

TED WOHRLE, Editor,
8700 So. Western Avenue
Chicago 20, Illinois

OFFICERS

President - Warren Bidwell
1st Vice-President - E. F. "Al" Johnson
2nd Vice-President - Wm. H. Stupple
Secretary & Treasurer - Roy W. Nelson

DIRECTORS

Adolph Bertucci
Anthony Meyer
Walter Fuchs
Dudley Smith
Kenneth Lapp
John Ebel

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every new President coming into office brings with him his own new ray of hope for improving the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. As he moved up through the chairs during the preceding years he has, perhaps, become aware of certain short comings or has originated new ideas which he considers worthy of trial.

At the organization meeting held recently, your newly elected Officers and Board of Directors set about to distribute the work load of the various Chairmanships.

With a large and ever increasing, active membership, the Chairman of the Golf Committee has found himself devoting about eight hours toward the various activities of the Committee each meeting day of the playing season. In many cases this deprived him of the opportunity of playing with his fellow members. And, like many of the other jobs in the Association, the Chairman gets few pats on the back for his efforts but too often has to listen to complaints from those who are inconsiderate and would just as soon treat him like a hired hand. Therefore, it has become increasingly difficult to find someone to accept the job.

Our new Board member, Kenny Lapp, has kindly considered the situation and has accepted the Chairmanship of the Golf Committee. This is with the full understanding that he is to choose two assistants from the membership who not only wish to make golf interesting for the superintendent but are willing to pitch in and help make the workings of the Committee a success.

The usual amount of money for golf prizes has been allocated. However, there is one change relative to handing out prizes that should be noted. The winner of a golfing event must be present to receive his prize at the time they are handed out. This is in direct response and full acknowledgement of the many justified complaints concerning this matter.

One of the toughest jobs in the Association is that of Chairman of Arrangements. There have been times when we thought we would be holding our next meeting in a restaurant or motel. Yes, scheduling meetings have been that tight at times. In an

Association the size of the Midwest there should be no problems of this nature. When was the last time you were Host to a Monthly Meeting of the Midwest Association? If it is more than three years then you are long overdue.

Give Bill Stupple and Adolph Bertucci your support. They are the Joint Chairmen of the Arrangements Committee. There are about three clubs in the Chicago District where we have standing invitation. But don't forget, there are the usual twelve months in the year. They are working on the problem now. Surprise them by offering.

While on the subject of attending meetings sponsored by our Association at a fellow superintendent's club, I believe it important that we remind ourselves of a few important facts. That we are truly playing the role of the guest is beyond question when we play golf, have dinner and have a meeting in the club of his employer. This carries far reaching obligations on our part. As an individual we represent the club or firm who employs us. As a superintendent, we wish to enhance the profession we are proud to be a part of and to leave with the feeling that we will always be welcome to return in the future.

If we are to accept the role of being the guest in any fellow member's club, then we should be gentlemen at all times by abiding by the same rules that apply to the club membership. With few exceptions, this means that Coat and Tie should be worn in the dining room during our dinner hour. If we accept anything less from our Association members we can expect to be downgraded by those of the golfing world whose club facilities we enjoy each month.

The other difficult Chairmanship of our Association is that of Education. What may be basic education to a younger member could very well be a bit of boring information learned a long time ago by one of more mature years. Whatever the situation, never let us be dis-respectful to an invited guest speaker. We may not like what he has to say or even the way he smokes his pipe but let us respect his appearance before us. After all he has been invited by our Education Committee and they represent us, the membership.

Al Johnson and Tony Meyer have taken on the all important duty of heading up the Education Committee. They are experienced and understanding men, wise in the ways of our membership and our education needs. If you have an idea, go talk to them privately. Before stepping down as Chairman of this Committee, a suggestion came from a number of our members expressing a desire to have the question box sessions revived for the months of July and August. The feeling being that many of the fellows like to air their problems and hear others do so in open forum during these trouble months. If this should be your wish also, let it be known to Al or Tony. The important thing is this; To have a successful question box session, one that is lively, full of questions and everyone participating, the questions must come forth from the membership and be submitted in time to get consideration. Such a session can be a real Hootenanny if we will give it some thought and submit the questions and help answer those of others. Let's work at it.

While we have a large membership, we must also be aware that there are many superintendents on golf courses in the Chicago District who are not mem-

bers of our association. This situation can exist for only two valid reasons. Either the non-member superintendent does not feel the need for associating with our organization or he is reluctant to make an application because he has not been invited. Which is it? We intend to find out. If the former reason is the prevailing one, maybe we, as an organization, should do a bit of self-examination. Does the Midwest Association fulfill the needs of those in the maintenance phase of the golfing world which is growing larger year by year? Have we become so self satisfied with our lot that we no longer feel the need to dig for new ideas? Are we resting on our laurels?

