

The Bull Sheet

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



MAY 2013

Dates to Remember

May 13 – MAGCS/ITF combined golf day at Beverly Country Club in Chicago, **Kirk Spieth** host.

May 18 – Sunshine Through Golf Foundation's 100-Hole Golf Marathon at the Zigfield Troy Golf Course in Woodridge, IL, **Dennis Troy** host.

June 1 – Deadline for MAGCS Scholarship applications. Application forms can be found at our website. Our website can be found at the bottom of this page. This page can be found in front of you.

June 1 – Deadline for GCSAA Scholars Competition. Details and forms are available at gcsaa.org by clicking on the Education tab and then the Scholarships tab.

June 7 – TETA (Turf Equipment Technicians Association) meeting and open house at Burris Equipment's new Joliet facility on 2001 Cherry Hill Rd. Details to follow.

June 10 – Crazy new MAGCS event at St. Charles Country Club, **Chuck Barber** and **Jason Kahlstorf** hosts. More to follow.

June 19 – 13th Annual John Buck Memorial Golf Outing at Randall Oaks Golf Club, **Mike Sprouse** host.

June 17-23 – Champions Tour's Encompass Championship at North Shore Country Club, **Dan Dinelli**, CGCS and **J.D. Dinelli** hosts.

July 22 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Edgewood Valley Country Club in LaGrange, IL, **Ron McCarthy** host.

MAGCS welcomes the following new members to the fold:

- **Dr. Rick Latin**, Class E, Turfmetrics, LLC
- **Erik Spong**, Petro Canada, Class E
- **John Lamb**, River Forest Country Club, Class C
- **Doug Suttor**, Engage Agro, Class E
- **Barry Larson**, Jacobsen Textron, Class E

My this find you with dry golf courses and basements. April's flooding had a far-reaching impact on most every golf course and business in our area, as well as hitting many of us at the home front as well. Hopefully we've recovered and are moving on to better things for the season ahead, and with no more of this!



On a related note, **Steven Biehl** posted a video on his blog of his tour of Naperville Country Club just after the flood (with CCR's "Have You Ever Seen the Rain?" synced to it—nice touch). Besides the standing water everywhere, the damage to cart paths was amazing. Unfortunately he lost me at the very beginning of the footage, which shows him exiting a perfectly dry maintenance building to begin his tour. My video would have included the floating dookie and a few unfortunate fish that had made their way into my shop.

Congratulations to **John Ekstrom** on his new position as golf course superintendent at Mill Creek Golf Club and Academy in Geneva, IL.

Also on the move recently was **Jason Kahlstorf**, formerly with Leibold Irrigation and now the assistant golf course superintendent at St. Charles Country Club. Best of luck to Jason!

Darryl Burkett of Riverwalls Ltd. would like you to know that he has another service to offer MAGCS members. Having been involved with Global Bureau of Investigation for the past two years, Darryl will perform Felony Background Checks and Workman's Compensation Claim Investigations for those of you hiring new employees. The fee is very reasonable, and all the information can be found at www.globalbureauofinvestigationinc.com.

New MAGCS member **Dr. Rick Latin** of Purdue University has a new service to offer MAGCS members as well. Rick has started a company called Turfmetrics, an on-site consulting firm to help area superintendents especially in terms of developing fungicide programs tailored to their individual courses, and with general disease identification and control. All particulars are outlined on the website, www.turfmetrics.com. Good luck and welcome to Chicago, Rick.



On June 7th, TETA (Turf Equipment Technicians Association) will be holding a meeting and open house at the new home of Burris Equipment in Joliet, IL (2001 Cherry Hill Rd.). The topic of the education will be Tier 4 emissions regulations presented by Eric Side34s, the Executive Director of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC). Come for the information and stay for lunch and a tour of the new digs.

Q: What movie did Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep film on **Don Ferreri's** course?

A: The Seven Bridges of Madison County.

Weird and macabre things have been happening on golf courses lately. To wit, in Hopewell, New Jersey, a severed head that was found on a golf course was recently identified as that of Heidi Balch, a woman who had gone missing in 1989. Locally, the body of a goat with its head cut off was found last month on the grounds of Indian Boundary Golf Course in Chicago. Superintendent **Ryan Gilmore** said the headless goat had its front and hind legs bound, and that "It was a clean cut." This was the third dead goat found on Cook County Forest Preserve property in the last year, but the first without a head (who'da thunk it?). The finding came only a week after someone had sent the severed head of a goat to Wrigley Field and Cubs owner Tom Ricketts, fueling speculation that the two incidents were related.

