



# TRUESET™

## JACOBSEN'S LEGENDARY QUALITY-OF-CUT NOW COMES FASTER AND EASIER.

*First designed by Oscar Jacobsen in 1921, our cutting unit has changed very little over ninety years. The unit's superior geometry, design, and construction has stood the test of time and created a legacy of unparalleled quality-of-cut.*

*Today, we continue our storied history of quality and performance with the TrueSet™ cutting unit, the latest innovation from Jacobsen. We've made the industry's best cutting unit even better by making it faster and easier to adjust with industry leading holding power.*



**THE LATEST INNOVATION FROM JACOBSEN**



ECLIPSE®2



ECLIPSE®322



SLF-1880™

TrueSet™ cutting unit available on 5 in. reel products:  
ECLIPSE®2 walking greens mowers (floating head),  
Greens King® IV, GP400, ECLIPSE® 322 riding greens mower,  
SLF-1880™ and LF550™ fairway mowers.



Three full service locations  
Waukegan, Joliet, & Ingleside.

(847) 336-1205 Phone

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



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

# toc

TABLE OF CONTENTS

## front cover

The image of the sixth hole at Country Club of Peoria captures some of the rolling hills and valleys that make the course unique and a popular place to play in Central Illinois.

PHOTO: Andy Morris

## 4 Kicking a Ball Outside the Box

FEATURE

Brett Ziegler

## I4 Capillary Drainage

FEATURE II

Luke Cella



Thanks to Andy Morris, Golf Course Superintendent at The Country Club of Peoria, the club has become a place of international appeal. Andy mentors an intern from China each fall in conjunction with his alma mater, Michigan State University. One of his interns from 2012, Yuan Hu "Willie".

## DEPARTMENTS

- 03** Director's Column  
Luke Cella
- 09** The Bull Sheet  
John Gurke
- 18** Super-n-Site  
Kyle Haines
- 22** History of Aerification  
Michael Paciga

## DATES

### 2014 MIDWEST EVENTS

- 05/05 Midwest / ITF Combined Meeting, CC of Peoria
- 06/16 Midwest June Meeting, Aurora Country Club
- 7/10 Midwest Nine Hole Event - Woodstock CC
- 8/26 Midwest Golf Championship, Harborside International

## 2014 Board of Directors

### PRESIDENT

Dave Kohley, Silver Lake Country Club

### VICE PRESIDENT

Chuck Barber, St. Charles Country Club

### SECRETARY / TREASURER

Matt Kregel, The Club at Strawberry Creek

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Luke Cella, CGCS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt Harstad, Calumet Country Club

Jeff Hoste, Village Greens of Woodridge

Kris Kvelland, Ridge Country Club

Jim Pedersen, Hughes Creek Golf Course

Justin VanLanduit, Briarwood Country Club

### PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Dave Groelle, CGCS, Royal Melbourne C.C.

### COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVE

Jake Vollbeer, Burris Equipment Company

### CLASS 'C' REPRESENTATIVE

Brian Placzkowski, Royal Melbourne C.C.

### TURFGRASS ADVISOR

Dr. Ed Nangle, CDGA

### EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN

Matt Harstad

### ASSOCIATE EDITORS

John Gurke, CGCS

Chuck Anfield, CGCS

Chuck Barber



Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) exists to promote professionalism and integrity, to provide networking, education and career enhancement opportunities to all members who facilitate the growth and enjoyment of golf.

*On Course* is published monthly with original member content. For advertising opportunities please call 630-243-7900.

© 2014 by Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.

Reuse permissions: admin@magcs.org

Why Drill-and-Fill™ when you can call

# MAXIMUS™

BY DryJect®



The revolutionary new contracted service for  
**Deep Aeration and Instant Fill**  
**9"-11" deep & lower cost**

- About 1 hour per green
- Inject about 2.5 tons of sand / hour
- Minimal surface disruption
- No lost or discounted rounds

**MAXIMUS**  
BY DryJect  
Deep Aeration, Instant Fill

Andy Womack  
217-549-5173

MaximusAeration.com

  
Growing Solutions, Inc.  
Our solutions are your solution

Introducing, the world's  
**MOST ADVANCED**  
Environmental Center available.



