

on 10/2013

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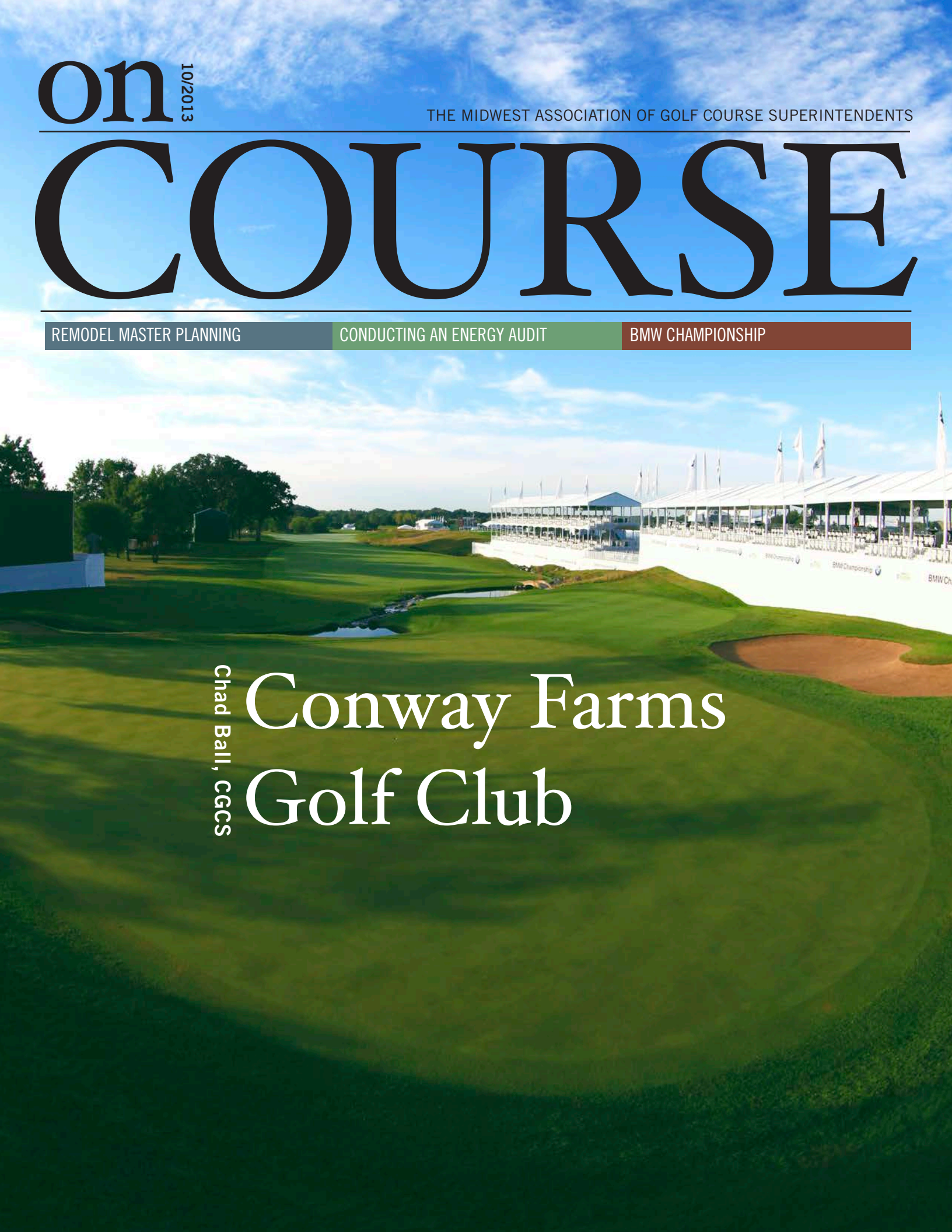
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front cover

Chad Ball, CGCS and his assistnat Connor Healy hosted the BMW Championship this September. Many area superintendents, assistants, and vendors supported the event by volunteering and sponsoring.

PHOTO: Luke Cella

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 Raymond Hearn

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 Luke Cella, CGCS



Conway Farms member Luke Donald commented on quasi-hosting the BMW at his home course, "It has been something to watch the progression of the set up the last few months. As a player, we rarely see all that goes into the event. Most of the time we just show up and play."

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2013-14 MIDWEST EVENTS

- 10/7 Midwest October Meeting, Chicago Highlands Club
- 10/17 Class C Golf Outing - Cog Hill Golf Club
- 11/14 6th Midwest Turf Clinic, Medinah Country Club
- 1/22/14 January Meeting & Wee One Fundraiser, Seven Bridges
- 2/5/14 Midwest Hospitality Reception, Orlando Fl

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

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Midwest Education



Matt Kregel
The Club at Strawberry Creek

The Educational Committee would like to thank those who attended the 2013 monthly seminars. We look forward to the schedule of speakers for the winter months. We evaluated the MAGCS Membership Survey and focused on the types of education that our members valued the most. Turf science continues to be of highest importance, while there has been an increasing desire for info on current trends, technology, and communication methods.



Kris Kvelland
Ridge Country Club

According to the survey, the educational offering was the driving force for membership attendance at our monthly meetings. We will continue to seek speakers that meet those interests in future events.

Recap of the 2013 Educational Season:

April

- Jeff Leuzinger, Healthy Grow, "Organics and Composting: Soil Health Composting Methods and Results."

July

- Dr. Bruce Branham, University of Illinois, "What's the Deal with *Poa* Cure?" Update on *Poa* Cure trials and research findings.

August

- Todd Quitno, Associate ASGCA, "What's Trending Now" Overview of master planning, renovation, and design perspectives.

October

- Dr. Rob Golembiewski, Bayer, "Maximizing Turf Disease Control" Turfgrass disease insight and control through fungicide strategies.

Both Matt and Kris are Co-chairs of the Education Committee.


