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THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

October 2010

Cantigny Golf

Scott Witte , CGCS

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents
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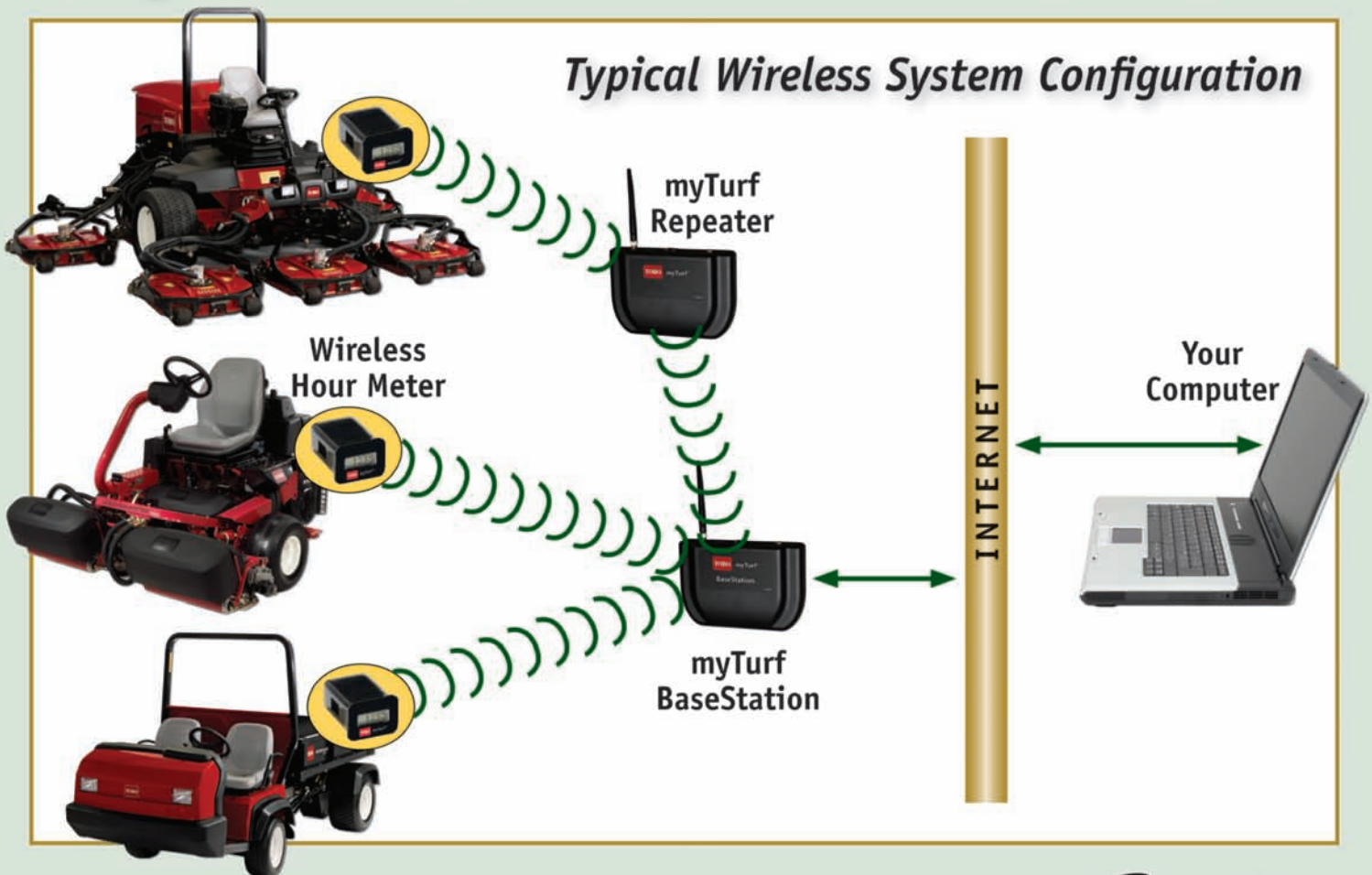
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#9 green Lakeside at Catigny can offer some very challenging hole locations for this year's Championship.
Photo credit: Luke Cella

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The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS), founded December 24, 1926, is a professional organization whose goals include preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge pertaining to golf turf maintenance. We endeavor to increase efficiency and economic performance while improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige of the members.

The MAGCS member is also an environmental steward. We strive to uphold and enhance our surroundings by promoting flora and fauna in every facet in a manner that is beneficial to the general public now and in the future.

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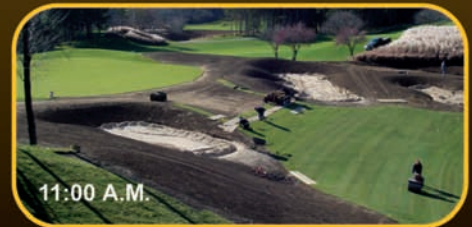


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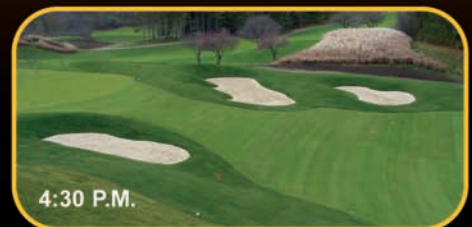
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DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Tony Kalina, CGCS, *Prairie Landing Golf Club*



A Different World

It's just a "Different World" now-a-days out here. To say that it's been a humbling, stress-filled, draining season would be considered a vast understatement by many. I'm sure many will be glad when this year's golf season closes. To refresh, recharge, and prepare ourselves for the 2011 season with renewed zest.