1.800.816.4041  
Phone: 815.462.1300  
Fax: 815.462.4036



**www.YourGrowingSolutions.com**

21719 S. Center Avenue. Unit D, New Lenox, IL 60451





# We Spoke Up

As most of you know Illinois SB3565, a bill drafted and introduced by Senator Don Harmon, 39th District of Illinois never made it out of committee. The proposed legislation would allow communities in Cook County with a population greater than 50,000 residents to institute “home rule” concerning the regulation and use of pesticides.

For those who never paid attention to Saturday morning cartoons the steps it takes for a bill to become a law (in Illinois):

Article IV of the Illinois Constitution governs the process of making laws. It states,

“The General Assembly shall enact laws only by bills. Bills may originate in either house, but may be amended or rejected by the other.” In general, a bill becomes law after passing both houses of the General Assembly with a majority vote and receiving the Governor’s signature of approval. A bill may start out in either the House or the Senate. The State law-making process uses committees, much like the Federal government. The process is almost the same, no matter where the bill originates. Bills, except bills for appropriations and for the codification, revision or rearrangement of laws, are confined to one subject.

Each bill must be read by title on three different days in each chamber before it can be passed. The first reading introduces the bill. The second reading allows for amendments. When a bill is called for its third reading, it is voted on. A bill passed by both houses must be sent to the Governor within 30 days. The Governor then has 60 calendar days to sign it, or to return it with his veto. If the Governor does nothing, the bill will automatically become a law after the 60-day period. If the Governor vetoes a bill that has been sent to him, the bill can still become law if the General Assembly overrides the veto by passing the bill again by a 3/5 vote in both houses.

EACH BILL MUST BE READ  
BY TITLE ON THREE DIF-  
FERENT DAYS IN EACH  
CHAMBER BEFORE IT CAN  
BE PASSED

- Bill Drafted
- Bill Introduced
- Referred to Committee
- Committee Hearing
- 1st Reading – Introduces the bill
- 2nd Reading – Allows for amendments
- 3rd Reading – Voted upon
- If passes – moves to the other chamber to through same process
- If passes both – goes to Governor for signature or veto

Because of quick and intelligent action, SB3565 the bill was read on 2/14/14 and never read again – meaning it never made it out of committee. The Midwest and other green industry groups reached out to local leaders to inform them why this bill would not make a sound law for the people

*Column continued on page 21*

# Kicking a Ball Outside the Box

Brett Ziegler, Progro-Solutions

The last decade has not been the most promising for the golf industry. According to the National Golf Foundation, since 2005 nearly 300 golf courses have closed. The NGF also estimates that there are roughly 4.3 million fewer American golfers than in 2005, an 8.5% decrease.

It is no secret that the golf industry is currently facing a serious challenge. One of the main challenges being faced, in my opinion, is the age of golfers. According to the NGF, only 5% of golfers are thirty years old or younger. Compare that to the 61% of golfers who are over the age of fifty and it does not take long to realize that does not bode well for the future. The

PGA realizes golf needs new blood and is addressing the issue by promoting more junior golf programs and launching programs such as "Tee It Forward." These are moves in the right direction and will certainly help fortify the popularity of golf into the future.

When thinking outside the box, however, one cannot help but think "are there ways to bring new, young people to golf courses and generate revenue other than just by adding golfers?" In years past, perhaps there was not. With the creation of FootGolf as an official American sport in November 2011, however, the answer is yes.

To describe it in simple terms, FootGolf is a soccer-golf hybrid. Instead of a golf ball, a soccer ball is used and instead of clubs, your leg. A 21" diameter cup replaces the 4 1/4" cup used in golf. A flagstick is placed in the center of the cup to provide a target for the player to aim at. Scoring in FootGolf is identical to golf; one stroke for each "swing". The object of the game is to complete the holes in the fewest strokes possible. Just as in golf, there are nine or eighteen holes in FootGolf, although they are considerably shorter in length. The eighteen holes of FootGolf are etched out of just nine golf holes. This is of significant importance since the entire golf course is not shut down to golfers when footgolfers are in action; the two sports can coexist simultaneously on the same piece of property. The typical FootGolf layout consists of three holes on par-5's, two holes on par-4's and one hole on par-3's. This format may be different depending on the golf course but seems to be the norm.