A group of bird conservation organizations throughout the Chicago region is undertaking a search for red-headed woodpeckers this spring and summer, and they are asking for

your help. These savanna birds are declining in our region, and they would like to get a sense of how many pairs are left and where. Judy Pollock, the Director of Bird Conservation for Audubon Chicago Region says, "Red-headed woodpeckers have gone from a common backyard bird to a rare species in our lifetimes, and one big reason is that the open savanna habitat they need has been invaded by non-native shrub species. Golf courses, with their large canopy trees and open understory mimic the savanna habitat and are great places for these birds to nest." We all can help out by looking around our golf courses for these birds and reporting our findings. All the information is available at www.habitatproject.org/birds/birdblitz2013.html.



Save the afternoon of June 10th for a new, slightly less formal than normal MAGCS event. **Chuck Barber** and company will host a 12-hole event on the Quarry Course at St. Charles Country Club (a 6-hole course that will be played twice with walking encouraged). Following golf will be a barbeque at the maintenance shop where hoodies and work boots are strongly recommended attire (hey, we said less formal didn't we?). Sounds like a hoot—save the date!

They kinda sound alike—JC and KC. They kinda look alike too. And although he doesn't dance with wolves, word on the street is that **Jim Canning** has some pretty sweet moves.

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Syngenta is excited to announce for the fifth year, it is inviting golf course superintendents across the country to apply for the Syngenta Business Institute, an innovative professional business development program developed specifically for the industry in partnership with Wake Forest University Schools of Business. The four-day program, held on Dec. 9-12 in Winston-Salem, N.C. focuses on financial and human resource management, delegation skills, effective communications and negotiation skills,

Continued on page 15



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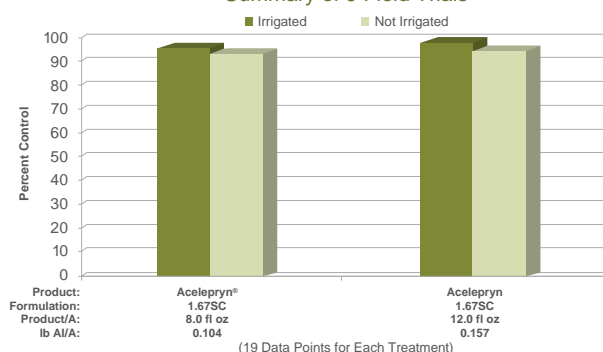
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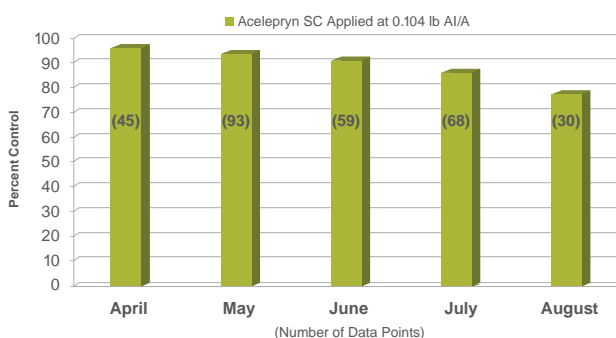
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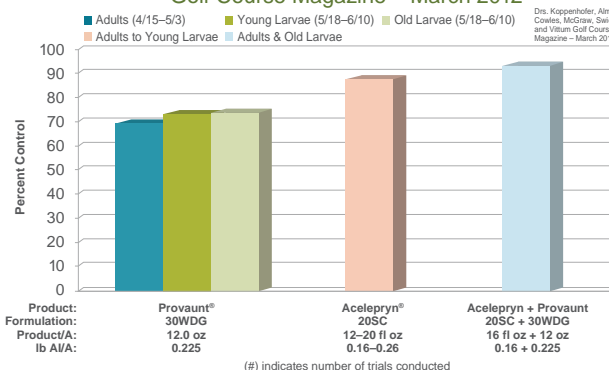
White Grub Irrigation Trial Summary Summary of 9 Field Trials



White Grub Control by Application Month 2005 – 2010



Annual Bluegrass Weevil Control Golf Course Magazine – March 2012



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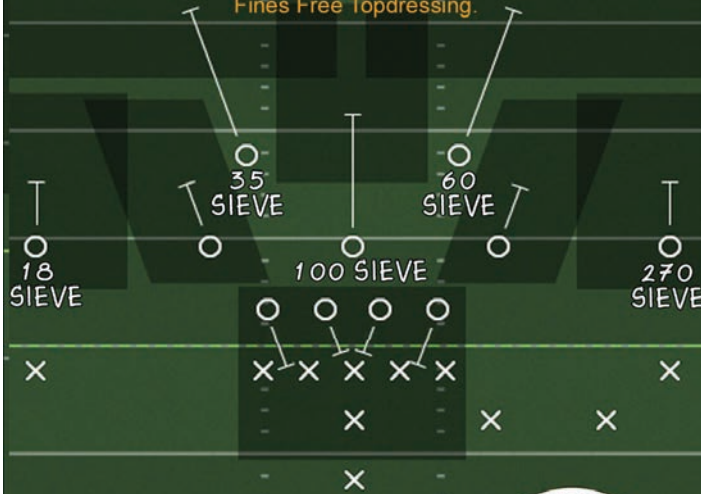
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Breaking news: Bayer CropScience has filed suit against Syngenta for patent infringement in regard to Syngenta's Apear fungicide, and false superiority claims over Bayer's Chipco Signature fungicide. Pending the outcome, the item above may become the Bayer Business Institute. Just kidding there.

