

Mike Bavier, Ed Fischer, Dudley Smith, Bruce Sering, and Oscar Miles were among the names plying their trade at area courses.

By the end of the decade, Elvis had "left the building" for good, our embassy in Tehran, Iran had been seized and the Hostage Crisis had begun, and we narrowly averted disaster at Three Mile Island. We also were riding a peak of prosperity and growth in our business, and things were looking bright for the next decade.

## The Radical Eighties

Technology was the name of the game in the eighties. IBM unveiled the first PC, and cable television was launched into households everywhere. Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (aka Star Wars), Geroge Bush's "Read my lips—No New Taxes," and Ollie North and the Iran-Contra affair were headlines. The world lost John Lennon and the seven space shuttle Challenger astronauts. The Exxon Valdez, whose captain Joseph Hazlewood ran his tanker aground while drunk, causing more than 11 million gallons of oil to spill into Alaska's Prince William Sound (and prompting the joke whose punchline was "I said a TanquerAY on the rocks.") We were entertained by Caddyshack at the theaters and by the '85 Bears during their run to Super Bowl XX in New Orleans.

Locally, MAGCS members were hosting PGA Tour stops such as the Western Opens held at Butler National and the 1989 PGA Championship at Kemper Lakes, won by Payne Stewart. Quite a few courses opened their doors in our area, including Bon Vivant, Royal Fox, Carillon, Vernon Hills, White Eagle, Woodbine, Wynstone, Naperbrook, and Fox Run.

Superintendents were constantly battling the demon green speed issue, the decision to convert fairways to bentgrass, Dutch elm disease, and countless other nuisances we still battle today. The association was led through the decade by the likes of Peter Leuziinger, Roger Stewart, Dave Meyer, Jim Evans and Mike Nass.

By decade's end the Berlin Wall had fallen, and communism was on its last legs, leading to the eventual dissolution of the Soviet Union into autonomous republics. This left the US as the world's only true superpower heading into the nineties.

## The Nineties: Golf's Boom Parallels America's Prosperity

Perhaps one of the most influential decades in golf's history, the nineties embodied the attitude of "if you build it they will come." Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton was elected President in 1992 and our country experienced more peace and economic well-being than at any other time in history. Studies screamed that we need to build more golf courses to meet the skyrocketing demand, and build them we did! Unemployment was at its lowest in modern times, inflation rate was the lowest it had been in thirty years, home ownership was the highest in the country's history, and the welfare rolls were reducing. This was the decade of Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls six championships. It was also the beginning of the Tiger Woods era in professional golf, as the phenom from Stanford followed his three consecutive US Amateur victories by turning pro in 1996 and becoming the youngest player to win the Masters (in 1997 at the age of

(continued on page 12)

**It's Going to be a LO-O-O-O-ONG Winter**



**Order your ThawDust Black Sand today!**



**Do all you can to protect your greens now**

**Then help them recover faster in spring**

**Waupaca Sand & Solutions**  
715-258-8566  
www.WaupacaSand.com



**PROGRO solutions** 

**Ultra Pure Form of Gypsum**

**Ground to a Super Fine Powder**

**Organic water soluble binder**

**Rapid Dissolving Pellet**

**100% Organic**

**Provides readily available plant & soil Calcium**

<b>Ultra Greens Grade</b>	<b>Greens Grade</b>	<b>Fairway Grade</b>
---------------------------	---------------------	----------------------

**www.progro-solutions.com**

<b>Craig Shepherd</b> Agronomist, Sales Chicago Region 563.213.1632	<b>Aaron Goy</b> Eco Agronomist/ Managing Partner 859.991.0828
--	---

<b>Rusty Stachlewitz</b> Agronomist, Sales Northern Illinois 630.779.0761
--



21 years, three months, and 14 days). The modern golf boom was in full swing.

