



## MIDWEST BREEZES

The summer of 1976 in the Chicago area will go down in history as the driest season on record. This is the year that tells you if your new automatic irrigation system is doing the job you expected it to do, or did the old manual system with the center sod cup in the green do as good? This should have been a good year for the irrigation manufacturing company and their salesmen.

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**Ed Stewart**, Supt. at River Forest C.C., is celebrating his 25th year at River Forest - a good record, Ed. Congratulations! Do any of you have a 25th or more anniversary coming up? Pass this information along to the editor.

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 If you are looking for bargains, Jim Burdett, Swift Road and North Ave., can take care of you. He has a **cut to the bone sale** - 15 to 50% off on all inventory from October 1 to 15, 1976.

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 The G.C.S.A.A. 50th anniversary is now past history. It was celebrated at the **Sylvania C.C.** in Ohio on September 13, 1976. It was a great success. The attendance was good and anyone that did not attend sure missed a great celebration. The many old pictures that were taken, starting with the early years of golf and the many old pieces of equipment used in those same years was worth more than the cost of attending. Comparing the old equipment with the new modern equipment of today, we have come a long way. Seeing is believing and that is what took place at this celebration.

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 The joint meeting with the Wisconsin supts. held at McHenry on September 20 was a most enjoyable one. 92 played golf on a beautiful conditioned course. The sad part was our host, Harold Michels, could not join us due to an aching back. 114 enjoyed a steak dinner with all the trimmings. We all thank Toro for the refreshments at the Halfway House.

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 We not only have top golf course supts. in the Midwest Association, but also top golfers. The golf team consisting of: Robert Hansen, Fresh Meadows G.C.; Ken Goodman, Mt. Prospect C.C.; Robert Kronn, Rolling Green C.C.; and Brad R. Johnson, Ridgemoor C.C. are the champs in the G.C.S.A.A. tournament at Sylvania. Congratulations!

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 Congratulations to Roger La Rochelle. Roger will become the new grounds supt. at Flossmoor C.C. Walter Pieper, the present supt. has been with the club for many years and has decided to retire and enjoy life. Not a bad idea, Walter, and congratulations!

**Arnold Palmer**, the guest speaker at the banquet did an outstanding job and many of the ladies went home all smiles with **Mr. Palmer's** autograph in their purse. It appears his army is everywhere.

This editor thanks all the hard working committees and all individuals for their time and effort for helping to make this occasion the success that it was. Meeting many of my long time friends made the day a joyful one for me and the appearance of the **Graffis Brothers** put the frosting on the cake.



**Art Bensch, Sr. - Amos Lapp - Ken Lapp.**

On August 30th, **Amos Lapp**, **Art Benson, Sr.**, and editor **Gerber** (with a combined experience of 161 years in golf course construction and maintenance work) did a little visiting with **Ken Lapp**, son of Amos, Superintendent at Cog Hill C.C. Cog Hill is doing considerable construction work on their Dubs Dread Course. They have three more eighteen-hole courses. The Dubs Dread Course is the more challenging one. After observing the construction of several new golf holes, it was our opinion that this will be one of the most challenging golf courses in this area.

The Supt. **Ken Lapp's** responsibility has been lightened by exercising authority and having good key personnel at the head of the various necessary duties.

What does a Superintendent do in his spare time after overseeing 1,000 acres of land, 400 riding golf carts, 84 greens (mowed daily), and other daily duties that include changing all cups, operating a manual irrigation system, mowing fairways, tees, rough, necessary trim work, repair work, plumbing and many other necessary duties, besides being a good husband and father? The answer you will have to get from Mr. Lapp.

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**Paul Voykin**, Supt. at Briarwood C.C., is starting his season speaking tour. He has been invited to speak at the 30th Cornell Turf Conference on November 16-18, 1976.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

In regard to my friend Harry Grey's interview on management in your August issue of Golf Business regarding the statement on page 44, quote, "The rest of the time they (superintendents and golf professionals) were free to do as they wished with no control, no supervision", my reply to this insinuation can be equally absurd, **WHO IN THE HELL SUPERVISES THE GENERAL MANAGERS?** His almighty position of the "Big Brother" concept is ridiculous to many of us who experience successful country club operations with the triumvirate concept. The general manager's track record hasn't been proved to any extent thus far due to their short longevity at the same club. Does the Peter Principle apply here?

**Paul N. Voykin**  
 Briarwood Country Club