

Teach for GCSAA

Dr. Bruce Branham

and page 115 was graced with this Hallmark moment from **Dan Dinelli, CGCS** of North Shore Country Club.



Dan Dinelli

Another reason MAGCS rocks! And I understand famouser isn't a word, so no calls please.

So...Global Warming. Is it real or just something that sells books? If you believe the U.S. Department of Agriculture, you'd vote for real. In the first time since 1990, they have revised the official plant hardiness zone guide for the nation's 80 million gardeners, reflecting the new reality that the coldest day of the year isn't as cold as it used to be. Translation: Go ahead and plant that palm tree on your course if you are so inclined. Or not.

The much ballyhooed renovation of Mistwood Golf Club (**Ben Kelnhofer** superintendent) has been completed, and the course will re-open in June according to owner Jim McWethy. The course's original designer, Michigan architect Raymond Hearn directed the renovation, the intent of which was to create a destination experience for golfers from Chicagoland and throughout the Midwest. Can't wait to play it—you reading this Ben?

Nick, we hardly knew ya! Nick DeVries has completed his third and final season with the CDGA Turf Program. From all of us who have benefited from Nick's work at Sunshine Course and Golf House, we thank him for his service to our profession.

Congrats to **Steve VanAcker, CGCS** on retaining those four letters after his name by completing the renewal process for Certified Golf Course Superintendent status. A 33-year GCSAA member, Steve has been superintendent at Crystal Lake Country Club since 1991, and has been a CGCS since 1987.



Steve VanAcker

You think WE'VE been having some strange weather? What about Texas? A recent report stated that at least 500 million trees—about 10% of the state's forest cover—have been lost to the late-season drought of 2011. That's more trees than Medinah cut down last year.

By the time you read this the outcome will already be known, but regardless of that here's a shout-out to Skokie Country Club's **Don Cross, CGCS** on being a finalist for TurfNet's Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. Also congratulations to **Glenn Bereiter, CGCS** (Aldeen GC), **Scott Pavalko** (Cog Hill G&CC), and **Kirk Spieth** (Beverly CC) on being nominated for the prestigious award, which was previously won by MAGCS members **Paul Voykin** in 2003 and **Sam MacKenzie, CGCS** in 2008.



Don Cross

Another couple of MAGCS members (okay, one is a former MAGCS member) were honored recently by GCSAA and *Golf Digest* magazine as 2011 Environmental Leaders in Golf Award (ELGA) winners . Tom Brodeur of TPC Boston (and former superintendent of Crystal Tree Golf & Country Club) won the award in the National Private category, and **Tom Lively, CGCS** of TPC San Antonio took the honor in the National resort category. Congratulations guys!

(continued on page 23)

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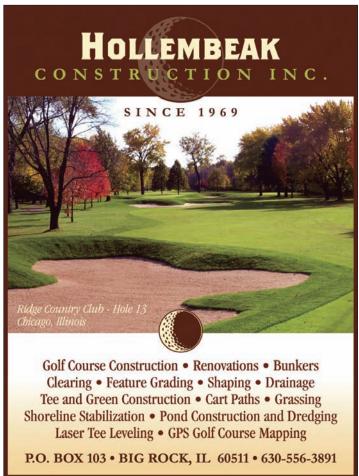
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Tome Lively and Tom Brodeur

The GCSAA Board of Directors has approved the 2012 GCSAA Priority Issues Agenda, which outlines the association's legislative and regulatory priorities. This year's agenda will focus on six areas: The Americans With Disabilities Act, fertilizers, labor and immigration, pesticides, value of golf, and water management. It was also updated to include GCSAA and member activities regarding the H-2B visa program, Clean Water Act NPDES pesticide general permit, and federal disaster tax relief. So there.

Last month once again was Education Central for the golf course industry in our neck of the woods. Kicking things off (and actually in January on the 30th) was Chicagoland Turf's (**Brian Baker, Nick Baker, Wally Fuchs, Jason Funderburg, Keith Krause, John Lebedevs**, and **Bruce Schweiger**) "Success Through Knowledge" seminar which featured presentations by Dr. Richard Latin of Purdue University who spoke on "All you wanted to know about fungicides but were afraid to ask," and Dr. Jim Kerns of the University of Wisconsin at Madison speaking about the "Fundamentals of disease management: What works and what doesn't."



Dr. Kerns

And isn't it odd that Dr. Latin, who does his work in The Office and gives educational talks so people can Get Smart, also bears a resemblance to Steve Carrell? Hmmm...





On February 8th, the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGCS) held its Annual Forum at Naperville Country Club with **Tim Anderson** and **Steven Biehl** hosting. The day's program included presentations from **Dr. Bruce Branham** and **Dr. Tom Voigt** from the University of Lousy Football Too, along with **Dan Dinelli**'s talk on hosting the Western Amateur last year, and topped off with a panel discussion on irrigation and drainage strategies to minimize turf stress featuring **Dan Marco** (Ruth Lake CC), **Ben McGargill** (Wynstone GC), **Henry Michna** (Winnetka GC), and **Scott Vincent** (Onwentsia Club).

(continued on next page)



Dave Ward moderates the afternoon session at the CAGCS Forum (I to r). Dan Marco, Scott Vincent, Henry Michna and Ben McGargill.

