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April 2011

Naperville Country Club

Tim Anderson, CGCS, MG

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents
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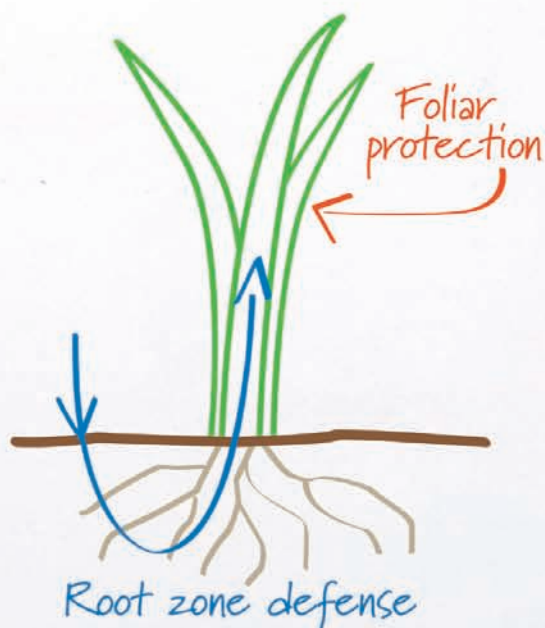
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APRIL 2011 Volume 64 No. 12



Naperville's clubhouse and "Porch" the way it used to be.

FRONT COVER

Naperville Country Club 18th Green with clubhouse in background.
Photo credit: Steven Biehl

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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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Nothing Gets Past the Past Presidents

The Past Presidents Council (PPC) of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) met at 10:00 am on Tuesday March 7th at the Geneva Golf Club. The following Past Presidents were in attendance: Al Fierst, Bob Maibusch, CGCSMG Scott Witte, CGCS Don Ferreri, Kevin DeRoo, Luke Strojny, CGCS Joel Purpur, CGCS Gary Hearn, Tim Anderson, CGCS MG Tony Kalina, Ed Fischer, CGCS Mike Bavier, CGCS and Carl Hopphan. Current President Dan Sterr, board member Chuck Barber and Executive Director Luke Cella, CGCS were also in attendance.

This year as in the past, the PPC was given the opportunity to suggest any new ideas or changes that would help the MAGCS grow. The PPC feels that current Board of Directors and staff are doing a great job. The following is a brief breakdown of the meeting and the comments that were made.

At the meeting, all of the Past Presidents were given copies of the following: The MAGCS financial reports, 2010 Charitable Contributions, 2011 Midwest Core Company Sponsors, Honorary Member List and the position statement concerning the code of ethics of the MAGCS.

Here is a brief highlight of the items that were discussed:

- The MAGCS continues to remain solvent, like most controlling expenses and watching what it spends. Changing printers for the magazine has contributed to the cost savings this past year and continues to do so now.
- MAGCS is creating an ad hoc committee to oversee its yearly charitable and research contributions. Each year the MAGCS donates to the ITF, the CDGA, IJGA, EIFG and other organizations to further the development and enhance the game of golf. This committee will take a look at the funds given and seek recognition on behalf of the members of the MAGCS when appropriate.
- The new MAGCS Core Sponsorship program was highlighted and shared with the group. This program was created from feedback from our Partnership Task Group and has been received well by the 15 participating companies in 2011.
- The bylaws will be gone over this year and some proposed changes may be put in front of the membership this fall. The two largest proposed changes include reducing the number of Board of Directors from seven to six and lessening the current requirement that a prospective board member must be a golf course superintendent for three years prior to being elected to serve. The bylaws were last updated in 2008. President Sterr will oversee the bylaw committee and any proposed changes.

- The Hospitality Reception was reviewed and the survey results were discussed. Those in attendance enjoyed being "offsite" and would like to see this continue if possible in Las Vegas. While many volunteered to scout a location for 2012, the group felt it a necessary step to make sure the venue is adequate for our group and expectations.
- Our code of ethics is not a legal binding document for any member, however they are a moral code, something this profession has, unlike many others. Last year, the Board of Directors retained the services of a labor attorney to draft a position statement that basically states, from a legal perspective, the Association would place itself at risk and open itself to suit, if it pursued any member that crossed the boundaries of our code of ethics. The document was shared with those in attendance and the Council felt it is still important to keep our code of ethics in front of our membership to remind them of the courtesy and standards of the profession.
- Each year, the past winners of the Charles Bartlett Award are encouraged to meet and select a winner. The award was last won by Dan Dinelli, CGCS in 2008 for promoting the profession and the game of golf and the selection committee promises to meet.
- The MAGCS Past Presidents will purchase a brick at the Midwest Golf House to honor all the members of the Midwest to benefit the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation.

The information that was given to the PPC was outstanding. Overall, the Board of Directors and staff are doing an outstanding job and the PPC thanks them for allowing the Council this forum. The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is and will continue to be one of the finest Associations in the country. Here's to continued success in 2011.

-OC



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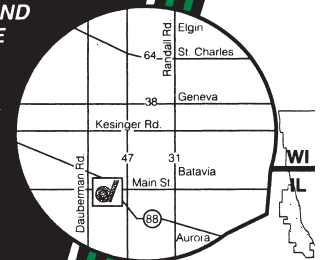
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Americans With Disabilities Act Guidelines Officially Adopted for Golf Courses



The Americans with Disabilities Act is a lot like golf. The law is very simple (play the ball as you find it) and makes complete sense: It requires public accommodations to provide goods and services to people with disabilities on an equal basis with the rest of the general public.

The goal is to afford every individual the opportunity to benefit from our country's businesses and services, and to afford our businesses and services the opportunity to benefit from the patronage of all Americans. The Act was ratified in 1990. By 1991 regulations and standards were developed and have are expressed as standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). These standards have defined the changes to our facilities in order to comply with the law. This original standard is still in place (though revised) and addressed our clubhouses, parking lots, locker rooms and toilets, bathing facilities, retail spaces and surrounding exterior routes. It did not address the physical golf course, until now.



In September of 2010 the Department of Justice adopted and published a revised standard ADAAG for Recreational Facilities including golf courses. The guidelines have been in the works since 2002 and were developed with substantial public participation and an Advisory Committee of which the GCSAA held a role. Having been around a while, these guidelines should not catch anyone off guard, however, because they are have now become part of the new standard – they have to be followed when making alterations, changes or starting new construction of a golf course.

The current regulations adopted enforceable accessibility standards called the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design or "2010 Standards". The 2010 Standards set minimum requirements – both scoping and technical -- for newly designed and constructed or altered State and local government facilities, public accommodations, and commercial facilities to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. The standards back

the law and give purposefully vague principles to follow, because every situation is different and it is not an exact science.

One of the questions that lingers is to whether private golf courses/clubs must follow the ADA guidelines. As stated by the National Alliance for Accessible Golf (NAAG):

"The law (ADA) is specific in identifying what qualifies as a private club and the U.S. Department of Justice takes an extremely narrow view of the definition of "private." Basically, if you allow any public play on your course or functions at the facility then you are required to comply with the ADA. Even

if you do not allow public play, if you open your facility to the public for weddings, receptions, spectators or other events, it in essence becomes a public entity at those times and is covered."

Golf courses fall under the Recreation Facility guidelines and now the 2010 Standards do include:

- the teeing ground,
- putting green,
- weather shelters,
- golf car passage on course,
- practice facilities,
- temporary facilities, and
- other recreation amenities (i.e. swimming pools, etc).

What does this mean for your golf course/club?