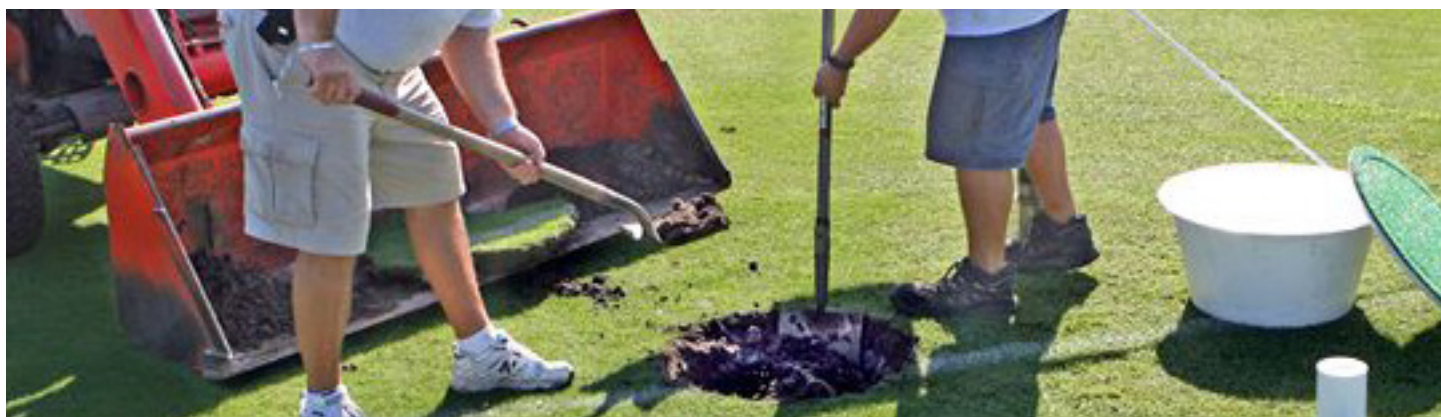
If a golf course wants to host FootGolf, it will need to contact the Illinois FootGolf Association (IFGA) for courses in Illinois, or the American FootGolf League (AFGL), which is FootGolf's national governing body. Ample information is listed on their websites which I included at the end of this article.



Once the association has been contacted, a representative will survey the golf course and design the layout. The FootGolf holes ARE PLACED OUT OF THE RANGE OF GREENS! In fact, many of the holes are placed in areas of the rough. Once the course is designed, the next step is purchasing and installing the 21" cups. The eighteen cups cost roughly \$2,000. They include lids which are used to cover the large cups when they are not in use. I asked Luke Strojny, Golf Course Superintendent at Prairie Bluff GC in Lockport, IL about his experience installing these cups (last fall, Prairie Bluff became the first golf course in Illinois to be an

your golf course with minimal monetary investment. I genuinely believe that FootGolf could be a popular sport in this country. Here are some facts:

- FootGolf is not even two and a half years old in the United States, with its first official tournament held in July 2012.
- Of the sixty-seven golf courses that are members of the AFGL (at the time this article was written) nearly fifty joined the organization just this year, with many more expected to join during the year. That is a significant increase.



*Changing cups for FootGolf could be a cruel April Fools Day joke.*

accredited FootGolf course). Luke said that installation required a decent amount of man-hours. The cups are 18" deep, so a large hole must be dug to accommodate them. Prairie Bluff has extremely gravelly soil, so Luke thought it necessary to rent an auger to expedite this process. Once the hole is dug and the cup and flag installed, the work is pretty much done. The cups will remain in the same area for the entire season. If the hole is located in the rough, occasional mowing a few yards in diameter around the cup is needed to provide a "green" to speed up play and facilitate "putting".

Obvious concerns a superintendent might have with footgolfers are damage to the golf course and a lack of golf course etiquette. Footgolfers are not allowed to wear cleats on the golf course. They must either wear gym shoes or turf shoes which cause minimal to no turf damage. Furthermore, footgolfers do not take divots or make ball marks on the greens. Teaching golf course etiquette is extremely important to the FootGolf Associations. The AFGL realizes that footgolfers are visitors of the golf course and stress that respect must be given to the course, golfers, and other footgolfers. There is even a dress code and a 46-page rule book that describes in detail the etiquette that is expected.

