

MAGCS DIRECTORS COLUMN

by Sean M. Daley
Ridge C.C.

At the recent monthly meeting at Nordic Hills, I arrived about 2:00 P.M. in the afternoon. I had a couple of committee meetings, and a board meeting prior to the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Thanks to the generosity of the Nordic Hills management, there was a full complement of our members taking advantage of the great recreational facilities Nordic Hills has to offer. What a great opportunity to get away from our golf course for an afternoon and enjoy not only first class facilities, but the comraderie of our friends and fellow superintendents.

Upon completion of my committee and board meeting requirements, Mike Nass and I set ourselves up at a table to begin selling dinner tickets. What do you think happened? Lo and behold, not all the people who availed themselves of the aforementioned recreational facilities showed up to purchase dinner tickets. What was I to think? Well, being somewhat of a natural cynic, I immediately jumped to the conclusion that some people in our group came for the afternoon, took advantage of our hosts hospitality, and then bugged out. I was shocked and dismayed. Well, before I jumped to any conclusions I discussed this matter with some of my colleagues. We reviewed all the possible reasons that we could think of, and all came to basically the same conclusion. That indeed these individuals had arrived in the afternoon, availed themselves of said facilities and bugged out. What this not specifically against the policy of our organization? You betcha!! Not only that it is pretty darned rude. Now, here is where it gets tricky. Upon review of all the bugger outters, I thought had we ever had a meeting at their facility? Not in my short tenure as a member. So it is complete possible that these gentlemen (?) did not know the procedure.

I will not attempt to explain. You see, these clubs that host our monthly meetings are in no way obligated to do so. Should a club decide to never have a meeting they would probably never feel the loss. So we can only assume that they are doing it out of the goodness of their collective hearts. Not only that, but we tell them that everyone that comes during the day will purchase a dinner from them in the evening. They don't make a lot off this, but it does help offset bringing in all their employees for us.

At this time, I am not naming names. I cannot guarantee that in the future. In fact, I will be suggesting at the next board meeting that we can possibly start a monthly bugger outter section in the **Bull Sheet** for individuals who have bugged out at the recent meeting. We may even be able to set up a suspension after a designated number of times that one appears on the list.

For myself, I want to make my own feelings known. For those of you that do this, you are not welcome at our meetings. You are not an asset to our organization, in fact you are an embarrassment, and I wish you would all stay home.

Flowers for Shady Areas

by James A. Fizzell, Sr. Ext. Adviser
Horticulture, U. of I.

Most annual flowers produce less color when grown in shade. Some species tolerate shade, but become tall and flower poorly.

Fibrous-rooted or wax begonia, which does well in full sun, is also one of the best annual flowers for shady areas.

The new F-1 hybrids have exceptional vigor and bloom continually throughout the growing season. You can expect color right up until a killing frost in the fall. The plants are extremely tolerant of wind and rain. Unlike the petunia, which shows the effects of a rain storm for a few days, the new fibrous-rooted begonias will bounce back in a matter of hours.

There is a good selection of varieties. Available are those that produce green or bronze foliage. Flower colors range from white through yellow-green to pink and deep red. Leaf and flower size also vary, some varieties producing large blooms and foliage and others with small flowers and leaves.

Coleus is another good species for shaded as well as bright areas. This plant is known primarily for its foliage. Many new introductions in recent years have established it is one of the better plants for shaded areas. The foliage is quite striking and can be used to add contrast to flower borders.

Impatiens, a shade loving garden flower also does well in hanging baskets, and new selections have dwarf growth habits. The elfin series has exceptional vigor, and plants reach a height of about 12 inches. Growth is uniform, and the plants are covered with flowers throughout the growing season.

Vinca rosea produces some very colorful plants that have exceptional foliage even in shade. The leaves are a rich green and somewhat waxy. While the plant may not produce as many flowers as other annuals, its combination of very colorful blooms and rich, green foliage makes this a suitable addition to the flower border.

A number of other annuals will tolerate some shade. Lobelia, with its bright-blue flowers, makes a good border. Snapdragon, calendula, ageratum, and pansy may also be grown in a partial shade condition.

In a shaded area, pansies will often bloom all summer and if protected will winter over year after year.

Shady garden areas take less watering, less fertilizer, and weeds are usually less of a problem than in full sun. Don't ignore the shady parts of your garden. They can be a gardening asset.

"The Bull Sheet" Wins Third Place in Supts. Newsletter Contest

Dear Mr. Opperman:

Congratulations! Your entry in the Foundation's Harry C. Eckhoff Award contest finished third in its category.

A plaque has been ordered and will be shipped to you as soon as it is engraved.

The NGF is very much appreciative of those who serve golf. Again, congratulations and we look forward to seeing more of your outstanding publication.

Joe Much, Executive Director
National Golf Foundation