Since the original 1991 Standards were defined, many conversations have taken place about the impact accessibility will have on golf courses throughout America. Now that the Standards are official, any new construction or alteration on an existing facility must meet these minimum guidelines if work

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begins after March 15, 2012. If construction or alteration takes place before March 15, 2012 one can still meet the 1991 Standards, but it might be best to work toward meeting the new standards. Because the guidelines are written by the Department of Justice, they read like a law book – this is where I find a similarity to golf – the rule is simple – but the interpretation of the rule is very similar to reading the Decisions on the Rules of Golf. The terminology can be confusing and is worthwhile going over.

Accessible Routes

Sections 206.2.15, 1006.2, and 1006.3 of the 2010 Standards require an accessible route to connect all accessible elements within the boundary of the golf course and, in addition, to connect

- golf car rental areas,
- bag drop areas,
- teeing grounds,
- putting greens,
- and weather shelters.
- An accessible route also is required to connect any
- practice putting greens,
- practice teeing grounds,
- and teeing stations at driving ranges that are required to be accessible.

An accessible route, in simple terms is a continuous, unobstructed pathway that connects any and all of the aforementioned places within the boundaries of the golf course is an accessible route. They have to be at least 48" wide.

An exception permits the accessible route requirements to be met, within the boundaries of the golf course, by providing a "golf car passage" (the path typically used by golf cars) if specifications for width and curb cuts are met.

This Accessible Route Standard drew the most comments because of the possibility of:

- undue costs to re-grade egress to tees and greens,
- install cart paths,
- and that they could jeopardize the integrity of golf course designs that utilize natural terrain elements and elevation changes to create challenging golf holes.

The Department gave careful consideration to the comments and adopted the 2010 Standards requiring that at least one accessible route connect accessible elements and spaces within the boundary of the golf course including teeing grounds, putting greens, and weather shelters, with an exception provided that golf car passages shall be permitted to be used for all or part of required accessible routes.

In response to requests for clarification of the term "golf car passage," the Department pointed out that golf car passage is merely a pathway on which a motorized golf car can operate and includes identified or paved paths, teeing grounds, fairways, putting greens, and other areas of the course. Golf cars cannot traverse steps and exceedingly steep slopes. A nine-hole golf course or an executive golf course that lacks an identified golf car path but provides golf car passage to teeing grounds, putting greens, and other elements throughout the course may utilize the exception for all or part of the accessible pedestrian route.

The exception in section 206.2.15 of the 2010 Standards does not exempt golf courses from their obligation to provide access to necessary elements of the golf course; rather, the exception allows a golf course to use a golf car passage for part or all of the accessible pedestrian route to ensure that persons with mobility disabilities can fully and equally participate in the recreational activity of playing golf.

Golf Car Passage

Where a paved path with curbs or other constructed barrier exists, the Department believes that it is essential that openings be provided to enable golf car passages to access teeing grounds, fairways and putting greens, and other required elements. Golf car passage is not restricted to a paved path with curbs. Golf car passage also includes fairways, teeing grounds, putting greens, and other areas on which golf cars operate. The clear width of golf car passages shall be 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum. Where curbs or other constructed barriers prevent golf cars from entering a fairway, openings 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum shall be provided at intervals not to exceed 75 yards (69 m).



Greens, Shelters and Tees

Sections 238.2 and 1006.4 of the 2010 Standards require that golf cars be able to enter and exit each putting green and weather shelter. Weather shelters must be at least 60 inches wide and 96 inches in height.

Where two teeing grounds are provided, the forward teeing ground is required to be accessible (golf car can enter and exit).

Where three or more teeing grounds are provided, at least two, including the forward teeing ground, must be accessible. However, one is not required to make the forward teeing ground accessible during an alteration when compliance is not feasible due to terrain.

Accessible Practice Putting Greens, Practice Teeing Grounds, and Teeing Stations at Driving Ranges.

Section 238.3 of the 2010 Standards requires that five percent (5%) but at least one of each of practice putting greens, practice teeing grounds, and teeing stations at driving ranges must permit golf cars to enter and exit.

Temporary Facilities

Any bleachers for tournaments, assembly seating areas, portable toilet facilities concession and all other available amenities must meet the 2010 Standards by providing access. Access to these temporary facilities on a golf course may be achieved through either accessible route or golf car passage.

No Alterations, No Construction – The Law Still Applies Alterations to Our Way of Thinking

One of the key elements of the Standards is the "Readily Achievable Barrier Removal" regulation. This applies to everyone, even if you are not altering or starting new construction. Every facility should be continually trying to comply and make their golf course more accessible by identifying and removing barriers.

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One of the largest stumbling blocks for most is the “Readily Achievable Barrier Removal” regulation. This regulation requires that any barrier be removed in existing facilities that can or should be, in other words, easily accomplished and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.

In a conversation with Peggy Greenwell, US Access Board Training Coordinator, she states: “We should all be working towards removing these barriers on a continual basis.”

It is the obligation of golf course superintendents as facility managers to take a look at their properties and create a plan to remove those things that may impede someone with a disability from playing golf or enjoying their facility. Greenwell informed me, creating a plan to comply is important because it shows that you are attempting to achieve access, even if it is over time.

Greenwell went on to explain, “The process of determining what changes are readily achievable is not a one-time effort; access should be re-evaluated annually. Barrier removal that might be difficult to carry out now may be readily achievable later.”

Furthermore, it is not beyond the scope of the Department of Justice to look at the type of financial resources of a facility when determining their true commitment to the accessibility. So, if your course is considered financially sound and stable, the DOJ might like to see a greater commitment toward accessibility. For most, the impact will come when we make changes to our golf courses.

Alterations Need to Be Well Thought Out

For most, the alteration of the existing facilities will require compliance with the 2010 Standards. Alterations include but are not limited to:

- Putting green reconstruction
- Tee redesign and or installation
- Cart path installation / resurfacing

Any alteration that starts after March 15, 2012 is required to follow the 2010 Standards for new construction. “Alterations must observe ADAAG new construction criteria where technically feasible; less stringent technical specifications may be applied where technical infeasibility is encountered.” This provision that can make it “technically infeasible” to follow a standard, however:

“Cost is not a factor in determining whether an action would be technically infeasible. Technically infeasible is defined at ADAAG 4.1.6(1)(j) and includes actions such as the removal of a load bearing member which is an essential part of the structural frame of a building. In applying the alterations guidelines, the Department of Justice considers cost under certain circumstances. The terms “readily achievable” and “undue financial and administrative burdens” are used by the DOJ and are not synonymous with “technically infeasible” as defined in ADAAG.”

It should be noted that alterations to primary function areas carry an additional obligation to improve the path of travel to the altered area. If your course or club is considering a major project in the future or undergoing one now, it may be prudent to come into compliance with the 2010 Standards. The easiest way I think compliance can be achieved is to consult one of

our fine golf course architects – MAGCS has several of them that are members – and are well versed in these issues. In the meantime, everyone should make the effort to make their course as accessible as possible. It all starts with a plan.

Creating a Plan

The National Alliance for Accessible Golf (NAAG) has created a great toolkit to help a golf course get on the way to compliance. It offers several suggestions, the best is to create a team to inspect your course comprised of customers with disabilities, staff, owners, and other key course personnel. The idea is to get an objective view of the course, from compliance to non-compliance and document it. The information gathered can be used to show a commitment to meet your obligation to make your course accessible.

A starting place is to download an overhead picture of your course from Google Earth. Print it out and map out all the accessible routes on the property. Make sure all the items described in the article are easily linked and reachable by a golf car. Then start to look at smaller barriers on your course including curbing, ball washers, drinking fountains, signage, roping and others. Be on the lookout for barriers and train your staff, especially assistants – in fact, this could be a great project for them to lead and develop over time.



