

THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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The President's Message

About The Unusual:

"She Is A Very Unusual Person." This casual, yet very positive, remark that I happened to overhear the other day between two people who were strangers to me, has given cause for some reflection on The Unusual.

The very word, Unusual, has a multitude of applications. To the individual, situations involving people or events, geographic locations or varied handiworks of Nature, the term can have profound meaning. Many times the word is used in a manner of personal interpretation which will not find general acceptance with others.

If this person being discussed was considered more ambitious than others or if Beethoven's 5th Symphony has a particularly melodious passage not found in his other works; if Nature deals us a set of circumstances below or above that which we consider Normal — the expected, we are prone to pin on the title of Unusual.

During the passing of Geologic Time, amounting to one hundred million years or more, man has been in the process of Evolution during the last one million years of this inconceivable span of time. Today his civilization is complex. He has, by sound reasoning and by law, set up certain standards to serve as guide posts in dealing with the moral behavior of his race, the quality of his material goods and the very atmosphere which surrounds his planet earth is looked upon as being normal when certain temperatures or amounts have been reached. Anything above or below this level is a departure and often referred to as being unusually hot, wet, etc.

The important thing about The Unusual has been the constant challenge offered to man in his attempt to face up to the responsibilities found in dealing with life's problems, many of them in the Unusual category. That he has successfully risen to the occasion like a knight in shining armor is not always the story. There are just as many recorded history pages and tenfold as many stories not recorded where success in dealing with The Unusual is not to be

found. The resolute approach with which man has spearheaded his efforts to overcome great odds, personal shortcomings, or psychological disadvantages is often more interesting and important than the mainstream of events or the ultimate outcome. It is this supreme attempt to climb up and beyond his station that has motivated man to greater achievements in improving his mental capacity and to make life more to his liking during his short stay in the passing of time.

As Golf Course Superintendents, we are keenly aware of the Challenge of The Unusual. Our Evolution from the days of cow pasture golf in the early twenties to the present day of refined, well manicured clubs has been no accident. Nor can we claim all the credit. Applied research and our own resolute approach on how best to do a more effective and economic job has spearheaded the drive to produce better playing conditions for the ever increasing numbers of golfers who are a part of the overall revolution in the field of recreation.

As a member of a group of professional men, I sometimes wonder if we are actually justified in making such prolific use of the 'crying towel' when Nature deals out a good, stiff case of The Unusual? Lest we expose the Un-Professional side of our role as Superintendent of Grounds, perhaps we should take a more positive view of our own role in dealing with The Unusual.

Warren Bidwell, President

AUGUST MEETING

Our last meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the beautiful Olympia Fields Country Club on Monday, August 3, 1964. President Warren Bidwell was our host. It was a hot sticky day with the temperature well above 90 degrees but this didn't stop the golfers. Later in the afternoon a heavy thunderstorm hit the area bringing over an inch of rain.

The highlight of the hospitality hour was the Shrimp Bowl, compliments of Kahn Bros. The refreshments on the course were given by the H & E Sod Nursery. Thanks to both these fine organizations.

Manager Jimmy DiSantos served us a very delicious meal and the service throughout the entire day was outstanding. He certainly is to be congratulated. From what the golfers said about the course, Warren has the finest fairways in the Chicago Area. He too is to be congratulated, for anyone that could have beautiful fairways after this summer, must be super human.

After Dinner we were treated to one of the outstanding educational programs of the season. The Educational Committee presented their famous Question Box with John Ebel as Moderator. The results of the session are found elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Next, Golf prizes were awarded by Chairman Ken Lapp. He reported that 57 members played golf. Pete Voykin had Low Gross with a 73. Winners of the Peoria System Tournament were:

Alby Staudt, Paul Voykin, Roy Nelson, Chuck Daugherty, Jim Arendt and Jerry Dearie. Other winners were Ed Wollenberg, Mike Coyne, Wally Pieper, Jim Perrachi, Don Theesfield and Bill Kraft.