Not everything about the nineties was good, though. Terrorism, which had been confined to the other side of the world, made its way onto American soil, when in 1993—two years to the day after the end of the Gulf War—a massive explosion occurred in an underground parking garage under One World Trade Center in New York City. Two years later, the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was targeted by Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, who drove a rental van full of home-made explosives and ignited it, blowing off half of the nine-story building.

From the start of the nineties to the finish, expectations on golf course conditioning had changed drastically. Spending in maintenance budgets rose dramatically, and the quest for green speed was on. New self-contained rollers and mowers that could cut grass at under a tenth of an inch enabled superintendents to push the limit of speed—sometimes to a fault. The Toro Hydroject aerator emerged as a tool to reduce stress on greens in a minimally-invasive way. Black layer was one of the major concerns for those growing and maintaining USGA greens. There is perhaps no bigger example of the “overgrooming” era than when, in 1997, Paul Latshaw walk-mowed the fairways at Congressional for the US Open. Not to be outdone, Winged Foot Golf Club DOUBLE-cut its fairways with walk mowers for the PGA Championship in August of that year.

The nineties saw a huge rise in environmental awareness. The USGA joined forces with the New York Audubon Society to create the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for

Golf Courses, with Peter Leuzinger spearheading St. Charles CC's becoming the first course in the US to become a fully-certified sanctuary. The Right to Know Act was passed in 1990, rinse and spill containment systems became mandatory for golf courses in 1993, underground fuel storage tanks came under scrutiny, and superintendents found themselves immersed in regulatory red tape. Safer pesticides such as Dimension and Barricade became available, as did new bent-grasses which could be mowed even lower while showing characteristics like drought and disease resistance. We were changing our courses over to spikeless golf shoes while fighting the new gray leaf spot fungus that ravaged ryegrass stands across the Midwest. This very magazine took another step forward, with its ‘Bull Sheet’ name being changed to “On Course” (marking the second time Bob Williams had named our newsletter), bringing full color to its pages for the first time in its 50 years of existence. Bob's son Bruce Williams began the decade as our MAGCS president and went on to lead GCSAA as its president in 1996. Local clubs played host to many professional tour stops, as the Western Open moved from Butler National to Cog Hill's Dubsdread, the Ameritech Senior Open was played at Stonebridge, the US Senior Open took place at Olympia Fields, and the 1999 PGA Championship came to Medinah, when a memorable battle between youngsters Tiger Woods and Sergio Garcia came down to the wire, with Tiger prevailing by one shot. With the internet a regular part of our daily lives, new innovations like superintendent Russ Fink of Tamarack's Turftalk online, Peter McCormick's TurfNet, and Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) were at our disposal. Cell phones, computerized

# THE LITTLE GIANT

## RTV500

**Starts quicker.  
Runs quieter.  
Stops smoother.**

The new Kubota RTV500 compact utility vehicle has all the comfort, technology and refinements of a larger utility vehicle. Available in Kubota orange and Realtree® camouflage, the four wheel drive RTV500 is ready for work or play. Visit your local Kubota dealer to test drive the only utility vehicle of its kind.



**Martin Implement, Inc.**  
18405 115th Avenue  
Orland Park, IL 60467  
(708) 349-8430



[www.kubota.com](http://www.kubota.com)

\*Realtree is a registered trademark of Jordan Outdoor Enterprises, Ltd.  
© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2008



# Rooted in Science


**FLORATINE**



*Drive Roots*

[www.floratine.com](http://www.floratine.com)



*Heat Stress Relief*



*Liquid Solution  
Essential Amino Acids*



*Hold Water*



*Soil Catalyst*



*Push Water*



*Micronutrient Technology*



*Rapid Green*

**Distributed by:**



**Jeff Mazur - 630.936.3179**

**Ed Fischer - 847.337.1091**

**Marty Heyen - 630.939.0151**

**Jim Johnson - 616.292.0260**



irrigation control, and real-time weather radar assisted us through our workdays. Renovations to old courses and construction of new courses were happening everywhere, and people were waiting in line to play. We were heading into the next century with a full glass of optimism for our game's future.

