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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Dateline: July 14**

Earlier this year a letter was mailed out to all voting members concerning our Association By-Laws. This letter was very well composed by our By-Law chairman Mr. Don Gerber. It invited each and every voting member to take part in re-evaluating our present By-Laws. It further stipulated step by step the actions that would follow any response from the membership.

One important sentence from Don's letter was, Quote: "The reason that we are undertaking a study of our By-Laws at this time is to allow sufficient time for thought and discussion and to provide an opportunity for all opinions to be considered." Unquote.

To date the response to Don's letter has been practically nil. Therefore we can only deduct that, 1. Everything about our By-Laws is O.K. 2. We are all too busy. 3. Let somebody else do it. 4. There's plenty of time.

As for the first, everything can't be O.K. because we hear complaints at almost every meeting. Complaints that can be solved only by By-Law revision. Secondly, we are all busy, but let's face it, we can't be that busy. Third, if we let somebody else do it then we must accept the results and not complain because we were not given the opportunity to have our say. Fourth, it is later than you think. To do a good job of evaluating all the suggestions submitted the By-Laws committee needs all the time it can get to prepare the information.

It has been asked that anyone with some ideas for By-Laws improvement please submit **in writing** his opinions. This is important because conversation over a friendly libation is not always efficacious and may soon be forgotten. It's everyone's duty and privilege to do this in order that we may fuction for the betterment of all our members. Don Gerber is waiting. So let's hear from you today. O.K.?

John Ebel, President

THE LATE MOLE

Al Hintz of White Pines Country Club has now taken up golf. After over 30 years of taking care of the courses at White Pines and Mohawk, Al now plays almost every day, at least nine holes. He commented "when you play, you seem to get into many places you never see when you are going around, now I see bad spots and get the men out to straighten them up right now." He had another comment to report about his game, "Seems my wife just doesn't want to be a golf widow." Watch it Al, women play golf too.

Howard Baerwald of La Grange Country Club has a series of water holes wandering through the course, some of them quite large and they always have water in them. So now Howard has run a pipe into the center of one little lake, capped it with a nozzle and has the La Grange Country Club version of the Buckingham Fountain. Howard's wife has given up her job with the telephone company and has now become a housekeeper. Last report was that she was loving it.

Charlie Wagoner, an employee on the grounds of the York Golf Club under Joe Simononi, a non-member, got hit on the side of the nose just under the eye early in July. The blow felled him. However Charlie says the worst part came when the doctor was setting the nose back in place. Since then, it hasn't bothered him.

The Mastroleos, the whole gang, Frank and his wife, Dave and Donna and the two kids came back home to Geneva early in July. They each had a different reason for making the trip. Frank and Mrs. Mastroleo because Frank's sister said she wanted to see them. Dave and Donna because they said Frank and Mrs. Mastroleo were homesick and wanted to see their many Illinois friends again, but they all were happy to be here, enjoyed every minute of their stay and had a leisurely return trip to Culver City, taking all of four days. Remember when they used to make it in three? They all like California. Dave loves his job at Fox Hills, and the kids are fine and healthy.

Plagued with everything a man can be bothered with gettin ready and during a National Tournament, Ted Woehrle did the district proud at Beverly last week in July, for the Western.

Some 8 inches of rain before the tourney started put several fairways under water. Extreme humidity and boiling heat during the meeting took the toll of grass and men, but through it all the spectators seemed to be completely unaware of the care and worry that prevailed at the barn. Even the extended play-off on Monday found fairways and greens beautiful and the exciting finish made the surroundings seem more beautiful.

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LAST MONTH'S MEETING

The July Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the McHenry Country Club on Monday, July the 8th. Fifty-five golfers participated in one of this year's finest golf outings. Host Superintendent Harold Michels was the winner of the low gross award again. This is the second time this year. He had a respectable 73. The two best putters of the day tied with 26 putts for the eighteen holes. These were Bob Williams and Joe Dinelli.



Other winners for the day were: Rodney Voykin, Joe Dinelli, Mike Pollaci, Bill Sielli, Adolph Bertucci, West Updegraph, Paul Voykin, Ray Gerber and Bob Breen. Charlie Rack, Norm Barnes and Jock McIntosh also won prizes.

After a delicious dinner (and a few announcements) it was decided to dispense with the monthly business meeting. President John Ebel introduced the Educational Co-Chairman who in turn introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Dr. Harry Gunn. Dr. Gunn is a professional psychologist. His topic for the evening was a discussion of problems in our profession concerning relationships with the members of our respective clubs. He gave some tips on handling situations that might develop between us and the members of our clubs.

Here are some of the points that were made by Dr. Gunn:

- Faulty communications can be blamed for most of the problems that exist.
- Members generally look for excuses for not scoring. The course usually receives the blame for errors that he made.
- Keep out of minority struggles.
- If you have a griper in your club, listen to him - let him talk as long as he wishes. Usually he will make himself more vulnerable and eventually he will hang himself.
- Let a griper talk, it makes him feel more important.
- Tolerate without getting in the way.
- People usually rally around the person that is being picked on.
- Keep members informed. Publicize your program.

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- Gripers usually discredit themselves.
- When Clubs are compared they are usually compared unfavorably.

### LOCAL NEWS

It was good to see Al Purvey, long time Superintendent of McHenry Country Club, present in the group. Ira Jury from Rockford was also present after a long absence.

Harold Michels introduced the Club President, Mr. Harold Miller, and his Chairman of Grounds Committee, Mr. Frank Roark. They both welcomed us with kind words. Mr. Roark made fun of John's beard.

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