Our lineup for the Midwest Turf Clinic, to be held at Medinah Country Club on November 7th, offers a wide arrangement of topics and speakers. Registration will be online at MAGCS.org

- Ed Nangle, PhD, CDGA Director of Turfgrass Programs Introduction and discussion of field observations with panel inclusion.
- Chava McKeel, GCSAA Associate Director of Government Relations Federal and state regulations reform, immigration bills, "Obamacare".
- Dr. Zac Reicher, University of Nebraska
- Panel discussion centered on labor issues impacting our work force and staffing.

Keynote Address

- Pat Foley, Chicago Blackhawks Play-by-Play Announcer Musings from a passionate golfer.

We would also like to inform the membership that our January (22nd) meeting will host Dr. Thom Nikolai, of Michigan State University, and his extensive research into rolling methods and turfgrass health. Mark your calendars for this one and plan to stick around and support the Wee One Foundation through the Midwest's auction. (Contact Don Ferreri if you'd like to donate items.)

The Committee is always open to membership suggestions for topics. Our members also have a wide variety of experience. MAGCS would benefit from any member willing to share their knowledge. 

Remodel Master Planning that Saves Money

Raymond Hearn, Raymond Hearn Golf Course Designs, Inc

PHOTO CREDITS:RAYMOND HEARN

Many people ask me if I believe that these are trying times for golf course architects. My reply is that times have never been more pressure-packed and more exciting for innovative golf course architects. Remodel Master Planning for golf courses has definitely advanced to a higher level in terms of the financial results demanded by clubs in today's market.

A lot is at stake and the pressure to produce is greater than ever when preparing a master plan.

Over the last four years, my office has seen a growing trend among clubs. They have common goals and objectives for their course. These common club goals are:

- Improve strategy and shot value on each hole.
- Decrease high-maintenance areas where possible throughout the course.
- Increase each hole's aesthetic appeal for existing and new members at private clubs.
- Increase each hole's aesthetic appeal for existing and new patrons at public and resort courses.

Put simply, clubs want to touch, feel, and smell the fruits of master planning. They want to increase annual revenue while lowering annual maintenance costs. I don't think any golf course architect will tell you that these are easy goals to achieve. But these goals definitely separate the average architects from the skilled and innovative ones. Architects who excel in meeting these demands will continue to remain busy through difficult times in a sluggish golf industry.

To help illustrate my point, I've put together a few examples from recent master planning contracts. In each, goals were mandated by the client. The priorities on each project were identical to the bulleted items cited above.



Master plan for hole #11 at the Lincolnshire Fields CC in Champaign, Illinois

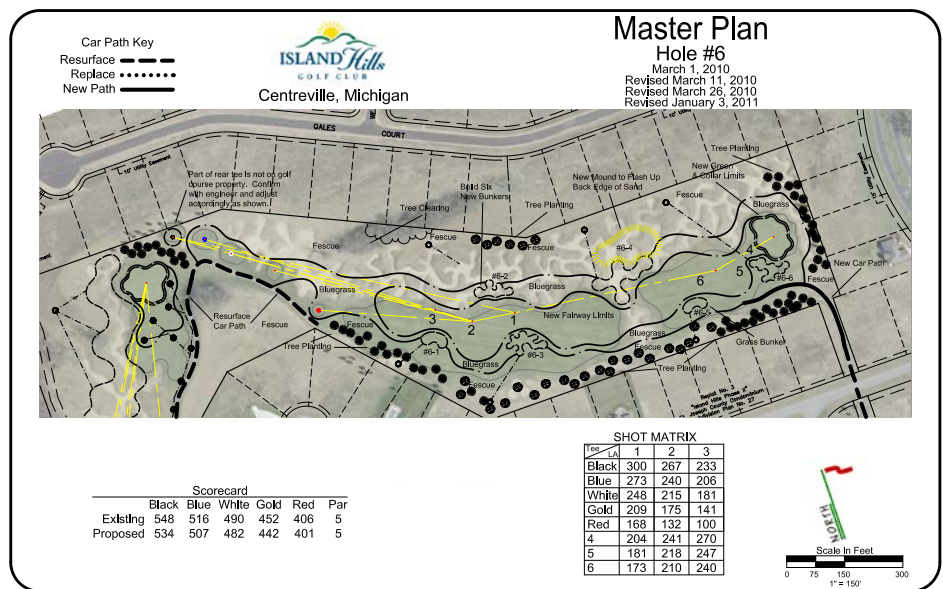


Before and after plans for hole #11 at the Lincolnshire Fields CC in Champaign, Illinois

Michigan club have compliments for the remodeled hole, while the owner and his superintendent, Joe Jehnsen, appreciate the reduced cost of maintaining the hole—a win-win-win for all three interested parties!

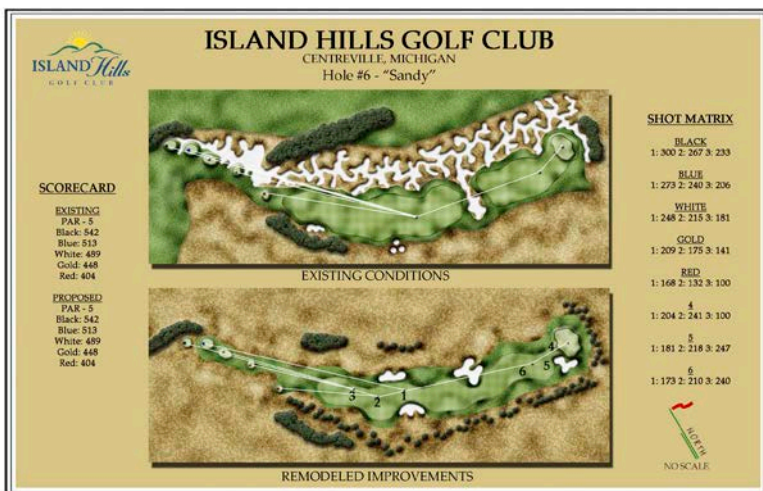
One of our primary goals at Flossmoor Country Club was to increase the amount of low-maintenance secondary rough (fescue and little bluestem) in order to help decrease the area of the higher-maintenance primary rough (Kentucky bluegrass). A glance at the two photos shown above illustrates the impact of the work performed. The members enjoy the dramatic new look of the hole, while superintendent Bob Lively appreciates the lower maintenance the secondary rough areas afford.