Speaking of renewed zest, the 58th Midwest Turf Clinic and Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at Medinah Country Club. Curtis Tyrell, CGCS, will again host. As the MAGCS's Immediate Past President and Education Committee Chair, it is the Committee's duty to put together the education program at this annual event. The theme for this year's Turf Clinic is: "It's a Different World." GCSAA Education credits can be applied for and obtained. Here's a rundown of the highlights:

1. Can you imagine being a first-year superintendent in 2010? WOW! Well, three first-year MAGCS member superintendents did just that. Nick Leu from Blackstone GC, in Marengo, Illinois; Ben McGargill from Wynstone GC, in North Barrington, Illinois; and Scott Verdun from Kenosha CC, in Kenosha, Wisconsin, will participate in a roundtable discussion about their experiences this season. The insights and tribulations of handling a new job, learning a new course, fostering new relationships with staff and club officials, working through a very tough first season, and coping with outside interests will be valuable lessons for all to hear. I'm certain they will agree that this year, 2010, was in fact, a different world.

2. When you've got something important to share how do you share it? Getting a worthy, timely and accurate communication out to your administration, guests, and members has become critical for many superintendents and operations. In this on-line, instant access, information age, internet and mobile hand-held technologies have caused a sharp rise in the use of weblogs, email blasts, and social networking sites by golf course superintendents.

Four veteran MAGCS members will share their knowledge of these communication tools. All four have earned the GCSAA's, "C.G.C.S." mark of distinction and respect. They are: Henry Michna, Winnetka CC; Dave Ward, Coyote Run GC; Jeff Frentz, Lakeshore CC; and Luke Cella, MAGCS Executive Director. Henry and Dave will share, display, and discuss their use of weblogs. Each will walk us through their blog, showing us their creative uses about course conditioning. Jeff will discuss and display his use of email and email blasts to get his maintenance message out. And, Luke will walk us through all we need to know about social networking via the internet on Facebook

and Twitter. All will describe how they incorporate new methods of communication into golf course management.

3. Have you ever wondered what really goes on in the rhizosphere surrounding turfgrass roots? (I know I have). A good shot of 'up close and personal' is in store for the gathered membership when Gary Campbell, a certified consulting agronomist and Russ Blogg, a soil microbiologist, present their soil microbiology thriller, "Deep, Down Different." Both Gary and Russ are employed at Agri-Energy Resources, Inc., in Princeton, Illinois. They will discuss functions, roles, and interactions in the mysterious subsurface world of soil microorganisms and roots. Aerobic, facultative, anaerobic, obligate, and saproptc are just a few of the words that will forever roll from your tongue at cocktail parties and dinner tables after listening to these gentlemen. It will be exciting!

4. Lastly, Mr. Dan Roan, 'Chicago's Very Own, WGN-TV Weekend Sports Anchor,' will give our keynote address. He has hosted and co-produced pre-game and halftime shows for WGN's NBA and Major League Baseball telecasts. He is also substitute play-by-play announcer for WGN's Bulls, Cubs, and White Sox games. With the addition of the Chicago Blackhawks to WGN's programming schedule, Dan is also hosting between-period segments during hockey telecasts. Dan has won three Emmys for sports-related work while at WGN. He is an avid golfer who has qualified and participated in many Illinois Opens and other notable amateur golf championships. We are thrilled to have him give our keynote address.

In closing, on a personal note, as the MAGCS Immediate Past President, the 2010 Turf Clinic will be my last official board responsibility before my tenure ends. Eight years ago, at the 2002 Turf Clinic, I was elected to serve the MAGCS Board of Directors. It brought me a great deal of personal and professional reward. I savored serving this association, and I am whole-heartedly grateful for the opportunity and appreciative of the confidence and support you bestowed upon me. I will forever treasure the closeness of the friendships we created. It has been the utmost honor and privilege. Thank you.

I pray that God's grace will continue to fill you and yours with good health, fine spirits, and plentiful joy.

Sincerely, Tony Kalina **-OC**



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Golf Course Architecture, Some Perspective

Golf is evolving. Right now, there are dozens of different issues facing this game. From play and income concerns to water conservation and maintenance practices to difficulty/playability, sustainability, and feasibility. Certainly, there is no shortage of concerns for the continued viability of golf.

To gain some perspective, I have asked golf course architects and American Society of Golf Course Architects members [ASGCA] from around the country to answer two questions:

- Where is golf going?
- What is the role of the golf course architect in that trend?

The following are a variety of responses.

Garrett Gil, Wisconsin

“At least in the United States, we see the golf course trends, particularly among the daily fee and municipal courses, going towards reducing maintenance and operations costs. As greens fees are reduced to entice and compete for play, expenses must be reduced as well. In this regard, as architects, we are involved in a number of bunker remodeling projects to reduce not only the square footage of bunkers, but also the extent of perimeter to be edged. We also see trends and have assisted clients in conversions to lower-input turfs, overall reductions in maintained turf, and irrigation system and pump system alterations that reduce energy demand and water usage. Surprisingly in our area, as golf courses close, the remaining courses are making improvements to better themselves for the golfers they currently have and those they hope to have. All of these trends are targeted at providing quality of play at less cost and in a more efficient and effective manner.”

Andy Staples, Arizona

“Due to a global economic recession coupled with evolving environmental politics, golf will be asked to reassess how it is designed, built, and managed in order to stay relevant in the future. The golf course architect is the most visible, influential spokesman for golf’s drive toward sustainability. We have the tools to determine the appropriate number of costly features such as feature shaping, green sizes, numbers

and styles of bunkers, and turfgrass choices. We are in the driver’s seat when it comes to promoting sustainable philosophies such as energy efficiency, water conservation, and natural maintenance. This is the future of the golf course architect.”