Q: What happens to **Bob Kohlstedt** when he surfaces too fast while scuba diving?

A: He gets the Fox Bends.

What would YOU do? In Miami, FL a woman named Rachel Castillo, a bar cart operator for the Miami Beach Golf Club, found a bag left on a tee bench while doing her rounds. In that bag was \$36,000 in cash. She called police who were able to locate the owner of the bag, a 76-year-old man who was believed to be suffering from declining mental health. She might have been doing him a favor by keeping it, but we will never know.

Did you happen to catch **Dan Dinelli**, CGCS on Golf Channel's Earth Day telecast of "Golf Central?" How cool is that--to be the go-to guy on environmental issues as they pertain to golf courses--and to be shown across the country! In case



you didn't see it, rest assured Dan was his usual calm, composed and learned self. In fact, I thought at times a little TOO calm...



Nodding off



Napping



Sawing logs



Sorry, what was the question again?

Joking aside, great job by Dan in a high-profile situation--his musings on how golf benefits so much more than just the people who participate in the game were spot-on, and delivered in a truly professional manner.

Here's a cool related item--the USGA is working with allied turfgrass associations and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop an outdoor turfgrass exhibit at the U.S. National Arboretum. The arboretum is a 446-acre USDA Research Service public gardens facility two miles from Washington, D.C. The four-year focus on turfgrass entitled "Grass Roots" will include a series of workshops, symposia, and demonstrations, with the centerpiece of the program being the outdoor turfgrass exhibit. It is a unique

opportunity for our industry to inform and educate visitors about turfgrass and the turfgrass industry. With over 500,000 visitors annually including members of Congress, the National Arboretum is the perfect setting for this Grass Roots Initiative. Check out www.usga.org for more on this developing story.

What's with beetle orgies? I thought only Japanese beetles did this, but apparently boxelder beetles do it too. If a genie ever grants me three wishes, one of mine will be to become a beetle for a day.



If you are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of your club's golf car fleet, Club Car has a nifty new tool for you. They have produced a golf car maintenance guide to help courses keep their fleets performing at their best in order to maximize their value both during operation as well as at the end of the lease or at sale time. For a complimentary copy of the guide, email info@clubcar.com.

Oscar Miles and the PGA of America have some great news for us. In partnership with Oscar Miles and the Illinois PGA Foundation Scholarship Committee, \$1,000 has been donated to MAGCS in support of its Scholarship Fund, and \$4,000 has been earmarked for ITF supporting **Dr. Bruce Branham's** research at the University of Illinois. Thank you Oscar!

Besides Dan Dinelli being on Golf Channel, look for GCSAA to be featured on the network in a number of different platforms this year. A commercial package includes two spots promoting



GCSAA members' expertise and their enjoyment of the great outdoors. You shouldn't miss

them--they will run 400 times between now and August.

CEO Rhett Evans recently celebrated quite a feat--the climbing of the largest free-standing mountain in the world. GCSAA's head honcho reached the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa in March, a trek of 19,341 feet. It was a six-day climb that passed through five eco-climates, with the temperature on day one being 92 degrees, and a wind-chill of minus four degrees at the summit six days later.

GCSAA reminds you to record your points before you get too busy to remember. All those education seminars and MAGCS events you've attended over the winter are worth points toward certification and renewal, so don't let them expire. Go online at www.gcsaa.org and record them!

Keep an eye on your inbox for the new Turf Weekly, a GCSAA industry newsletter featuring the latest turfgrass and golf course management news from around the world. Each week, Turf Weekly delivers a collection of the most recent articles covering turf management, golf business, research, products, superintendents making news and more.



April 17th was the sixth annual National Golf Day, and members of WE ARE GOLF--a coalition of the game's leading associations and industry partners--were in Washington, DC to meet with members of Congress to share stories and new data about golf's diverse businesses, employees, tax revenue creation, tourism, charitable benefits, and environmental leadership. Organizations participating included the Club Managers Association of America, GCSAA, LPGA, National Golf Course Owners Association, PGA of America, PGA Tour, and the World Golf Federation.

The Midwest was represented by **Luke Cella** who is on the GCSAA Government Relations Committee this year. He met with several of our local area legislators and/or their staffs to talk about golf. He'll be writing up a report for *On Course* and the Midwest soon.