FootGolf is not a fit for every golf course. I'm not a betting man but I would wager that Augusta National is in no hurry to apply for its AFGL membership. However, if the club you are at could use more revenue, then I think it is wise to at least take a few moments to research this sport. The worst that could happen is solidifying your distaste for the game of soccer. The best that could happen is providing a new stream of revenue for

- The roughly \$2,000 for the eighteen cups that need to be purchased is a small investment. Even if this venture turns out to be a complete failure, the financial risk is practically non-existent.
- Your golf course will receive publicity. With so much competition amongst neighboring courses, it is beneficial to be recognized for doing something different.

I realize FootGolf is not for everyone. Undoubtedly, there are a few of you out there that wished they had the few minutes it took to read this article back. However, for those of you that are interested, I would recommend checking out the National and State FootGolf Association websites and contacting our Illinois FootGolf representative, Carlos Stremi. Here is some contact info:

- Carlos Stremi – 312.622.1638, Email at [cstremi@footgolfillinois.com](mailto:cstremi@footgolfillinois.com)
- [www.footgolf.net](http://www.footgolf.net) – American FootGolf League website
- [www.footgolfillinois.com](http://www.footgolfillinois.com) - Illinois FootGolf Association website
- Like on Facebook: American FootGolf League, FootGolf USA and FootGolf IL
- Follow on Twitter - @ILFootGolf and @FootGolfUSA 





Sand.

It's so simple, that you're tempted to take it for granted.

It's so complex, that you can't.

ONLY use sands that are specifically manufactured, tested, and guaranteed to perform on your golf course.



**Waupaca Sand & Solutions**  
715-258-8566  
[www.WaupacaSand.com](http://www.WaupacaSand.com)



**KOELPER  
GOLF COURSE  
CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY**

**DARRELL KOELPER**  
PRESIDENT

GOLF COURSE  
CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING

MARENGO, IL

OFFICE: 815-568-8382  
FAX: 815-568-1048  
HOME: 815-568-6603



**LAYNE-WESTERN**

When in need of professional services for well drilling, well rehabilitation, pump installation and repair, please contact fellow M.A.G.C.S. members at:

**Aurora, IL:** TOM HEALY 630-897-6941 office  
708-514-2233 cell  
[thealy@laynechristensen.com](mailto:thealy@laynechristensen.com)

**Beecher, IL:** JOE EISHA 708-946-2244 office  
708-514-0631 cell  
[jeisha@laynechristensen.com](mailto:jeisha@laynechristensen.com)



*Results. Expect it.*



Scan to your contacts.  
Download free app  
at [gettag.mobi](http://gettag.mobi)

**CHIP HOUMES**

District Sales Manager  
(217) 260-6943 Mobile  
[choumes@precisionlab.com](mailto:choumes@precisionlab.com)

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



**Darin Habenicht**  
[darin@hesod.com](mailto:darin@hesod.com)  
[hesod.com](http://hesod.com)

**H & E Sod Nursery, Inc.**

13246 E 1250 N Rd.  
Mokenca, IL 60954  
Cell: (708) 238-8991  
Phone: (815) 802-6927  
Fax: (815) 472-6765

## 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

**Kubota**

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

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



Lincolnshire 847.537.2177  
Mokena 708.444.2177

www.arthurclesen.com

ARTHUR  
CLESEN INC

Over 50 years of helping you sustain plant health with  
local knowledge, expertise, and innovative solutions.

Anderson, John • 630-669-0519 • j.anderson@arthurclesen.com  
Bartosh, Scott • 262-221-5524 • s.bartosh@arthurclesen.com  
Lamkin, John • 708-259-4354 • j.lamkin@arthurclesen.com  
Spier, Scot • 847-561-313 • s.spier@arthurclesen.com



## From Reservoir to Rotor...



## Rain Bird has you covered.

To learn more, contact your local sales  
representative today!