At Lincolnshire Fields Country Club, the three greenside bunkers on hole #11 were reduced in size by 50%, while the hole's strategy and shot value increased significantly, due to the new bunker locations. A significant area of low-maintenance fescue is planned for the front right of the tees, replacing the higher-maintenance Kentucky bluegrass rough. The amount of bentgrass approach was also reduced by 50%. The result is a more strategic golf hole that members will enjoy. An added benefit for the members, as well as for superintendent Scott Werner, is that the cost of maintaining this hole will be reduced significantly.



Master plan for hole #6 at the Island Hills GC in Centreville, Michigan

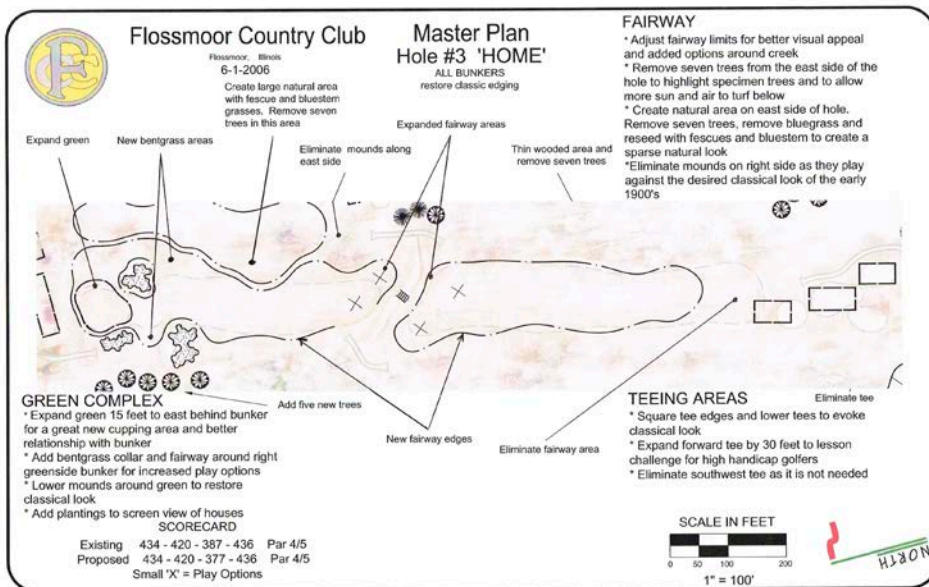
In this example, the strategy and shot value have increased, while the surface areas of the bentgrass fairways and sand bunkers have decreased significantly. Golfers at this Southwest



Before and after plans for hole #6 at Island Hills GC in Centreville, Michigan

Many private club owners and public golf course owners ask me if their course needs a master plan. My answer is simple: if you plan on making any changes or improvements to the golf course, or if you think this could be a possibility (and it virtually always is), then you need a master plan.

A master planning document is a significant tool for the golf club's owner, president, greens committee chairman, general manager, superintendent, and golf professional. The plan ensures that everyone at the club is on the same page in terms of future improvements to the golf course. It's money in the bank from both a fiscal and a diplomatic point of view.



Left: Master Plan for hole #3 at the historic Flossmoor Country Club in Flossmoor, Illinois (Founded in 1899 and former host to PGA Championship)

Below: Before and after plans for hole #3 at Flossmoor Country Club



Each master plan solves unique problems in unique demographic markets. But a common theme is the need for today's master plan to address commonly sought goals, which I repeat for emphasis:

- Improve strategy and shot value on each hole
- Decrease high-maintenance areas, when possible, throughout the course.
- Increase the aesthetic appeal.

Put simply, clubs want master planning to increase annual revenue, while lowering annual maintenance costs. Today's innovative golf course architects need to accept and embrace these demands. When executed properly, these challenging yet exciting goals satisfy the club's objectives. The result will be financially sustainable clubs as well as happy members and board members, happy owners and paying patrons. @



Above (L) Hole #3 at the Flossmoor CC before improvements. Notice all the primary rough and trees on the right side of the hole.
Above (R) New low-maintenance secondary rough area (fescue and little bluestem) on Hole #3.
A "wispy" low-rate seed mix was used where golfers can easily find their errant shot.

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Ball Rolls out the Carpet for BMW at Conway Farms



Luke Cella, MAGCS

PHOTOS: LUKE CELLA

Congratulations to Chad Ball, CGCS and Connor Healy, Assistant Superintendent, and the rest of the staff at Conway Farms for hosting and holding the BMW Championship this past September.

Thank you for keeping Chicago golf at the top – the course was immaculate and a huge success.

I was able to catch up with Chad and Connor shortly after hosting the BMW Championship and asked them a few questions.

Did you change any of your maintenance practices to prepare for the event? “Not much, we keep our golf course in pretty good shape every day, so the daily routines really didn’t change all that much. It gave us a chance to get things dialed in a little bit, to drive things down for the event and give the staff a little extra focus. We like to keep the course playable, not too tough and that was the same for the tournament. Golf is a spectator sport, people like to see good golf.” Chad told me.

The PGA Tour wants to make the best players in the world shine, and that they did. I asked Chad what he thought of Furyk’s 59 and he responded, “I think it was great, no one can buy that kind of recognition. There’ve only been six (59s), and it was mentioned on every major news report around the world and Conway Farms was in the same sentence each time.” Chad went on to explain, “it was all Furyk – the next score was a 65 and the overall scoring average that day was over par.” It certainly was Furyk’s day.

Other than the rain on Sunday, I asked Chad what was



Chad Ball and Paul Vermeulen on Thursday morning of tournament week enjoy a moment of downtime as the players take the course.

the biggest challenge he faced with the tournament. He explained it was dealing with the build (tents, trucks, media towers, etc.) out and now the clean up they were going through. He explained, “we were wrapping up some projects this spring and we had a lot of play this summer.” He told me the easiest days he’s had the past few months were actually the tournament days – they were much simpler once everything was in place and we only had to take care



of course set up. "Once the Pros were out playing, there was not much to do, just enjoy what everyone accomplished," Chad told me.