### **The New Century: What Goes Up Must Come Down**

Soaring high heading into the new millennium, our country was soon to experience its worst moment in its history, when on September 11, 2001 terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners, crashing them into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, while the fourth plane crashed in a Pennsylvania field after passengers fought for control with the terrorists in the cabin. Over 3,000 Americans lost their lives, and our country would never be the same again. By the middle of the decade, natural disasters were grabbing headlines, when a tsunami in Asia killed over 225,000 people in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina unleashed her fury on the Gulf coast, destroying much of New Orleans. Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected governor of California, Saddam Hussein was captured and later hanged, and the steroid era in Major League Baseball came to light. America's first African American President was sworn into office, and by late in the decade the era of the corporate bailout had begun. What had been considered "too big to fail" was not, and the collapse of the sub-prime mortgage market was followed by a global economic decline. By the end of the decade unemployment had reached 10%, and our nation's budget for 2011 included a whopping \$1.6 trillion deficit.

Golf in the Midwest began the decade at full throttle, as growth of the game and construction continued. Tommy Witt was president of GCSAA in 2001, and things were looking positive. By mid-decade, it was apparent that we had been a bit too optimistic with regard to the growth of the game, and when the economy tanked, so too did the golf industry to a degree. Clubs whose waiting lists were filled were all of a sudden struggling just to keep membership rosters full. The over abundance of high-end public courses began slashing rates to compete for those precious rounds. Management companies were growing in leaps and bounds, taking the reins of many financially troubled properties. For only the second time in history, golf course closings outnumbered openings. MAGCS members found themselves rethinking their entire maintenance operations, dealing with budget cuts and pay freezes. Phrases such as "the new normal" were bandied about regularly. By the end of the decade, some light at the end of the tunnel was visible, but our industry was changed forever, and everyone whose careers were involved in golf knew that the future would be much different from the past. Things taken for granted in the past, such as availability of water, will be our big issues heading into our next 85 years. Technology will continue improve, as GPS and robotics will take on an even larger role in golf course maintenance. While the future of our association looks strong, its 85-year past should not be forgotten—it formed the foundation of who we were, what we are today, and what we will be in the years to come. -OC







## THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



# January 2012

Happy New Year! With the ringing in of 2012 we would like to thank our members for their continued support of this association—especially our commercial members whose generosity makes things like the production of this magazine and the ability to have golf events at such great venues possible. We welcome our newest members to the fold as well—they are:

**Ryan Cummins**, Assistant, Medinah Country Club  
**Jeff Heaton**, Assistant, Westmoreland Country Club  
**Richard Kyle Haines**, Assistant, Onwentsia Club  
**Scott Landstrom**, Assistant, Green Acres Country Club  
**John Savoie**, Assistant, Kemper Lakes Golf Club  
**William Sharp**, Assistant, Wynstone Golf Club  
**Dane Wilson Wilson**, Assistant, Medinah Country Club

### DATES TO REMEMBER

January 10 – Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents Annual Shop Tour—details to follow.

January 17 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Annual Wee One Fundraiser at Seven Bridges Golf Club in Woodridge, IL, **Don Ferreri** and **Dave Gelino** hosts.

January 26-28 – 59<sup>th</sup> Annual PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, FL.

February 24-26 – GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic in Palm Springs, CA.

February 27-March 2 – GCSAA Education Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

February 29 – MAGCS Hospitality Reception at the Hard Rock Café on 4475 Paradise Road in Las Vegas, NV from 7 to 10 pm.

February 29-March 1 – Golf Industry Show in Las Vegas, NV.

March 2 – “Celebrating Certification!” luncheon at the Las Vegas Hilton Ballroom EFG from 12:30 to 2:00 pm.

March 5-9 – Rain Bird Academy Irrigation Training classes in Elgin, IL. Visit [www.rainbirds-servicescorporation.com/training](http://www.rainbirds-servicescorporation.com/training) for info or to register.

