

# ON COURSE

THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

January 2011

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents  
11855 Archer Ave.  
Lemont, IL 60439

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
FOX VALLEY, IL  
PERMIT NO 313

## INSIDE

My Journey with Skin Cancer

ITF Education Wrap Up

Midwest Personalities,  
Bull Sheet and More

syngenta

Products worth talking about.



The word is out. The Syngenta portfolio of products has become one of the most comprehensive in the industry. We're committed to knowing more about the crops, the diseases, and the everyday needs of you, our customer.

For more information on these products, please contact Brian Winkel at (630) 391-2170.



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

©2008 Syngenta. Syngenta Professional Products, Greensboro, NC 27419. Important: Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using these products. Scimitar GC is a Restricted Use Pesticide. Tenacity™ is not currently registered for use in all states. Please check with your state or local extension service prior to buying or using this product. Award®, Banner MAXX®, Barricade®, Concert®, Daconil®, Fusilade®, Headway™, Heritage®, Instrata®, Medallion®, Meridian®, Monument®, Pennant MAGNUM®, Primo MAXX®, Princep® Liquid, Reward®, Scimitar®, Subdue MAXX®, SuperWeatherStik®, Tenacity®, Touchdown PRO®, Trimmit®, ULTREX®, Weather Stik®, and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.



*Lay it and Play it!*

**CENTRAL SOD**  
**Tour-Redi Turf**

- USGA Spec Sand Based
- Available in "Greens" Height
- Multiple Varieties
- Custom Grown to Your Specifications
- Delivered and Installed Throughout the Midwest
- Poa Free!
- Sand Based Low-Mow Bluegrass at Tee height



Fescue Sod Available

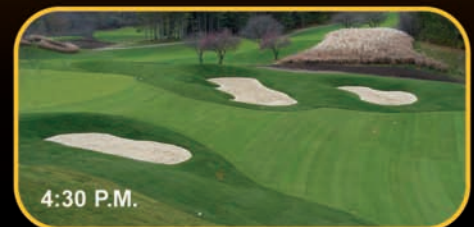
**1-800-310-0402**



7:45 A.M.



11:00 A.M.



4:30 P.M.

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

**PRESIDENT**

Dan Sterr, Stonebridge C.C.

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Bob Kohlstedt, Fox Bend G.C.

**SECRETARY / TREASURER**

James Keith, CGCS, St. Charles C.C.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Luke Cella

**BOARD**

Chuck Barber, Indian Lakes Resort

Dave Groelle, CGCS, Royal Melbourne C.C.

Michael Mumper, Arrowhead Golf Course

Dave Kohley, Silver Lake Country Club

John Nelson, Merit Club

**PRESIDENT EMERITUS**

Scott Witte, CGCS, Cantigny G.C.

**COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVE**

Nick Baker, Chicagoland Turf

**CLASS 'C' REPRESENTATIVE**

Joe Schneider

**TURFGRASS ADVISOR**

Dr. Derek Settle

**EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN**

Mike Mumper

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS**

John Gurke, CGCS

Chuck Anfield, CGCS

**GRAPHIC ARTIST**

Mark Karczewski

This publication is not copyrighted. We would like to share our articles with any who would like to use them, but please give the author and *On Course* credit.



The snow was here and now is gone. What will the rest of the winter bring? A green complex covered in snow in December of 2011.

**FRONT COVER**

A frosty morning in December left the trees picture perfect. Pictured on this month's front cover is the side of a tee at a local Chicago course. Photo credit: Luke Cella

**DIRECTOR'S COLUMN**

### 3 Not New, but Improved

Luke Cella

**FEATURE**

### 5 My Journey with Skin Cancer

Stephen Best

**DEPARTMENTS**

**8 the Bull Sheet**  
John Gurke

**16 Education Recap**  
Charles Anfield

**23 Midwest Personalities**

**24 MAGCS in Motion**  
Luke Cella



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.

All editorial and advertisement inquiries should be directed to Luke Cella, Publisher, *On Course*. 11855 Archer Avenue, Lemont, IL, 60439. (630) 243-7900 or visit [www.magcs.org](http://www.magcs.org) for rates and requirements. Statements of fact and opinion are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the officers or members.

## We Make Sure the Grass is Always Greener on *Your* Side.

We combine the world's leading professional turf maintenance brands with a team of local experts to deliver the best overall turf solutions to our customers. From creating customized solutions designed to tackle site-specific issues to building customer specific application programs that achieve maximum results, our customer-driven, expert staff is dedicated to the overall success of each and every customer.



Ph: 630.268.8871 | Fx: 630.268.1357  
[www.chicagolandturf.com](http://www.chicagolandturf.com)

LEADING TURF BRANDS, LOCAL EXPERTISE

S  
O  
D

## Sod That Fits Your Course To A Tee

All varieties available as washed sod, traditionally cut sod or big roll sod.

Your Single Source for:

### Bentgrass Varieties

- Penncross™ Bentgrass Sod
- Pennlinks™ Bentgrass Sod
- Penneagle™ Bentgrass Sod
- L-93™ Bentgrass Sod

### Low Mow Varieties

- XL2000™ Bluegrass Blend
- Bluegrass Fescue Blend

Installation and turf stripping capabilities available. We can custom grow to your specifications. Please inquire.



3900 West 167th Street, Markham, IL 60428

708-596-7200

Member:  
**Midwest Sod Council**

1-800-244-7200

WWW.HESOD.COM

Redexim TurfProducts.com

# The ORIGINAL DEEP TINE AERATOR VERTI-DRAIN



Contact: Grant Rundblade 815-988-6303

## DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Luke Cella, MAGCS



# Not New, but Improved

*Congratulations to the Midwest's newest board members: Dave Kohley, Silver Lake Country Club, John Nelson, Merit Club and Chuck Barber, Indian Lakes Resort. In late November the board conducts a "transition" meeting where chairmen get together and exchange information, files, SOPs, and goals that their committee worked through the previous year. New chairmen are coached through their new responsibilities and tasks by the outgoing chair. Valuable committee members are mentioned in the process, sometimes not, as chairmen look to "keep" their team intact through their own transition. This meeting works very well and your 2011 board assignments are as follows:*

Editorial – Mike Mumper, Chuck Barber  
Golf & Arrangements – Dave Kohley, John Nelson  
Education – Dave Groelle, Chuck Barber  
Class C – Joe Schneider  
Class E – Nick Baker  
Bylaws & Nominating – Dan Sterr, Scott Witte  
Benevolence – Jim Keith  
Partnership Task Group – Bob Kohlstedt  
Media & Public Relations – Executive Committee

The list may look a little short, and it is in comparison to the number of committees and groups of years ago. The Midwest is consolidating some of its committees. Scholarship, Employment and Membership are primarily taken care of by staff and will operate committee-less. For example, if a golf course or club is searching for a golf course superintendent, the call will come to my office. I will explain the process of the posting, the fees, and even help write an announcement if needed. I explain the benefits of posting and hiring local and am able to answer most questions they may have. The Employment Committee has had no real involvement in this process for many years.

The Scholarship Committee's tasks have become very minimal the past several years and these too are accomplished by staff. Each spring the scholarship applications are reviewed and placed online for the applicants to download. Completed applications are collected, judges are sent judging packets, scores are tallied and winners are announced. All of this work is accomplished by staff.

The Membership Committee too has changed. One of the responsibilities of the Membership Committee was to send out a survey every three years to the all the members. This survey took a lot of work, not only sending, but also collecting and tallying responses as they were returned. Our use of quick, online surveys has changed this process and made it quite simple.