Mulligan: Our apologies to **Michael VanDeVelde** the Superintendent at Villa Olivia in Elgin. Last month we mistakenly published someone else at this post. Thanks for understanding Michael.



Classifieds

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- 2008-09 ATT Triplex Changeable Cassettes (Chassis and Inserts) \$10,000
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Luke Cella, MAGCS

Chuck Barber & St. Charles Country Club

Chuck Barber has one growing season at St. Charles Country Club under his belt. It was one of the hottest, driest, and certainly longest on record. Chuck survived the season as most by paying attention to the fundamentals of growing quality turf and communicating with his membership.

When the Midwest Board held a planning meeting in December they brought up the idea of trying to host a less formal, shorter and more networking centric nine hole event. Chuck stepped up and offered St. Charles Country Club's Quarry Course, or just the "Q" if you are in the know.

St. Charles Country Club has undergone a few changes since Tom Bendelow first designed the course in 1924. When Arthur Anderson Consulting purchased the western acres of the golf course (adjacent to the Fox River) in the mid 1980's the club hired architect and member David Gill to design seven new holes that opened for play in 1987. In 2002 David Esler was hired to design 6 additional holes (the Quarry Course) on undeveloped club property to the North. This was to be the first phase of a master plan for the whole golf facility that is now quiescent. You'll see from the pictures and if you come out visit, that these six holes don't fit within the rest of the gentle rolling-parkland Bendelow/Gill design. They stand on their own, with their own personality and feel. In fact, you don't even feel like you are in innocuous topography of post prairie Illinois.

*Tina and Chuck covered by
Molly and Tom.*





Some of the elevation changes are quite dramatic and Esler used these transformations to frame some exciting golf vistas. Off the tee he used the property's expanse to pull you in, where there is a feeling of openness. Once in, par can be elusive with the practically revetted bunker faces, depth perception scrambling backdrops, and unsuspecting breaking greens. The pictures from this spring show the Quarry Course without the leaves, drawing your eye, even closer to the design features.

The Club encourages members to come out and play a quick six or nine (replaying holes one two and six). They even have a membership package called the Quarry that "gives today's busy families an option to play together and play in less than an hour." So just as St. CCC is trying something new, so will the Midwest as Chuck hosts our first twelve (we're going to play it twice) event on June 10. One more new thing, which is not really novel, we're going to encourage everyone to walk. It'll be a good reason to lighten your bag and clean it out, but leave a few balls in there, you'll probably need more than one. @



PHOTO CREDITS: LUKE CELLA



Confessions of a Wandering Mind

As with most of us who are employed in the golf industry, I can honestly say that I spend way too much time thinking about all things golf related.



I spend long days on the course; I can recall shots from random rounds back in high school; and I set my alarm early to watch the British Open, for God's sake. And yet, much as I try, I still struggle to focus on everyday events without images of golf. (At press time, I have not been diagnosed with any attention disorders). A year ago, I never would have expected that such an important event in my personal life would take place on a golf course. Somehow, the golf gods aligned and placed me on the 1st tee, in the south of Florida, in a light tan suit, front and center at my own wedding ceremony.

What a beautiful day. I'm looking at a gathering of all my closest friends and family who made the trip to join us on this special day....

I bet I could carry that water hazard on the right. We're probably looking at a short par 5. Although, I typically tend to block my shots and I would likely over-compensate and pull it in to those residences. Or does this Florida humidity cause the ball



Kris Kvelland and his wife Amey wed last year in January. Kris was kind enough to share his thoughts of the day with the Midwest.

to go longer or shorter? Maybe play it safe with an iron. Not a lot of divots in this section of the tee.

The cello and violin player are a nice touch. The groomsmen and bridesmaids look outstanding.....

This is probably the first time I have been on a golf tee without wearing work boots or golf shoes. I wonder if that patch of grass over there is Bermuda grass. What do I know? I haven't worked a day south of I-80. I guess it could be something like St. Augustine grass. I probably should know this.

Here comes the father and my new wife. Wow, I am a lucky guy.....

The priest looks amazingly like the priest from Caddyshack, the one who (spoiler alert) gets hit by lightning. He does have a great voice, though. Is that a hint of blue in his hair? Interesting. Probably normal down here.

I, Kris Kvelland, take.....

There should never be weddings on a golf course, and I can only imagine how this upsets the superintendent here. That reminds me of the time a few years ago when I noticed all of those tiny holes on our putting green. Kept scouting for worm activity, I told our staff, 'these birds are going after something.' Bizarre, I thought I had this under control. A week later, the clubhouse manager apologized to me for allowing a wedding party to take pictures on the green. The girls didn't want to take off their high heels. This Florida superintendent probably has a better IPM program than I.

As we board the golf cart and drive towards the clubhouse area, to take pictures as husband and wife, I carefully navigate a sharp turn, keeping all four tires on the cart path. Let's try and limit the wear from traffic. @