



CHICAGOLAND ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

August 2007

Verdure Newsletter

Dan Dinelli, CGCS
Dan Charlton
Jon Jennings, CGCS
Dan Marco, CGCS
Brian Bossert, CGCS
Tommy Witt, CGCS
Rick Bowden

President
Vice President Forum
Secretary / Verdure
Director / Treasurer
Director / Education
Director / Arrangements
President Emeritus

Upcoming Events

Chicagoland Meetings:

August 22 – Midwest Golf House	Host – Derek Settle, S.K. Lee
September – Lakeshore Country Club	Host – Jeff Frenz, CGCS
October – Founders Cup	
November 14 – Naperville Country Club, Annual Forum	Host – Tim Anderson, CGCS
December – Holiday Dinner	
January – Shop Tour	
February – No scheduled meeting, (GCSAA Golf Industry Show)	

Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents Monthly Meeting August 22, 2007

Host: Derek Settle - CDGA Golf House

The next meeting of the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held on August 22nd, 2007 at the CDGA Golf House.

Education: Derek Settle will host us on a tour of various on-site research plots.

Time: The meeting will begin at 4:30 PM and pizza and beverages will follow.

Please RSVP to Derek at 630-685-2307 or e-mail him at dsettle@cdga.org by Monday August 20th to confirm your attendance.

Directions : **From the North:** I-294 (Tri-State Tollway) South to I-55 (Stevenson Expressway) Go South on I-55 to Route 83 (Kingery Highway) Head South on Rte. 83 which turns into Rte. 171 or Archer Ave. (Don't make any turns!) Stay to the right. The Golf House will be on the left side directly across the street from the Cog Hill Driving Range.

From the South: I-294 (Tri-State Tollway) North to Interstate 80. Go (WEST) on I 80 to Rte. 45 (LaGrange Rd., 96th Ave.) Go (NORTH) on Rte. 45 (LaGrange Rd.) to 159th Street Turn left on 159th go (WEST) to Bell Road. Turn right (NORTH) on Bell to McCarthy Rd. Turn left (WEST) on McCarthy Rd to Rte. 171 (Archer Ave). Turn right (NORTH) on Rte. 171. The Golf House is ½ mile down on right side directly across the street from the Cog Hill Driving Range.

From the West/North-West: I-355 to I-55 (Stevenson Expressway) Go North on I-55 To Rte. 83 (Kingery Highway) Head South on Rte. 83 which turns into Rte. 171 or Archer Ave. (Don't make any turns!) Stay to the right. The Golf House will be on the left side directly across the street from the Cog Hill Driving Range.

From the East/North East (Chicago): I-90/94 (Dan Ryan Expressway) South to I-55 (Stevenson Expressway) Go South on I-55 to Rte. 83 (Kingery Highway) Head South on Rte. 83 which turns into Rte. 171 or Archer Ave. (Don't make any turns!) Stay to the right. The Golf House will be on the left side directly across the street from the Cog Hill Driving Range.

CAGCS monthly meeting Tuesday July 31, 2007, Ball Horticultural Company

The Ball Horticultural Company was kind enough to host our group for the July meeting on the 31st. Following a rather nice June and July, the end of the month became steamy and more typical of Chicago weather for this time of year.



Jeff Gibson of Ball Horticultural, (pictured left), and Jim Kennedy gave our group a tour of the gardens. We reviewed new varieties of plants to be released next year as well as proven performers. Each planting was labeled noting what plants were growing in that area. Jeff and Jim reviewed special facts and characteristics of particular plants as well as addressed any questions that were brought forward by our group. Ball Horticultural has very informative and very well managed demonstration gardens which left all of us with terrific ideas for the upcoming season in regard to color combinations as well as plant selection. This was a very helpful meeting for anyone who designs and manages ornamental gardens.



Following the tour of Ball Horticultural, our group traveled to Prairie Landing Golf Club where host, Golf Course Superintendent Tony Kalina, CGCS treated us with some terrific hospitality for dinner. Given the extreme weather, turnout for our July meeting was on the light side. We had a group discussion and is typical when superintendents gather, we lamented about the weather and the other issues that are a challenge during the summer months.