Kevin West  
Outside Sales  
(708) 341-1687

[kwest@rainbird.com](mailto:kwest@rainbird.com)

Dustin Peterson  
Outside Sales  
(309) 314-1937

[dpeterson@rainbird.com](mailto:dpeterson@rainbird.com)

Jason  
Westmoreland  
Inside Support  
(888) 907-5535

[rbservices@rainbird.com](mailto:rbservices@rainbird.com)

Or visit: <https://golfstore.rainbird.com>



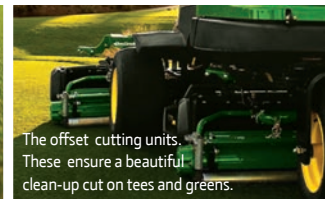
## How can one greens mower satisfy so many people?



Quick Adjust 5 cutting units.  
Adjusts height-of-cut in seconds.



The finish. Create a putting  
surface players will remember.



The offset cutting units.  
These ensure a beautiful  
clean-up cut on tees and greens.

### The 2500E E-Cut™ Hybrid Riding Greens Mowers. The only greens mower everyone can appreciate.

Only the 2500E E-Cut Hybrid riding greens mowers offer:

- Offset cutting units that greatly reduce "triplex ring" in the clean-up cut, and a durable ball-joint suspension system that reliably follows contours for a flawless finish.
- Fast maintenance, with Quick Adjust 5 cutting units that make it simple for a technician to change height of cut in seconds.
- Proven hybrid components and experience stretching back to 2005. All this, and surprisingly affordable, too. For a test drive or a virtual walk around, scan the tag or visit us at [JohnDeere.com/Golf](http://JohnDeere.com/Golf)



JOHN DEERE  
GOLF

JW TURF

J. W. TURF, INC.  
14 N 937 US HWY 20  
HAMPSHIRE, IL 60140  
(847) 683-4653  
[www.jwturfinc.com](http://www.jwturfinc.com)



# One Sprinkler. Countless Benefits. Infinite Possibilities.



Smart Access™ provides top accessibility



Pilot valve is accessible from the top



Smart Access™ compartment provides room to grow

## The new Toro® INFINITY™ Series Sprinklers

are designed with your course's future in mind. A patented SMART ACCESS™ design means **no digging** or unsightly turf repair scars. They are completely backward and forward compatible. You'll also dramatically reduce time spent on sprinkler service and maintenance.

- Check Flow™ feature allows pilot valve removal with the **water on**
- Built for expansion so no need to invest in new sprinklers as technology advances
- Lower long term cost of ownership

*"The INFINITY Series Sprinkler allows me to deliver the best playing conditions for our members, while managing my irrigation resources as effectively as possible within my budget."*  
Mike Handrich, Superintendent, Racine Country Club



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

## Reinders

Solutions & Supplies for the Green Industry

IRRIGATION SALES & SERVICE

Darrick Robbins (630) 217-1922

Phil Zastrow (414) 313-5247

3816 Carnation St., Franklin Park, IL (888) 838-5778

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



# The BullSheet



**MAY 2014**

## Dates to Remember

**May 15-17** – NCAA Division I Men's Regional hosted by Northern Illinois University at Rich Harvest Farms (the "Home of the Huskies") in Sugar Grove, IL, **Jeff Vercautren** host.

**June 6** – Deadline for applications for the MAGCS Scholarships—forms available online at [www.magcs.org](http://www.magcs.org).

**June 16** – MAGCS monthly meeting at Aurora Country Club, **John Gurke & Aaron Reinhart** host.

**June 23** – 2014 U.S. Senior Open Qualifier at Village Links of Glen Ellen, IL, **Christian Pekarek** host.

**July 1** – Deadline for the Call for Nominations for candidates for the 20-15 GCSAA Board of Directors.

**August 26** – Midwest Golf Championship at Harborside International, **Ryan Tully** host.



Congratulations and the best of luck to **Jeremy Duncan**, (left) formerly of Cantigny Golf who is the new superintendent at Fox Run Golf Links in Elk Grove Village, IL. Jeremy takes the reins from the retired-and-loving-it Greg Thalmann, CGCS.

Also best wishes to Chris Flick, the new

superintendent at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club in Lemont, IL. Chris hails from Ohio, where he was most recently the superintendent at National Trail Parks and Recreation District in Springfield, and was previously an assistant at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin.