Though there is no contract in place for the 2015 BMW Championship, Chad implied it would be a little bit easier to host if it happened again. Most of the infrastructure they had to add for this year's event would already be in place, and once you've experienced something, the second time is always a little easier.

Chad expressed his thanks to all the staff at Conway, his assistant Connor, and all the volunteers and the sponsors that took care of the hospitality during the week. He was humbled by their willingness to step in and lend a hand throughout the whole event.

Chad Ball, CGCS Life Experience:

- Superintendent Meadowbrook Golf Club (Racine, WI), 8 Years
- Superintendent North Hills Country Club, (Menomonee Falls, WI) 5 Years
- Superintendent Conway Farms, 19 Years
- Certified with GCSAA Since 1987
- Michigan State Graduate 1982

Chad's mentors are other supers that he's worked with, Wayne Otto, CGCS, Ed Fischer, CGCS, Skip Wilms, Tim Davis and Wally Fuchs. One piece of advice to those starting out in the business: "Work hard, work smart and don't worry about the money, with success the money will follow."

Chad is a founding member of the Wee One Foundation, when asked what that meant to him, he explained, "it is great to be a part of something and it is very gratifying to be a part of, to be able to help others in need. It is something





that Wayne (Otto) would be so proud of, he was so passionate about this business and the people in it, it is a great extension of those principles.”

I was also able to catch up with Connor Healy, Assistant Superintendent of Conway Farms.

What did you think the moment that you realized Conway Farms might be hosting the BMW Championship?

“I remember thinking that it would be really interesting to see how the golf course would hold up against the top 70 golfers in the world. I was interested in how they would play a few of our golf holes, we’ve reworked some of the holes and I thought it would make a good venue for an event.”

Conway Farms is an old-fashioned golfing membership club. They take pride in having no tee times, they believe in walking, and playing quickly, and enjoying the fellowship of golf and all its traditions. The course opened for play in 1991, a Tom Fazio links style design on 209 acres of land that was purchased in 1956 with the intent of building a first rank golf club along Conway Road.

From Connor’s perspective the event went really well. He knew there would be a learning curve associated with all the

parties involved with the event, the Western Golf Association, PGA, BMW and of course, Conway Farms. He was happy to be a part of it from the start.


We talked a little about the rain on Sunday, the only hiccup in the event. Connor was very grateful for all the volunteer support that day, at one point he wished he had a few more squeegees for all the available hands, but at the end of the day it wouldn’t have made a difference. “Sunday was an awful day to work outside, but all the volunteers did everything and beyond to keep the course as playable for as long as possible. All of them worked 13 to 14 hour shifts without a break and that says a lot. The Tour wanted to keep trying to get as much of the golf in as possible and we did everything to accommodate them.” Connor was very appreciative of the efforts of the staff and all the volunteers.

There’s so much that goes into a scheduled event, it makes sense to try and complete it if it is possible.

For Connor it was a good experience, “it took a lot of work, but it was good opportunity to try something new at Conway.” Connor has been Chad’s Assistant for ten years and hosting the BMW created some new challenges and offered new opportunities that normally Connor would not have been privy to. “I’ve been here a long time and I was able to get involved in a few aspects at the club that normally not involved with.” Connor told me, “I really liked tournament preparation, it is very exciting to be a part of.”

Connor Healy: Life Experience

- Assistant Superintendent Conway Farms last ten years,
- Assistant Superintendent at Olympia Fields Country Club for two years (US Open)
- Experience at BelAir Country Club and Old Elm Club

Connor received his undergraduate horticulture degree from U of I and his MBA from DePaul. He lives in Chicago with his wife Jill and their two children Kaelyn (3) and Emmett (2). 



I followed Furyk on Thursday for nine holes, he hit the ball well, but who knew the day to follow him would be Friday when he carded his historic 59.



Chad didn't assign (Above L) Tim Davis and Ed Fischer, CGCS morning tasks – he was just happy they could find their way back to the turf care center each day. (Above R) Scott Vincent hones his supervisory skillset with Troy Tietjens in the foreground.



(Left) Dan Marco, CGCS caught mowing the fairway with a death grip on his machine, and Randy Lusher practicing the Scott Vincent management philosophy. (R) Dave Radaj, CGCS celebrates a missed putt while waiting for the PGA Tour officials to help him pick hole locations.



(Above L) Jeff Frenz, CGCS, enough said. (Above R) Darrick Robbins set pins on the other nine and guarded the flagsticks from anyone who might be thinking about touching them. (Below L) Dr. Nangle posting something while Paul Bastron, CGCS explains the finer art of volunteerism. (Below R) another wanting to stay anonymous superintendent volunteer with a death grip on a triplex...leaning to keeping it straight.



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Dates to Remember

October 17 - Class C Golf Outing - Cog Hill Golf Club - (Class C Members Only)

October 18 – Deadline for applications for the GCSAA/Golf Digest Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards.

October 31 – Deadline for nominations for the International Golf Course Equipment Managers Association's (IGCEMA's) 2013 Edwin Budding Award presented by Jacobsen/Ransomes.

November 14 – 61st Annual Midwest Turf Clinic at Medinah Country Club in Medinah, IL, Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS, MG, Ryan Cummins, Jacob Mendoza, Jim Wallace, and Dane Wilson hosts.

November 30 – Nomination period ends for the 2013 TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta.

December 3-6 – 2013 Golfdom Summit in Orlando, FL.

December 9-12 – Syngenta Business Institute at the Graylyn International Conference Center on the campus of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC.

It looks as if the trend to make just about anything into a golf cart continues. First we had Bubba Watson with his hovercraft, blowing every last grain of sand and seed from every divot on the course. Now we have the GolfBoard, an electric-powered longboard allowing golfers to travel across the course at the same speed of a golf cart and experience the terrain like a surfboard.