News Around Town:

A few of our members have emailed updates on their lives and bring us up to speed with some changes as well:

Alan Perkinson of Broken Arrow Golf Club in Lockport writes:

"I apologize for the stale approach, but I wanted to let you all know that I am moving on from Broken Arrow Golf Club after over even and a half years. I'm sending this today because it's official since my last hours are dwindling on the last day. The departure is on good terms with staff and ownership. Simply, it was time to move on so I will be working for The Brickman Group beginning August 13. It is clear to me that God opened this door for a reason, so I'll be walking through. If interested, find out more at www.brickmangroup.com. It's wild to think that I won't be in the golf course industry, but life changes and who knows if it will turn back this direction someday. I thank everyone for all you have done, big or small, in my time at BAGC, Glen View, U of I, and I look forward to having a bit more time to catch up. My personal email is gaperk@sbcglobal.net, and I'd really enjoy hearing from as many as possible. To all my superintendent friends, I hope I can still come by and play the round at your course that I've neglected over the past 10+ years! By the way, my family and I will continue to live in Lockport, and we are all doing exceptionally well. Thanks to all again and please stay in touch"

Our friend Bruce Williams, CGCS, Golf Course Superintendent at Los Angeles Country Club tells us about his professional plans for the next few years:

“Now that I am almost an empty nester.....I have plenty of time to get around. Aside from what we have going on at the golf course.....I have a few extra side trips planned that I just shared with our GM so I thought I would pass them along to you.

Finishing my second term as President of Cal GCSA and will likely fade away from any GCSAA leadership roles. Still plan to be active as VP of the Musser Foundation and work to grow the Williams Leadership Endowment. Still working with John’s Golf Course in Montana for Special Olympics.....and plan to step up that commitment. Working on the search for a professor to replace Vic Gibbeault at U of Cal, Riverside and serve on the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee for Agriculture. Currently sitting on the Board of the California Alliance for Golf. Executive Golf Search is as busy as we have ever been! Grigg Bros. looks to have another record setting year for sales.

Got my new golf clubs a month or so ago and am playing a bit more now. Happy to say that my whopping drives can actually make it over 200 yds. with the new technology. Tommy felt sorry for me and sent me a new metal wood to replace the original Big Bertha’s that I bought used from a Past President at BOL about 20 yrs. ago! Thanks Tommy but now I have the Big Bad Cobras. Life is good and many projects are in the planning stages. In the next few months we will find out about plans that include:

New irrigation system, Master Plan implementation for North & South Courses as well as driving range (rebuild some greens and re-surface them all...bunkers to be rebuilt. add tees, etc.) ,Sod 80 acres of fairways to hybrid bermudagrass, Remove about 1000 trees, New Maintenance building, All of this would be done over about a 3-4 yr. period. After that I may be looking for a rocking chair!

Hope all is well with all of you,

Bruce”

Speaking of Tommy Witt, he has been busy with his new grow in and like the rest of us, has been battling the elements Mother Nature has been handing out over the last four weeks. However, who knew that Tommy was modeling traditional golf wear for GCSAA?



Photo courtesy of Bob Maibusch and all his free time now that he manages bentgrass greens.

Hot / Wet Enough for You?:

What felt like a rather mild summer for the most part during June and July certainly has become more active from the end of July until now. Heavy frequent rain, high humidity and lots of heat have made turf managers throughout the region be on high alert for disease pressure and make sure that they themselves were not damaging sensitive areas with mechanical damage. D. Derek Settle and S.K. Lee of the CDGA have been diligent about getting timely pest alert reports to us providing thought provoking information.

The wet weather continues this week with a low pressure system that has settled over the Chicago area for the last three days. The storms keep popping up and travel eastward delivering more moisture to already water soaked soil. There have been flood alerts in place and dollar spot has been working overtime in regard to activity.

Earlier this month, most of the heavy rain was west and north. Here are a couple reports based upon those storms of August.

2.02" on Sunday morning closed all day. open monday with carts at noon which is our normal opening time for monday. 2.26" last night and this morning. the river came over and we have 5 holes 50% under water. Tomorrow is my one day member-guest 27 holes? we are working to put bunkers back together and hoping the floods go down by 4 or 5 this afternoon. I have kept sprayed up pretty well so have not seen any sign of the big P or much of anything else. I think we are cooking a little turf spinach this afternoon.



Heavy rains fell early Sunday and early Tuesday am, flooding the course with over 4 1/4" of rain. The overwhelmed drainage system, shown here to the right of 11 green, is being assisted via water pumps.

Many of the high flashed bunkers experienced washouts. The special erosion control fabric installed during our bunker renovation worked well. The fabric limited the amount of washouts and prevented topsoil from washing into our sand. Ultimately, this will help our sand function for many years. It will take some drying time and several days to address the sand for consistent playing conditions. A close look reveals standing water in the cup, indicating waterlogged soils in our putting greens. Soils this wet compromises playing conditions as well as plant health. Roots die and disease flourish under these conditions.