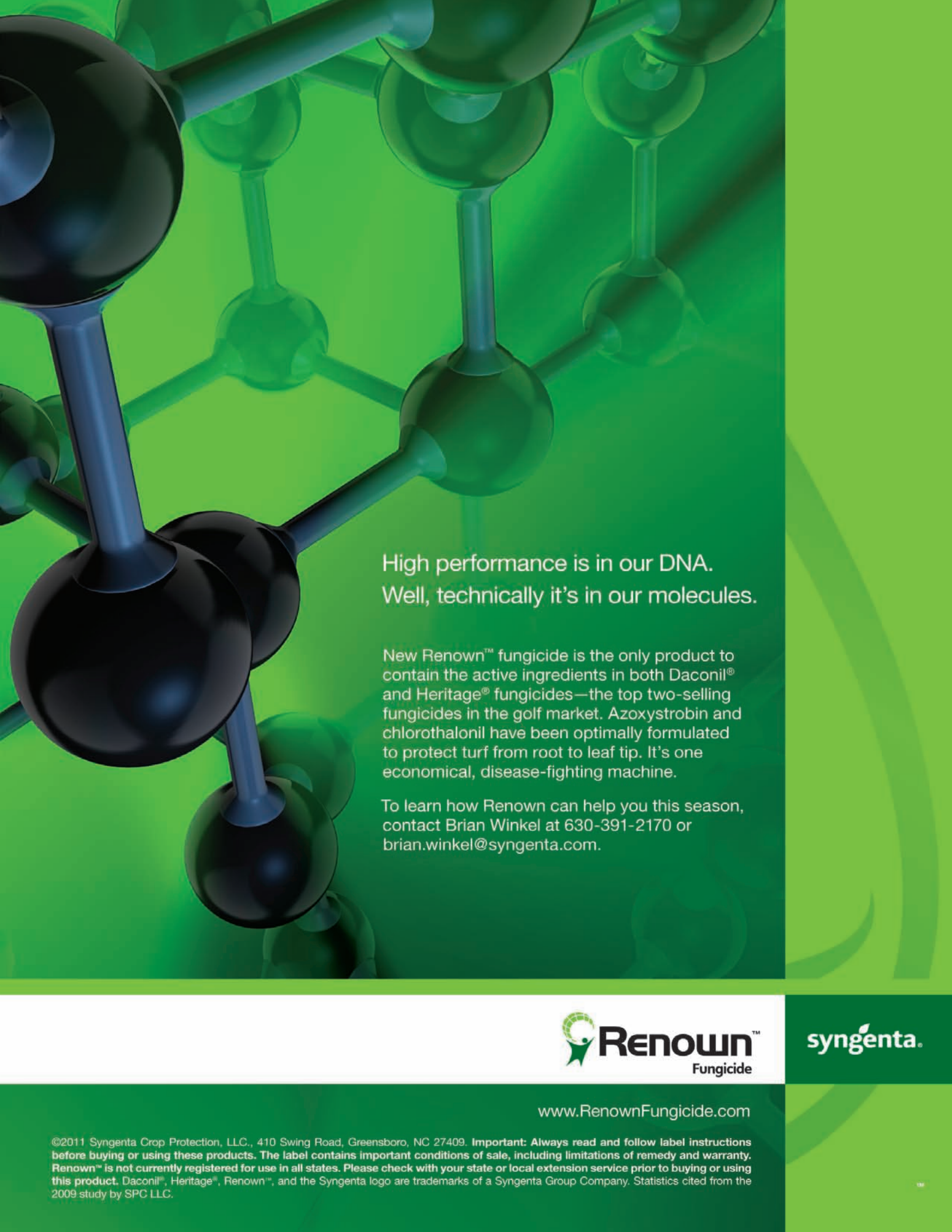
.....  
Congratulations to **Keith Copersmet** in his new position as Energy Specialist for Conserv FS as of December 5th. Keith's territory covers the entire Chicagoland area, where he will be in charge of sales and service for all fuel needs including premium diesel, gasoline, motor oils and lubricants as well as fuel contract programs. Best of luck to Keith, who by the way told me he doesn't take very flattering pictures. I say beauty is in the eye of the beholder (translation: He's right)



**Keith Copersmet**

.....  
The CAGCS Annual Shop Tour is scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup>, with stops at Makray Memorial Golf Club (**Tim Christians** host), followed by a visit to **Brian Mores'** operation at Inverness Golf Club, and finishing off at the new facilities

(continued on next page)



High performance is in our DNA.  
Well, technically it's in our molecules.