When it comes to making decisions that will impact the way any procedure, regulation, or change is involved with any of these consolidated committees, the board is still involved. For example, when a survey is now sent to the membership, each committee chair is asked for input and the survey is developed around the information they need to know to accomplish their work.

Another change to the committee structure is that Golf and Arrangements will work together as one. By working together and involving the host superintendent, both of these groups will be able to streamline setting up events at our clubs and courses. In the past there has been a lot of overlap with these two groups. By having these two committees work together from the get go, the burden should be less and more streamlined.

Other than the addition of a Class C Advisor, the make up of the board has not changed in the past ten years. However, the one major change the Midwest has gone through is the hiring of full-time staff that oversees the day-to-day operations of the Association. By far, this has been one of the major changes the Association itself has ever had and has changed the responsibilities and tasks each board member now manages. It is time for the board to take a look at itself and make sure it is using the time of its volunteers in the best way possible.

You may have noticed the Midwest is operating one board member short this winter. Rather than finding board member to fill a committee chair position of a committee that really doesn't need to exist, the group decided to see if it could operate one member short. So far, this has worked well. President Sterr always has the option to appoint a new board member if needed, and if not, there may be a by-law change coming down the road. **-OC**



# GRUENMANN TURF

Quality Pre-Owned Equipment.  
Inspected. Tested. Warrantied.

Think newish

view our current inventory  
[gruenmannusa.com](http://gruenmannusa.com)



## Melt Your Winter Fears

Order  
Online at  
[WaupacaSand.com](http://WaupacaSand.com)



### Apply ThawDust in Winter for Better Turf Recovery in Spring

- Speeds melting of ice cover on greens
- Warms surface temperatures in spring to help heal damaged plants
- No fears of layering. ThawDust is made from the Fines Free Topdressing you already use



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

Count on our Quality ~ Depend on our Service ~ Trust in our Experience

## HOLLEMBEAK CONSTRUCTION INC.

SINCE 1969



*Ridge Country Club - Hole 13  
Chicago, Illinois*



Golf Course Construction • Renovations • Bunkers  
Clearing • Feature Grading • Shaping • Drainage  
Tee and Green Construction • Cart Paths • Grassing  
Shoreline Stabilization • Pond Construction and Dredging  
Laser Tee Leveling • GPS Golf Course Mapping

P.O. BOX 103 • BIG ROCK, IL 60511 • 630-556-3891

## FEATURE I

Stephen Best, Sky Creek Ranch Golf Club

# My Journey with Skin Cancer

*Between tournaments, daily turf management, and long-term maintenance planning, you may find that the last thing on your mind is ... yourself. Before you think that this is another self-help lecture, please take two minutes to read my story.*

Have you ever had the following thoughts?

*"I'll remember to throw on some sunscreen – later."*

*"I have a family doctor – I don't really need a dermatologist too, do I?"*

*"I had the mole removed and I'm sure glad that's finished. I'll do my annual skin cancer screenings – some other year."*

I am surviving Stage 4 melanoma - day by day and treatment by treatment - and I have made all of these comments at one time or another. Unfortunately, our time in the outdoors, which is one of the wonderful perks of our profession, brings a higher risk of skin cancer for us than for our office-dwelling friends and neighbors. In fact, skin cancer is the leading type of cancer.

### My Journey

Three years ago, I had a cancerous mole removed from my back. There was no cancer found in the immediate area or in my lymph nodes. I did see a dermatologist every six months. I was given the option to seek further treatment with an Oncologist however; I chose not to pursue annual screenings for melanoma. I believed that I was clean so that was good with me.

It was a mistake and I should have made an appointment with an oncologist for semi-annual (every 6 months) screenings. Melanoma is very aggressive and is prone to re-appear. It only takes one cell to get away and travel in your system.



*Stephen Best holding a letter and gift from the Wee One Foundation with his wife Cheryl, daughter Addison and brother-in-law Chris Clark.*

Would annual screenings have found the melanoma that later re-surfaced in my brain? Honestly, we'll never know. I do know that even the slightest chance of avoiding the tumor that bled into my brain on February 5, 2010 would have been worth all of the follow-up screenings in the world. I experienced stabbing pain in my head and woke up two weeks later at Zale Lipshey Hospital in Dallas to learn that a malignant tumor had erupted in my brain. Follow-up tests indicated that the cancer had metastasized to four lesions on my left lung, one lesion on my adrenal gland, and one lesion on my liver.

Since the excruciatingly painful eruption of the brain lesion, I have had 10 treatments of full brain radiation, two gamma knife radiation surgeries, and 6 cycles of chemotherapy (note: one cycle is a 4-day treatment of 3 different chemotherapies each day).

### My Inspiration

You may be wondering whether I had any symptoms to alert me that something so sinister was lurking in my body. I don't mind telling you that I was in the best physical shape of my life until that day last February. I was running 30 miles every week and had even completed the 2008 Austin Marathon in 4 hrs. 42 minutes. As a matter of fact, I have drawn a lot of strength from that accomplishment and keep my medal with me during my treatments as a reminder of the inner fortitude I'll need to overcome a challenge like this one.

*(continued on next page)*

I have had the good fortune to work for the owner of Sky Creek Ranch in Keller, Texas, for 13 years now. He and the Sky Creek Ranch maintenance team have risen to the challenge of my limitations – filling in the gaps and developing in expanded roles more quickly and deeply than I could have imagined.

Ultimately, however, my faith has been the difference between despair and hopefulness. Prior to the rupture of the tumor in my brain, God had inspired my wife, Cheryle, and I to join a new congregation. The congregation of Northwood Church in Keller has supported our family through the trials associated with diagnosis, treatment, and my slow and unsteady recovery. I am inspired daily to share my faith with folks facing their own struggles and embrace the blessings of others in return.

God gave me great tools to meet this challenge: a strong body, a vigorous faith, a supportive community, an awesome Sister, great brother and sister-in-laws, and last, but not least, my loving wife Cheryle, who is the rock that keeps everything going for our family.

### **My Future**

While my original prognosis looked bleak, we have found hope at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. As of this writing, the chemo and radiation are working on the lesions in my brain, lung, and liver. I work, jog, and stay as active as I can with my two children, Harrison (10) and Addyson (7). I have experienced setbacks, but my faith and my family do not let me face them alone.

This article is one of my first steps to advocating for increased awareness of skin cancer and the proper steps to preventing it in high-risk groups, such as the Texas Turfgrass Association, Local Superintendent Associations, and through National GCSAA. Someday, I hope to look back at this experience with the same sense of accomplishment as I felt when I finished that 26.2-mile marathon in Austin.

### **Your Future**

This is taken from the MD Anderson Skin Care Center:

The two most common kinds of skin cancer:

**Basal cell carcinoma** accounts for more than 90% of all skin cancers. It is a slow-growing cancer that seldom spreads to other parts of the body. However, if left untreated, it can spread to nearby areas and invade bone and other tissues under the skin.

**Squamous cell carcinoma** is much less common than basal cell carcinoma. It can be more aggressive than basal cell carcinoma and is also more likely to grow deep below the skin and spread to distant parts of the body.

These types of skin cancer are sometimes called non-melanoma skin cancer. When they are found early, there is nearly a 100% chance for cure.

Another type of cancer that occurs in the skin is melanoma, which begins in the cells that produce pigment in the skin. It is less common than basal or squamous cell skin cancers, but it is more dangerous than either and can be deadly. If caught early, there is nearly a 97% chance for cure.



**Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.**  
A Proud Tradition Since 1930

Celebrating 80 years of complete, dependable and economical tree service for residential properties, municipalities, schools, industrial areas, parks and golf courses.

847-475-1877  
fax: 847-475-0037  
[www.nelsjohnsonstree.com](http://www.nelsjohnsonstree.com)



## Symptoms of Skin Cancer

Symptoms of skin cancer vary from person to person and may include a:

- Change on the skin, such as a new spot or one that changes in size, shape or color
- Sore that doesn't heal
- Spot or sore that changes in sensation, itchiness, tenderness or pain
- Small, smooth, shiny, pale or waxy lump
- Firm red lump that may bleed or develops a crust
- Flat, red spot that is rough, dry or scaly

Many of these symptoms are not cancer, but if you notice one or more of them for more than two weeks, see your doctor.

Tips from the Skin Cancer Foundation website:

**Asymmetry** - If you draw a line through this mole, the two halves will not match.

**Border** - The borders of an early melanoma tend to be uneven. The edges may be scalloped or notched.

**Color** - Having a variety of colors is another warning signal. A number of different shades of brown, tan or black could appear. A melanoma may also become red, blue or some other color.

**Diameter** - Melanomas usually are larger in diameter than the size of the eraser on your pencil (1/4 inch or 6 mm), but they may sometimes be smaller when first detected.

**Evolving** - Any change — in size, shape, color, elevation, or another trait, or any new symptom such as bleeding, itching or crusting — points to danger.

## Risk Factors

The greatest risk for developing all types of skin cancers comes from sunburns. People with fair skin and those who tend to burn easily are more at risk.

Other risk factors include:

**Age.** The longer a person's skin is exposed to the sun over time, the higher the risk of developing skin cancer.

**Appearance.** People who have red or blond hair, fair skin, freckles and blue or light-colored eyes are more at risk of developing skin cancer. Skin cancer occurs less often in Hispanics, Asians and African-Americans. However, darker-skinned people and those who tan easily can still develop skin cancer as well as suffer other long-term effects of exposure to ultraviolet light, like dry skin and premature aging.

**Climate.** People who live in sunny climates are at an increased risk for skin cancer.

## Preventing Skin Cancer

The main way to avoid skin cancer is to protect yourself from the sun's ultraviolet rays. There are several ways to do this. These include:

- Stay indoors or avoid unnecessary sun exposure, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun's rays are the strongest. When you are outside, remember that the shorter your shadow, the more damaging the sun's rays.
- Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher, depending on your skin type. SPF measures a sunscreen's protection against UVB rays only, so look for sunscreen that protects against both UVA and UVB rays.
- Apply a sunscreen as part of your daily routine. Do so generously for maximum protection, especially on body parts easily

overlooked (i.e., lips, tops of ears, head, back of neck and hands and feet). Some moisturizers and foundation include sunscreen.

- Apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going into the sun.
- If you are perspiring or in the water, you must reapply sunscreen more often regardless of the instructions on the packaging.
- Wear protective clothing (e.g., wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts and pants, sunglasses with UV protection).
- Stay in the shade, and avoid reflective surfaces such as water, sand, snow and concrete. You can burn from indirect exposure to the sun.
- Beware of cloudy days. You can still get burned.
- Don't use sunlamps or tanning beds. There is no such thing as a safe tan.

## For further information please visit the MD Anderson Web Site on Skin Cancer.

I recommend the following actions to take care of yourself and your family properly in the event of an unexpected medical emergency:

- Purchase life insurance as soon as you can, if you don't already have it. Once you are diagnosed with a life-threatening illness, you will not be able to obtain it. Get it done.
- Make a will or set up a trust. Don't leave the disposition of your assets to a court-appointed authority.
- Stay on top of your health. If it were not for my dedication to running, I would not be able to survive the rigors of my treatment.
- Get your annual physicals. I have skipped annual physicals in the past. Trust me, that attitude does not work. I want to know everything now so I have a better chance at survival.
- When you go see a dermatologist make sure you go to a skin cancer specialist and not a specialist devoted to beauty enhancement, such as Botox treatments. If you are having trouble finding one of them just give me a call and I will help you.

Skin cancer, if detected early, is very treatable. I encourage you to take my poor choices (lack of proper skin care in my early career and follow-up) and my good choices (faith, fellowship, and family) to heart. I am on a mission to spread the awareness of skin cancer not only to all of you but to a lot more. I am hoping to someday have a foundation that is as big as some of the others out there. It has become personal to me and I want and hope you all take this seriously.

Consult your doctor and take a bit more time to take care of yourself.

I want to thank Jane Smith from Keller for helping me write this article as I had trouble getting what was on my heart on to paper.

I would also like to thank all my family, my Owner, GM, co-workers, my friends at Northwood Church and my incredible wife for helping me get through this year. I could not have done it without you. I would list everyone but it would be another page. **-OC**

*Ed note: Stephen sent this article to us through the Wee One Foundation and I found it to be timely as this topic has come up a few times this year with several of the Midwest members.*



# January 2011

Happy New Year, and here's to hoping 2011 takes us onward and upward to new heights (and new golfers).

Well, that's going to be MY outlook for 2011. Others may have differing opinions, including *Golfdom's* always-topical Joel Jackson, who summed up his outlook in the December issue with this wonderful revision of a classic poem titled "The Raving" by Duffy Allen Poe:

*Once upon an economy dreary  
As I pondered weak and weary  
Would the budget grow once more?  
Quoth the Green Chairman, "Nevermore."*

*Mowing fairways twice per week  
My budget gets another tweak  
Need to spray, turf looks poor  
Quoth the EPA, "Nevermore."*

*Member/Guest, cut and roll  
Staff reductions take their toll  
Need 40 hours, maybe more  
Quoth the Finance Committee, "Nevermore."*

*New programs I must improvise  
All resources maximize  
Now with less I must do more  
Quoth my inner voice, "Evermore."*

Congratulations to **Chuck Anfield** of Heritage Bluffs Golf Club, and to **Henry Michna** of Winnetka Golf Club on their recent recertification with GCSAA. Now they get to attend the Celebrating Certification luncheon in Orlando on the 11th—how awesome is that?



Henry Michna

(continued on page 10)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

January 13 – CAGCS Shop Tour at Rich Harvest Farms, Black Sheep, and Aurora Country Club.

January 18-19 – 2011 Iowa Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show at the Polk Convention Complex & Marriott Hotel in Des Moines, IA. More info at [www.iowaturfgrass.org](http://www.iowaturfgrass.org).

January 19 – MAGCS monthly meeting at Seven Bridges Golf Club in Woodridge, IL, **Don Ferreri** host.

January 19-21 – Mid-Am Expo at Navy Pier in Chicago, IL. Go to [www.midam.org](http://www.midam.org) for details.

January 27-29 – Annual PGA Merchandise Show in Orlando, FL.

February 4-6 – The 61st GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic presented in partnership with the Toro Company in Palm Beach, FL.

February 7-11 – GCSAA Education Conference in conjunction with the Golf Industry Show in Orlando, FL.

February 9 – The 2011 MAGCS Hospitality Reception at the Lucky Leprechaun in Orlando, FL.

February 25 – Deadline for nominations for TurfNet's 2011 Technician of the Year Award presented by Toro.

March 9-10 – Reinders 20th Turf & Irrigation Conference at the Waukesha Expo Center in Waukesha, WI. Visit [www.reinders.com](http://www.reinders.com) for all the goods.



Shift your expectations of what  
a trim mower can do.

