



Editor

### MIDWEST BREEZES

The golf course superintendents in the Chicago area are happy to receive the news that Carl Schwartzhopf has been selected as Midwest Director for the United States Golf Association Green Section. Congratulations Carl, and welcome aboard.

John Husar, Chicago Tribune golf writer and columnist, did a fine job covering the Masters Tournament. We may have a hard time getting John out to our courses since he's been at the super Augusta course.

Dr. and Mrs. William Meyer are the happy new parents of a 7 lb. 12 oz. girl. Congratulations. How about the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Meyer. Congratulations to them, too.

Our March 17 meeting, held at Nordic Hills Country Club, was well attended by 87 members who enjoyed a delicious corn beef luncheon. The bar service sure could have been improved on. When the management permits this kind of operation to happen, there is bound to be a loss in revenue. Carl Grassl did a super job on the educational part of the meeting. Carl showed many slide pictures on construction of greens at Park Ridge Country Club. All in all, everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

On March 25 the Chicago District Golf Association held their annual Greens Seminar at the Butterfield Country Club. The attendance was 240 Green Committees, Superintendents, Club Presidents and many others interested in golf were present. The topics discussed were very interesting and educational. The editor, being one that has had many years of construction and maintenance experience behind him, does not always agree with every statement that is made. A statement was made pertaining to placing the cups on greens - how far from the edge of the putting green? The answer given was, "usually 5 paces which is approximately fifteen feet". This statement is usually made by someone other than a golf course superintendent. Many greens that were built several years ago are very narrow - approximately 45 ft. from collar on right to collar on left leaving 15 ft. through the center. After keeping a reasonable distance from the front and also the back, this leaves a very small area for the placing of the cups. During the busy golf season it becomes

necessary to change cups every day. Should this occur one will find the new cup next to one recently changed. A golfer would find it very uninteresting to putt on a green that offers little variation in cup placement. The suggestion of 5 paces may be okay on some greens but should not apply to all greens.

We were sorry to hear that three of our long time Midwest Association members, Superintendents Frank Dinelli, Henry Lange and Amos Lapp, have recently experienced a visit to the hospital. We all hope you have a speedy recovery so you can be out enjoying the outdoors.

On August 23, 1976 the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Golf Day will be held at Indian Lakes Country Club. Although last year's event was very successful we hope you will do your part in making it a more successful one this year. It is for a very good cause, the results from the research could be helpful to everyone. Mark the date on your calendar.

September 13, 14, 15, 1976 are the dates of the G.C.S.A.A. 50th anniversary. The celebration will be held at the Sylvania Country Club. You will receive the complete details in the near future.

On April 29th a new book will be on the bookshelf. The title is "Ask the Lawn Expert", written by the super from Brairwood Country Club, Paul Voykin, and published by MacMillan. 249 pages and priced at \$9.95. Mark the date and get in line before Paul decides to raise the price.

John Jackman, the Superintendent at Medinah Country Club, has been in the Elmhurst Hospital having a stone removal job done. We all wish you a speedy recovery.

Roy Nelson and wife spent Easter vacation touring the Ozarks.

The **Bull Sheet** editor is still receiving reports from Midwest members that their Golf Course Superintendent magazines are falling apart. I guess that's a good sign -- at least we know someone is reading them. Now if we can get the head office people to do the same, maybe they will realize the problem.

The LaRochelle's are expecting a new arrival very shortly. Good luck, Roger, or should we say Linda.

Some 45 Midwest members contributed their valuable time to making the Midwest Flower Show booth a success.

The meeting of the MAGCS April 9 held at Marriott Lincolnshire Resort, Joe Grenko host superintendent, was a most interesting one. The attendance was not up to par. Those who stayed away were the losers. The educational part of the meeting was executed by Carl Hoppfan, Supt. at Aurora Country Club. His topic was Helicopter Spraying. Well done, Carl.

On June 14 there will be a meeting at Rolling Green Country Club consisting of Green Chairman, House Chairman, Club House Managers and Superintendents. You will receive more information at a later date. In the meantime, keep the date open.

An old Greek proverb: "He who thinks everything must be in bloom when the strawberries are in bloom doesn't know anything about apples."

Paul Voykin and Bob Williams have just returned from the meeting of the Canadian Superintendents Annual Conference at Toronto. Both were speakers on the education program. Over 500 superintendents attended, coming from as far west as Vancouver. Bob and Paul report that the Canadian hospitality is unsurpassed. They also report that there are some up and coming young men in their ranks that have great potential for GCSAA.

Ted Woehrle was in town March 16th and 17th speaking to the PGA school at the Skokie Sheraton. It is good to see the Managers, Pros and Superintendents sharing knowledge on each other's educational programs. This policy leads to better understanding and cooperative effort for all management people.

The Grapevine tells us that Tom Mascarro is coming out of retirement to produce yet another management tool. This time he's working on a poa annua control machine. Sounds interesting and he expects to put a test model in the Chicago area. It will seem like old times to have Tommy working with us again for the betterment of golf.

Dr. Jim Beard of Texas A&M University is in the process of developing a new "Bible" for turfgrass maintenance. The USGA selected Dr. Beard as editor of this new book so as to update the latest scientific and practical knowledge on turfgrass management. Bob Williams has been asked to serve on the review committee to work with Dr. Beard.

Look for several changes in the staff of the USGA Green section. Hopefully, these changes will lead to the betterment of communication with superintendents and ultimately better turf for better golf.

Frank Dinelli was hospitalized recently and latest reports are that he is on the mend. A card or a call would surely cheer him up. Address: 910 Clavey Road, Highland Park, Illinois 60035.

Wedding bells will be ringing the later part of May, when Dorothy Carey and Ben Warren say "I do". Most of us know Ben as being one of the top turfgrass growers. To this we will add also one who knows how to select one of the best May flowers. Congratulations and may the wind always be at your back.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gruening are the proud parents of a 5 lb. 7-1/2 oz. girl. Jennifer Lynn has made Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Gruening two happy grandparents.

The sympathy of members of the MAGCS is extended to the family of Eldon Rae, a long-time gardener at Olympia Fields Country Club. Eldon's fine art work will be missed by the members at Olympia Fields Country Club.

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