New Renown™ fungicide is the only product to contain the active ingredients in both Daconil® and Heritage® fungicides—the top two-selling fungicides in the golf market. Azoxystrobin and chlorothalonil have been optimally formulated to protect turf from root to leaf tip. It's one economical, disease-fighting machine.

To learn how Renown can help you this season, contact Brian Winkel at 630-391-2170 or [brian.winkel@syngenta.com](mailto:brian.winkel@syngenta.com).



syngenta.

[www.RenownFungicide.com](http://www.RenownFungicide.com)

©2011 Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC., 410 Swing Road, Greensboro, NC 27409. Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using these products. The label contains important conditions of sale, including limitations of remedy and warranty. Renown™ is not currently registered for use in all states. Please check with your state or local extension service prior to buying or using this product. Daconil®, Heritage®, Renown™, and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. Statistics cited from the 2009 study by SPC LLC.



at Medinah Country Club where **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** will lead the tour. This event is a great (and cheap) way to get the guys out of your shop for a day to show them how other operations run. Thanks to the three host clubs for cleaning up their shops so we can give them the once-over.

.....

Condolences go out to the family and friends of **David Marquardt** on the recent passing of David's twin brother Dennis A. "Denny" Marquardt. Denny lost his battle with cancer after a lifetime of service to the Bloomington, IL community where he owned and operated Denny's Donuts since 1974, and was well-known for his tireless charity work.

.....

The Winnetka Park District recently made a decision that will ensure its Winnetka Golf Club (**Henry Michna, CGCS**) will be able to compete with its many neighboring daily-fee operations for those valuable rounds. What decision, you may be asking, would precipitate this? Was it the passing of a major golf course renovation project? No. Did they decide to lower green fees? Not a chance. Did they opt for GPS in their golf carts? That's not it either. Stumped? They did the simplest thing to keep golfers happy—they amended the liquor law to allow golfers to take the alcoholic beverages that they purchase in the clubhouse and halfway house ONTO the golf course! Apparently the original license allowed the sale of booze to golfers, but not the consumption of it outside the clubhouse or halfway house. That has been rectified thank God, and now Henry and his staff will have enough aluminum cans to throw a nice holiday party next December!

.....

Congrats to Jeff Hoste, who will be starting in his position as golf course superintendent at Indian Lakes Resort in mid-February. Jeff takes over for **Chuck Barber** who left for the green green grass of St. Charles Country Club.



Jeff Hoste

.....

OK, we've already brought up Chuck so let's take this a step further. Chuck's last name is Barber, which is the term used for a person who cuts hair. Hair can sometimes get so long and unruly that it becomes termed a pelt (e.g., "Geez, check out the pelt on THAT chick!"). ESPN has a guy named Scott whose last name is VanPelt. Pelt? Barber? Don't you see it?

**PAF**  
INC.  
Tree and Mulch, Inc.

Tree Removal • Trimming • Installation • Stump Grinding • Lightning Protection • Cabling  
Onsite Tub Grinding/Dyed Mulch Product (Turn Your Own Material into Premium Mulch)

**(708) 913-3916**



Chuck Barber and Scott VanPelt

.....  
This falls in the "I didn't know they even HAD an award for that" category: On December 10<sup>th</sup>, the PGA Tour's Tournament Advisory Council honored The John Deere Classic, held yearly at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, IL with its "Most Engaged Community" award. With a population of 375,000 in the Quad Cities area, the John Deere Classic drew more than 100,000 spectators to its 2011 event. Additionally, the tournament hosted an extensive armed services program benefiting the military population, as well as a Youth Day that drew more than 500 kids. From a charity standpoint, they took in over 22,000 pledges from individuals in the community. Nice.  
.....