Enforcement of ADA Provisions

Another question that arises has to do with the enforcement of the ADA provisions. There are certain legal ramifications if compliance does not take place. Because the ADA is civil rights law, compliance with and enforcement of its implementing regulations, including its guidelines for new construction and alterations, is not overseen by a local building code official but is exercised through private suit or by specified Federal agencies when discrimination - or the probability of discrimination on the basis of disability - is alleged. Because it is a law, compliance can be questioned by anyone who visits our properties, therefore we must be vigilant and proactive when creating an accessible facility.

Golf courses are now part of the accessibility guidelines adopted as part of the 2010 ADA Standard. These guidelines are enforceable for new construction and alterations starting on March 15, 2012 and any construction underway is encouraged to adopt and use these guidelines now. If you are making a change, make it for everyone. **-OC**

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Websites:

- United States Access Board
<http://www.access-board.gov>
- National Alliance for Accessible Golf
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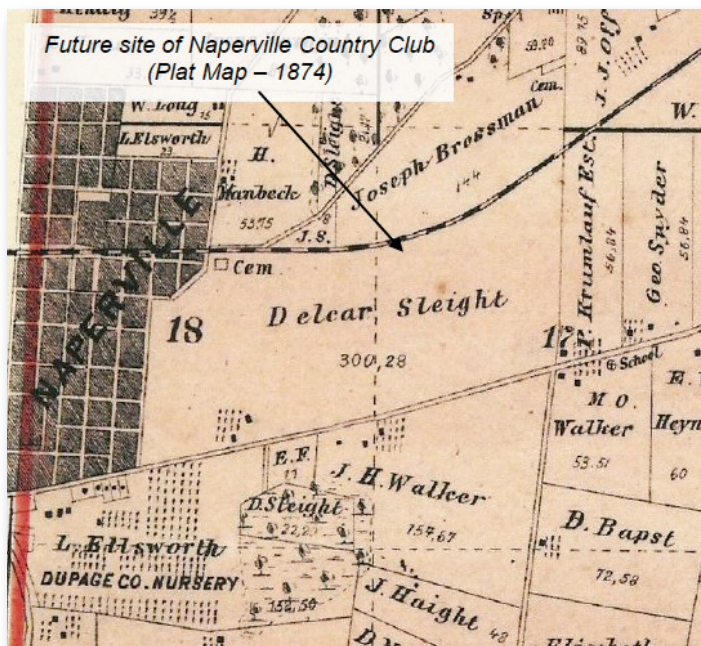
Steven Biehl and Tim Anderson

Golf Comes to Naperville

Golf was in its infancy in America in the early 1900's. Very few people knew about golf, and those who did recognized that chasing a little white ball seemed to be a foolish way to spend one's time. The British and Scottish players were still the best. So when the accomplished British players arrived in Boston for the 1913 U.S. Open at The Country Club, few people questioned what the outcome might be. The president of the USGA at that time, Robert Watson, was one who believed otherwise. He put up the entrance fee for Francis Ouimet, an unknown 20-year old and former caddy at The Country Club. Francis and his 10-year-old caddie, who had to skip school, succeeded to create a true David and Goliath story. The newspapers across America ran headlines about the event, Ouimet became something of a folk hero, and the landscape of golf in America began to change very rapidly.

The number of golfers tripled during the 10 years following Ouimet's victory. The game was transitioning to a recreation for the mainstream public rather than a social activity for America's elite. Golf had a fabulous boom in the 1920's, and began expanding from the golfing hubs of New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago. In his book, Chicago Golf: The First One Hundred

In the early days of the club, the fairways were cut with a gang mower pulled by a team of horses. A member would buy hoof sore horses from downtown Chicago at a discount, would work them on the soft ground at the club for a year. After the year was over, and the horse's hooves healed, he sold them back for more than he bought them for!



Years, author Tom Govedarica notes that "120 golf courses were laid out in Chicagoland in the 1920's, an average of one new course every month over the 10 year period." Included in that figure is the site of April's monthly meeting, Naperville Country Club, which is celebrating its 90th Anniversary this year. In addition to wandering the course at the meeting, I thought we could wander through the first 90 years of NCC.

About the time Ouimet was making history, Naperville was laying the foundations that would lead to its popularity among the suburbs of Chicago. The pastoral prairie lifestyle enjoyed by the early families in the area during the mid-1800's, was begin-

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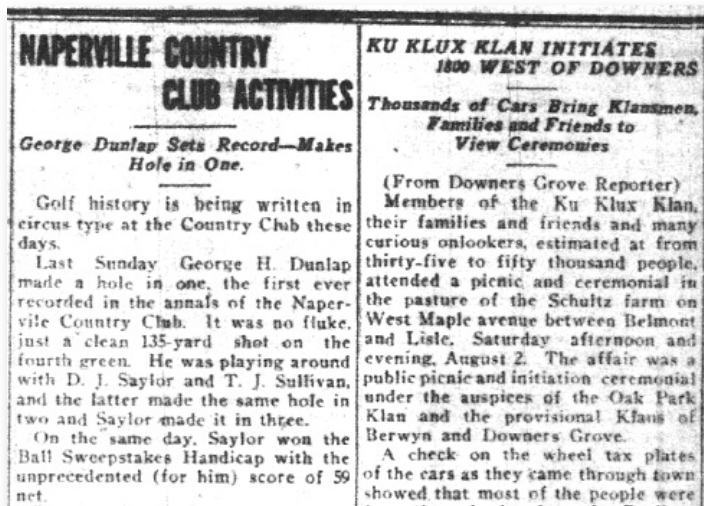
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ning to give way to a faster pace of life. The city had made great improvements in the municipal services including water, sewer, sidewalks, paved roads, gas service, electrical service, and public schools. These improvements made an attractive location for homes and businesses.

Govedarica also points out that, the "Roaring 20's found Chicagoland residents eagerly joining the rest of the country in celebrating their newly found prosperity. An age of consumerism dawned, with shorter work hours being introduced and increased recreation time. Nightclubs flourished, Hollywood introduced talking pictures, and dances like the Charleston swept the country."

Naperville was not untouched by the 1920's spree of fast living and rumors about gang activity in the nearby farm country persisted into the 1950's. Stories were told of illegal hooch being stored in barns around Naperville and that Naperville's quarry was a dumping ground for illegal liquor when the Feds got too close for comfort. Even rumors of murdered gang member's bodies being weighted with concrete and deposited in the quarry's depths persisted until 1952 when the quarry was pumped into the adjacent river and revealed only its bare bottom.



In December of 1920, another rumor began to circulate in Naperville that a small group of local golfers had met to discuss the matter of establishing a golf course in Naperville. The group placed an ad in the Naperville Clarion inviting all interested golfers to attend a meeting at the City Hall to see what the support level would be. The turnout was very encouraging. After a lively discussion, several committees were formed to research pertinent areas including acquiring grounds, financing, memberships and timing. There was little debate on the timing. In January of 1921 Naperville Country Club was created. The next step for the ambitious group was acquiring land.

From Prairie to Playing Ground

The Naper settlement was visited in 1834 by a traveler and businessman from Hyde Park, New York — a Captain Morris Sleight. When he came to Illinois he was, quite simply, overwhelmed by the beauty of the prairies adjacent to the Naper settlement. His letters to his wife, still in Hyde Park, NY, convey his adoration: "the first view of a Michigan Prairie is delightful after passing the oak openings and thick forest, but the view of an Illinois prairie is sublime. I may almost say awfully grand."

The first hole-in-one was recorded on August 10th, 1924 by George H. Dunlap. It was reported on the front page of the Naperville Clarion on August 14 next to the coverage of a Ku Klux Klan rally in Lisle that initiated 1800 new members.

