Editorial

by Cliff Behrendt
Director Midwest A G C S

Spring is upon us and how wet it is! We find advantages and disadvantages to this kind of a beginning. With the mild winter we had we welcome the rain as an aid in offsetting any winter desiccation experienced in localized areas.

Last spring and fall was also rather wet leaving many of us who had fall projects planned with our hands tied, and delaying these projects until spring. In the Crystal Lake area 32.3 inches of rain fell during July, August, September and October. Our yearly average rainfall is about 35.2 inches, but well over 46. inches hit us in 1972. I know other areas in the Chicago area were even higher.

There was one case where a hand mower had to be put into a row boat to get greens mowed last fall. I drove by this course a couple of days ago and it is in the same condition as last fall. The fairways are flooded and water surrounds some greens and others are covered. Situations like this sure make it discouraging for superintendents and the golfers.

It's now the first part of April as I write this and most of us are waiting for the rains to cease. Many of my spring projects are still on paper because of overly wet soil conditions.

Let us hope that conditions improve rapidly so that we can complete necessary projects and provide pleasurable playing conditions for all our members and golfers.

I would like to thank the members for electing me to represent them as a new director. I feel honored and want to serve in any way I can. As a member of the Arrangement Committee I would remind you that there are openings for clubs wishing to host the Association for several summer and fall meetings. Please contact Ed Smith (Committee Chairman 312-234-2600) or myself (815-459-8570).

Let's all work together to make this a successful year for the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

The thinking superintendent
Thinking about algae
Thinks about aquatic weed controls
Thinks Burdett's . . .

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Notice to all G.C.S.A.A. members. Please keep the beneficiary current, on your insurance policy.

Mid-West Association of Golf Course Superintendents
Mr. Ray Gerber, Bull Sheet Editor
865 Hillside Avenue
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Gentlemen:

This is to thank you for your generous donation of $500 in support of our Turfgrass research program at the University of Illinois. The money will be put to good use in handling some of the multiplicity of expenditure that arise in maintaining turfgrass plots and in the conduct of research.

Let me enumerate some of the things that financial support from organizations like yours have allowed us to accomplish in the past 18 months:

1. Construction of a fully automatic irrigation system for the 7½ acres of turfgrass plots at Urbana.
2. Installation of plumbing facilities within the field building located at the Urbana plots.
3. Enlargement of the field building to accommodate expanded field research in turf and ornamentals.
4. Purchase of a Cushman Truckster and various ac-accessories including a Broyhill sprayer and boom assembly, Cushman topdresser, and cyclone fertilizer spreader. Other newly-acquired items of equipment include: a Ryan vertical mower, Parkmaster power sweeper and Mettle balance.
5. Development of extensive turfgrass varietal plots at Urbana, and two satelite stations located at Glencoe and Belleville.
6. Initiation of extensive field research in many aspects of turfgrass weed, disease and insect control, renovation, establishment and fertility.

The financial support that we have enjoyed from professional organizations like yours will help us to provide the best possible research and extension program for the turfgrass industry. Again, thank you for your fine support.

Sincerely,
A. J. Turgeon
Assistant Professor
Turfgrass Management

P.S. Thanks for the Honorary membership in your association. I will proudly display the membership certificate in my office.

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