There's a removable stand-up handlebar/bag holder for the inexperienced rider that also has a drink holder—a key feature for any golfer-surfer-drinker, but apparently not a part of the marketing strategy.



Congratulations to **Ryan Dunbar**, assistant superintendent at Jackson Park and South Shore Golf Courses, and **Ryder Underwood**, assistant at Whisper Creek Golf Club who were both selected to attend the John Deere/Bayer Green Start Academy this month at the Bayer Development and Training Center in Clayton, NC and the John Deere turfcare factory in Fuquay-Varina, NC.



Ryder Underwood and Ryan Dunbar on their way to John Deere / Bayer Green Start Academy this fall.

Some encouraging news about our industry was reported on CNN recently. The \$67 million in prize money that was made available through the FedEx Cup playoffs “reflects how the industry is battling back from recession...and contributing more than you might think to help boost what is still a fragile U.S. economy,” the network said. World Golf Foundation Chief Executive Steve Mona was quoted in the story, saying “The golf industry is larger than the spectator sports and performing arts industries combined,...employing close to two million Americans with a

combined income of \$55.6 billion.” The total economic impact of golf on the U.S. in 2011 was estimated at \$176.8 billion, according to WGF’s Golf 20/20 report. And I would have guessed that George Clooney alone was larger than the golf industry.

Congrats to another MAGCS member who notched a hole-in-one this season. Sevens were definitely lucky when **Dave Braasch** of Glen Erin Golf Club in Janesville, WI hit 7-iron on the 7th hole from 158 yards out to a back right pin location that he didn’t know was jarred until he got to the green. Meaning he obviously had help from a gopher or wolverine or badger or whatever animal they have up there that does that type of thing.



Any other guy and you’d say this was trick photography, but THIS guy is special!

Just wondering: Am I the only one who spends a stupid amount of time trying to bend those little wire flags back straight? I mean, they cost like a penny and I find myself wasting a buck’s worth of time trying to straighten them out. Which, by the way is impossible. Anyhoo...

Our condolences to the family and friends of Bertha Staudt, who passed away on September 13th at 97 years of age. Bertha was the widow of **Albie Staudt**, the longtime superintendent at Geneva Golf Club, and a very active MAGCS member for many many years.

If sprinklers could talk: “Mmmmmm. Frog legs. They taste like chicken.” If frogs could talk: “Really? Are you kidding me? This guy better water tonight.”



PHOTO: BRIAN MORES

Great job by **Chad Ball, Connor Healy** and the crew and volunteers at Conway Farms Golf Club on a fantastic golf course for last month’s BMW Championship! The place shined, and provided some truly great and memorable moments (none as memorable as Jim Furyk’s 59). And didn’t Chad look like an old pro during his interview with the Golf Channel folks? Awesome work everybody!

Q: What are the protective covers on the mowers called at **Owen Benson’s** course?
A: Bonnie Brook shields.

What a crazy story from Chick Evans Golf Course last month, huh? Forty-five carts were destroyed by a fire that investigators determined to be “most likely intentional.” The estimated loss was set at \$135,000. Thankfully, the course is up and running, having pulled some carts from several other facilities to augment the two dozen that were spared.

In another bizarre story that could in no way be local, a golfer from New York is suing a golf course after a crocodile bit off two of his fingers. The course is in Cancun, Mexico where apparently they imported crocodiles as a marketing attraction. It happened something like this: Guy hooks his ball in the gunch. Guy goes into the gunch—even though there’s caution tape advising him to keep out. Guy claims caution tape means “Ground Under Repair” in America (interpreted as: guy is an idiot). Guy gets bit and loses two fingers. Guy sues for \$2.25 million. And he’ll probably get it.

A great story came across my desk thanks to **Mike Bavier** via **John Turner**. Per Mike’s request, John sent him copies of some very special telegrams (look it up youngsters) that were sent to John’s grandmother between February and April, 1945. John’s dad William E. Turner was a bombardier on a B24 Liberator in World War II when his plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire forcing him and the crew to bail out. The first telegram informed John’s grandmother that her son had been reported as missing in action. He was captured by German forces in February, and liberated in April—the second telegram told of his being a prisoner of war. The third brought the news that



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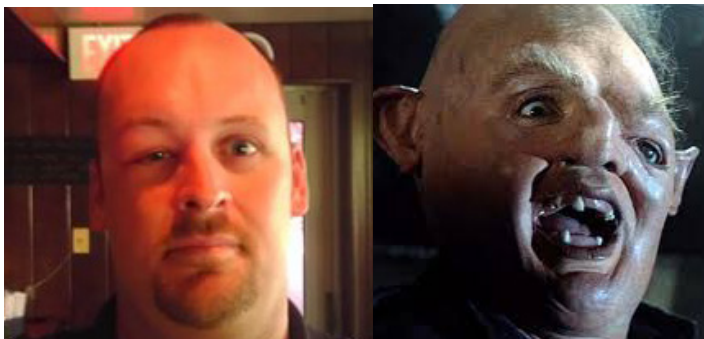
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he was being returned “to military control,” and the fourth told of Mr. Turner’s return to the United States. He was 23 years old at the time—an old-timer compared to the rest of the crew who averaged 21 years of age. Imagine what was going on in your life when you were that age! After he returned to the States, William married his sweetheart in July of 1945, had two children and two grandchildren, and he lived to be 88 years old. John’s mother is living in Fort Wayne, IN, and just turned 88 herself. John still has all his dad’s medals, as well as his metal-covered bible in which he kept a journal of his days in captivity. AND he had the opportunity to go up in a replica B24, during which he sat in the bombardier’s seat to relive what his dad saw from the air and to try and understand what went through his young father’s mind when the plane was hit and the call to abandon ship was heard. Thanks for sharing, JT and Mike.



Not cool. Really. Not cool.

MIDWEST Doppelgänger



Thanks to Chuck Barber and a really pissed off wasp, we now know who played Sloth in the movie “The Goonies.”