Bill Amick, Maryland

“For a long time I’ve believed that many golfers, potential golfers, and we in golf could all benefit from having more well-designed, smaller golf courses. Courses that would be easier to play, less expensive, require less land, and take less time for a round. These could be both stand-alone and companion courses. Golf course architects should promote these where they are feasible and design them.”

Art Schaupeter, Missouri

“Golf is at a crossroads. The boom in development over the past twenty years was too focused on a narrow scope of golf course type, namely the “championship” caliber golf course. Less than 1% of golfers are able to play a golf course of this caliber. Moving forward, the golf industry must broaden its appeal if it expects to attract more players. Golf course architects need to be at the forefront of this broadening of golf’s choices. We can encourage the redevelopment of underperforming facilities to make them more inviting to a wider range of golfers and to non-golfers who might be encouraged to give golf a try. They should encourage the creation of alternative facilities (non-18 hole “championship” courses) so that players have a choice of how much time and money they spend on a given round of golf. The architects should focus their design efforts on maximizing a fun playing experience, which should include larger greens, fewer hazards, minimal or no lost ball opportunities, wider playable areas, and shorter courses. This is how golf course architects can do their part to encourage new players

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to give golf a try, while retaining the vast majority of players who are still trying to improve their skills and enjoy the sport at the same time."

J. Drew Rogers, Ohio

Where is golf going?

"I think we are somewhat dependent on what owner/operators do – how they choose to address our current climate, consumer desires, and the stagnant growth of the game. We all talk about ways to make golf more fun again and how facilities can be designed and operated in less traditional ways. Until we can make the game less expensive, more accessible, and more fun, we will continue to see the flat line. Improved stewardship is a contributing factor – the amount of turf we care for and the amount of water and chemicals we apply. There are direct correlations for all of these factors...all lead toward a more affordable game, a more accessible game, a game that is more enjoyable to play, and less time consuming – even a family activity."

The role of the golf course architect?

"We must advise and educate our clients, and promote the options every day to prospective developers. We have a responsibility as architects to promote the movement through our media outlets, through our industry contacts, and through our network of superintendents, management groups, and general managers. We also have a voice to promote solutions through the USGA and PGA. We possess the expertise to design or to modify a facility to address many if not all of today's operational concerns."

Greg Martin, Illinois

Where is golf going? - Global

Certainly, the international markets are expanding. These markets expand and contract quickly, based upon many factors. One thing for sure...golf is a global game. Just look at the PGA Tour winners from this past year.

As we expand our design talents overseas, we must be careful to make adjustments to our philosophies in these sensitive markets. Better land use; better resource allocation; more sensitivity to diverse landscapes; and more playable designs will be vital for allowing the game to grow.

Where is golf going? - Local

Golf course renovation will be more necessary than ever as the facilities built in the previous 20 years become dated. In the coming years, infrastructure, aesthetics, and playability will be addressed in a different way to widen golfer appeal.

Where is golf going? – Brown

This industry is slow to react...but when it does it is quick to change. That change is underway. The playing conditions at the U.S. Open, Whistling Straits, and the U.S. Amateur at Chambers Bay are just a sampling of what is now acceptable. Brown is ok, at least for industry insiders. That message must be broadcast to our customers. Golfers want green...but brown will be better for everyone, keeping costs low and designs interesting.

The role of the Golf Course Architect?

We have been complacent and allowed the industry to dictate our philosophies and design. That is changing also. It must change. We are now at the forefront of addressing those concerns including environmental sensitivity, economic sustainability, playability, and market appropriateness. We are leading and talking about it. Is anyone listening?

There is talent and vision in this industry. The architects I talk to on a regular basis are keenly interested in making golf more sustainable, available, and better. This talent is represented in many ways: from high-end resorts, to private clubs, to regional masterpieces, to creating wider access for golfers at local municipal facilities.

Most Architects are not looking for the MOST or the BEST...but better. Better is not longer, tougher, more challenging or more costly. Better is more engaging, more interesting, more sustainable, and more fun for more golfers. **-OC**

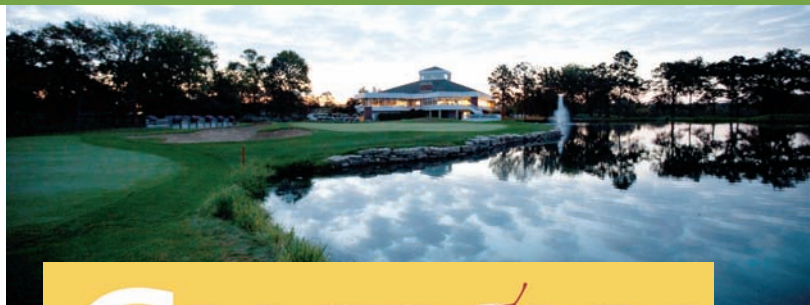
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Scott Witte, CGCS -N-



Cantigny = Tanks. That is my childhood memory of the place and as kids we pronounced the g, unlike the formal French pronunciation (Can tee nee). Two or three times a summer the Cella and family across the street station wagons would find their way out to Wheaton with a bag full of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, a jug of lemonade, and a package of cookies. We'd spend the afternoon climbing on the tanks playing soldier outside the Museum. There was no golf course then, the First Division Museum was in its infancy and touring the McCormick Mansion was not an experience our moms wanted to go through with 10 kids under the age of 12. I've since taken my boys to enjoy "The Cantigny Experience" and immediately they think of the tanks.

