



Editor

## MIDWEST BREEZES

The turfgrass on golf courses in the Chicago area came thru the winter of 1976 and 1977 in excellent condition. No snow mold, no ice damage, and no desiccation. How lucky can one be? One Superintendent reported he used a snow fence around a couple of greens for protection against desiccation. These were greens that he had problems with in some of the past years.

Greens have been mowed several times. Tees and fairways are being mowed frequently. In fact it looks like a great golf year. Even though the frost went to a depth of five to six feet, there was not nearly as much damage to the irrigation pipes as had been anticipated.

**NOTICE:** If you plan on attending dinner at any of our M.A.G.C.S. meetings, please return your reservation card immediately upon receiving it. The arrangement committee must have it to make the proper guarantee for dinners. **PLEASE COOPERATE!**

A thank you is in order to the Vaughan-Jacklin Corp. for the beautiful corsages they presented to the ladies at the Golf Course Superintendents' dinner at the Marriott's Lincolnshire Resort. Also a thanks to Marriott's for the wine served at the dinner. These gestures were appreciated by everyone.

This May 1977 issue of the Bull Sheet completes thirty-one successful years. Three hundred seventy-two monthly issues. The Ever-Redi Printing Service, in La Grange, Illinois has been the printer all these years. An excellent record and a super job! The Midwest Association sure is lucky, and we thank the owner Mel Durland for his patience and excellent work. We are also happy to report the Bull Sheet has grown from a couple of mimeographed pages to the present time of twenty pages. Our advertising rates have never increased in the past thirty-one years. If this is not a record, the editor is willing to listen or read your comment.

On March 24, 1977 the Chicago District Golf Association sponsored their annual Green Seminar at Butterfield Country Club. Approximately 300 club officials and Golf Course Superintendents attended a very interesting and educational meeting. **Donald F. Johnson**, C.D.G.A. green chairman and green chairman at the Medinah C.C. deserves a thank you from everyone. Mr. Johnson has been the green chairman



Pictured left to right:  
M.A.G.C.S. President, Carl Hoppman, CDGA Vice President and Green Committee Chairman, Donald F. Johnson, and CDGA President, John E. Kenny.

at Medinah C.C. for the past fifteen years, an accomplishment that is very seldom heard of in this day and age. I am sure his qualifications have made this possible.

**John E. Kenny**, C.D.G.A. president along with **Mr. Johnson** gave the welcome introduction after which our Midwest Association president, **Carl Hoppman**, took over. He always does a super job at the podium.

**Roger LaRoche**, Supt. at Flossmoor C.C., who is never at a loss for words, covered the subject, "Modern Maintenance Procedures". By way of contrast the old 1926 movie was shown of some of the work being done compared to the more modern method of today.

"Automatic Irrigation, Selling the Membership, Planing, and Installation" was explained by **Fred Opperman**, Supt. at Glen Oak C.C.

"A Player's View of Modern Maintenance and Automatic Irrigation" was discussed by former State and C.D.G.A. amateur champion and Radix cup team member, **Dave Huske**.

"Early Spring, Mother Nature, plus the Golfer" was a topic that created many questions resulting in excellent answers from men who have had many years of experience - **Mike Bavier**, Supt. at Inverness G.C. and director of G.C.S.A.A.; **Charles Daugherty**, Green Committee, Inverness G.C.; and **Roy LaLonde**, Green Committee, Inverness G.C.

A question was asked, "How warm does the temperature have to be before the grass plant starts to grow?" We often hear a question such as this by many in the early spring. Our good friend Al Radko, Director of the United States Golf Assoc. Green Section, who was in the audience, came to our rescue. His statement was that the temperature of the air was not the main factor. The temperature of the soil is very important, and it must reach at least 55 degrees before that plant roots start to function. This is something we all should remember especially in the early part of the season. May be a good idea to check the soil temperature for the correct answer when our grass plants do not want to get going in the spring.

Usually the people that are in the lime-lite receive the credit for the success of any function. The golfers in the Chicago area are very fortunate to have a golf association as active as the C.D.G.A., who are at this time serving 36,000 golfers, by keeping their handicaps, biweekly, up to date.

Miss Carol McCue, Executive Director, is the guiding light in the C.D.G.A. and has been for many years. Working with a large group of men for all these past years, Miss McCue is deserving of tremendous appreciation.