The 10th Annual Wee One Foundation Golf Outing—which was well-publicized in John Walsh’s article in the August issue of Golfdom magazine—was held on September 16th at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, WI. Always a must-go for any number of reasons—the venue with its perfect conditions and vexing greens, the cause with proceeds going to help families in our industry cope with medical issues, the fun of getting together with friends old and new, or just to have two or three shots at passing the taco and brat stands. We enjoyed a beautiful crisp day on the as-usual pristine golf course. May thanks to the volunteers and sponsors who help to make the day possible, and to Rod Johnson and his crew for the great golf course. Also thanks to Bob Lively for catching three dyed-in-the-wool Bears fans in a moment of weakness. Or is it a moment of



lunacy?

More MAGCS members have been spotted in the pages of the various industry magazines and e-publications. **Jeff Donahoe** of Sycamore Golf Club was a contributor to GCM’s September issue in the Photo Quiz section where readers are challenged to “Identify The Problem.” Jeff’s was unique—a perfect pile of corn stalks in the middle of the course was identified as having been left behind by floodwater, which is a near-constant issue on Jeff’s course. September’s Chicago District Golfer magazine had a feature article on golf course architect **Greg Martin** titled “There’s No Place Like Home,” describing the abundance of work Greg is undertaking locally. In that same issue, guest writer Jeff Rude wrote of a memorable experience he had revolving around the Evans Scholarship program. Rude, himself an Evans Scholar, was at the 1974 Western Open at Butler National Golf Club when he saw Tom Watson win his first of 39 PGA Tour victories. In the victory ceremony, Mr. Watson told the crowd that his local caddie for the week, **Bobby Maibusch**, was applying for the Evans Scholarship and had asked if Watson would write a letter of recommendation. Watson then said he’d do one better, and then turned to Chick Evans—the program’s founder—who was seated nearby and advised that Maibusch should receive the scholarship. The same Bobby Maibusch received that scholarship, attended Michigan State University, and is to this day at Hinsdale Golf Club. Cool story that I didn’t know about.

The 2013 Edwin Budding Award presented by Jacobsen/Ransomes recognizes innovators, technicians, educators, engineers, etc. that have gone above and beyond their normal day to day jobs and made a significant impact in the golf and turf business. October 31st is the deadline to submit an application—if your technician fits the above description, nominate him! Go to www.igcema.org to submit an application. Previous winners include Wes Danielewicz of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County in 2011.

Arthur Clesen, Inc has moved from their Wheeling location to their new warehouse in Lincolnshire at 635 Margate Drive. ACI is planning an open house on November 1 to show off the new crib.

Continued on page 18

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Molybdenum, Boron Magnesium.




GCSAA has launched a new mobile app for iPhone and Android users. Developed with input from member surveys and feedback from GCSAA committees, the app is designed to help members stay connected with GCSAA. Go to www.gcsaa.org to download the app.

Rounds 4 Research completed a successful year with the conclusion of its August auction that raised an additional \$39,000 for turfgrass research. Cumulatively this year's auctions of golf at members' courses raised just under \$150,000 for the important cause. Stay tuned for plans for 2014 Rounds 4 Research auctions, and feel free to donate a foursome!

GCSAA is proud to announce that it has awarded twenty college scholarships as part of its Legacy Awards Program. Among those twenty winners was Taylor Behrman, the daughter of **Dave Behrman, CGCS** and a student at the University of Minnesota. Congratulations Taylor!

The MAGCS Annual Golf Championship and monthly meeting was held on Monday, August 26th at the hot and steamy Crystal Lake Country Club, with **Steve VanAcker** serving as our host. Did I mention the day was hot and steamy?



Before hitting the course to contest the championship, **Todd Quitno** of the American Society of Golf Course Architects gave a presentation on "What's Trending Now?" in regard to golf course design. After that it was time for lunch and then golf. The hot and steamy (am I being repetitive?) course was in tremendous condition, leading to some excellent scores among the few elite golfers in our brethren. After it was all played out, a hot and steamy **Al Pondel** was the champion, and a well-deserving one at that. Many thanks to Steve and the folks at Crystal Lake, to the people who volunteered their time for registration and all the other many duties necessary to carry off a successful event, and to our sponsors, who were: **Arthur Clesen, Inc., BASF, Burris Equipment Company, J.W. Turf, Inc., Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Reinders, and Syngenta.** 



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MAGCS August Meeting Crystal Lake Country Club

MAGCS Championship Results
 Champion: Al Pondel, CGCS
 Class A Gross: Don Altman, CGCS
 Class A Net: Don Altman, CGCS
 Senior A Gross: Al Pondel, CGCS
 Senior A Net: Don Altman, CGCS
 Super Senior Gross: Ed Fischer, CGCS
 Super Senior Net: Rober Kronn, Sr.
 Class E Gross: Bruce Schweiger
 Class E Net: Bob Lohmann
 Senior Class E Gross: Bruce Schweiger
 Senior Class E Net: Chris Smith

Congratulations to all winners! Thanks to Steve and everyone at Crystal Lake CC for a great day, and to the day's sponsors who made it all possible: Arthur Clesen, Inc., BASF, Burris Equipment Company, J.W. Turf, Inc., Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc., Reinders, and Syngenta.



Conducting an Energy Audit

Luke Cella, MAGCS

Not many of us can pass through a day without hearing phrases such as “climate change, energy independence, alternative fuels, carbon footprint, and sustainability.” It is easy to become deaf to these concepts and even more detrimental, to become blind to the environments that we live in each day.

The term energy audit is nothing new; it arose from the energy crisis of 1973 and subsequent years. Energy audits have gained new interest since our increase in our understanding of climate change and global warming – and as the price of energy keeps going up.

An energy audit is an inspection, survey and analysis of energy flows for energy conservation a building, process or system to reduce the amount of energy input into the system without negatively affecting the output(s).



Motion activated light switches are an easy way to conserve electricity. Plus they come in handy when your hands are full.

