the ladies that played our course this summer were so nice. They are just so glad to be out, playing golf, having fun and socializing. They were very sympathetic and understanding of the imperfect turf conditions. They realize it's the same playing conditions for everyone. They get "it". Golf is not so much about chasing a little white ball as it is the people they are playing with. **-OC**



October 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 4 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Golf Championship at Cantigny Golf Club, **Scott Witte, CGCS, Jeremy Duncan, Mark Kosbab, Steve Kuretsky, John Maksymiu, Tom Weigland, and Mike Nass** hosts.

October 13 – Annual University of Illinois Turf Alumni Golf Outing at Inverness Golf Club, **Brian Mores** host.

October 15 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA's 2011 Excellence in Government Relations Award.

October 24 – Deadline for applications for the 2010 GCSAA/ *Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Award (ELGA).

October 28-30 – GIE+EXPO 2010—Hardscape North America at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. Go to www.gie-expo.com for info.

November 3 – 58th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club, **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** host.

November 9-11 – Turf & Ornamental Seminar at the Daniel Turf Center in West LaFayette, IN. Go to www.mrtf.org for all the juicy details.

November 15 – Deadline for nominations for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta.

November 16-17 – The 2010 Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium at the American Club in Kohler, WI. More info as you read on.

November 16-18 – 2010 Penn State Golf Turf Conference at the Nitany Lion Inn in University Park, PA. For more information, visit www.paturf.org (or would JoePaTurf be more appropriate?).

November 30 – Deadline for entries in GCSAA's first-ever Turf Wars Video Contest. More about this in the following pages.

December 6-9 – Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, OH. Check out www.ohioturfgrass.org for the dirt.

Congrats to **Scott White** of Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Golf Club in Rockford and his Boston terrier Fenway on making the final cut in the 2011 BASF/TurfNet "Superintendents Best Friends" calendar. Fenway is the featured dog for February.



Hey, there's still a little time left to nominate yourself for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. November 15th is the deadline, and nominations can be done by going to TurfNet.com. After a year like this, I think everyone is a potential candidate.

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Condolences go out to the family of MAGCS AA member **Rick Hahn** who passed away on September 17th at the much-too-young age of 58 years old. Rick had served as Director of Golf and Grounds Maintenance at the Marriott Lincolnshire Resort for 25 years until his retirement a few years back.

So, when golfers make such comments to you as "Boy, things are really looking a lot better," or "I can't imagine how it would have looked if you hadn't been here," are they being complimentary? Or are they just politely telling you that you suck?

A stressful summer such as the one we've experienced this year would not have been survivable without the ability to get away from work and spend quality time with friends doing something totally non-golf-related. Aside from the usual attractions that the City of Chicago has to offer such as its professional baseball teams (if I may use the word professional), its lakefront, its eclectic dining options, its theater and live music, etc., this summer brought the return of the Tall Ships to beautiful Navy Pier. If you haven't experienced it and have any interest in the history and majesty of these huge sailing ships, a trip downtown should be on your agenda the next time they are here. Just a suggestion.



The reason they're called tall ships.



Krause confirming that the tall pirate ball-juggling chick had a bean burrito for lunch.

Next month marks the 45th time that the Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium will take place, and for the 45th consecutive year it will be held in Wisconsin. This year's rendition, "Golf in the Year 2010—Did We Predict the Future?" will take place at the American Club in Kohler on the 16th and 17th of November. To register online or just to learn more about the event, check out wgcsa.com and go to the calendar tab.

It is that time of year again, when we reacquaint ourselves with our long pants and wind shirts and enjoy the beautiful bounties the fall season has to offer. It's also the time of year when we reacquaint ourselves with our golf clubs and take advantage of the many opportunities to play at our disposal. One such opportunity that took place recently was the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) Founders Cup, which was held on September 1st at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove. The event brings superintendents and key officials at their clubs together in a best-ball format, promoting the building of relationships and good will. Congratulations to **Dave Behrman, CGCS** and his guest Bob O'Neill from Midlothian Country Club on winning the Net competition with a 61, and to **Chuck Barber** and his entourage/posse from Indian Lakes Resort on winning the Gross category. Host superintendent **Jeff VerCautren** and owner Jerry Rich welcomed everyone to the site of the 2009 Solheim Cup with open arms, and there could not have been a more gorgeous day for a game of golf on a pristine golf course. Many thanks to Jeff and Mr. Rich, as well as to all the people involved in putting together another great Founders Cup at another very nice venue.



Jeff VerCautren

Next on the menu of autumn golf extravaganzas was the September MAGCS meeting at Fox Run Golf Course with host superintendent **Greg Thalmann, CGCS**. The event was the annual College Team Championship, and it was held on a day that waffled weatherwise between chilly downpours to gorgeous sun and warmth. Whatever the combination, it favored the team from Penn State University, who battled its way to victory over some strong competition. Many thanks to Greg Thalmann for stepping up and providing a great venue on very short notice, and to all the staff at

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