

"SCRAMBLING RAMBLING"

This column will be written on monthly basis if the editor can find room and if the author can get enough information. One of my favorite columns in any publication has always been the gossip features. Let's see what happens.

—Flossmoor Country Club legend Wally Pieper was honored by some of his peers at a party in Frankfort. The "dean" of greenkeepers will certainly be missed at Flossmoor. Wally, good luck on your next endeavor.

—Word from Milwaukee has it that Bob Williams and Wally Fuchs, Jr. did a fine job representing the Midwest on their two day program, which was again a highly successful symposium. Next year's program, which is still on the drawing boards, might just cover "management".

—Cliff Behrendt and his wife, Judy, spent a short time in Florida the end of November. How was the weather, Cliff?

—Who's fooling who? The GCSAA Newsletter states the Association membership goes over 4,300 in spite of the dues increase. First, who is writing this newsletter? Our paid office help at headquarters, telling some of the superintendents they work for that they were off base when they said the membership would decline with the dues increase. Was it their business to tell these superintendents, "I told you so"? Secondly, the membership **should** increase when you open up four new membership classifications, one of these being Honorary classes (costing nothing) and two being Student classes (costing very little).

—Congratulations to the new Midwest board members Robert Siebert, Naperville C.C., and Donald Hoffman, Oak Hills C.C. They will need all the help you can give them, along with the rest of the board. With a membership that will hit 500 in the not too distant future, they certainly do need help and cooperation.

—Were you one of those that waited until that nice day in December to put your snow mold fungicides on and are still waiting? Well, don't feel too bad—you have company.

—Is Toro Manufacturing about to sell their distributorship here in Chicago? Let's hope they let someone take over that knows the area and the people.

—Guess who was in town to set up his famous cheese bar and endless rap session? Yes, our friend, Bill Lyons, was at Pheasant Run for the Golf Course Owners' meeting back in November.

—Congratulations to Richard Lamkey on being named the new president of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation.

—The Midwest Clinic was a great success with Dr. Grau's participation. Our condolences go to Dr. Grau on the passing away of his wife. Also, a few new faces again surfaced that may prove to be some new blood for the Association in the future.

Check in next month to find out who toured a course in Nashville with only 32 putts.

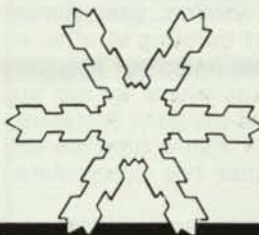
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