There are many great resources available through the U.S. Department of Energy, especially for homes and it is not too large of a stretch to adapt that information to commercial structures. The largest motivating factor the DoE uses to urge people to create an energy efficient home making it comfortable while saving money. Pushes to increase insulation, repair or replace leaky windows, recycle old and outdated appliances

and use high efficiency heating and cooling systems are the mantra of the of programs described by the DoE. Of course, they urge us to look at each system and make sure each component is operating at the highest level of efficiency (i.e. a high efficiency furnace will not have the impact if air ducts in your attic are leaking and or not well insulated).

Like any audit, a professional company can be hired to come in and inspect where energy is being lost throughout an operation. However, there a few simple tools that you most likely already have that can get you on your way to conducting an in house audit.

As we begin to enter our “indoor months” it is a good time to prepare or plan to conduct an audit of your maintenance building or structure. The first place to start could be your office. For \$29 at any major retailer you can pick up a “Kill A Watt EZ” electricity usage monitor. It is an inexpensive power meter that allows you to accurately measure power consumption of appliances (< 15 Amps) and determine the actual cost of the power consumed. It has an option to set the price that you pay per Kilowatt-Hour (found on your bill) and it will tell you how much each appliance costs per day of use. It will even project costs on items that cycle, such as refrigerators, freezers,



Most consider conserving energy because of the cost of it, however some superintendents are taking the lead at their facilities because it is the right thing to do.

compressors, etc. Even when you think an item is completely off – it will show an energy draw if there is any present (many TVs and other electronics will use power even when they are powered off).

Take a measure through your office and shop and see what things are using power throughout the day (and night) and see what items can be switched off or unplugged altogether. Does your irrigation computer need to be on all winter long? How about handheld radios - do all of them need to be charging throughout the off-season? How about power tools with rechargeable batteries – how often do we leave the spare battery plugged in? Does the air compressor in your shop cycle at night? Why?

Are you still using a Cathode Ray Tube monitor (CRT)? Consider switching to an LED or LCD monitor. Set your monitor to sleep or turn off when not in use. If able, turn off your computer and monitor at the end of the work-day. Next time you go to replace your desktop computer, consider switching to a notebook computer with a docking station.



Chances are your equipment technician already has an infrared thermometer.

Lighting usually accounts for 10% of our energy bills. Most have switched to energy efficient bulbs of some type, either LEDs or CFLs. Consider installing motion activated light switches with timers or occupancy sensors in areas where the lights tend to stay on when not needed (interior rooms such as rest rooms, storage areas, break rooms and locker areas). At the very least make sure your night-lights are energy efficient and don't forget to look at exit lights that stay lit all the time. How about your work area, can you install or use task lighting instead of lighting up

a whole room to illuminate your work area.

Do you have a vending machine in your shop. Are the advertising lights always on? Do they need to be? Most likely not.

Most energy loss occurs through heating and cooling systems. Similar to an irrigation leak, either warmed or cooled air is lost to leaks in the system. A tool that most shops already own is an infrared thermometer that uses a laser to measure the temperature of any surface. Using one to detect leaks in your heating or cooling system is an easy way to determine energy loss. It is as simple as shooting surfaces with the thermometer to see if temperatures where a suspected leak may occur are close to the same temperature. (i.e. On a cold day in winter use the thermometer to scan the walls adjacent to windows on the interior of your building – if there isn't a large temperature

difference next to the window when compared to an interior wall, the window is leaking energy.)

Areas to check for energy loss through your heating and cooling system with this method include:

- Ductwork
- Window and door surrounds (especially overhead garage type doors)
- Roof edges and vents
- Around outlets and electrical boxes
- Any structure that penetrates an exterior wall (conduit, pipes, hose bibs, etc.)

One of the best methods to conserve energy is to use programmable thermostats. Once these are installed monitor setback temperatures to make sure they are as far from occupied




A lot of energy is lost where pipes run through exterior walls. Cans of expanding foam are a simple, inexpensive fix.

temperatures as possible. This can be done by seeing how long it takes to heat your shop in the morning from an overnight temperature of say, 50 degrees. If it takes 10 minutes to heat the shop up to a comfortable temperature, set the thermostat to turn the heat on 10 minutes before staff arrival. Simple stuff to take a look at, but often forgot about.

Other ways to combat energy loss through your heating and cooling system include:

- Insulate roofs
- Weatherstripping on doors and windows
- Insulation of HVAC ductwork.
- Water heater insulation and pipe insulation
- Periodic Maintenance – cleaning and inspections

Don't be afraid to ask for copies of your utility bills and track energy usage. Most are motivated by cost savings when conserving energy, let's set an example in industry and lead.

Note: There are many more aspects to energy conservation that can take place within the golf facility and operations. This article was one of a multi-part series to help you take a leading role at your facility in conserving energy. 



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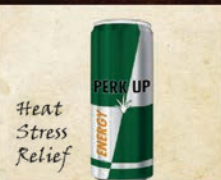
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| EDITORIAL AWARDS |

Each year the Midwest recognizes contributors to *On Course*. The following is the listing of eligible articles and their respective authors for the 2013 MAGCS Editorial Awards.

Fred Opperman Editorial Award* Eligible Articles and Authors

From Landfill to Landmark: Chicago Highlands Club	Billy Sharp
A Homegrown Bentgrass Sod Nursery	Kyle Haines
Growth in the Transition Zone	Ryan Dunbar
The Bridges of Indian Hill Club	Aaron Becker
Teaming up with Outside Contractors	Josh Therrein
MAGCS Members are Everywhere	Doug Myslinski
Finding Value in Social Media	Todd Quitno
Preventative Maintenance for your Water Supply	Tom Healy
Anticipating Acidovorax	Dr. Rick Latin

*Awarded annually to the non-superintendent member who has shown excellence in journalism in *On Course*. Commemorating the numerous contributions over the years that Fred Opperman has given to the BULL SHEET and *On Course* while serving as editor from 1983 to 1999.