**The New 7400 TerrainCut Trim & Surrounds Mower.**

At last, have the flexibility to handle every part of the rough, with the push of a button. Shift from a 68" to 74" width of cut, right from the seat. Shift a deck out 15" to trim around trees or bunkers. Or climb and cut with the GRIP all-wheel drive and best-in-class horsepower. Demo one. And never look at your trim mower the same way again. To learn more, visit [www.JohnDeere.com/golf](http://www.JohnDeere.com/golf).



**JOHN DEERE**  
GOLF

**J. W. TURF, INC.**  
14 N 937 US HWY 20  
HAMPSHIRE, IL 60140  
(847) 683-4653

The golf maintenance world lost a true legend last month with the passing of [Gordon Witteveen](#) on December 16th at the age of 76. Mr. Witteveen was not only an iconic superintendent, having served in the role from 1958 to 1999, but he was also a mentor to scores of young turf heads, prolific author (one of his books having been co-authored by his longtime friend **Mike Bavier**, CGCS titled *Practical Golf Course Maintenance*), world traveler and accomplished speaker, and overall good guy. His latest endeavor was with TurfNet, where he wrote "The Last Word" column in the monthly newsletter for six years, and his blog "The Way I See It...Opinions and Experiences from 50+ Years of Green-keeping." Condolences to the family and MANY friends of Mr. Gordon Witteveen—he will be missed.

While men like Gordon Witteveen were just getting started in the business 50 years ago, this very magazine was helping them locate all the supplies they needed through cutting-edge advertisements such as these, from the January, 1961 issue of *Bull Sheet*:

## MAGCS Comings and Goings...

Congratulations to **Keith Peterson** on his new position as golf course superintendent of the Burlington Golf Club in Burlington, Iowa. Great news for the New Year!



*Keith Peterson*

Also congrats—and my personal best wishes—to **Virgil Range**, who left Aurora Country Club and the title of assistant superintendent behind him at year's end to tackle the superintendent's position at Maryville Country Club in Maryville, Missouri.



*Virgil Range*

And finally, congratulations to **Kirk Spieth**, formerly of Olympia Fields Country Club, who has accepted the superintendent's position at Beverly Country Club. Happy New Year to you, and best of luck in your new places.

February 25th marks the deadline for you to submit your nomination to TurfNet for its 2011 Technician of the Year Award presented by Toro. Criteria used include crisis management, effective budgeting, environmental awareness, helping to further and promote the careers of colleagues and employees, interpersonal communications, inventory management and cost control, overall condition and reliability of rolling stock, shop safety, and work ethic. The winner will receive the Golden Wrench Award—a real gold-plated wrench—and a weeklong training session at Toro's Service Training University at the company's headquarters in Bloomington, MN. To submit a nomination, go to [turfnet.com](http://turfnet.com), click on the Features tab, then the Tech of the Year tab, and follow the instructions.

J. W. Turf has a new employee....sort of. On December 4th, **Danna Eberly** married her sweetheart Brad and became Mrs. Danna Curtis. Congratulations to the happy couple on this wonderful occasion!



Congratulations to Danna (formerly Eberly) Curtis and her husband Brad.

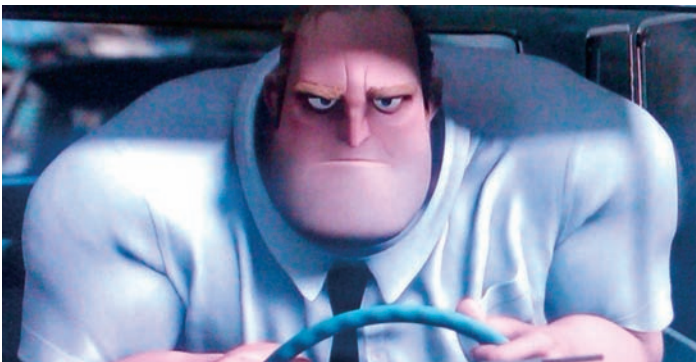
How about this news from the LPGA—in a slight update of a classic “Boy meets Girl” story, where “Boy becomes Girl,” the LPGA players voted at a meeting on November 28th to remove the “female at birth” requirement from the Tour’s constitution, bringing an end to the days of them banning transgender golfers from their tournaments. Next LPGA Player of the Year: John Bobbitt. Google it if you weren’t born yet.

GCSAA’s 2011 Compensation and Benefits survey is now available at gcsaa.org, and all Class A and SM members are urged to participate. For your VERY miniscule efforts (no, you don’t need to dig through piles of budget and personnel information to complete it—it’s really quite painless) you will receive free access to the results—a \$145 value according to GCSAA—as well as .25 Service Points.

Also, did you know that if you are currently taking college courses in addition to (or outside of) your degree, those classes may count as education points on your GCSAA transcript? College courses that are related to golf course management are worth 1.5 points per semester hour, which can add up fast and help you on your way to renewing or applying for your Class A membership or certification. Just thought I’d pass that on.

Also from GCSAA, award-winning journalist of 22 years Scott Hollister has been promoted to Editor-in-Chief of *Golf Course Management* (GCM) magazine.

Recently caught on a Naperville traffic camera: **Tim Anderson** driving home after a really bad day at the office.



This month on the 19th is the MAGCS monthly meeting at Seven Bridges Golf Club, with **Don Ferreri** hosting. The morning’s education for the event is a presentation by **Tommy Witt, CGCS** called “Negotiating for Success.” Tommy will highlight the key points from his half-day seminar covering the basic negotiating skills, working with boards, getting products for the right price, compensation and benefits packages, employees, and new hires. This meeting is also the annual Wee One Fundraiser which will take place after lunch. This will feature a raffle and auction of products and services, the proceeds from which will support a great cause—the Wee One Foundation. See you there.

Last month saw MAGCS members converging on two traditional spots for the annual holiday parties that have become such a part of the season. On Friday, December 3rd the West Side Superintendents Party was held at Seven Bridges Golf Club, where a large crowd of revelers enjoyed a great lunch buffet, an amply-stocked bar, and a friendly game of cards to boot. Stories of after-hour highjinx, including the mandatory Tilted Kilt stop have been leaking slowly, but names are being withheld to protect the innocent.



(continued on next page)

# Integrated Eco Agronomic Solutions

Looking Forward  
to Serving you in  
2010



Aaron Goy  
Eco Agronomist, Managing Partner  
Cell: 859.991.0828  
aaron@progro-solutions.com

Rob Colby  
Agronomist, Central Illinois Region  
Cell: 317.379.5117  
rob@progro-solutions.com

Rusty Stachlewitz  
Agronomist, Chicago Region  
Cell: 630.779.0761  
rusty@progro-solutions.com

Craig Shepherd  
Agronomist, Chicago Region  
Cell: 563.213.1632  
craig@progro-solutions.com

[www.progro-solutions.com](http://www.progro-solutions.com)



*Tim Anderson, caught at a Midwest Meeting, having a really good day - away from the office.*



*Which one of the above doesn't really need glasses?*



Just 3 days later, on Monday the 6th, the annual South Side Superintendents Holiday Party was held at Chef Klaus Bier Stube in Frankfort—a tradition unlike any other as Jim Nance would say. As usual, **Eddie Esger** and **Keith Peterson** put the event together (and gladly took the money from the many attendees), and it was another great gathering. Schnitzels, sausages und bier were the order of the day as ol' Chef Klaus outdid himself once again.



*"Get this. Now Mumper thinks he's being stalked by a damn bear. What a freak!"*



*Ancient cave drawing of Vence Zolman found on the dining room wall of Die Bier Stube.*

*(continued on next page)*

# The Power Of Value.



Control more than 95 broadleaf weeds for eight months with our new 75WG. With the same active ingredient found in Gallery,<sup>®</sup> Isoxaben 75WG gives you powerful results and more value than ever before.