In recognition of the need to make a search for some of these answers and in further recognition of the fact that the Chicago District is much too large an area for any one man to cover, three Board Members have agreed to divide up the huge area and get started on 'Project Membership'. This will be a continuing effort, one in which all classes of membership can participate. We will be counting rather heavily on our Class E Members who get around and 'beat the bushes'. If you know of a non-member superintendent in the Southern area of the Chicago District tell Dudley Smith about it. If in the West or Central area tell Tony Meyer and if in the North or Northwest area, then John Ebel should hear from you. These three Board Members have equal status as Chairman of Membership. Give them the benefit of your information on non-member superintendents in the area.

At the regular meeting in January, May and August, special recognition will be given our new members. They will gather at a special table, properly identified, and will be introduced after the dinner hour by one of the above Chairman who will act as their Host for the evening. If they have talents that can be put to work in association affairs we will know about it before the evening is over.

The function and procedure of the Benevolence Committee will be published MONTHLY in The Bull Sheet. Al Johnson will handle this phase of our work. This will be set up to give proper and timely consideration to our members or the immediate family when sickness or sorrow occur.

Walter Fuchs, as Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, will abide by the membership wishes and will schedule only one dance for next fall. This is one project that needs total support of all our members. And, the nice part about it; you can have loads of fun, a nice meal and an evening of fellowship.

In our Midwest Association at the present time we have about six superintendents out of work. This should be the concern of each and every member.

If you know of a job opening or are in need of a job, get this information into the hands of Bill Stupple and Adolph Bertucci. They will be heading up the Committee on Placement and Consulting.

It is generally understood that, at one time, the Consulting Committee did a timely and excellent service for those members who had need of advice from qualified turf men. Very simply it works like this. If I am having trouble with my 3rd green on the North Course and feel that I have exhausted my ideas on the nature of the problem and believe that a Consultation with some fellow superintendents is desirable, I would call Bill and Adolph to request a

visit from the Consulting Committee. Such a request will only be honored when it comes from the superintendent—no one else. This can, once again, become an important piece of service to our membership. During the term of office of the present Officers and Board of Directors, this Committee will function within the framework of the highest of professional ethics. This is my personal pledge.

The Bull Sheet will remain in the capable hands of our fine Editor, Ted Woehrl. He will continue his double duty as Publicity Chairman and will get timely news items into the leading papers when the occasion presents itself.

May the Year of 1964 bring you Good Health, Good Luck and Good Fortune.

Warren Bidwell, President

THE MOLE

Howard Baerwald started a new green the last day of November. Howard knows that he is taking quite a gamble on the weather but believes that he can get it under sod within something less than two weeks and that it will be playable this spring. C. D. Wagstaff is supervising the design and they sure were working fast. Hope the snow keeps away till everyone gets done.

The unusual weather seems to have tempted everyone to try to do just one more project. Ed Stewart put in a few more valves in the green he was completing, Don Strand of Westmoorland is working on a second new lake and Bert Rost is almost thru with the new one at Butterfield. Walter Fuchs at Glen Eagles put in some 2000 ft. of new waterline and is working against snowfall on several tees, George Dahlman is rejoicing in the splendid stand of grass that will go into the winter on the last new course. It has been quite a summer for George.

Time to remember that the time is fast approaching that this is a great job. Remember how often we told ourselves during heat and humidity of the past summer that "it is a great job in the winter". Many of the bull sessions at the Olympia conference centered on how many gallons of water were used during the past summer, and where did it come from. The amount is amazing.

In the midst of fall work, vacation plans crop up - Walter Hoyt and his wife are to drive a new Ford to Florida for the last half of January and most of February; Al and Susie Johnson of Park Ridge C.C. will take the Daughters home for Christmas in New Orleans; Ed Stewart and family will take off for Florida before Christmas; Marv Grunning and his family want to go but have not quite decided where; Bill Leith of Elgin C.C. and his wife will see the national show for their vacation.

Amos Lapp of St. Andrews C.C. rebuilt and built 18 tees and a putting green this fall. Some of the tees are 150 feet long. He used c15 on the putting green.

The story of the month was the return of Gerald Dearie Jr from his 3 year stay with his family in Mexico. He and all the family talk Spanish as fast as natives. They loved their stay, but were sure glad to get back. When Gerald was asked what he liked best when he did get back he said "a good old U. S. hamburger". The kids were most happy to be in school with English speaking friends. The happiest to have them back was their daddy and