Cantigny is owned and operated by the McCormick Foundation, one of the nation's largest public charities. The golf course is part of the historic 500-acre Cantigny Park, a park that is more of a complex that contains gardens, museums and top notch restaurants. No knock to Scott and his crew, but if the only reason you've visited Cantigny is to golf, you've only seen a portion of the operation. Cantigny hosts over 40 acres of formal gardens including a rose garden, a popular idea garden and over 20 other plant specific gardens. A stroll through will be sure to give you ideas for your course or home. The First Division Museum takes you through American history as seen through the eyes of the First Infantry Division interactively. There is always something going on at Cantigny, I urge you to visit with your family and spend the day, you won't be disappointed.

Cantigny Golf opened for play in 1989 as the "Best New Public Course in America," Golf Digest. Roger Packard designed the original 27 holes on 275 acres and Wadsworth Construction Company completed the work in 1988. Since 2003, Jacobson Golf Course Design has designed many updates to the original layout. Scott and staff have been putting those designs into action updating bunker complexes, adding new contours to approaches, moving cart paths, and adding drainage to keep



The Witte's, Scott and wife Sue, daughter Kori and son Alec.

the course current. The course is divided into three distinct nines, Woodside, Lakeside and Hillside. Play each nine and you will understand their distinctive names.

Cantigny Golf is also home to a 20-acre Youth Links. There are nine holes dedicated to growing the game. Want to play the course? Adults are only allowed out there in season with a junior golfer, otherwise you can wait for school to start.

The newest addition at Cantigny Golf is its Golf Academy. It is the only teaching center in the Chicagoland area to integrate all the performance components of playing into one location. Year round hitting bays, a 2-acre practice range tee,

and a 1.5-acre short game area are just the beginning to this complex. The professional staff can help with swing instruction, equipment fitting, physical training, mental training, practice techniques and course management. It is quite a complex that brings one of the main missions of the McCormick Foundation, education, to the golf realm. On top of all that, the landscape surrounding the Golf Academy is "zero input" - all native plants that don't require much maintenance.

Scott has managed the golf course since 1995, a year like 2010 that will be remembered for its extremely difficult growing conditions. Scott, a native of Brookfield, Wisconsin, received his

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bachelor's from Michigan State in 1991. Like most, Scott got his start in high school at a local course. He worked at Blue Mound Golf and Country Club during the summers under Carl Grassl. He worked a season at Barrington Hills Country Club as an intern under John Ebel followed by season at Merit Club under Oscar Miles in 1990. Upon graduation, Scott returned to Barrington Hills Country Club as the assistant under Mark Bobb before landing his first and only superintendent job at Cantigny.

The course has played host to many Championships, all under Scott's tenure: 3 Illinois Amateur Championships, A Western Junior Championship and a US Amateur Public Links Championship. It is currently certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System and has been so since 1993.

Cantigny is a unique place and offers Scott a unique set up. Scott oversees his team and has a golf course superintendent oversee each nine-hole segment. Scott, being true to his character, asked this article highlight each one of them. I asked a few questions of each (all of them commented it was like a job interview) to share Team Cantigny with you.



Team Cantigny, Steve Kurtsky, Tom Weigand, Jeremy Duncan, Scott Witte, Mark Kosbab, Pat Maksymiu and Romeo Diaz.

Patrick Maksymiu

Formal Education: Bachelor of Arts, Niagra University, in Business. Turfgrass Certificate, Penn State

Home Town: Flint, MI

Prior Work Experience:

Pat started at Cantigny in 2006. His resume includes: River Forest Country Club 02-06, Genesee Valley Meadows, Flint, MI for 6 years. He got his start on his family owned course, Cedar Valley Golf Club in Barrie Ontario.

Oversees: Lakeside

Best part of Cantigny:

The people

Favorite Cantigny Hole:

#4 Woodside, because it is an uphill shot encompassed by native area and has a very good tee to green visual.

Toughest part of the job: I have trouble leaving the place each day because I always feel there is something that can be improved or made better.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: Leadership and experience.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: They think well about me as I do of them.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: Enjoy the things you have.

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Steve Kuretsky

Formal Education: University Wisconsin, Madison, Bachelor in Soils Science with Turf Specialty

Home Town: Minneapolis, MN

Prior Work Experience: In his 4th season at Cantigny, worked in lawn care for the previous 10 years. Worked at Rush Creek Golf Club in MN, University Ridge, and the O.J. Noer Research Center in WI.

Oversees: Golf Academy and Irrigation on all 36 holes

Best part of Cantigny: Freedom to make my own decisions and run my department the way I see fit.

Favorite Cantigny Hole: Lakeside #1, the butterfly hole. The reconstruction last fall really improved the playability of the hole.

Toughest part of your job: Keeping the 20+ year old irrigation system functioning and together.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: Management skills learned from past positions.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: I can be counted on.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: There are a lot of things but number one is his management style – he is really good at breaking things down in their simplest form and not missing the details.

Mark Kosbab

Formal Education: Associates Applied Science – Turf Management, Joliet Junior College

Home Town: Chicago, IL

Prior Work Experience: Medinah 1998-2003, Riverside Golf Club 1997

Oversees: Hillside

Best part of Cantigny: The outdoor environment that it offers, including the native areas and the wildlife it supports.

Favorite Hole at Cantigny: #4 Hillside, it's an easy hole from the player standpoint, but challenges me as a superintendent.

Toughest part of your job: Labor management, running the crew as efficiently as possible.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: Knowledge and experience, but we all seem to be the same that way. I bring a passion for turf management to the team.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: I'm the comic relief on the team, I love my job and am very passionate about it.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: Being efficient as possible with the resources available to us at any given time.

