

(Supt's. Best Friend cont'd.)

the same, golfers should take precautions because it is always better to be safe than sorry. Stand aside when the sprayer passes and try to be on the leeward side and, for heaven's sake, don't lick golf balls. If pregnant women have been advised by their physician not to smoke or drink during their period of child bearing, I would advise them to stay off the golf course while the turf is being sprayed. I would give this advice to my wife, although I hope she is not pregnant.

Golfers should have faith in their Superintendents and their green staff. Many Superintendents are now college graduates with degrees and diplomas in agriculture. They are just as concerned as their fellow men about the environment, perhaps even more, because they are aware of the mistakes that can so easily happen and that can be so disastrous. Superintendents and their assistants must be licensed to apply pesticides by the Department of the Environment. We cannot purchase or apply chemicals unless we are licensed. We apply chemicals only when it is absolutely necessary and usually well below the recommended rate. We try to spray early in the morning when there is no wind and before the golfers get to the course, but you arrive so early now. Sometimes we get caught in a sudden breeze but we have to empty the tank in case the liquid solidifies. This may cause a little drifting but the job has to be done and we can't close the course. Our ultimate objective always remains — to provide the best possible golfing conditions at a reasonable cost for the great majority of our golfers. At the same time, we want to continue to protect the beautiful environment which surrounds us, even for the golfers who come out later in the day.

## Mechanics Need Motivation

by Tony Rzadzki, Asst. Supt.  
Cantigny Golf Club

While attending the Turf Conference in Springfield last December I had the pleasure of sharing some conversation with John Maguire. John, as many of you know, is the president of the Chicagoland Golf Course Mechanics Association (CGCMA).

John is in trouble and he needs some help.

It seems that the same thing that happens to many young organizations is happening to yours. Ninety percent of the work needed to run the association is undertaken by two percent of it's members. John and two other members are managing all of the responsibilities of a hundred member organization. John told me quite frankly that he is getting burnt out!

In 1986 I helped John get the CGCMA started and was a member for almost two years. The work that I did was minimal compared with the load that John must now carry. He has continued and has brought the CGCMA to a nationally recognized organization. That is quite an accomplishment in four short years.

Now he is asking for help. He needs ideas, attendance, and support from you, the members, and superintendents as well. Volunteering can sound like a dirty word to some people, but you would be surprised at how rewarding an hour spent organizing a meeting or letting the mechanics use your facility might grant.

So come on guys, let's give one guy a break and see what happens. He started a dynamic group. Let's not lose hold of this valuable resource.

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