In 1838 Mr. Sleight's wife, Harriet and their children joined him at their home in the Naper settlement. At the time of her arrival, her husband was functional as a farmer, sheep raiser, land trader and was serving as the first treasurer of the newly formed county government of DuPage. When the Naper settlement became incorporated in 1857 Mr. Sleight became a village trustee and in 1861 and 1862 served as the president of the city. It goes without saying that during Morris Sleight's twenty-eight years of residency in DuPage County he had become a financially and politically powerful individual. Morris Sleight died in 1863, leaving his holdings to his children. In 1864 Delcar Sleight, Morris's son, purchased the real estate holdings that had been inherited by the other heirs of Morris. The names of the streets that were eventually cut through the Sleight's subdivided city plots reflect his affection for his married siblings. They were Julia (Sleight) Loomis, Evelyn (Sleight) Brainard, Ida (Sleight) Wright and Delcar's son, Julian.

Prior to the Civil War, Jacob Brossman, a local farmer, purchased land that would become the site of Naperville Country Club. He paid the government \$1.25 an acre under the Homestead Act. The rolling hills with native Hawthorn and Black Cherry trees were not tillable, but Brossman intended to graze livestock. When the Burlington and Quincy Railroad came to Naperville, it bisected Brossman's land. After the railroad was in place the land proved to be too much strain for Brossman. Brossman sold the piece of land south of the tracks to Delcar Sleight in 1868 for \$1300.

Delcar Sleight's daughter, Delcara Sleight would inherit her father's land after his death in 1902 when she was only 9 months of age. The 130-acre plot that city residents referred to as the "top of the hill," originally owned by Jacob Brossman, would become the interest of the early organizers of the club in 1921. On February 14, 1921 the club purchased the land from



Tom Bendelow

(continued on page 15)

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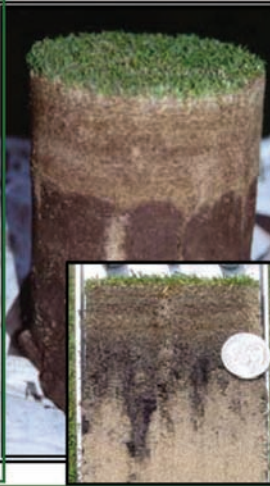


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Delcara, who would be the club's first female member and later be referred to as "The First Lady" of Naperville Country Club, for \$19,500. Delcara was an accomplished golfer as well, winning the Aurora Women's Class A Tournament in 1932.

Early Golf at the Club

After securing land in February of 1921, progress was made toward organizing the club's business and preparing the land for a golf course. The original course consisted of 9 holes with sand greens, no bunkers, and fairway turf comprised of the previous pasture being cut to accommodate play. The original 9-hole course played to 3173 yards and was a par 37, with 3 par 5's, and 2 par 3's. The 9-hole course was only a temporary affair until a regulation course could be constructed. Plans for a full 18 holes were in the working stages throughout the first year the course was open. Then in March of 1922, a plan surfaced by Tom Bendelow for a full 18-hole course. The plan appeared in the window of Dieter & Getz Plumbing and Electrical Shop for the community to see. During the one day Bendelow was on the property, he created a plan for 18 holes with grass greens, a new location for the clubhouse, a railroad station, tennis courts, trap shooting, parking lot and a practice area. Bendelow's fee for the days work was \$30. Though no plan for the original 9 holes has been located, it is suspected those nine followed the same path as the first nine holes in the Bendelow plan. The par numbers for the first nine are identical to the original 9-hole scorecard and yardages vary from 50 yards shorter to 45 yards longer.

Golfers on the course around 1pm on August 26th, 1946 no doubt heard one of the worst train wrecks in U.S. history. A train headed for California sped around the Naperville curve, which is adjacent to the club's property, only to see a train stopped at the 5th Avenue station. The collision killed 46 passengers and injured over 100 others.



IS A GOLF COURSE POSSIBLE FOR NAPERVILLE

Project is Being Seriously Considered

Annually during the past ten years the possibility of laying out a golf course for Naperville has been discussed more or less seriously. At first the subject received but scant attention but during the past two years it has received more serious consideration.

Formerly a golf course was supposed to be a possibility only in large city communities but during the past five years the game has become popular everywhere and the establishment of golf courses has become a matter of general interest in smaller cities.

The idea that the game was a millionaire's pastime, which idea was the natural outgrowth of the elaborate layouts and high membership fees of the first clubs established, has given way to the proven fact that a course is possible which would provide all the pleasures of the game at a cost which was not prohibitive.

In Naperville there are quite a number of golf enthusiasts who are ready to get under a project which will provide a golf course in this vicinity. There are many others who will be boosters after they have had an opportunity to chase the so called "elusive pill" over a nine or eighteen hole course. It is said that the "golf bug" is a hard biter and when once the blood is inoculated there is no cure but "more golf."

It is true that a co-operative effort will be necessary to put over a golf club and course for Naperville. Mere planning and discussion is not sufficient to purchase acreage sufficient for a course and then keeping the course in condition. It will take some money and many members to make a go of the project. Here's hoping the plan will materialize in the near future.

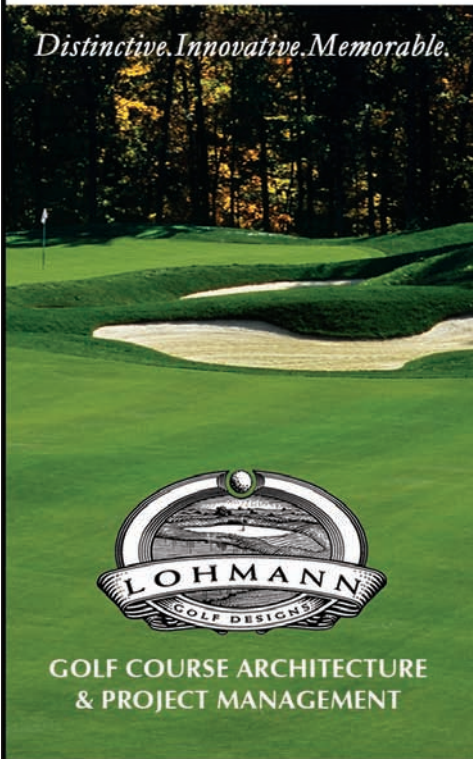
STANGER

(continued on page 17)

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By October of 1922, 4 greens had been grassed and a well had been drilled to produce over 100 gallons per minute, enough to supply all 18 greens when completed. In 1927 the much-anticipated 18 holes could be played.

Following 1927 the course remained largely unchanged for 40 years. The course had minimal fairway bunkering, sloping greens, very few trees and irrigation supplied only at the greens. The trees that were on the property were small hawthorns left over from the original pasture. The tennis courts and skeet shooting range from the Bendelow plan were never carried out.

In the late 20's membership numbers were nearing 170 and the club was doing well until the Depression hit. Nobody was immune to the crash of the stock market in 1929, and the 30's would prove a difficult time for the club. In 1932 only 35 members remained, and the days of Naperville Country Club were numbered. Delcara Sleight still held the mortgage on the property, which was in default for a long period of time, and filed a foreclosure proceeding and a sale date was set. Winfred G. Knoch, a member and judge in DuPage County, advised the members at a special meeting that issuing new bonds at \$100 apiece until the default is covered was the only option for saving the club. In a fortuitous three days the amount needed was raised, the mortgage paid off, and the club was saved. In 1953 the club granted Winfred G. Knoch an honorary Life Membership for his council.

The first major change to the golf course began to take shape in 1966 when the club decided to undertake the installation of an automated irrigation system for the tees and greens, and add irrigation in the fairways. These plans became more serious in May 1967 when the club requested the expertise of golf course architect David Gill. Gill drew a plan for the added irrigation as well as minor routing changes that were deemed necessary for the irrigation system.