Speaking of awards, the United States Golf Association has announced that its 2012 USGA Green Section Award recipient is Dr. Wayne Hanna, turfgrass scientist and breeder from Tifton, GA. Dr. Hanna is a native of Texas, settling in Tifton, GA in 1971 where he began a long career as a research scientist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of Georgia. During his 40-year career, he produced bermudagrasses such as TifSport, TifEagle, and TifGrand, helping to make Tifton the bermudagrass capital of the world. The award has been presented annually since 1961.  
.....

In other news from USGA, James T. Snow, the National Director of the USGA Green Section since 1990, has announced his retirement effective at the end of 2011. Under Jim's leadership the USGA supported the creation of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, and contributed more than \$1.5 million to that cause, as well as supporting Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) through a \$1 million grant. Succeeding Jim is Kimberly Erusha, PhD.  
.....

Sympathies to **Hank Wilkinson** and his family on the passing of Hank's mother last month.  
.....

Cress Creek Country Club (**Elliott Dowling** superintendent) had a visit this past October from the world's top-ranked golfer—Luke Donald. In an off-week in his golf schedule, the Northwestern University alum stopped by the Naperville club to hold an exclusive golf clinic and to promote his Chardonnay and Signature Red Claret wines. A PGA Tour golfer in the wine business? Go figure.  
.....

Congratulations to **Dan Tully** of Kemper Lakes Golf Club on being named a Director for the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents at its Annual Meeting in November.  
.....

Kudos to everyone who had a hand in last month's ITF Winter Education program held at Golf House on the 14th and 15th. The presenters did a fabulous job—ESPECIALLY the panel of handsome, intelligent superintendents that kicked the 2-day event off. Thanks go out to the sponsors of the event, who were: Driver Level: **Syngenta**; Iron Level: **Dirt-N-Turf Consulting, Inc.**; Wedge Level: **D & K Products, Arthur Clesen, Inc., BASF, Reinders, Inc., and Dow AgroSciences**; Putter Level: **The Andersons, BTSI, and Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc., Authorized Club Car Distributor.**  
.....

If your Holiday spirit has carried over into the New Year, you can scratch that itch by supporting the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation. Your generosity will help provide programs for more than 1,200 children and adults with mental and physical challenges and dozens of disabled veterans who deserve our support. To learn more or donate, go to **www.sunshinethroughgolf.org** and click on the Donate Now button.  
.....

*Golf Course Industry* magazine recently featured an article co-written by **Bob Lohmann** (Lohmann Golf Designs, Inc.) called "Say What?" in which Bob and GCSAA past-president Dennis Lyon, CGCS try to dissect what managers and superintendents are really trying to say to each other. Bob tackled "A club manager's guide to superintendent speak" while Dennis handled the opposite side of the issue. Fun reading.  
.....

Congratulations to absentee MAGCS members **Tom Lively, CGCS** and **Vince Dodge, CGCS** whose courses were selected in Golfweek's 2012 Top 100 Resort Courses. The two were neck and neck, with Tom's TPC San Antonio taking 40<sup>th</sup> and Vince's Wilderness at Fortune Bay grabbing 41<sup>st</sup>.  
.....

### Items For Sale:

- Five Jacobsen 522A Greens King mowers with groomers—in great condition.
- John Deere Sweeper used only 4 fall seasons for fairway plugs. Machine has new brushes and new hydraulic motor for brushes.
- 2004 Jacobsen 628 Turf Cat with mulching kit—in great condition with 650 hours.

Contact Justin VanLanduit at Briarwood Country Club for more info at 847-945-3350 or justinv@briarwoodcountryclub.com.  
.....