Jeremy Duncan

Formal Education: Bachelor of Science from Illinois State in Agricultural Business

Home Town: Peoria, IL

Prior Work Experience: Started in the spring of 2006 at Cantigny, worked at Village Greens in Woodridge for 2 years and various courses in central Illinois.

Oversees: Woodside

Best part of Cantigny: The people that I work with.

Favorite Hole at Cantigny: #3 Woodside – has a great look from the tee especially with the new bunker renovations.

Toughest part of your job: Always wanting perfection, but finding it impossible to achieve each day.

What I feel I bring to Team Cantigny: I'd say a positive work ethic.

What Team Cantigny thinks of me: I'm easy to get along with.

Best lesson I've learned from Scott: Importance of being prepared and having a plan.

Scott has created a great work environment for his staff, it is apparent in the final product they all produce. Scott's greatest challenge at Cantigny is staying on top of the changing soil chemistries. Cantigny is irrigated with effluent water from the Wheaton Sanitary District. Constant fluctuations in water quality, particularly salinity, wreak havoc with the structure of his soils. Scott monitors his soil structure and tweaks his programs to create the best possible growing conditions for his plants.

Scott's newest venture is keeping bees at Cantigny. As with all his undertakings, he has jumped right in and is learning as much as he can about apiculture. He explains, "I'm learning it on the fly" (no pun intended). Scott recently phrased the "Bee Barometer" to communicate with the community that golf courses are valuable environmental assets. Bees don't live in toxic dumps and like birds, are great indicators of a stable and healthy environment. The honey Scott has collected is sold onsite and the proceeds go back into his Audubon program, a buzz, golf can use anytime.

He resides in Bartlett with his wife Sue, his son Alec and daughter Kori. Scott is closing in on his tenure as the Midwest President this fall. He recently learned of a local beekeepers association, I'm sure they could use his help and leadership at some point in the near future.

Cantigny is a unique facility with a unique Superintendent, Scott Witte, CGCS. **-OC**



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EDITORIAL AWARDS

Nominees

Fred D. Opperman Editorial Award is presented to the non superintendent member who has shown excellence in journalism in On Course. This award commemorates the numerous contributions that Fred Opperman has given to the Bull Sheet and On Course while serving as editor from 1983 to 1999. The following is a list of eligible articles and authors for the 2010 award. The Raymond Gerber Award can not be given this year, there needs to be six superintendent authored articles, of which, we sadly fell short. The four articles penned by superintendents will be eligible for the Gerber Award next year.

G/O	ARTICLE	AUTHOR	MONTH	YEAR
Opperman	Turf-type Tall Fescue Variety Trial makes its debut at CDGA Sunshine Course	Keith Rincker, Kenneth Diesburg, Derek Settle, Nick DeVries, and Chris Painter	September	2009
Opperman	Invigorate Your Body, Mind and Soul with a Hobby!	Larry Tomaszewski	September	2009
Opperman	Prolonging the "BIG DIG"	Virgil Range	October	2009
Opperman	Save Some Green with CDGA Research	Keith Rincker	November	2009
Opperman	A Look at Communication	Jason Sarna	December	2009
Opperman	The Superintendent's Five-Foot Shelf	Steven Biehl	January	2010
Opperman	Lessons Learned Along the Way	Robert Fraley	February	2010
Opperman	As a Superintendent, What is Your Next Career Step?	Scott Verdun	February	2010
Opperman	Getting Their Hands Dirty	Ty McClellan	March	2010
Opperman	Professional Social Networking	Nick Walters	March	2010
Opperman	Sometimes the Good Guys Win	Elliott Dowling	April	2010
Opperman	Why "New" Greens Fail	David Marquardt	May	2010
Opperman	Take Care of Yourself...Literally	Scott Kuebel	May	2010
Opperman	Know the Genetics of Your Next Bentgrass Variety	Keith Rincker	June	2010
Opperman	Quality Used Turf Equipment: Creating Options for Superintendents	Colin White	July	2010
Opperman	Powered by Google	Nick DeVries	July	2010
Opperman	Joint Restraints versus Thrust Blocks for System Fortification	Erik Christiansen	July	2010
Opperman	The NPDES Permit System: What Does It Mean to Our Industry?	Kevin Dahm	August	2010
Opperman	Water on the Web	Darrick Robbins	August	2010
Opperman	Simple Solutions at Ruth Lake Country Club	Alan Hill	August	2010
Gerber	Budgeting Tools	Jeff VerCautren	October	2009
Gerber	Ten Years After	Fred Behnke	November	2009
Gerber	Going Brown, a Poor Message	Dan Dinelli	April	2010
Gerber	Meat and Potatoes Stew at the Links	Rick Bowden	June	2010

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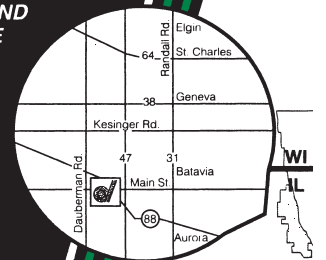
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Charles Anfield, CGCS, Heritage Bluffs Golf Course



“What Worked for You This Year?”

As the 2010 golf season gets put into historical perspective, it's been compared to 1988, 1995 and 2005 as difficult seasons to maintain cool season turf. I decided to not dwell on the carnage, destruction and havoc wreaked by Mother Nature. We all found out the hard way how much control over our turf we really have. That being said (probably not for the last time), this season is over.

It's time to look forward and find ways to improve and learn from our collective experiences. It's always nice to try to put a positive “spin” on a season like this past year and believe it or not, there were success stories out there. So I asked a bunch of “seasoned veterans”, what worked for you this year?

John Gurke, CGCS, Aurora Country Club: “I'm convinced the phosphites are all you need to control pythium”. We had great success with them for pythium control on our fairways with regular applications. I also used a TIP spiker once a week and I feel this helped our greens make it through in good shape”.

