

- Higher volumes of water will have less nitrogen uptake, it washes off the plant.
- Adjuvants improved uptake by a very slight percentage.
- The remainder of N enters soil roots & follows normal N cycle.
- Tank mixes didn't affect N uptake.
- Foliar applications are valuable but not as efficient as we are led to believe. They do provide a better efficiency in the short term.
- Urea is still the most widely used and cheapest N source.
- Volatilization loss potential on non slow release products can be up to 20%.
- Leaching potential can be as high as 1-20 % on non slow release products.
- Add urease inhibitors for better response efficiency.
- 30% of total N applied as fertilizer is never recovered.

In closing, most of the data is derived from field crops. Turf is different. The microbial populations are very powerful and very plentiful. Dr. Branham's final recommendation for better nitrogen efficiency is to return clippings to the canopy and recycle the leaves when the *Poa* is not seeding.

Jerry Williams, Past President of the CDGA made his presentation of "Rules Infractions by Players, by Superintendents".

He says most golfers never learned the rules because they feel the rules are stupid or unfair. His presentation was relevant to us because he is concerned that more Superintendents don't know the rules of golf or the appropriate markings as it applies to maintaining the golf course. We have the ability to impact play and potential rulings.

- Jerry gave us a general overview of some very specific rulings.
- Nearest point of relief ruling is perhaps the most misunderstood and most violated rule.
- He went over artificial obstructions, both immovable and moveable
- Proper hazard stakes and markings can impact play.
- Ball drops are good to help with practical solutions to difficult rulings
- Marking of yellow vs. red hazards overview.
- Hazards must start and stop someplace, they must tie into something.
- Stakes identify hazard, lines define it, stake is in hazard.
- You may repair your ball mark whether you are on the green or not.

The Last presentation of the ITF Winter Education Days featured Tim Moritz and Doug Bauer of Pizzo and Associates presenting on "Creating Sustainable Outdoor Environments"

Some of the benefits of natural areas are:

- Lower maintenance
- Habitat restoration
- Improved water quality
- Increased biodiversity
- Wildlife attraction
- Shoreline erosion prevention
- Assist with infiltration of storm water
- Solve goose problems. Geese have a natural instinct to stay out of these areas for fear of predators.
- Stop the spread of invasive plants

Many naturalized sites are just unmaintained patches of weeds. Slide examples were shown of bad "not native" and naturalized areas.

Areas traditionally mowed can be naturalized to reduce maintenance costs. This can add up to an even bigger savings if multiple acres are used.

For a newly renovated site use no irrigation. Invasive species are much better competitors. Don't use any fertilizer.

Bioswales can be designed and used as water retention/holding areas. They filter surface water. Naturalized areas provide a more colorful and diverse look. Seed is less expensive than plugs when proceeding on a naturalization project.

There can be significant cost savings over armored (rock) shoreline erosion. There can also be a long term cost benefit to prairie areas over managed turf.

Native areas are not for everyone and every site. These projects require some education to "sell" benefits of the project.

A big thank you to all the volunteer people at the ITF and an especially big thank you to all of the sponsors who without, we could not do these Winter Education Days. **-OC**

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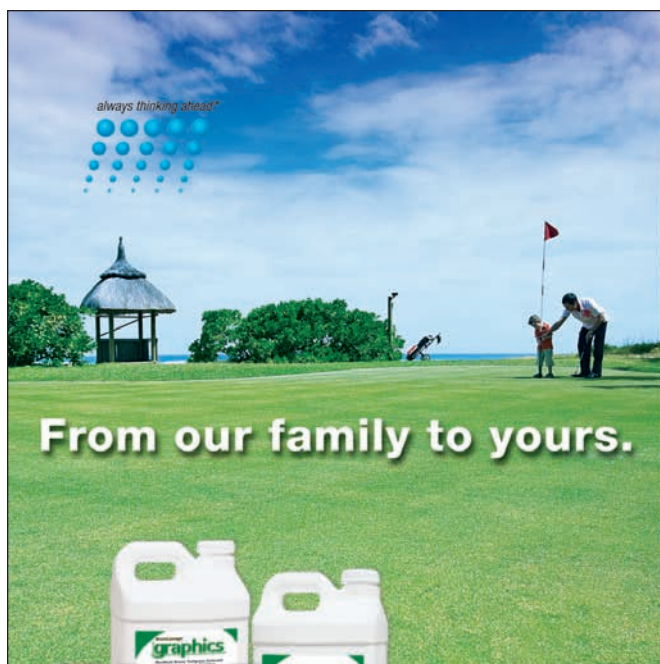
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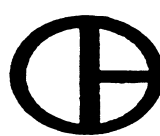
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MIDWEST PERSONALITIES