After the Gill changes were completed in 1968, the course continued to have small improvements made. But most were of little consequence compared to what the club approved in 2005. The plan included the rerouting of 13 holes, reconstruction of all greens, tees and bunkers, new irrigation system, halfway house, maintenance facility, parking lots, and pond reconstruction. Work began on July 17, 2006. The front nine opened for play on June 30, 2007, with the back nine following on September 1. The grand opening celebration was May 3, 2008.

The Clubhouse

The original clubhouse was a small temporary structure, but had a "big porch" attributed to the tireless efforts of the women members. It was written in the Naperville Clarion, "The big porch is complete with swings, easy chairs, hanging baskets, victrolas, and everything the heart could desire. No matter how hot it is in Naperville, there is a cool breeze and a cool spot on the porch." Bendelow's plan from 1922 shows the temporary building sitting between the current first tee and fairway. The temporary structure remained in use until 1926 when the club began planning a permanent building, about the same time they planned to finish the final six holes on the course. The plans required that the temporary structure be moved

The Friday morning of May 6th, 1977 caught the grounds crew by surprise. The club was the victim of vandals who worked under the protection of darkness to cut down 32 trees around the golf course. The club offered \$1,000 for information leading to the conviction of the person involved, however the perpetrators were never apprehended.

approximately 300 feet to the east. The popular porch would remain, but now became enclosed, and a large fireplace would be included in the proposed lounge.

Little else is known about the improvements or modifications that were made to the clubhouse that was finished other than it was remodeled and enlarged no less than four times through 1947. Then, on February 27, 1948 shortly after midnight, a fire leveled the clubhouse to a pile of rubbish. Only a few metal lockers that were located in the basement were salvageable. All records of the club's business up to that point were lost. Almost immediately, the club was making plans for a new clubhouse. On May 15, 1949, the club held the grand opening of the new clubhouse with men's and ladies locker rooms, a dining room, and a kitchen. This building still exists as part of the current clubhouse, but is now masked by the additions that have taken place since. The cause of the fire was determined to be arson when three teens claimed they were testing a new fire extinguisher and the fire got out of hand. The three teens were released on bond, and then arrested again in relation to the thefts of 30 cars around Naperville. The three were sentenced to 1 to 4 years in prison for setting the fire. The only known historic relic to predate the fire is the sign that hangs over the cabinet outside the members grill.

Work has been done to the clubhouse on several occasions since then. Expansions were made in 1961, 1982, and finally in 1991 to bring the clubhouse to its current configuration.

The Pump

When Jacob Brossman sold the 130 acres of land to Delcar Sleight in 1868, Sleight had coveted the land to graze his extensive livestock. The land was perfect – rolling hills, never tilled, with only volunteer Hawthorns to impede his grazing herds. However, Brossman had never drilled a well to water his livestock and Sleight knew this was a must. In late spring 1869 he rode to his newly acquired property with the area's finest diviner. Within an hour Sleight had his site and the next day he began drilling. He ordered a windmill from Chicago and by June cattle and goats drank from the waters pumped by the gentle breezes. Delcar Sleight grazed and watered his herds on the property until his death in 1902. Later, Delcara rented the land to local farmers until it was purchased by Naperville Country Club.

The windmill remained until 1947 when it, deteriorated by age, was deemed unsafe and was dismantled. The Board of Directors saved the pump for the thirsty golfers. Until 1973

(continued on page 18)

it was the only source of drinking water on the course. The pump was located where the target fronting the Ash tree in the driving range now sits.

The Pump is the first object man put on this property to utilize the land's natural qualities. The well has since been filled, but the pump has been saved. Though it no longer provides water where it stands at the Halfway House, it remains a symbol of the club's bucolic past. **-OC**

The honey locust tree behind the first green is known as the Kennedy Tree. It was planted the morning of the day John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

NAPERVILLE COUNTRY CLUB			13
SCORE CARD			
Hole	Length Yards	Par	
1	433	5	
2	425	5	
3	385	4	
4	125	3	
5	555	5	
6	380	4	
7	365	4	
8	170	3	
9	335	4	
Total	3173	37	

LOCAL RULES

Remember, these rules were made for your benefit. Please help things along by observing them.

Never drive until players ahead are well out of the way (200 yards).

Never make an approach shot while players are on the green.

Always replace turf.

Do not throw or stick flagpole in green—use care.

Do not under any circumstances play stray shots from new greens—set ball off green not closer to green underplay.

Do not lay golf bags on greens.

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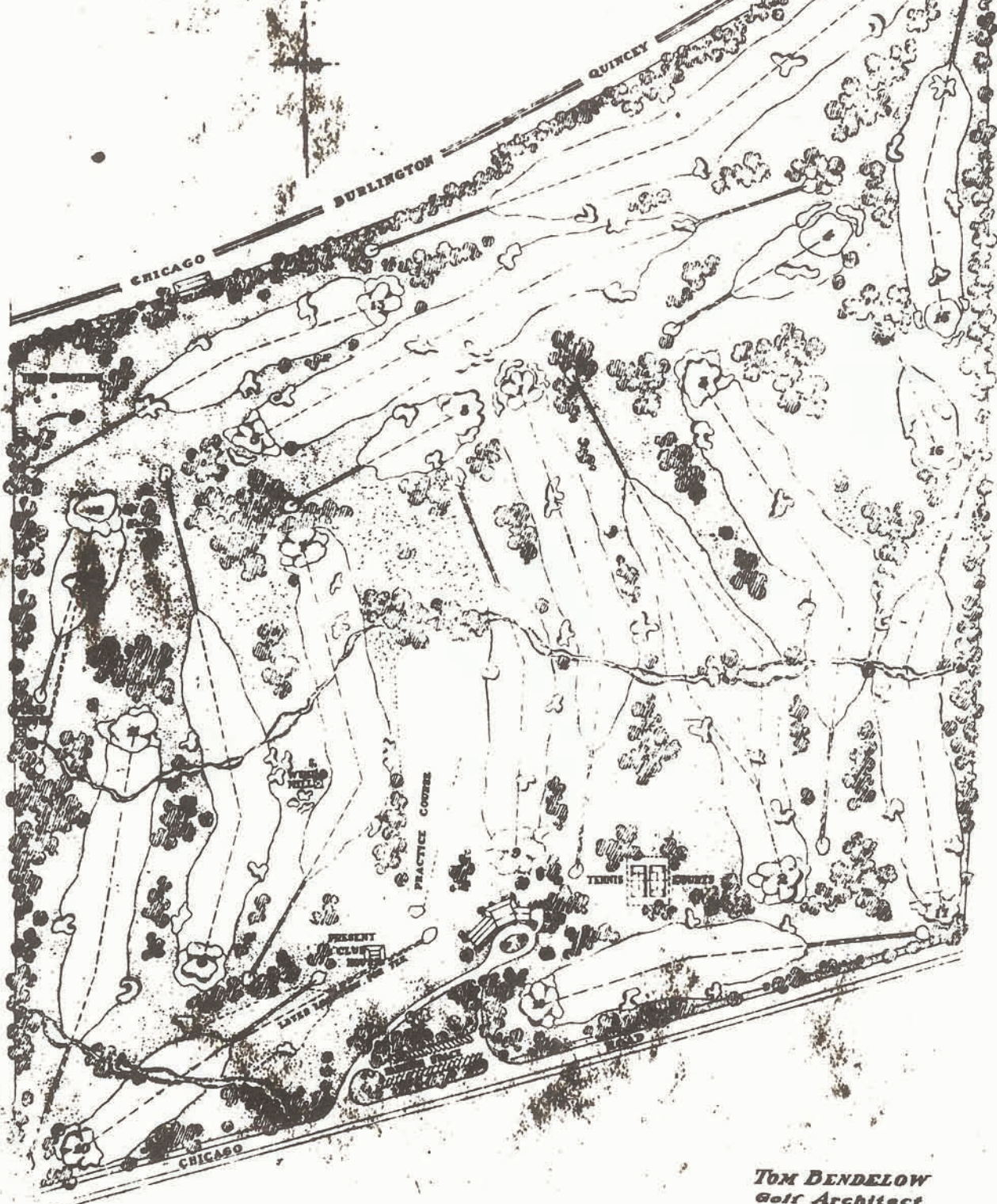
“Naperville Country Club Plans A New Layout.” *Naperville Clarion* 20 Apr. 1922: Print.