Todd Schmitz, Phillips Park Golf Course: “We used our Bannerman once a month on greens and this worked very well”.

Greg Johnson, Eagle Brook Country Club: “Communication was very important”. Greg said he had more course tours, sent more emails and wrote more newsletters than ever before.

Tim Anderson, CGCS, Naperville Country Club: “I was glad I had a large nursery. I also used moisture meters for irrigation management and they really helped me dial in my green irrigation.”

Don Ferreri, Seven Bridges Golf Club: “My mechanic really did a great job”.

Andy Weadge, Morris Country Club: “I spent a lot of time on communications, emails, on the telephone and posting CDGA Interactive Turf Reports. We added a bunch of drainage and are taking a hard look at tree removal”.

Chuck Barber, Indian Lakes Resort: “Rolling in place of mowing greens during certain times worked terrific. Solid rollers on the greens mowers worked well and I needle tined my greens once a month. Umaxx nitrogen applications worked great”.

Brian Thompson, CGCS, Biltmore Country Club: “Raising the height of cut on the greens”.

Scott Witte, CGCS, Cantigny Golf Club: “The phosphites worked well and I went to exclusively foliar applications for nutrients”.

Dan Sterr, Stonebridge Country Club: “It was a good year to have a lot of bentgrass. Water management was very important. I tried to be more dry than wet, so if we did get a summer thunderstorm we had a better chance of absorbing the water. Correct hand watering technique and application volumes were critical. It's more difficult to do than it appears. It's an acquired skill”.

Charles Anfield, CGCS, Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club: We have a Turfbreeze II fan on our seventh green that can blow 5 M.P.H. of air, 125 feet. I compared it to other greens that were tucked in low air movement microclimates and the performance of the green with the fan was remarkably superior to the greens that did not have a fan. Also, the ladies that played our course this summer were so nice. They are just so glad to be out, playing golf, having fun and socializing. They were very sympathetic and understanding of the imperfect turf conditions. They realize it's the same playing conditions for everyone. They get “it”. Golf is not so much about chasing a little white ball as it is the people they are playing with. **-OC**



October 2010

THE BULL SHEET
John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 4 – MAGCS monthly meeting and Golf Championship at Cantigny Golf Club, **Scott Witte, CGCS, Jeremy Duncan, Mark Kosbab, Steve Kuretsky, John Maksymiu, Tom Weigland,** and **Mike Nass** hosts.

October 13 – Annual University of Illinois Turf Alumni Golf Outing at Inverness Golf Club, **Brian Mores** host.

October 15 – Deadline for nominations for GCSAA's 2011 Excellence in Government Relations Award.

October 24 – Deadline for applications for the 2010 GCSAA/ *Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Award (ELGA).

October 28-30 – GIE+EXPO 2010—Hardscape North America at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. Go to www.gie-expo.com for info.

November 3 – 58th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club, **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** host.

November 9-11 – Turf & Ornamental Seminar at the Daniel Turf Center in West LaFayette, IN. Go to www.mrtf.org for all the juicy details.

November 15 – Deadline for nominations for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta.

November 16-17 – The 2010 Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium at the American Club in Kohler, WI. More info as you read on.

November 16-18 – 2010 Penn State Golf Turf Conference at the Nitany Lion Inn in University Park, PA. For more information, visit www.paturf.org (or would JoePaTurf be more appropriate?).

November 30 – Deadline for entries in GCSAA's first-ever Turf Wars Video Contest. More about this in the following pages.

December 6-9 – Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, OH. Check out www.ohioturfgrass.org for the dirt.

Congrats to **Scott White** of Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Golf Club in Rockford and his Boston terrier Fenway on making the final cut in the 2011 BASF/TurfNet "Superintendents Best Friends" calendar. Fenway is the featured dog for February.



Hey, there's still a little time left to nominate yourself for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta. November 15th is the deadline, and nominations can be done by going to TurfNet.com. After a year like this, I think everyone is a potential candidate.

(continued on page 19)



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Condolences go out to the family of MAGCS AA member **Rick Hahn** who passed away on September 17th at the much-too-young age of 58 years old. Rick had served as Director of Golf and Grounds Maintenance at the Marriott Lincolnshire Resort for 25 years until his retirement a few years back.

So, when golfers make such comments to you as "Boy, things are really looking a lot better," or "I can't imagine how it would have looked if you hadn't been here," are they being complimentary? Or are they just politely telling you that you suck?

A stressful summer such as the one we've experienced this year would not have been survivable without the ability to get away from work and spend quality time with friends doing something totally non-golf-related. Aside from the usual attractions that the City of Chicago has to offer such as its professional baseball teams (if I may use the word professional), its lakefront, its eclectic dining options, its theater and live music, etc., this summer brought the return of the Tall Ships to beautiful Navy Pier. If you haven't experienced it and have any interest in the history and majesty of these huge sailing ships, a trip downtown should be on your agenda the next time they are here. Just a suggestion.



The reason they're called tall ships.



Krause confirming that the tall pirate ball-juggling chick had a bean burrito for lunch.

Next month marks the 45th time that the Annual Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium will take place, and for the 45th consecutive year it will be held in Wisconsin. This year's rendition, "Golf in the Year 2010—Did We Predict the Future?" will take place at the American Club in Kohler on the 16th and 17th of November. To register online or just to learn more about the event, check out wgcsa.com and go to the calendar tab.

