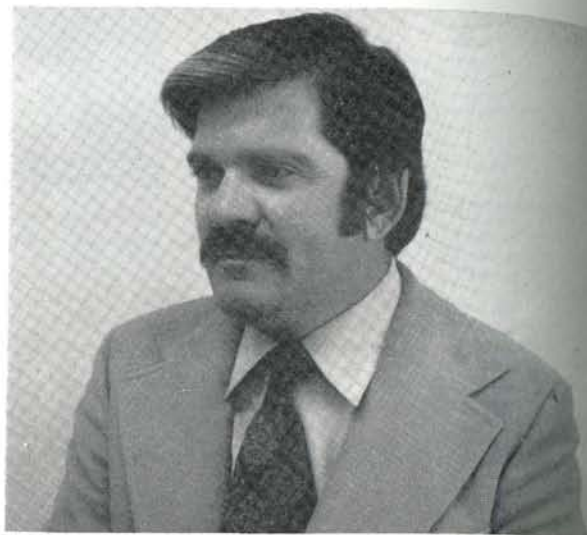


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The President's Message

Since everyone is talking and writing about pesticides and ecology I also would like to put in my two cents about this relevant topic, and get a few things off my chest. Ever since Rachel Carson wrote her eloquent warning about some of the evils which threaten our environment, pesticides have been under constant attack by over-zealous, self-proclaimed ecological experts and opportunists. Unfortunately these attacks by instant ecologists are threatening many of the important pesticides that we need to maintain and improve our environment. Hasty and restrictive federal and state laws banning some of these necessary pesticides, without extensive knowledge and study of the problem, can become far more detrimental to the well-being of man than beneficial to nature.

There is no doubt in my mind that some "hard" pesticides should be taken off the market — not because they are pesticides, but because they have been proved beyond a shadow of doubt by unbiased chemical experts, and scientists to be harmful to mankind and other lesser animals. In my opinion the real culprit lies in the handling of pesticide material. For the real issue that Rachel Carson was trying to bring out, I believe is: CARELESSNESS by man. Because it is a fact, I can state that golf course superintendents have always been extremely careful in their handling of pesticides. The golf course superintendent has always been aware of ecology — before Rachel Carson, before the "flower children" and Earth Day, before instant bandwagon ecologists, and before it became a fashionable fad.

Paul Voykin, President

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Sunset Ridge is celebrating its 50th anniversary by being host to their first pro tournament. What could be a more exciting and dramatic birthday party. Bruce Champton is the defending champion of the \$150,000 Western Open which will be played on June 22-25.

Domenic Grotti is the golf course superintendent at the Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northbrook, Illinois, the site of the 1972 Western Open golf championship. Dom has been the superintendent for the past thirty-seven years and has done a magnificent job. A new six foot cyclone fence has been installed around the entire club property. I wonder if the club erected this fence to keep the unwelcome people out or to keep Dominic from leaving.