Then on the 15th the Class C Winter Workshop was held at Midwest Golf House, where **Greg Martin, David Esler**, and **David Marquardt** enlightened and entertained the large group of assistants (who left NOT A SCRAP of food for the famished MAGCS Board of Directors which had held its own meeting at the same venue).

And last but certainly not least, on the 16th Harrell's (**Chad Hauth, Kevin Fuchs, Pete Kiraly**) held their Winter Education Seminar at the very difficult to find (at least for my assistant) Glen Oak Country Club Gun Club with **Andy Dauksas** hosting. The day featured talks by **John Turner** of Bayer Environmental Science, **Brian Winkel** of Syngenta, Geoff Simril from Hocking International, and **Randy Lusher** of BASF Turf and Ornamental Products.



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EDUCATION REVIEW Charles Anfield, CGCS, Heritage Bluffs Golf Course



MAGCS Assistant Winter Work Shop

The MAGCS Class C Members met at the Golf House in Lemont for the Assistant Winter Workshop. This event was planned, organized and implemented by the Class C Members. Nick Marfise of Cog Hill Country Club is the Class C Representative for the MAGCS Board. After coffee, donuts and around-the-room-stand-up-introductions it was time to get down to business.

Dave Marquardt of Dirt-n-Turf Consulting was the first speaker of the day. His topic was "Managing Turf Maladies, Fixing the Problem at the Root." He challenged the Members to pick the best starting point for an agronomic program. Of course he was talking about soil, water and tissue testing data. Things like budgets, staff, equipment, logistics, and expectations will dictate how far a program can/will go. The physical conditions of the soil will dictate the agronomy. Soil chemistry is affected by inputs and the

subsequent applications of programs. The turf and profile must work together. The importance of the interaction and balances of major and minor nutrients was discussed.

Dave Esler of Vintage Golf Designs presented "Chicago Architecture Primer". This was an overview of influential Golf Course Architects who have created or worked on courses in the Chicago metro area. From a historical perspective, Dave considers some of these courses as "national treasures."



Dave believes the economics of "over grooming" of courses is not sustainable for the future of golf. "The previous 25 years of golf course design, construction, maintenance and marketing have taken our industry down an unsustainable path. We have an economic and social responsibility make golf more affordable, less maintenance and more fun. Most guys are just looking for camaraderie and a few stiff drinks at the end of the round. Dave explained, "I have had a number of Jesus meetings

with banks and Boards as to how to continue to do business. This current recession with Clubs closing and/or changing hands is a wake- up call. The sh#! has hit the fan."

Greg Martin of Martin Design Partnership presented on "Trends in Golf Course Design, Development and Renovation." Greg continued on the theme of the golf industry changing. Greg made a point of emphasizing that we are in the *golfer*

(continued on page 27)





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business. The players have increasing expectations and are looking for the best facilities that will engage them. There are more and more choices locally for golf. "Just like the skiing industry, we need to create bunny slope courses. We need right sizing for specific players to enhance their experience." Greg cited other trends in the industry that include: renovations, infrastructure improvements and cost benefit analysis. "At this time in the golf industry you need

to be committed. The current trends in golf course architecture philosophy are fewer, smaller bunkers. As an organization you need to understand the benefits of improvements

and the potential loss of revenue of ongoing maintenance issues. It is important to do a cost analysis and record labor issues of high maintenance areas."

A lunch of pizza and pop was served and the speakers came back out to answer questions at length about a number of subjects and topics. The attendees then broke up into small groups to answer a trivia quiz for prizes. The event was a good opportunity to network, create new friendships and gain more knowledge of current trends within the industry.

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MARCH 2012 On Course

Refresh My Memory

1.	A flagellate swimming spore that is produced by the oomycetes (Pythium)
2.	Name a gas that is produced when vegetation is rotting in storage
3.	Which grass in the spring produces seedheads regardless of mowing height
4.	The first cultivated grass
5.	The most important morphological part of the plant to protect in a traffic situation
6.	A frequency increased with lower mowing heights
7.	Utilized to decrease grain
8.	Known as a summer annual grassy weed
9.	Which cultural practice is the most time consuming and expensive
10.	Fertilizer dependent on temperature for release
11.	Nitrogen form most commonly taken up by the plant
12.	Fertilizer dependent of moisture for release
13.	What are three secondary macronutrients
14.	A nutrient important in carbohydrate synthesis

WORD BANK

15. Which element is not an essential plant nutrient

- Perennial Ryegrass B. Nitrogen
- C. Phosphorus
- D. Topdressing
- E. Magnesium F. Organic Fertilizer
- G. Potassium

- H. Ammonia
- I. Vertical Mowing
- Silicon
- Annual Bluegrass
- L. Sulfur
- M. Ammonium
- N. Quackgrass

- O. Crown
- P. Zoospore
- Q. Mowing
- R. Sulfur Coated Urea
- S. Manganese
- T. Nitrate
- U. Red Fescue

- V. Crabgrass
- W. Teliospore
- X. Core Cultivation
- Y. Calcium
- Z. Aluminum
- Nitrogen gas
- Rolling

^{11.} T. Nitrate

^{9.} Q. Mowing 8. V. Crabgrass

^{7.} I. Vertical Mowing

^{6.} D. Topdressing

^{3.} K. Annual Bluegrass sinommA .H .S 1. P. Zoospore