Just what you'd expect from Quali-Pro.

Learn more at [quali-pro.com](http://quali-pro.com).

For more information, contact Doug Suttor at 616-403-3983 or any of these authorized Chicagoland distributors:

Arthur Clesen Inc • BTSI • Conserv FS

## QUALI-PRO

Quality Turf & Ornamental Products

©2011 Quali-Pro. Quali-Pro is a registered trademark of MANA. Gallery is a registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences. Always read and follow label directions.



*Blomquist patiently waiting for anyone underneath the mistletoe reindeer thingy.*



*What's with all the winking?*



*These party crashers skipped the meat platters at the Bier Stube claiming their diets wouldn't allow them to eat the fare.*





.....

In a heady move to balance out all the partying with some serious stuff, ITF held its Winter Education Days at Golf House on the 14th and 15th. The two-day event featured presentations from respected industry experts as well as **Erwin McKone**, who, when he wasn't yelling at the packed house about BigPar3 this and Sustainability that, kept everyone engaged and on their toes. Kicking off the event was Dr. Jim Kerns, Assistant Professor at University of Wisconsin-Madison who began his presentation, "Everything and Anything About Snow Mold" by saying "I'm not going to talk about snow mold." Things got better from there, though, and Dr. Kerns did eventually get to snow mold after his discussions on pythium, fairy ring, rust, and bacterial wilt (which included "bacterial brown striping"—a malady once thought to only attack underwear, but recently found in crops such as oats, wheat and corn). Seriously, though, the event filled Golf House's auditorium both days, and was a great 2 days of education. And I echo Erwin's plea for everyone to sign a BigPar3 letter of intent, and host one on your course next season—it requires minimal effort and will reap maximum benefit, both to ITF and turf research AND to you personally at your club.

Next month brings the world of golf course management to Orlando for the Golf Industry Show and GCSAA's Education Conference. The latest news is that joining the show for the first time is the Society of Golf Appraisers, which, if one were to lean toward the macabre, is like inviting the Society of Dog Food Producers to a Sick Horse convention. On the plus side, MAGCS will once again be holding its world-famous Hospitality Reception, thanks to the generosity of our great commercial members and volunteers. This year's rendition will be held on Wednesday, February 9th at the Lucky Leprechaun at 7032 International Drive, which boasts the finest collection of blue-eyed, redheaded, freckled, pasty-skinned exotic dancers this side of Dublin. But I jest—it has all kinds of strippers. I jest again—no adult entertainment other than good food, drink, and company. For the Illini contingent, the following evening will feature the Illinois Turfgrass Alumni gathering at the Rosen Plaza Hotel from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. And of course there's that whole trade show thing and all those education seminars if you're into that sort of thing. Hope to see you all there. Hope to see myself there come to think of it.

.....  
-OC



## EDUCATION RECAP

Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*



# ITF Winter Education Days

*A "full house" greeted Dr. Jim Kerns, Pathologist from the University of Wisconsin on a chilly Tuesday December 14, at the Midwest Golf House to discuss the "hot topic" of "2010: The Year of Challenges".*

What made 2010 so difficult? To start with, we had record heat in May, June, July and August. Temperatures averaged +3° above normal during the day and +5° at night. To the layman, it may not sound like a big deal but those average temperatures pushed the turf beyond its survival thresholds. In addition, those temperatures went on for prolonged periods of time and there was little recovery time. This was O.K for the bentgrass which has a higher tolerance but became a problem for its weaker cousin *Poa annua*.

To complicate matters the early persistent rains in May and June influenced root growth to be shorter than "normal".

Then came the summer isolated thunderstorms and tornados. These storms sometimes dumped 3-5 inches of rain over night. Some courses got hit, other got missed. Eventually it seems like every course got hit. All the negative factors fell into place: heat, humidity, rain, short roots, *Poa annua*....you know the rest of the story.

So most courses did what they could. Mowing heights were raised and mowing frequencies were reduced. Many courses suspended normal cultural activities like fertilizer applications, rolling and top dressing.

Dr. Kerns then showed some slides of some of the pythium outbreaks he observed during the course of the summer. Everyone in the room cringed at the slides of dead greens and fairways except Dr. Settle who seemed to get quite excited. It must be a pathologist thing. Dr. Kerns called pythium the "scourge" of turfgrass diseases. He said many people were

fooled by the various signs and symptoms. Disease pressure was high and there was a lot of misdiagnosing of the disease.

Typically pythium appears in small or large patches. It has "greasy" water soaked leaf appearance. It can be first be found in low lying drainage areas. Pythium likes temperatures between 86-95° with night temperatures over 70°. It grows well when humidity is greater than 90% for longer than 12 hours. The water holding ability of soil is a large factor. Silt and clay hold the most water and the disease first attacks these areas. Sand based turf that drains well is less likely to be infected.

Water management became very important. Most courses tried to keep turf on the "dry side" or close to daily E.T.'s to be able absorb a potential thunderstorm. Dr. Kerns recommended watering early in morning, limiting nitrogen applications and making preventative fungicide applications.

For preventative pythium control Dr. Kerns recommended Segway @

.9 oz/m and Subdue Maxx @ 1.0 oz/m. He like Stellar because of its cost and recommended Banol for a good for "knockdown" fungicide. He said the phosphites programs seemed to work well but there was some failure due to high disease pressure. The phosphate programs worked best with .5 oz/m of Subdue during times of high pressure.

Dr. Kerns went over the history of bacterial wilt which is still a controversial subject. Bacterial wilt first came to everyone's attention during a severe epidemic of 'Toronto' creeping bent in the 1970's. It tends to be an occasional problem in *Poa annua*



*Dr. Jim Kerns kicked off the day with an unscheduled review of 2010 and wrapped up his talk taking questions on snow mold and its control.*

greens in the northern U.S. There was a report in 2009 of a bacterial disease in Charlotte N.C. It has a chlorotic appearance and leaves are etiolated (grows longer). It is first detected in stress areas, like the cleanup lap. There are not many chemicals to control bacterial disease. There was a lot of misdiagnosis of bacterial wilt in the summer of 2010.

Fairy ring was another "nagging" disease observed all throughout the Midwest. It requires preventative applications. DMI fungicides seem to work best; they have a long length of control. They must be watered in and applied when soil temperatures are between 60-70°. The key is to be preventative. Prostar or a combination with Prostar seems to work the best as a curative product.

Rust was a minor problem this summer, but mostly appeared on Kentucky bluegrass.

Dr. Kerns left us with one more piece of wisdom about snow mold fungus. Without the long lasting effects of PCNB applications, be prepared to spray again in the spring for pink snow mold. The systemics most people are using are only good for 30-40 days under snow cover. The good news is that research shows the disease may be less severe this winter because of the extremely dry fall.

**Tom Mead: Golf Course Consultant came up next and made his presentation of "Sustainability is it. What is it?"**

Sustainability is a very timely and bandied about word these days and there are many definitions for it. Tom's definition of sustainability is: exploiting the natural resources without destroying an area. He says we need to consume less and use local materials. His vision of sustainability is that it is that one size does not fit all and it is more of a journey and not so much a destination.

Tom cited that the game, our current economics and "the spirit of game" are compatible with environmental issues. The game will grow if it is more affordable.

Tom thinks that many of the current maintenance practices are not compatible with environment and/or building a player base. Many current maintenance practices are not sustainable, too expensive and not good for the game.