Tommy Robinson, *Ravinia Green Country Club*

Job Title: **Superintendent**

MAGCS Member Since: **1976**

Date of Birth: **10/9/52**

Place of Birth: **Charleston, West Virginia**

Current Residence: **Grayslake**

College/Degree: **SIU, Outdoor Recreation**

Spouse/Children: **Step-daughter, Amy**

My Favorite Childhood Memory is: **Neighborhood kick the can at dusk**

My Personal Hero: **Father**

My Professional Mentors: **Rodney, Paul Voykin**

Favorite Actor: **Tommy Lee Jones**

Favorite Musical Performer: **Moody Blues**

Favorite Restaurant: **Washington Gardens**

Favorite "Pig Out" Food: **Pizza**

Favorite TV Show: **Seinfeld**

Favorite Color: **Blue**

Favorite Professional Sports Team: **Bulls, Blackhawks, Bears, Sox**

Favorite Pro Athlete: **MJ**

Favorite Pro Golfer: **Larry Mize**

My Handicap Index: **2.3**

My Favorite Place to Play Golf is: **Monday anywhere**



Tommy (left) shares a laugh with Larry Mize during the US Senior Open.

My Best/Most Memorable Round: **Tie: 63 at Foxford Hills and an 81 at The Broadmoor**

The Most Interesting/Exotic Place I've been: **Jamaica**

The Book I've Been Recommending Lately: ***The Green*, by Troon Macalister**

The Last Great Movie I Saw: **The Game**

In my Spare Time I Enjoy: **Stain glass, Lionel trains**

Three Words that Best Describe Me: **Timely, Honest, Athlete**

What I Enjoy Most about My Job: **Going to work**

What I Enjoy Least about My Job: **Wilt**



MAGCS IN MOTION
Luke Cella, MAGCS



The Midwest Core Sponsor

Two years ago a Partnership Task Group was formed by the Midwest Board of Directors to meet with our Associate members and Class E representative to talk about the Midwest. This could not have happened at a better time as the economy started to tank. The objectives of the meetings were to listen to commercial members to see if their needs were being met by the Midwest and to develop a plan to strengthen their support of the Midwest in the future. The Task Group still exists and both groups continue to work together to offer support, programs, events that fortify and keep the Midwest at the forefront of the profession.

One new program that members will be seeing starting in 2011 is the Midwest Core Sponsorship program. The program started as a means to combine the opportunities for a commercial member to support the Midwest into one simple checklist. In years past, requests for support would go out several times per year to our commercial members. It had become confusing, time consuming and costly to keep sending out requests for support. The board took this information, digested it, and designed the Midwest Core Sponsorship program. The program combines the support of the Midwest's three largest items – *On Course*, our monthly meetings and the Hospitality Reception into one program that our commercial members may choose to support. There are four levels in the Core Sponsorship Program – the Albatross, the Hole in One, the Eagle and the Birdie. Each level advertises in *On Course* every month, supports the Hospitality Reception and sponsors our monthly meeting(s).

At printing, five companies have signed up to become a Midwest Core Sponsor for 2011. Keep your eye out for the Core Company logo in the year ahead and make certain to thank these folks for their support of the Midwest. **-OC**



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