

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

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The President's Message

Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana

The Midwest Regional Turf Conference has just concluded and a few statistics are available. Attendance this year exceeded 670, a new record high. However, membership in the Midwest Turf Foundation totals only 350. Why do only half of those attending the educational sessions think enough of Purdue's research facilities to join and support the Foundation?

Our Midwest Association can claim only 35 Foundation members. We had less than 50 superintendents present at the Purdue Conference this week. By comparison, the Northern Ohio group, resplendent in their green blazers, had almost their entire membership present at Lafayette.

When I attended the Purdue field day with the late Franklin Kahn a few years ago, we found only two Midwest superintendents present: Al Johnson and Warren Bidwell. At the last field day, I met Norm Kramer and Ted Woehrle on the turf plots.

I know you will argue, we have our own State to support now. Our loyalty is to Dr. Jack Butler, the Illinois Turf Foundation, and the University at Champaign-Urbana. Is it?

The figures will attest that our attendance at Urbana is deplorable. Furthermore, we have only 40 Midwest members in the Illinois Turf Foundation.

My point, gentlemen, is let's not be hypocrites. If our association was organized for educational purposes, then let's support our university research programs. If we want the schools to give us: a hybrid **Poa Annua** that will grow the year round, control for **Pythium** disease, a bluegrass that will survive short mowing, preventative measures to stop winter damage, and better herbicides than we already enjoy, then we must show more interest in their research.

I'm afraid our needs, as golf course superintendents, are being overlooked in favor of the sod growers and the commercial turf man's desires. Next time they schedule a field day or turf conference, let's fill a carload and be there.

Sincerely,
Dudley Smith
President



Ed Stewart, Superintendent River Forest Country Club.

MARCH MEETING

Ed Stewart was our superintendent and host at the beautiful and gracious River Forest Country Club. Eighty-five members attended.

I'm sure a lot of important and general information passed hands during the cocktail hour. The superb dinner was served promptly at 7:00. Many thanks go to Ed and the River Forest manager, Mr. Jones.

After a short business meeting the educational program was turned over to Ted Woehrle of the educational committee. Ted and his panel, Walter Hoyt, Ray Gerber, Dudley Smith and Paul Voykin, showed 80 slides and commented on past experiences with several different types of winter damage to greens and fairways. Much interest was shown and a lot of conversation about not being able to wait until the next day to take another look at their greens.

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