In 1928 the Burlington Railroad purchased five acres of the northern part of the course so the present third rail of track could be installed.

In September of 1936, while trying to film the inaugural run of the Burlington Zephyr high-speed train, a film crew lost control of their plane and crashed on the fifth fairway. All four passengers in the plane died.

NAPERVILLE COUNTRY CLUB

NAPERVILLE ILLINOIS



TOM BENDELOW
Golf Architect



THE BULL SHEET
John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



April 2011

Also on the move is **Justin Kirtland**. Justin has accepted the assistant superintendent's position at Arrowhead Golf Club. Best of luck to you, Justin.



Justin Kirtland

.....
Moving north from Arrowhead Golf Club was **Brad Chamra**, who headed up the interstate to Lake Shore Country Club as its new assistant superintendent. Belated congrats to Brad.
.....

.....
And conversely, moving south to accept the assistant superintendent's position at Cress Creek Country Club is **Ryan Dunbar**, the former second assistant at Green Acres Country Club. Best wishes to you, Ryan!
.....



Ryan Dunbar

.....
And finally, **Larry Flament** reports that he has hired Heather Hennings as his assistant superintendent at Stonewall Orchard Golf Club, while **Bill Humphres** at McHenry Country Club welcomed Tim Valicka to his staff.
.....

(continued on page 22)

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 27 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Naperville Country Club, **Tim Anderson CGCS, MG, GM** and **Steven Biehl** hosts.

.....
May 24 – ITF/MAGCS Spring Golf Day at Briar Ridge Country Club, **Erwin McKone** and **David Miloshoff** hosts.

.....
June 21 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Prairie Bluff Golf Club, **Luke Strojny, CGCS** host.
.....

There's more movement in the ranks to report: Congratulations to **Joe Schneider**, formerly at Beverly Country Club who has joined the team at Old Elm Club.



Joe Schneider



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In advance of our first golf meeting—the traditional 4-person scramble event to be held at Naperville Country Club and hosted by Tim Anderson and Steven Biehl—we offer our sincere thanks to the sponsors whose generosity make it all possible. The sponsors for the April 27 event are:

Arthur Clesen, Inc., Burris Equipment Company, J.W. Turf, Inc., Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Syngenta, BASF, Water Well Solutions, PHP, Layne-Western, and Pendelton Turf Supply. If you bump into any of these folks, please remember to thank them for their support.

.....
This Just In: This is pretty important stuff, so please read it even though there are no pictures. GCSAA is urging its members to take action and push for passage of recently introduced legislation (HR 872) to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) to clarify that additional Clean Water Act (CWA) permits are not required for pesticide applications made in accordance with FIFRA. You can write your US Representative (without even knowing who your US Representative IS) by following the prompts at gcsaa.org. By doing so, you will be encouraging your Representative to re-establish the legal primacy of FIFRA over all

pesticide uses, as well as inform the EPA and the courts that Congress did not intend for other environmental laws to overtake FIFRA by creating duplicative regulatory burdens. The letter is already written—all you have to do is click on it and type in your name and hit “Send.” Here’s how to access the letter: Go to gcsaa.org and log on. At the bottom of the main page is a tab called “Advocacy.” Click on it, then “GCSAA Legislative Action Center,” then “Legislative Alerts and Updates.” Once there, click on “Take Action Now!” at the bottom and fill in the required boxes. It sounds like it’s complicated—and I probably made it much more so than it really is—but it’s really quite simple and takes like a minute to do. The form letter is even editable so you can add your own personal touches. Again, this has the potential to affect your operation, so take the minute to do something about it. Now! You can read the rest of the magazine afterward.

.....
Did you do the aforementioned thing? Yes? OK, then read on. And for your reward, here’s a picture. **Jan Jarvis** deserves all the credit for finding this in the Tribune. Not really sure what it is, but it sure bears a striking resemblance to **Rusty Stachlewitz** in some kinda drag-type get-up, no? Or maybe he’s just really excited about the new tulip bulb varieties fresh outta Amsterdam.

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It's that time again—the time to snap photos of your golf course dog(s) and submit them to TurfNet for its “2012 Superintendent’s Best Friend Calendar” presented by BASF. Fourteen photos will be used for the calendar, but even if yours doesn’t make the final cut, all owners submitting photos for consideration will receive a Tuff Balls pull toy courtesy of BASF. Also, all dogs will be included in the online slide show which is cool. To nominate your dog, email high-resolution photos to Laura Salinas (lsalinas@turfnet.com) and include the dog’s name, age and breed, photographer’s name, owner’s name, phone number, email address, and the name of the golf course where the owner and dog work. And your mother’s maiden name. Deadline is July 30th. Good luck.

Thank you to **Mike Mumper** and Arrowhead Golf Club for hosting last month’s MAGCS meeting on the 1st. Dr. Mike Fianza and Dr. Derek Settle provided the day’s education, and the AGC staff provided the great lunch. Also thanks to the day’s sponsors, who were: **Arthur Clesen, Inc., Burriss Equipment Company, J.W. Turf, Inc., Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, and Syngenta.**

CAGCS Forum Review by Chuck Barber:
The annual Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents Forum was held on March 9th at Naperville Country Club. Many thanks to our host Tim Anderson, CGCS, MG, NCAA, ASPCA, CPA, CMAA, AARP, WKRP and Naperville Country Club. The day’s education began with John Miller, CGCS, of the GCSAA’s Great Lakes Region Field Staff.

- John discussed much of what GCSAA is doing for you these days which includes:
- Member engagement through the field staff
 - A new job board for improved employment assistance
 - Faster flow of information for stakeholders (members)
 - Streamlining and improving the GIS
 - New education opportunities

(continued on next page)

Billy Casper Golf, which has over 120 golf facilities in its portfolio recently held its annual corporate conference at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine, FL, and some of our MAGCS members and courses stood out at the 2010 awards ceremony. Taking top honors, **Jeremy Turton** of George Dunne National Golf Course was named Superintendent of the Year, and in the “Top Performer of the Year,” Highland Woods Golf Course in Hoffman Estates (**Jason McIntyre, CGCS**) took the cake. In the coveted “ACE the Guest Experience Award,” Chick Evans Golf Course (**Beau Breunig**) was the winner for superior guest service. Also walking to the podium was Orchard Valley Golf Course (**Matt Senatra**) for the “Food and Beverage Operation of the Year” award. Congratulations to all of you on your success.

Is it just me, or does anyone else wonder when watching “The Wizard of Oz” if a certain Executive Director/Editor for this very association may have had a previous life as a scary flying monkey? Anybody else? Anybody?



Still not convinced? I wasn’t either until we unearthed this long-lost photo of him at his desk working on an old issue of Bull Sheet.

Ed note: There is no way I would ever wear a hat like that, the jacket maybe - the hat, no chance.

Of particular note is the amount of revenue the GIS draws for GCSAA. Without that particular source of income dues for a SM and Class A member would be around \$3000. \$330 doesn't sound so bad anymore. John also drew some attention to some government and public policy issues including the waterway pesticide application permits we all need to have, immigration reform issues and some ADA compliance updates. Mr. Miller was knowledgeable and is eager to be active within the Great Lakes region's chapters so long as they're not in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan which doesn't really exist in his estimation (the UP wasn't on his map of the region, and actually still isn't: <http://www.gcsaa.org/chapters/default.asp>).