It is that time of year again, when we reacquaint ourselves with our long pants and wind shirts and enjoy the beautiful bounties the fall season has to offer. It's also the time of year when we reacquaint ourselves with our golf clubs and take advantage of the many opportunities to play at our disposal. One such opportunity that took place recently was the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents (CAGSC) Founders Cup, which was held on September 1st at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove. The event brings superintendents and key officials at their clubs together in a best-ball format, promoting the building of relationships and good will. Congratulations to **Dave Behrman, CGCS** and his guest Bob O'Neill from Midlothian Country Club on winning the Net competition with a 61, and to **Chuck Barber** and his entourage/posse from Indian Lakes Resort on winning the Gross category. Host superintendent **Jeff VerCautren** and owner Jerry Rich welcomed everyone to the site of the 2009 Solheim Cup with open arms, and there could not have been a more gorgeous day for a game of golf on a pristine golf course. Many thanks to Jeff and Mr. Rich, as well as to all the people involved in putting together another great Founders Cup at another very nice venue.



Jeff VerCautren

Next on the menu of autumn golf extravaganzas was the September MAGCS meeting at Fox Run Golf Course with host superintendent **Greg Thalmann, CGCS**. The event was the annual College Team Championship, and it was held on a day that waffled weatherwise between chilly downpours to gorgeous sun and warmth. Whatever the combination, it favored the team from Penn State University, who battled its way to victory over some strong competition. Many thanks to Greg Thalmann for stepping up and providing a great venue on very short notice, and to all the staff at

(continued on page 21)



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Fox Run; as well as a big thanks to the generous sponsors for the day, who were: **BASF, Bayer Environmental Science, Burris Equipment Company, Chicagoland Turf, E-Z-GO, Great Lakes Turf, J.W. Turf, Inc./John Deere Golf, Nadler Golf Car Sales, Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Palatine Oil Co., Inc., Quali-Pro, Reinders, Inc., Syngenta, and XGD Systems.**



Some very cool fungi...



...and a very cool fun guy with the cool fungi.



Greg Thalmann and MAGCS golf committee chair, Jim Keith.



A beautiful day for golf (if you're dressed properly)



Jeff Smith practicing his matador moves.



(continued on next page)



Greg Mark and Jay Druhan dried out and shared a few laughs throughout the day.



The course took the early rain and fun was had by all who didn't take the golf too seriously.



And to the victors go, the Dudley Smith Trophy - Congratulations Team Penn State, Joel Purpur, Ed Fischer, Mike Bavier, (not pictured, Dave Blomquist).

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The College Championship trophy is carried off by winning Penn State grad Joel Purpur and probable state pen alum Colin White.



Team Michigan State was represented well in the chow line.



Just a few days later the 7th Annual Wee One Foundation Golf Outing and Fundraiser took place at the typically-perfect Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI with Rod Johnson hosting. This is always a great event that involves two-person teams playing a selective drive and alternate shot format while enjoying one of the most beautiful and well-conditioned courses one can possibly find, while periodically stuffing one's face with tacos from the now-famous taco bar and brats from the already-was-famous brat bar. A great day for a great cause—honoring the late Wayne Otto by raising funds to give to families of golf industry professionals who have suffered financial hardships through an accident or illness. Thus far over \$300,000 has been dispersed to families across the country, and on this day another \$40 to \$50,000 was raised for the cause. Thanks to Rod Johnson, Pine Hills, the folks who arranged and ran the event, and the participants who showed up to contribute to this great cause. Oh, and congrats to the day's winning team of **Brian Baker** and **Mark Petitgoue** who wrapped up things at the registration table and proceeded to shoot a cool 75 to take the top prize.



Slight taco bar mishap.

(continued on next page)



This tells the story of Pine Hills—many pines and even more hills.

Please say a prayer for the **Huber** family, including Jim, John, and Ann Miller for the loss of their father Bill Huber on August 31st.

Another MAGCS member, **Paul Burger** lost a loved one just a few days later on September 3rd when his father William Burger passed away. Please keep these folks in your thoughts.

On the 10th of this month, Glenn Galecki, the brother of recently-departed **Gary Galecki** of Ridge CC will run in the Chicago Marathon as part of Team LUNGeivity, raising money for cancer research. The LUNGeivity Foundation matches all money raised by Team Gary Galecki, and this money goes to research for early detection of lung cancer so that treatment options may be provided before it is too late. Glenn will be running with Gary's son Josh and Josh's girlfriend Kate. You can contribute by going to www.lungevity.org.

Congratulations to **Rick Jacobson** and Jacobson Golf Course Design, Inc. on having his Moon Lake Course at Lion Lake Country Club in China named the country's "Best Golf Course Design" for 2009 by China Golf magazine.

Is everyone ready for winter without PCNB?

RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), the Washington, D.C.-based national trade association representing manufacturers, formulators, distributors, and others in the specialty pesticide and fertilizer industry, has named its successor to 20-year president Allen James who retired in August. Taking the wheel is Aaron Hobbs, who has been serving as president-elect from June 1 to August 31, and has been the RISE director of legislative affairs and grassroots outreach since March, 2009. Go get our PCNB back, Aaron!

As promised, some info on GCSAA's TURF WARS VIDEO CONTEST. If you fancy yourself another Roman Polanski (bad example) or Steven Spielberg, grab your video camera and capture the strategies and tactics you used to fight back against the extreme weather and economic challenges. Turf paint comes to mind. Anyhoodles, submit your video to GCSAA TV by November 30th for a chance to win a free trip to the 2011 GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show in Orlando. And...ACTION!

MAGCS and GCSAA both lost a past president last month when **Ted Woehrle** passed away on the 8th. Ted had

served as our MAGCS president in 1961 while serving as superintendent of Beverly Country Club (where he hosted 2 Western opens), as the president of the Michigan and Border Cities GCSA in 1972, as president of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation—an organization he helped form—in 1964 and 1965, and as GCSAA's president in 1977. Our condolences to the family and many friends of Ted Woehrle, and our thanks for his grand contributions to our industry.