Ray Gerber Editorial Award* Eligible Articles and Authors

Seasons of Change	Justin VanLanduit
The Glen Club Bunker Project	Scott Goniwiecha
United We Sand	Chuck Barber
Going Undercover	Chuck Barber
Growing Grass Way up North	Marty Baumann
The Other Side of the Fence	Chuck Barber
Golfer's Vasculitis	R. Brian Green

*Awarded annually to the superintendent member who has shown excellence in journalism in *On Course*. It commemorates the numerous contributions that Ray Gerber gave to the Association and this publication originally called the BULL SHEET and renamed *On Course* in January 1996. Ray Gerber was one of the creators of this publication in December 1947 and later served as editor from 1972 to 1983.

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Points for a Purpose

The Wee One Foundation is asking golf course superintendents nationwide to donate a portion of their Early Order Program points to the Wee One Foundation through participating turf care supply companies. All donated points will be matched as a cash donation from the participating organizations.

Donations will help ease the financial burden associated with medical expenses for golf course management professionals and their dependents.

For a complete list of participating companies, visit weeone.org

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Wee One Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. A tribute to Wayne Otto, CGCS.



Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*



What's Trending Now

The MAGCS August meeting was held at the very scenic Crystal Lake Country Club. Steve Van Acker, CGCS, and his Staff were our gracious hosts for the day. Todd Quitno, Senior Golf Course Architect with Lohmann Golf Designs was our Educational Speaker.

His topic was golf course architecture and was titled, "What's Trending Now." Todd presented a random, targeted look at the latest approaches, innovations, and goings on in the world of golf course design and construction.

By definition a TREND is an inclination in a particular direction, to run, to stretch, to tend, to follow a general course and bend and adapt.

TREND: Many golf course renovation projects have been following a particular pattern over the last ten years. Master plans have not been paying for themselves. Many Clubs and Courses have been doing more with less. Owners and players are looking for minimal disruption to play. Many renovation projects have been completed with in-house Staff.

The New Master Plan Model:

1. Focuses on management of existing assets.
2. Understands the golf course's market position.
3. Works from the bottom up, preserves what you have.
4. Maximizes the lifespan of features.
5. Develops smaller manageable projects utilizing in-house labor.

Examples of these types of projects are: green and fairway drainage, green recaptures, and bunker renovations.

TREND: Was the herbicide product failure of Imprellis good for golf? As you may recall, the product had a phytotoxic effect on certain conifer trees. Many courses lost hundreds of trees and sued for compensation. Clubs that received substantial payments had the opportunity to re-think their tree planting plans. Many Clubs are now conducting tree surveys and continuing with tree removal plans.

TREND: Many courses have had "enough" of poa annua winter kill on their greens.

1. Improvement in control of water delivery systems. Courses are re-thinking head configurations.
2. "Slit is it." XGD drainage and other minimal surface disruption slit drainage technology is being employed on golf greens.
3. "As long as we are closed." Courses are analyzing slopes on greens and green mix depths. They are re-grading as needed. Might as well re-grade the surrounds while we're at it.
4. Building "push up greens" again. They are inexpensive to build. Courses are using 6:3:1 mixes or modified USGA specifications.

Thanks to Todd Quitno and Lohmann Golf Designs for sharing these insights. [@](#)

Don't Miss the **Midwest Turf Clinic** on November 14 at Medinah Country Club. Slated speakers for the day include:

- Dr. Ed Nangle, CDGA
- Dr. Zach Reicher, University of Nebraska
- Ms. Chava McKeel, Gov't Relations Assoc. Dir. - GCSAA
- Mr. Pat Foley, Chicago Blackhawks Broadcaster
- Superintendent Panel discussing local labor issues

The Midwest is also going to be collecting *Toys for Tots* at this year's Turf Clinic. Bring an unwrapped toy or a few dollars to help make some kids happy this Christmas.



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I Wonder Why I Like this Job

Jim Pedersen, Hughes Creek Golf Club

It's a cold day in July; the low today was 50 degrees, a new record low. The spring was wet and cold also, and August promises to be drier than normal. So as I sit here in my office I have to ask myself why I like this profession. It's definitely not for the fame and fortune. Anybody who has seen me play golf knows it isn't for the "FREE GOLF."



Maybe I was born into it. My parents both worked in factories in Chicago, so I didn't get it from them. My grandfather worked outside for the Chicago Park District, but he was a painter – the kind that painted the old band shell in Grant Park every year.

So I guess I have to go further back.


There was a relative, James, who was the attorney general of Rhode Island. Let's go back further. My 8th great grandfather was a spy for General Washington during the Revolutionary War. I don't see him playing golf. I will need to go further back in my ancestry.

Let's go all the way back to the year 1619. A relative named Andrew Honeyman was born at St. Andrews University in Scotland. He was made Bishop by King Charles II and then was promoted to Archdeacon in the year 1662. So, let's see, I have a politician, a spy, a Bishop....this sounds like the makings of either a bad joke or a made for TV movie.

I have traced my ancestry all the way back to the Honeyman clan in St. Andrews, Scotland. Bishop Andrew Honeyman of the Orkneys created the crest of the coat of arms he used as the Bishop's seal. The motto on the crest: I Rogredere Ne Reqrederc (I advance do not recede).

So let's advance up the left side of the tree where I find David Honeyman working at St. Andrews Golf Club as Tom Morris' assistant in the late 1870s. David Honeyman played a role in the evolution of the three golf courses that came to comprise St. Andrews during his tenure.

David Honeyman was also involved in the construction of the Jubilee Course in 1897 and is widely credited with suggesting in 1902 that it would be possible to extend the course from the original 12 to 18 holes.

I now know that David Honeyman and I can trace our ancestry back to St. Andrews University in Fifeshire, Scotland. "We all belong to Fife," has long been a phrase used by the Honeyman clan. Being a golf course superintendent is more than likely in my DNA. 

Works Cited:

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The Spy and General Washington by William Wise. Library of Congress catalog #65-12187.

Have you heard of David Honeyman?, Golfdom July 2013 By Matt Neff, Assistant Superintendent.



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