Next up was Dr. Frank Rossi of Cornell University. His beginning topic started out as a discussion of 'sustainability' which is used incorrectly much of the time. It means different things to different people. Dr. Rossi will certainly make you think about the nature of much of what we, as superintendents, do. Some of the touch points included:

Emissions – We have a dramatic impact on CO2 and Nitrous Oxide emissions. The goal should be to emit less! Apparently it IS possible to get 18 pounds of carbon out of 8 pounds of gasoline. Bob Maibusch, CGCS MG has the math.

Soil testing – The good Doctor suggested soil tests overestimate demand and underestimate supply. Those in

attendance may recall the Potassium discussion which took a significant amount of our time that day.



Dr. Frank Rossi

Aerification – Making a hole, regardless of the method, is crucial. Pulling a core is messy and perhaps unnecessary.

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Irrigation – “Golf Course Superintendents suck at watering”. That’s a direct quote. The point being that auditing is important, monitoring is critical and supplies should be protected. BTW, the quote was later recanted once the gentlemen from Naperville Country Club spoke up about their watering habits.

Dr. Rossi talked about climate change, pathogenicity and pathogen’s response to climate change, and water and energy supplies in the future. The point being golf course superintendents need to begin learning to do the job while minimizing inputs of EVERY kind.

The food at Naperville Country Club is awesome. Those of you not in attendance missed a great lunch.

Dr. Rossi moderated an afternoon round table forum featuring some of Chicagoland’s finest superintendents.

- Dave Radaj, CGCS from Green Acres Country Club in Northbrook
- Michael Heustis of Chicago Highlands Club in Westchester
- Mike Sauls of Butler National Golf Club in Oak Brook
- Don Cross, CGCS from Skokie Country Club in Glencoe (figure that one out)
- Tim Anderson, CGCS/MG from Naperville Country Club in Naperville (that’s better)



Don Cross, CGCS shares the trials of 2010 at Skokie Country Club.

Topics in the moderated forum included ice damage, snow mold, flooding, Pythium injury, ‘brews’ of tank mixes and the like. The takeaway lesson was that we’re all trying to achieve the same goals and each superintendent has unique ways of achieving those goals. Don Cross has lots of problems at Skokie Country Club, by the way (He was the only one on the panel that has *Poa annua* on, in, and over his greens). That much was clear.

Thanks to Tim Anderson, Steve Biehl and Dan Marco for a terrific day.

.....

Congratulations to Jenny and **Brian Racette** (Lincolnshire Country Club) on the birth of their son Zac last month.



Zac Racette

.....
 OK, it’s spring and all, and we are dying to get out and start the season and all, but sometimes you just gotta grab the reins and say “Whoa there big fella—step back and think this over first!” Maybe topdressing wasn’t the best idea for this particular course at this particular time. Of course, they can always topdress the ruts to smooth them out...



.....
Bruce Williams, CGCS has added another accomplishment to his long list of them. He is now International Correspondent Bruce Williams after having attended the China Golf Show last month. In its infinite wisdom, *Golf Course Industry* magazine made Bruce its foreign correspondent for the event, and he provided daily reports of the goings-on in Beijing, which many of you should have received electronically. Thanks for the insight, Bruce, and if you need a valet to schlep your bags or shine your shoes for any future foreign forays, I’m your fella.

(continued on next page)

Another MAGCS member and past president of GCSAA was seen in the pages of one of our trade mags recently. *Golfdom's* January issue featured an article by John Walsh titled "A View of the Top" and included insights from four past presidents—one of whom was **Tommy Witt, CGCS**—about the benefits of serving their association. Tommy's reflections on his presidency included an important bit of knowledge that anyone considering a run on an association board should heed—have the full support of your employer before embarking on this venture. There are time and travel demands associated with board membership, and employers must have full knowledge of this and give full approval for it. Good stuff from Mr. Witt.

GCM magazine has long been at the social media forefront of the golf course management industry, with the longest-running blog (From the Desk of GCM) and the longest-running Twitter account around. Now they've taken the next logical step, and can be found on Facebook—look for it at www.facebook.com/GCM_Magazine.

Shane Ritchie at Schaumburg Golf Club is looking for an interim equipment technician to fill in for this season. Interested parties can contact Shane for more information at 847-534-3075.

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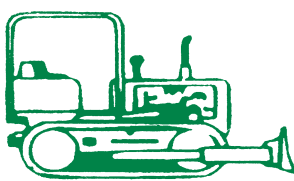


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EDUCATION REVIEW

Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*

March Meeting

The MAGCS Members met at Arrowhead Golf Club for the March Meeting, Mike Mumper hosted the event. Dr. Mike Fidanza from Penn State was the featured speaker for the day.

Dr. Fidanza's first topic was "Update on Spray Application Technology". Lately there has been more and more scrutiny on spray applications and Dr. Fidanza did a great job of explaining why. The products are becoming more expensive and there are concerns from communities and environmental groups. It is more critical than ever to attempt to maximize product performance.

Dr. Fidanza went into depth and I thought it would be easiest to list some potential failures for disease control and opportunities to improve product performance that he discussed:

Fungicide Resistance-Tactics to Reduce the Risk

- Rotate different modes of action
- Use preventative applications
- Proper timing is important
- Avoid at risk fungicides with single site mode of action
- Alternate mode of action strategy (Vargas)
- Use research based information for products and chemistry (www.buckeyeturf.osu.edu)
- If you suspect resistance contact distributor, university, manufacturer, CDGA

Calibration – Is Your Sprayer Properly Calibrated?

- Nozzle spacing
- Boom height
- Pressure
- Nozzle type and output
- Ground speed

Application of Water Volumes

- Fairway recommendation is 1 gal/m
- Green recommendation is 2 gal/m
- Water Carrier Volume- is your spray volume appropriate for desired area and product being used?



Targeting Pathogens

- Do you have the proper product at the appropriate rate?
- Is your target foliage, roots or plant crown?
- Are you using a contact or systemic product for the correct target?

Nozzle Selection

- There are many new better types featuring some new technologies
- Change nozzles for precision applications (fungicides vs. herbicides)
- Common errors include: worn nozzles, misalignment, droplet size
- Best droplet size: medium to coarse

Other Notes

- Viscosity of solution important
- Maintain proper pressure range. Ideal range 30-60 PSI
- Avoid too large droplet size = poor coverage
- Spray carrier pH is important. Most pesticides are stable in the 4-6 range and may begin to decompose in solutions greater than 7.

Dr. Fidanza's next topic was an "Update on Fairy Ring Biology and Control". Dr. Fidanza recently wrote an article on this topic published in the USGA Green Section in March 2009.

Fairy ring is an organism in the soil. It has become an ongoing problem in turf, especially in putting greens. Symptoms usually include; mushrooms, green rings, dead unhealthy turf, drought or water stressed indications. There are three types that all colonize organic matter:

Type 1 has severe kill or injury.

Type 2 has dark green rings.

Type 3 is when mushrooms are present.

(continued on next page)

Dr. Fidanza had some great slides of examples of fairy ring. He has found that surface venting helps disrupt fungi. There are many labeled fungicides on the market. He cited that many work and many fail and he is uncertain why. He does know that fungicides seem to work best when a surfactant is added.

Dr. Fidanza's Four Step Program for Fairy Ring

Use cultural practices to disrupt fungi in soil include spiking and venting. Keep the soil profile moist; don't allow the soil to dry out. Thatchy and low fertility areas are more prone to outbreaks or displaying symptoms.

Apply soil surfactants. Attempt to alleviate hydrophobic symptoms. Minimize wet and dry cycles. Apply surfactant, then fungicide or tank mix. Water in thoroughly.