What's new at GCSAA:

The next step has been taken in the quest for GCSAA's next chief executive officer with the selection of professional executive search firm Tryon and Heideman, LLC of Kansas City, MO. The search for Mark Woodward's replacement will be a process that, as yet, has no timeline, and is more concerned with finding the right candidate than filling the position that was so suddenly vacated by Mr. Woodward in June.

In Conference and Show news, the official GCSAA web site is open for business. You can check out everything you ever wanted to know but forgot to ask about the Show by going to www.gcsaa.org/conference. In related news, GCSAA has partnered with Travel Planners Inc. and MacNair Travel Management/American Express to provide services through Golf Industry Travel. And keep in mind that this service is available year-round to help with all your travel needs. Visit gcsaa.org and use the link.

September 22nd found MAGCS and ITF members on the grounds of the Midwest Golf House and on Sunshine Course for the 2nd Annual iTurfExpo. Presented by ITF in partnership with the CDGA, University of Illinois, and Southern Illinois University, the Expo combined the best features of a trade show with hands-on education in an outdoor venue that provided an excellent opportunity for commercial members and customers to share face time with one another. It also allowed for attendees to see the results of the many research programs that are currently being conducted on Sunshine Course. Bonuses abounded, including a great complimentary lunch of pulled pork sammiches and a Golf Skills Challenge complete with professional caddies and a real big scoreboard. It was a great one-day event packed with energy and opportunity. Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of the event.





So this fish was like THIS big I tell ya



Team BTSI models the black and blue over khaki ensemble—very subtle yet tasteful.



Scot Spier, winner of the Golf Skills Challenge, holding the only trophy available—the Cheryl.



And the winner of the crow's feet contest is...

-OC

MAGCS IN MOTION

Charles Anfield, CGCS, Heritage Bluffs Golf Course



iTurfExpo: Version 20.10

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (no different than any other golf operation) continues to evolve and change with the new global economy. The ITF's existence is based on funding turf research and education. The ITF's purpose maintains the importance of keeping turf a science and provides direction for the future of turf in Illinois. This year's iTurfExpo featured a one day field event loaded with lots of new "technical stuff". If you haven't been there to see the set up, it is quite unique. There are not many other facilities in the world like we have at the C.D.G.A. Golf House and Sunshine Course in Lemont.

The day started early at 8:00 am with registration and coffee. Attendees were welcomed and then listened to a short presentation of the daily schedule of events. The research plot tours began promptly at 8:30. The attendees were divided into groups and moved from research plot to plot at the sound of a horn. At each stop there was a featured speaker to make a short presentation.

Research Stops

- Turf- type Tall Fescue Variety Performance for Lawns or Roughs
- Newer Creeping Bentgrass Variety Trial, established 2002
- Creeping Bentgrass Performance with Reduced Fungicide Inputs on Greens
- Fungicides for Dollar Spot and Brown Patch on a Chicago Bentgrass Fairway
- Low- Mow Kentucky Bluegrass Variety Performance in a Fairway
- Tenacity a Selective Herbicide To Take Annual Bluegrass Out of Kentucky Bluegrass Rough
- Can Zoysia and Bermudagrass Establish Within Cool-Season Turf Environment – Chicago
- Fungicides with Ulterior Motives to Promote Golf Green Health
- After a Long Hard Summer How to Renovate With Seed/Sod – A Teebox Needs Help
- Fairway Creeping Bentgrass Variety Performance With Reduced Fungicide Inputs
- Disease Control Using Newer Fungicide Products on a Chicago Golf Green



- Amicarbazone a Newer Herbicide for Annual Bluegrass Control in Bentgrass
- Imprellis a New Granular Combo Fertilizer-Herbicide To Control Broadleaf Weeds In Lawns or Roughs

The Attendees were treated to a delicious BBQ pulled pork lunch sponsored by Syngenta, served in the Open Air Turf Patio. Ice cream sandwiches were served for desert.

After Lunch the Attendees were invited to walk around the Trade Show and view the various exhibits inside the tented areas. Some of the latest in turf products, services and equipment were displayed. It was a great place to mingle with people and create new business

relationships. Attendees could play the Turf ID Cup where plant materials were spread around the trade show tent area and Attendees had to identify each species. The winner would receive an apple I-Pad.

The Open Air Turf Patio sponsored by Bayer Environmental Science, Burriss Equipment Company, BASF, Dow Agrosciences, Dupont Professional Products, DHD Turf and Tree Products, Arthur Clesen Inc. and Qualipro was a great place to take a break, hang out and rehash the season with friends.

Burriss Equipment Company, J.W. Turf and Reinders had equipment demonstrations on some of the Sunshine Course turf. Once again the iTurfExpo provided a unique opportunity not seen at many other trade shows. Not only could the Attendees kick the tires of equipment but also got to see it perform in action.

Chicagoland Turf captured most people's attention with their afternoon event, The iTurf Golf Classic. The event was played on the Sunshine Course Hole #2. It was an elimination event with the lowest score on the hole "moving on" to the next round. There was plenty of banter, heckling and cheering by the patrons in the gallery. A bleacher was set up for viewing and caddies were provided to assist the players.

It was a fun and educational day. It was a slightly overcast day, really a good day to get away. But like all businesses in the new millennium the ITF will learn, grow and move forward. Of all the years when people who own and manage golf courses and athletic turf are looking for answers to turf related problems the good people at the ITF are still doing the research. Now more than ever, they need your support. **-OC**



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