2007 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS GOLF TURF FIELD DAY

Please plan to visit the University of Illinois Landscape Horticulture Center on September 12 for the **2007 University of Illinois Golf Turf Field Day**. Attached is a registration form with information about the day!

The **2007 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS GOLF TURF FIELD DAY** is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at the Landscape Horticulture Research Center on South Lincoln Avenue in Urbana. This event is planned to provide current information and education pertinent to all golf turf personnel. Join University of Illinois and Chicago District Golf Association turf staff for this once-a-year event!

RESEARCH PRESENTED

- *Foliar Nitrogen Nutrition of Bentgrass*
- *Putting Green Speed and PGRs – What’s the Story?*
- *Cumyluron - Stealthy Postemergence Poa annua Control*
- *Growth Regulation of Kentucky Bluegrass Fairways*
- *Selective Growth Regulation of Bentgrass and Poa annua*
- *Quality and Disease Suppression on Bentgrass Greens by Frequent Granular Fertilizer Applications*
- *Fungicide Application Strategies to Control Dollar Spot on Bentgrass Fairways*
- *Newer Methods to Control Moss on Greens*
- *Use of Mesotrione for Weed Control in Seedling Turf*
- *Lysine - A New Natural Fertilizer for Putting Greens*
- *Bentgrass Rooting and Transplanting*
- *Bentgrass Cultivars for Fairways and Putting Greens*
- *Blue Grama for Playable Un-Mowed Roughs*
- *Identification and Control of Bunker-Inhabiting Wasps*
- *Dollar Spot Susceptibility of bentgrass varieties (NTEP fairway/tee trial) in Chicago during 2007*
- *Fungicide Strategies to Suppress Fairy Ring on Putting Greens*
- *Fineleaf Fescue Trial for Low Maintenance Sites*

FIELD DAY SCHEDULE

9:15 - 9:45 AM.....Registration, coffee, donuts
9:45 - 10:00 AM.....Introduction, opening remarks
10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON.....Tour research plots
12:00 NOON - 1:00 PM.....Lunch

FIELD DAY QUESTIONS? TELEPHONE CAROL AT (217) 333-7738

DIRECTIONS TO FIELD DAY SITE

FIELD DAY REGISTRATION

Advance registration - **\$30.00** per person and **INCLUDES LUNCH**.

Make checks payable to the **UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**.

Completed registration form and payment must be received in Urbana by **September 6, 2007**. **Activities are scheduled regardless of weather. No refunds will be issued.**

Mail completed registration form and payment to: University of Illinois

Attn: Carol Preston

S-406 Turner Hall

1102 S. Goodwin Ave.

Urbana, IL 61801

On-Site Field Day Registration on September 12 is **\$40.00** per person and **INCLUDES LUNCH, IF AVAILABLE**.

Host a CAGCS Meeting

Planning for the 2007 season is well under way and we are looking for venues to host monthly meetings. We have been fortunate to be provided with some fantastic venues to hold our meetings the last couple of years. It does not take a lot of effort to host a meeting and is very rewarding. Please consider hosting a monthly meeting at your facility. The meetings consist of cocktails, dinner and valuable roundtable discussions. If you are interested in hosting a meeting or would like to obtain further information, please contact Tommy Witt, CGCS either by telephone, (847) 926-5540 or via email tommywitt@hotmail.com .

Web Site

The Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents has a new web site. Launched March 14, 2006, the web site is in its preliminary stage of introduction and growth. You will be able to check upcoming monthly meeting venues and see all the new information for the Association. Please visit www.cagcs.org. If you would like to add something to the web site or have a suggestion, please email Jon Jennings chicagogolfclub@aol.com The web site was created to assist members obtain useful information.

e-Verdure

If you would like to contribute to the Verdure or have some information you feel others would gain benefit, please contact Jon Jennings, chicagogolfclub@aol.com .The Verdure is another great way to disseminate information to our membership. By sending it electronically, the information is very current. The deadline for submitting information for the upcoming issue is the second Monday of each month.

Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents Shirts

The new edition CAGCS golf shirts are in and available now. Be sure to pick up at least one of these handsome short-sleeved shirts pictured below. The CAGCS logo is embroidered on the left chest. The price of these good-looking shirts is \$45.00. You have the option of being billed for the shirt(s) or paying upon receipt. They are available in red, black, blue, yellow and white. You may obtain one at a monthly meeting or contact Dan Charlton. These high quality shirts by Peter Miller as pictured below are available in all sizes and an array of colors. Stock up for your spring golf trip!!