*Mr. Tom Mead defined sustainability for the group and preached the best way to start is by installing test plots at your facility to reduce inputs.*

The future of the game for our grandchildren may be compromised. We all need to be proactive with our "eco friendly" maintenance practices or get "dragged" into the future. Tom believes we will all end up in the same place. This will be a result of the post peak oil economy which has created the increased volatility of oil prices.

Our current economy is based on an economic growth business model that is unsustainable. We need new standards and balances. The current perception of expectations for perfect wall to wall turf has to end.

Budget cuts need to be at least 30% overall to keep long term sustainable standards or we must change. This cannot be predicated on increased green fees. We must reduce inputs, specifically water and get off the treadmill of meeting golfers' expectations. We have a moral obligation to preserve the integrity of the game.

We need to re-connect to the origin of the game and our local economy. We need to embrace nature, get rid of golf carts and promote caddies. We need to educate golfers in the real spirit of the game and the preservation of natural resources.

*(continued on next page)*

**Delivers  
brains  
and  
brawn.**

**CAN A UTILITY VEHICLE  
REALLY DO THAT?**

Vehicles that go where you need them to go, doing the jobs you need them to do, day in, day out, without problems. Brains and brawn. Now available in utility vehicles.

**Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc.**

2700 N. Farnsworth Ave.

Aurora, IL 60502

Call: 630-898-1616 for Eric, Chad or Dave

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

**YES, IF IT'S A**



1 800.CLUBCAR • [clubcar.com](http://clubcar.com)

We need to promote a low input turf program. We should work with nature and not try to dominate it. People need to recognize that golf course playing conditions vary with seasons. We should re-design course modifications to reduce inputs.

We need to be more judicious with water management and seek out and use renewable energy sources. Organic fertilizers and a better connection to local economy are vital. All decisions should be based on what preserves and protects natural resources. We should look at maintenance building re-design. We can increase our recycling efforts and focus on more compost production. We should recycle water and design and build commercial gardens. We need to move toward a higher degree of self sufficiency. All landscape designs should be low input. We should be more concerned with surface water quality and groundwater protection.

Test plots with reduced inputs could be used as research holes to educate the public of what a lower input/sustainable golf course would look like. We can start to develop a data base.

Tom says that many of these programs will require capital expenses

to move forward. Anything we can do to work toward sustainability will improve our courses position in future. Tom says we need to reduce operating expenses and invest in future. We will require a new business model. Cutting costs will be necessary. Courses that will survive and thrive will be ones that invested in the new business model. He believes we should do now willingly or be forced to later.

Erwin McKone, of Briar Ridge Country Club, President of the ITF, then moderated a short question and answer session based on Tom's comments.

Some highlights included:

- To get golfers to change will be a slow process. It's going to require education and a commitment to the process.
- The entire staff needs to support and embrace the concepts. Get decision makers to commit.
- The changes should be in small incremental steps. It starts with a re-write of the mission statement. The education should be in low doses.
- Re-evaluate current practices
- Golf courses are ideally suited to be leaders in the "green" movement.



*Dr. Bruce Branham kicked off the second day with two talks for the group. Many attendees bantered back and forth with Dr. Branham as he took questions throughout his talks.*

**THE LITTLE GIANT**  
**RTV500**

**Starts quicker.  
Runs quieter.  
Stops smoother.**

The new Kubota RTV500 compact utility vehicle has all the comfort, technology and refinements of a larger utility vehicle. Available in Kubota orange and Realtree® camouflage, the four wheel drive RTV500 is ready for work or play. Visit your local Kubota dealer to test drive the only utility vehicle of its kind.

**Martin Implement, Inc.**  
18405 115th Avenue  
Orland Park, IL 60467  
(708) 349-8430

**Kubota**  
www.kubota.com

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

*Rooted in Science*

**FLORATINE**

www.floratine.com

**ASTRON**  
Liquid Rootplant  
*Drive Roots*

**PERK UP**  
Heat Stress Relief

**PROTEIN**  
Liquid Sunshine  
Essential Amino Acids

**HOLD WATER**  
*Retain*

**CALPHLEX**  
Soil Catalyst

**PUSH WATER**  
*Permeate*

**RENAISSANCE**  
Micronutrient Technology

**RAPID GREEN**  
*KNIFE EDGE*

Distributed by:

**GREAT LAKES TURF LLC**

Jeff Mazur - 630.936.3179 Ed Fischer - 847.337.1091  
Marty Heyen - 630.939.0151 Jim Johnson - 616.292.0260

- Self sustainment should be the goal.
- Education is the biggest issue to change golfer's perception of what is acceptable.
- It seems like golfers want what they want. They drive the standards. All we can do is attempt to educate.

So that was Tom Mead's vision of the future of golf, any questions?

**Day 2 of the ITF Winter Education Days drew a SRO (standing room only) attendance.**

Dr. Bruce Branham from the University of Illinois led off the day with his presentation on "Controlling *Poa annua* in Your Golf Course Fairways without Anyone Ever Noticing". The whole "trick" to this program is the gradual reduction in the *Poa annua* population without leaving voids, dead areas and minimizing discoloration. We all know that the golfers could not tolerate anything less.

The problem with some herbicides is that they either don't work or they work "too well".

Dr. Branham's work takes a more practical approach by using the herbicide Velocity more like a PGR than as an herbicide.

His program for existing fairways of a bent/*Poa* blend is a little different than for a newly renovated fairway with very little *Poa annua* and slightly different for a brand new seeded fairway. He has tested many different options for control.

His results are (but don't quote me):

For newly renovated bentgrass fairways and with very little *Poa annua*:

- 2 oz/A, 6 applications over the course of two weeks while the turf is actively growing.

For existing stands of bent with a "lot of *Poa*" he is recommending lower rates.

- Option 1: 1 oz/A, 2 applications in May and June
- Option 2: 1 oz/A, 3 applications in May, June, July
- Option 3: 1 oz/A, 5 applications in June, July, August, September, October



*Mr. Jerry Williams explained the Rules of Golf in a clear and digestible format as they pertain to our profession.*

The goal is to keep the *Poa annua* so weak, it peters out slowly and the bent dominates and grows laterally over the weaker *Poa* plants. It's not supposed to be noticeable.

Use caution however because over regulation can be too much if you have heavy cart traffic concerns. In addition too much in July and August can be a detriment if there is pythium disease pressure.

Gradual reduction is the key. There may be a slight discoloration 2-3 days after application. This can be "masked" with the addition of iron.

For brand new seeded fairways: 6 oz/A, 3 weeks after seedling emergence, typically in September or October. The seedlings don't look good, but they can handle the stress.

These Velocity programs are mostly for *Poa annua* removal.

There is still more research to do for removal of the other fairway nuisance "weed", *Poa trivialis*.

He stated that there has not been a significant difference among use on different bentgrass cultivars. The annual bluegrass varieties seem to be more sensitive than the perennial bluegrass varieties. There is potential for damage of overspray during the application to Kentucky bluegrass in the fairway surrounds if the same pattern is used over and over.

How about Velocity for use on putting greens?

Dr. Branham says the concept should work. He is looking for volunteers.

*(continued on next page)*






**Dr. Branham stayed on the podium for his next presentation, "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Nitrogen Fertility".**

- How much nitrogen is really used by the plant after a fertilizer application?
- How much nitrogen is lost through volatility?
- How much nitrogen is really absorbed by the plant when foliar feeding?

