

MIDWEST BREEZES

At this May 5th writing the poa annua has not come out of its' hibernation. The winter effects are still with us. A nice warm rain followed by sunshine will take care of the sleeping poa annua. With hope and patience everything will return to normal.

The M.A.G.C.S. April 26th meeting held at Flossmoor C.C. was a most enjoyable one. Although the temperature was not the best for golfing, fifty-one played on a super conditioned course made possible by Supt. Ray Schmitz. Flossmoor C.C. is certainly lucky to have a golf course Supt. with the knowledge that Ray has. We all thank the members of Flossmoor C.C for sharing their club with us for this April 26th meeting.

The educational speaker was Warren Bidwell, Supt. at Olympia Fields C.C., who did an excellent job in keeping the attendance in their chairs. Warren showed many pictures that he took on his trip to South Africa and also explained how the natives' living compares to ours. The beautiful pictures were the result of excellent photography - real professional work. All in all, it was a great meeting.

Speed of Carts on Golf Courses and Club Grounds

Why the excess speed with golf carts or vehicles used for maintenance work by the grounds employees? For the past several years this editor has observed the unnecessary speed that these carts are driven and it appears that this habit is getting worse rather than better. Why wait for a serious accident to happen before action takes place to stop this unnecessary speed. Have it halted **now** before it is too late.

Slower speed will certainly do less damage to the turfgrass and will take very little more time to play a round of golf. The employee will get his work done in about the same time. This editor speaks from experience gained long before the carts were around. This goes back sixty-four years. Action now will save considerable repair costs and mechanic hours, and may prevent bodily injury to someone.

**JOHNNY THE BEAR" BARARDUCCI WINS ANNUAL GIN TOURNAMENT

Twenty players participated in the First Annual Gin Tournament at Hackney's Restaurant in Wheeling. The boisterous event was a huge success, and almost \$1,000 was raised for Multiple Sclerosis. My sincere thanks to all those who played, and to many friends who sent their Multiple Sclerosis checks but, unfortunately, couldn't make the gala event.

The competition was keen and swift, and our ebullient

Midwest President, John Paul Berarducci played brilliantly to defeat his tough opponents in the round robin to win the beautiful first place trophy.

It was especially gratifying for our Hackney's gang in Wheeling to have the erudite "Bear" defeat, in the finals, the best of the roguish challengers from Hackney's on Lake. Others who played superbly but lost by a few slim points were Mike Bavier, Jim Burdett, Ed Fisher, Tom Rodem, Dudley Smith (the longest game), Peter Voykin, and "Geeg" Masterson, our robust host. "Geeg" played skillfully all the way to the semi-finals with some of the most extraordinary moves ever witnessed by old time gin players. It was only after he finally was eliminated that "Geeg" admitted he thought he was playing "Old Maid".

Paul Voykin, Chairman of the Event and Fast Loser in the First Round

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