*Hopefully Jeremy's new job doesn't make him feel like he's in too deep.*

He did it! **Bosco**, **Dave Kohley's** 11-year old lab and December, 2013 Lebanon Turf Dog Days of Golf calendar cover girl has been named the Dog of the Year! Along with the award comes a \$500 donation to Dave's local Humane Society, \$500 to the Kohleys, and a \$3,000 donation to his chapter—MAGCS—which Dave graciously accepted at the April meeting held at his own club. Congrats Dave, Bosco, and Silver Lake!



*Bob Bethel from Lebanon Turf presented Dave with a check for MAGCS.*

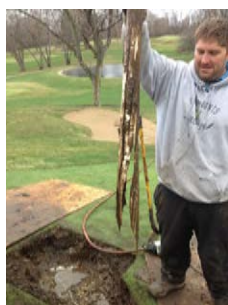
Now that winter is a memory (although its scars will last until who knows when), we all were blessed with an uneventful and mild April. Yeah... Uneventful until the 15th anyhow.



*Geneva Golf Club the morning of April 15.*



Uneventful until we charged our irrigation systems.



*This WAS a piece of 2" PVC pipe*

Uneventful until the ice finally melted and we saw what was underneath:



Luckily, most of us are blessed with the latest and greatest in equipment technology, and have already broken out the aerators and seeders to address the damage left behind by Mother Nature Good riddance, April!



Another result of our winter that you may have experienced was "Stinky Pond Syndrome," caused by excessive floating, bloating fish that somehow couldn't figure out how to breathe in solid ice. The fish kill in small lakes around the area was worse than what one state fisheries official said he'd seen in 34 years on the job. Peee-yooo!

So you've spent another winter cutting down ash trees, and now you have a big pile of cut up trees that you don't know what to do with? How about making some tacky lawn furniture? Pretty simple—cut a slab, burn some artsy-fartsy



decoration into it, cut down a smaller tree you don't want anymore to use as a base, throw it on with a few brackets, and start the party! You'll be a BIG hit with the neighbors...



**Andy Dauksas** (Glen oak Country Club) pretty much had his trip to Orlando for the Golf Industry Show paid for by stopping by the Arysta LifeScience booth. How? By having his badge scanned he was entered in the company's contest, and he was one of the winners! There were seven in all, each of whom received an iPad Mini and a

case of DISARM fungicide courtesy of the Arysta LifeScience Turf & Ornamental team. Congrats, Andy!

Happy Birthday to an old and familiar friend to all of us in the golf business—WD-40 turned 60 years old last month! Sixty years ago, the Rocket Chemical Company, a fledgling business in the aerospace industry, gave this challenge to its entire staff (of three): Create a solvent that would prevent rust, displace water, and work as a degreaser, too. In a lab not far from where SeaWorld San Diego is now located, the crew mixed up 39 formulas. With 39 failures. On the next try, WD-40 (Water Displacement-Recipe #40) was born and the rest is history. Today, over a million cans per week are sold, many to golf course equipment technicians whose bloody knuckles are evidence of the need for it.

On March 26, the Wee One Foundation held its Annual Meeting and Election. The results of the election are as follows:

- President **Rod Johnson**, CGCS of Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI
- Vice President **Paul Bastron**, CGCS of Kenosha Country Club
- Secretary **Mark Petitgoue** of the Lake County Forest Preserve
- Treasurer **Dave Radaj**, CGCS of Green Acres Country Club
- Immediate Past President **Dan Quast**, CGCS

Continuing to serve as Directors are Chad Ball, CGCS of Conway Farms, Bruce Worzella, CGCS of West Bend Country Club in West Bend, WI, and **Brian Baker** of Chicagoland Turf. Newly elected Directors are **Jim Johnson** of Great Lakes Turf, Dale Parske of Reinders, and **Dave Schlagetter**, CGCS of Indian Hill Club. Congratulations to all, and many thanks for serving such an important cause.

Did you hear? The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, exclusively for men since it was founded 260 years ago, will vote in September on whether women can join the club. A statement from the club said that all committees were strongly in favor of the rule change, and asked members to go along with it. Stay tuned.

Reinders announces some organizational moves within the company. **Joe Etten** has taken over outside sales responsibility for commercial equipment in the northeast Illinois counties of Lake and Cook. Joe has been a territory manager for Reinders since 2001. Also, **Grant Rundblade**, formerly with Tyler



*Joe Etten and Grant Rundblade*

Enterprises, has joined the Reinders team and will cover the