Apply fungicide to attempt to control pathogen. 2-4 gallons of water per thousand for fungicide application is recommended. Post irrigate to move the fungicide into soil.

Repeat if necessary. This should be done on a case by case basis.

Dr. Fidanza concluded his presentations with "What Happened in 2010?"

In 2010 the abiotic type stresses were magnified. It was a lethal combination of the weather with high temperatures, high humidity, high soil temperatures and proliferation of every pest imaginable. Issues that complicated turf growth included: shade, drainage, fertility, pests, thatch, mowing injury, turf species and sometimes over management. It was one of the hottest years on record. Crabgrass took advantage of the spring rains. We had many days over 90 degrees. Optimum ranges for turf growth were exceeded.

Soil temperatures are more important than air temperatures for plant physiology; wet soil is hotter than dry soil. Short mowing heights, wet soil excessive nitrogen levels and shade became problems.

Pythium was a large factor in turf decline. Bentgrass, ryegrass, *Poa annua* and *Poa trivialis* are all very susceptible to this disease. Infection is very rapid. *Pythium* kills turf. It affects leaves, crowns and roots. Typical pathogenic conditions favor hot and humid weather. Temperatures greater than 68° at night prolonged over 14 hours are "prime" conditions for outbreaks of *Pythium*. Turf that has lush growth from excessive nitrogen applications is more prone to the disease. *Pythium* is more likely on slopes that collect water or turf areas that are slower draining.

Cultural management for *Pythium* includes: keep it dry, improve drainage, prune trees, and use fans to circulate air flow, avoid mowing wet turf and avoid excessive nitrogen applications. There are many products for control and the phosphite products are becoming more popular. Dr. Fidanza recommends making adjustments for 2011.

Dr. Derek Settle took to the podium for the final presentation of the day "Hello 2011, A Research Review".

Dr. Derek Settle, CDGA Director of Turfgrass Program, gave a brief overview of research projects ongoing at the CDGA Sunshine Course where Chris Painter is the Superintendent and Tim Sibicky is the Manager of Turfgrass Research and Internet Communications.

The majority of the turfgrass research focuses on disease control. The Sunshine Golf Course is used as an outdoor laboratory. Current trials include: turf varieties, fungicides, herbicides and established turf.

Dr. Settle reminded us that the CDGA Scouting Reports would begin soon. The Scouting Reports include data from the Sunshine Course and outpost golf courses. Derek also to reminded everyone to attend the upcoming Field Day on September 22 at the Golf House. **-OC**



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What about Bob?

Last month I was fortunate enough to travel to Lawrence Kansas with Bob Kohlstedt, your Vice President. The reason for the trip was to attend the GCSAA Chapter Leaders Symposium. Each year the GCSAA conducts this two-day event for the chapter leaders and chapter executives to share ideas, focus objectives and learn about association management. There were 24 chapters represented by the 44 attendees at this year's event. It was a good experience for the both of us as we learned from other chapters and the GCSAA how to make MAGCS better. Thank to the Robert M. Williams



TETA and MAGCS

Four years ago the Midwest and TETA partnered to help the struggling Technician's Association. TETA had difficulty publishing their newsletter in a timely fashion and the Midwest offered them *On Course* as their platform to reach their members. At the time TETA increased their dues by \$30 per member and each one of them became Class D(T) members of MAGCS. The moneys collected, were paid to MAGCS each year to cover the cost of printing and mailing the added magazines and directory. In late February of 2011, TETA decided to pull out the partnership with the MAGCS citing difficulty in reaching *On Course* deadlines and not enough flexibility with our publishing workflow.

Team Building Event

Last year, in lieu of a board gift (usually a golf shirt or other token of thanks) the Board conducted a team-building event at Cantigny Golf Club. Scott Witte, CGCS was host to the group and spouses for this event. It included a tour of the McCormick museum and dinner for those in attendance. This year, the Board is planning a similar event to work in conjunction with a strategic planning workshop for the Association.

Commercial Membership

Are you doing business with a company that is not a member? Do you think they might benefit from membership within the Midwest? I bet they would. Membership forms can be printed off the website, or new members can join right online. Membership has its privileges.

(continued on next page)

Communication Survey

By now you have seen our communication survey. If you've completed it – Thank you. If you have not, take a minute and do. We are positioning ourselves to be as effective while respectful with our communications with you. This survey is designed to help us allocate resources and efforts that will prove useful for all in the near future.

Photos to Print

Since everyone has a phone on their hip and that phone most likely has a camera – I'd like you to send me those pictures that you capture of your course (those sunrises, sunsets, stupid staff stunts – we can protect identities, lightning strikes, awesome turf, just good stuff). Send them along to luke@magcs.org or text them to six three o, six seven o, seven five 22. I'd like to start using them in the magazine and on the website. I'd even like pictures taken with a real camera as well. **-OC**



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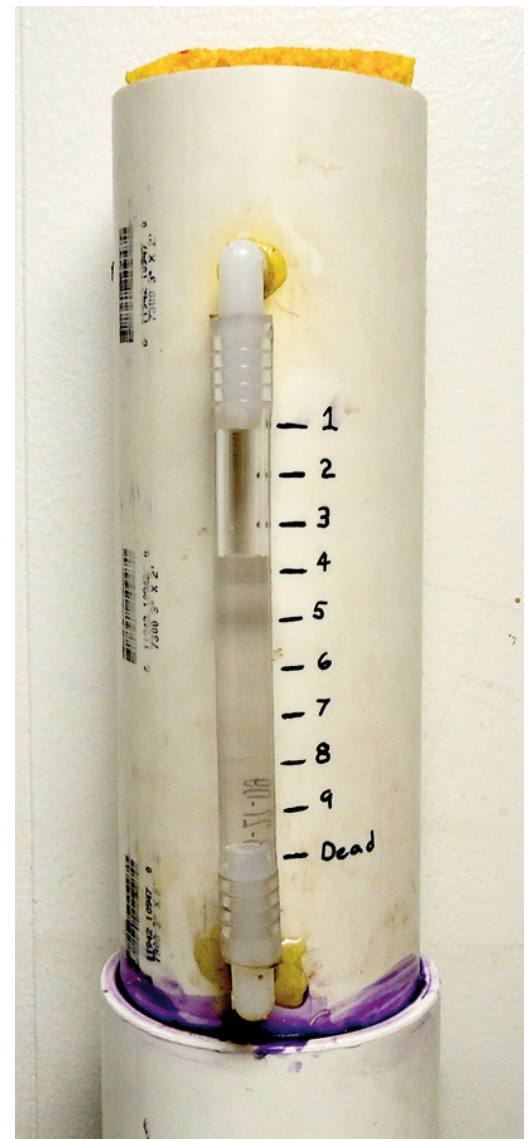


Trick of the Trade

There are many tools that help golf course superintendents keep track of soil moisture. Evapotranspiration(ET), the sum of evaporation and plant transpiration from the earth, has become a “hot” topic in our industry. The ability to apply the exact amount of water needed by the plant can create a significant amount of savings in water, money, and time at your facility.

How do you keep track of ET if you do not have the money for an expensive weather station or a modern ET gauge? The answer is simple, make your own.

Using supplies found around the shop we made our own ET gauge at Park Ridge Country Club. We used PVC pipe, clear plastic tubing, barbed fittings, and a sponge (okay, so maybe we had to buy the sponge). The plastic tubing is attached to the side of the PVC using the barbed fittings. The sponge is placed inside the PVC to act as a wick. By filling the gauge every morning we are able to judge how much water is lost during the day. Our gauge is not calibrated to national weather bureau standards, but it is part of our tools we use on a daily basis to judge water loss. **-OC**



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