Dr. Branham went through a review of the nitrogen cycle, just like in Plants 101. Microbes in the thatch get the first "crack" at the available nitrogen. The plants wind up getting the waste from the microbes. Turf is one of the best crops for building soil organic matter.

These experiments that were undertaken at the University of Illinois required very expensive sophisticated equipment, not the kind of stuff you get in a Gemplers catalog.

- For low rates of foliar applied urea, the efficiency was 25-40% maximum uptake of the total urea applied within 6 hours.




**Discover Phoenix Environmental Care. A new generation of quality products.**

The complete line of advanced fungicides, herbicides, insecticides and plant growth regulators from Phoenix Environmental Care provides superintendents with superior quality, resistance management tools and guaranteed performance.

To learn how Phoenix's value-enhanced pesticides can benefit your golf course, contact 888.240.8856, or visit [www.phoenixenvcare.com](http://www.phoenixenvcare.com).

Rick Grant  
Director, Business Development  
317-501-2395



©2011 Phoenix Environmental Care, LLC. The Phoenix logo is a registered trademark of Phoenix Environmental Care, LLC. Always read and follow label directions.



*Growers of Quality Sod*

**SERVICE!**  
LOCAL GROWING FOR  
EASY PICKUP OR QUICK DELIVERY.  
DELIVERY ON TIME, EVERYTIME.

**QUALITY!**  
FEATURING  
ELITE KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS,  
BENTGRASS SOD, AND  
TURF-TYPE FESCUE

- LOWER MAINTENANCE
- MORE DROUGHT & SHADE TOLERANT
- BETTER WEAR RESISTANCE

**PRICE!**  
CALL FOR A QUOTE



**630-557-2900**

**MAIN STREET  
11 MILES WEST  
OF BATAVIA, IL**

- Higher volumes of water will have less nitrogen uptake, it washes off the plant.
- Adjuvants improved uptake by a very slight percentage.
- The remainder of N enters soil roots & follows normal N cycle.
- Tank mixes didn't affect N uptake.
- Foliar applications are valuable but not as efficient as we are led to believe. They do provide a better efficiency in the short term.
- Urea is still the most widely used and cheapest N source.
- Volatilization loss potential on non slow release products can be up to 20%.
- Leaching potential can be as high as 1-20 % on non slow release products.
- Add urease inhibitors for better response efficiency.
- 30% of total N applied as fertilizer is never recovered.

In closing, most of the data is derived from field crops. Turf is different. The microbial populations are very powerful and very plentiful. Dr. Branham's final recommendation for better nitrogen efficiency is to return clippings to the canopy and recycle the leaves when the *Poa* is not seeding.

**Jerry Williams, Past President of the CDGA made his presentation of "Rules Infractions by Players, by Superintendents".**

He says most golfers never learned the rules because they feel the rules are stupid or unfair. His presentation was relevant to us because he is concerned that more Superintendents don't know the rules of golf or the appropriate markings as it applies to maintaining the golf course. We have the ability to impact play and potential rulings.

- Jerry gave us a general overview of some very specific rulings.
- Nearest point of relief ruling is perhaps the most misunderstood and most violated rule.
- He went over artificial obstructions, both immovable and moveable
- Proper hazard stakes and markings can impact play.
- Ball drops are good to help with practical solutions to difficult rulings
- Marking of yellow vs. red hazards overview.
- Hazards must start and stop someplace, they must tie into something.
- Stakes identify hazard, lines define it, stake is in hazard.
- You may repair your ball mark whether you are on the green or not.

**The Last presentation of the ITF Winter Education Days featured Tim Moritz and Doug Bauer of Pizzo and Associates presenting on "Creating Sustainable Outdoor Environments"**

Some of the benefits of natural areas are:

- Lower maintenance
- Habitat restoration
- Improved water quality
- Increased biodiversity
- Wildlife attraction
- Shoreline erosion prevention
- Assist with infiltration of storm water
- Solve goose problems. Geese have a natural instinct to stay out of these areas for fear of predators.
- Stop the spread of invasive plants

Many naturalized sites are just unmaintained patches of weeds. Slide examples were shown of bad "not native" and naturalized areas.

Areas traditionally mowed can be naturalized to reduce maintenance costs. This can add up to an even bigger savings if multiple acres are used.

For a newly renovated site use no irrigation. Invasive species are much better competitors. Don't use any fertilizer.

Bioswales can be designed and used as water retention/holding areas. They filter surface water. Naturalized areas provide a more colorful and diverse look. Seed is less expensive than plugs when proceeding on a naturalization project.

There can be significant cost savings over armored (rock) shoreline erosion. There can also be a long term cost benefit to prairie areas over managed turf.

Native areas are not for everyone and every site. These projects require some education to "sell" benefits of the project.

A big thank you to all the volunteer people at the ITF and an especially big thank you to all of the sponsors who without, we could not do these Winter Education Days. **-OC**

PROFESSIONAL TURF & ORNAMENTAL PRODUCTS

**Douglas Suttor**  
Midwest Area Manager  
Doug@squali-pro.com

616.748.1977 *Direct Line*  
616.403.3983 *Cell*  
616.748.1988 *Fax*  
800.979.8994 *Corporate*

2740 Sandpiper Lane, Holland, MI 49424



quali-pro.com

Makhteshim Agan  
of North America, Inc.




**DARRELL KOELPER**  
PRESIDENT

GOLF COURSE  
CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING

MARENGO, IL

**KOELPER  
GOLF COURSE  
CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY**

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

always thinking ahead™



From our family to yours.



**Transition™**  
Dark turf colorant for fall and spring applications.

**Vision Pro™**  
Visual spray application aid and UV-resistant turf colorant.

## When it has to be right, it has to be **Green Lawnger®** TURF COLORANTS

Introducing Becker Underwood's Green Lawnger family of products with ColorLock™ technology.

Your course needs to be picture perfect, while looking naturally beautiful. Becker Underwood, the expert in colorant technology, now offers Green Lawnger colorants, **Transition™** and **Vision Pro™**, to help achieve this effect.

**Transition**, a new advanced UV heat-absorbing colorant that produces the sought after, very dark green color on turfgrass in the fall, and in the spring promotes rapid turfgrass green-up to jump start the playing season.

**Vision Pro**, a new advanced spray colorant technology, gives turf managers a uniform application of plant protection products with the added benefit of a long-lasting natural green color.

With the quality and performance advantages of the Green Lawnger brand, add Transition and Vision Pro colorants to your turf management lineup and see your course reach its full potential.



Green Lawnger® and Lineman® are registered trademarks and Graphics™, Vision Pro™, Transition™, and ColorLock™ are trademarks of Becker Underwood, Inc., Ames, IA.

800-232-5907

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

## Premium Ice Melter

### QUAD RELEASE™

- No messy residue on Carpet
- Safer to Vegetation
- 4-Way Melting Power works fast
- Effective to 10 degrees below zero
- Pattern Indicator
- Treated to allow easy pouring and extend shelf life



PO Box 1325 \* 800-732-9401  
Frankfort, IL 60423 \* Fax: 815-463-8395



- Safety and maintenance
- Tapes, measures and marking
- Eyewear, headgear and gloves
- Landscape products
- Generators and pumps
- Fans and lighting
- Fuel containers
- Hand tools

Wholesale Prices!!

... and a whole lot more!!

Ask about our MAGCS Program Terms!!