The holiday season has spawned two MAGCS traditions—the South Side and West Side Superintendents Parties. Celebrants gathered at Chef Klaus' Bier Stube in Frankfort for the South Side Party on Monday December 5th, and finished the week off at Seven Bridges Golf Club on the 9th. Great times, great food, and great turnout! Thanks to everyone responsible for planning and helping make both parties a success!  
.....

(photos on pages 19, 20, 21)







## We Make Sure the Grass is Always Greener on *Your* Side.

We combine the world's leading professional turf maintenance brands with a team of local experts to deliver the best overall turf solutions to our customers. From creating customized solutions designed to tackle site-specific issues to building customer specific application programs that achieve maximum results, our customer-driven, expert staff is dedicated to the overall success of each and every customer.



Ph: 630.268.8871 | Fx: 630.268.1357  
[www.chicagolandturf.com](http://www.chicagolandturf.com)

LEADING TURF BRANDS, LOCAL EXPERTISE

S  
O  
D

## Sod That Fits Your Course To A Tee

All varieties available as washed sod, traditionally cut sod or big roll sod.

Your Single Source for:

### Bentgrass Varieties

- Penncross™ Bentgrass Sod
- Pennlinks™ Bentgrass Sod
- Penneagle™ Bentgrass Sod
- L-93™ Bentgrass Sod

### Low Mow Varieties

- XL2000™ Bluegrass Blend
- Bluegrass Fescue Blend

Installation and turf stripping capabilities available.  
We can custom grow to your specifications.  
Please inquire.



3900 West 167th Street, Markham, IL 60428

708-596-7200

1-800-244-7200

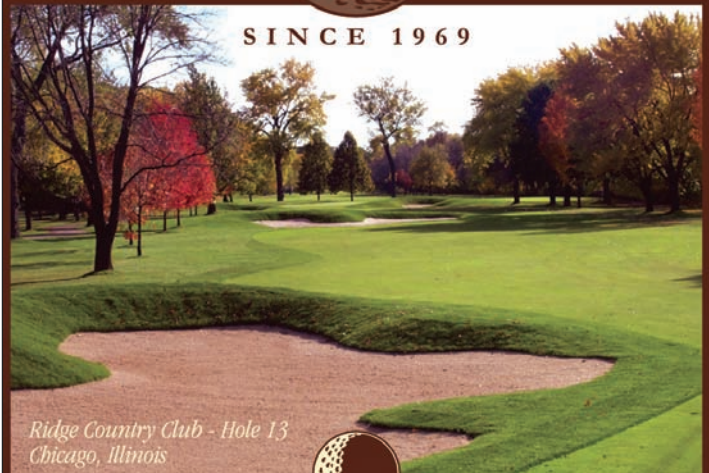
[WWW.HESOD.COM](http://WWW.HESOD.COM)

Member:



## HOLLEMBEAK CONSTRUCTION INC.

SINCE 1969



Ridge Country Club - Hole 13  
Chicago, Illinois

Golf Course Construction • Renovations • Bunkers  
Clearing • Feature Grading • Shaping • Drainage  
Tee and Green Construction • Cart Paths • Grassing  
Shoreline Stabilization • Pond Construction and Dredging  
Laser Tee Leveling • GPS Golf Course Mapping

P.O. BOX 103 • BIG ROCK, IL 60511 • 630-556-3891






Delivers  
brains  
**and**  
brawn.

**CAN A UTILITY VEHICLE  
REALLY DO THAT?**

Vehicles that go where you need them to go, doing the jobs you need them to do, day in, day out, without problems. Brains and brawn. Now available in utility vehicles.

**Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc.**  
2700 N. Farnsworth Ave.  
Aurora, IL 60502  
Call: 630-898-1616 for Eric, Chad or Dave  
[www.nadlergolf.com](http://www.nadlergolf.com)

**YES, IF IT'S A** 

1 800.CLUBCAR • [clubcar.com](http://clubcar.com)