Toll Free 800.362.6951 • Fax 800.255.7985  
342 N. 400 E. • Valparaiso, IN 46383 • [www.phpdistribution.com](http://www.phpdistribution.com)



360 Schaumburg Rd.  
Streamwood, IL 60107

(630) 830-7405

FAX (630) 830-9652

### CLAUSS BROTHERS, Inc.

**GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION  
LARGE TREE MOVING**



## MIDWEST PERSONALITIES

Tommy Robinson, *Ravinia Green Country Club*

Job Title: **Superintendent**

MAGCS Member Since: **1976**

Date of Birth: **10/9/52**

Place of Birth: **Charleston, West Virginia**

Current Residence: **Grayslake**

College/Degree: **SIU, Outdoor Recreation**

Spouse/Children: **Step-daughter, Amy**

My Favorite Childhood Memory is: **Neighborhood kick the can at dusk**

My Personal Hero: **Father**

My Professional Mentors: **Rodney, Paul Voykin**

Favorite Actor: **Tommy Lee Jones**

Favorite Musical Performer: **Moody Blues**

Favorite Restaurant: **Washington Gardens**

Favorite "Pig Out" Food: **Pizza**

Favorite TV Show: **Seinfeld**

Favorite Color: **Blue**

Favorite Professional Sports Team: **Bulls, Blackhawks, Bears, Sox**

Favorite Pro Athlete: **MJ**

Favorite Pro Golfer: **Larry Mize**

My Handicap Index: **2.3**

My Favorite Place to Play Golf is: **Monday anywhere**



*Tommy (left) shares a laugh with Larry Mize during the US Senior Open.*

My Best/Most Memorable Round: **Tie: 63 at Foxford Hills and an 81 at The Broadmoor**

The Most Interesting/Exotic Place I've been: **Jamaica**

The Book I've Been Recommending Lately: ***The Green*, by Troon Macalister**

The Last Great Movie I Saw: **The Game**

In my Spare Time I Enjoy: **Stain glass, Lionel trains**

Three Words that Best Describe Me: **Timely, Honest, Athlete**

What I Enjoy Most about My Job: **Going to work**

What I Enjoy Least about My Job: **Wilt**



MAGCS IN MOTION  
Luke Cella, MAGCS



# The Midwest Core Sponsor

*Two years ago a Partnership Task Group was formed by the Midwest Board of Directors to meet with our Associate members and Class E representative to talk about the Midwest. This could not have happened at a better time as the economy started to tank. The objectives of the meetings were to listen to commercial members to see if their needs were being met by the Midwest and to develop a plan to strengthen their support of the Midwest in the future. The Task Group still exists and both groups continue to work together to offer support, programs, events that fortify and keep the Midwest at the forefront of the profession.*

One new program that members will be seeing starting in 2011 is the Midwest Core Sponsorship program. The program started as a means to combine the opportunities for a commercial member to support the Midwest into one simple checklist. In years past, requests for support would go out several times per year to our commercial members. It had become confusing, time consuming and costly to keep sending out requests for support. The board took this information, digested it, and designed the Midwest Core Sponsorship program. The program combines the support of the Midwest's three largest items – *On Course*, our monthly meetings and the Hospitality Reception into one program that our commercial members may choose to support. There are four levels in the Core Sponsorship Program – the Albatross, the Hole in One, the Eagle and the Birdie. Each level advertises in *On Course* every month, supports the Hospitality Reception and sponsors our monthly meeting(s).

At printing, five companies have signed up to become a Midwest Core Sponsor for 2011. Keep your eye out for the Core Company logo in the year ahead and make certain to thank these folks for their support of the Midwest. **-OC**



**Bayer Environmental Science**

John Turner  
Sr. Sales Specialist - Golf

Tel: 630-443-7807  
Fax: 630-443-7839  
Mobile: 630-215-6110  
john.turner@bayercropscience.com



*"Golf Course Work  
a Specialty"*

**LEMONT PAVING CO.**

EST. 1957

**MURPHY'S**

**Tracy Murphy**

11550 Archer Ave., Lemont, IL 60439  
(630) 257-6701 • FAX 630-257-5194





WATER WELL & PUMP SERVICES  
**TODD E. KERRY**  
 SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

WESTERN OFFICE:  
 44W158 Keslinger Rd. Unit B  
 Elburn, IL 60119  
 NORTHERN OFFICE:  
 Lake Villa, IL 60046  
 SOUTHERN OFFICE:  
 Coal City, IL 60416

Toll Free: (888) 769-9009  
 Mobile: (630) 201-0749  
 Fax: (920) 474-4771  
 E-mail: todd@wwssg.com  
 www.wwssg.com

**RIVERWALLS LTD.**  
 P.O. Box 562, Barrington, Illinois 60011

**GOLF COURSE ENHANCEMENT**  
 Shoreline Stabilization, Creek Crossings  
 Stream and Spillway Re-Construction

1-888-254-4155  
 OFFICE: 847-382-9696  
 FAX: 847-516-0116  
 MOBILE: 847-366-5400  
 E-mail: riverwalls@hotmail.com  
**DARRYL SCOTT BURKETT**  
 C.E.O.  
 Since 1968 Division of STL Corp. BUY EXPERIENCE



**Kerry G. Anderson**  
 Territory Manager

Valent U.S.A. Corporation  
 4819 Strong Road  
 Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Office: (847) 910-3130  
 Fax: (925) 817-5153  
 Cell: (847) 946-9138  
 E-Mail: kerry.anderson@valent.com



**HALLORAN & YAUCH, INC.**  
 IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

28322 Ballard Road  
 Lake Forest, IL 60045

Telephone: 847-281-9400  
 Fax: 847-281-9780

**COMMERCIAL TURF & TRACTOR**  
**CONTRACTING, SALES, SERVICE, PARTS**

*Trust Your Turf to Us!*

- Terra Spike® Deep-tine Aeration • Overseeding & Slit Seeding • Core Collecting • Greens, Tees, Fairways, Sports Fields • Complete Turf Renovation •



**1-800-748-7497 • Bryan Wood, owner**  
 Serving the Industry for over 25 years  
 Check out our demo and trade-in equipment for sale  
 www.commercialturfandtractor.com

*On Course and the MAGCS thank our January advertisers.*

Arthur Clesen, Inc.	Lohmann Group
Becker Underwood	Martin Implement Sales
BTSI	Nadler Golf Car Sales
Central Sod Farms	Nels J Johnson Tree Experts
Chicagoland Turf	Phoenix Environmental Care
Commercial Turf & Tractor	PHP
Dunteman Turf Farms	ProGro Solutions
Great Lakes Turf	Quali Pro
Gruenmann	Redexim North America
H and E Sod Farms	Riverwalls
Halloran and Yauch	Syngenta
Hollembek Construction	Valent USA
J.W. Turf, Inc.	Water Well Solutions Illinois Division
Koepler Golf Course Construction	Waupaca Sand & Solutions
Lemont Paving	

*Buy from  
 our advertisers,  
 they are  
 in the know.*

AQUATROLS BAYER BECKER UNDERWOOD CLEARY NUFARM PRECISION



# ARTHUR CLESEN INC.

Premier Supplier of Quality Products to the Green Industry.

*Dedicated To Service!!!*

*Wishing all our friends of the  
Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents  
Happy Holidays and a Prosperous, Healthy New Year*

*John Anderson, Garry Anderson, Art Clesen,  
Dennis Hamilton, John Lamkin, Scot Spier, Lisa Tomscheck*



PICKSEED  
ANDERSONS  
ECGROW  
GRIGSBROS  
KELLY  
LEBANON

TEE2GREEN  
ROOTS  
SPECTRUM  
MATINC  
PROSCHOICE  
WAUPACA

DOW PROKOZ QUALI-PRO SEPRO SYNGENTA VALENT STANDARD GOLF