

1989 Board of Directors

President	Bruce Williams (Roxane) Bob O'Link G.C.	Home: 680-1074 Office: 432-0088	
Vice-Pres.	Ray Schmitz (Jan) Flossmoor C.C.	Home: 815-469-2773 Office: 798-2498	
Sect'y.-Treas.	Timothy Kelly (Linda) Vill. Links of Glen Ellyn	Home: 858-8174 Office: 469-2077	
Exec. Sec.	Penny Meyer (Dave) MAGCS (Mailing Address) P. O. Box 248, Eola, IL 60519	Office: 820-8181	
Board	Michael Bavier Inverness G.C.	Home: 382-7654 Office: 358-7030	
	Ed Braunsky (Sue) Geneva Golf Club	Home: 879-8536 Office: 232-0627	
	Donald Cross (Cindy) Skokie C.C.	Home: 965-3435 Office: 835-4296	
	Alan Fierst Oak Park C.C.	Home: 456-7815 Office: 453-7525	
	Joel Purpur (Debbie) River Forest C.C.	Home: 832-6763 Office: 941-1651	
	Kerry Blatteau Woodmar C.C.	Home: (219) 924-6597 Office: (219) 844-0330	
	Pres. Emeritus	Dave Meyer (Penny) Prestbury G.C.	Home: 820-1040 Office: 466-4177
	Dr. Randy T. Kane, Turfgrass Advisor University of Illinois & CDGA	(708) 954-2753	

Official Photographer Raymond Schmitz

ECKHOFF AWARD

For Excellence In Golf Journalism



We are not copyrighted and would like to share our articles with any who would like to use them, but please give the author and "The Bull Sheet" credit.

Editor —

Fred D. Opperman, CGCS
810 Greenwood Avenue
Carpentersville, IL 60110
Phone (708) 428-5009

Fax (708) 669-1013

Bull Sheet printed by Ever-Redi Printing, 5100 East Ave., Countryside, IL 60525.

The **Bull Sheet** is published once a month. All articles are required by the 10th of the month to make the next issue. Advertising is sold by the column inch, by the quarter page, half page, and by the full page. All artwork to be finished and in black and white. Circulation is over 600 issues per month.

The Computer Age

Little did I know, when I had my first introduction to computers, that eventually they would become as common in the workplace as a typewriter or an adding machine. But that was back in the late 60's when I took a class in college titled Statistical Analysis. The computer took up most of the space in a room and all of the information (data) was entered by keypunch and read by a card reader. The computers were set up to understand machine language and Fortran IV. It was a very complicated affair to say the least.

Times have changed and the computer industry has come a long way. Most computers today are user friendly so you don't need to be a mathematical genius to operate them. Most of us can handle a computer that is as simple to use as an automatic teller machine, which is merely a computer system the banks use. Computer education is being taught in the elementary schools and is an integral part of secondary education. I was pleased to see the turfgrass students at Michigan State are now given programs to work with computers and they have a number of computers available to them in their learning laboratory.

An increasing number of Superintendents are utilizing the computer in their golf course operations. Some have obtained a computer as a part of their irrigation control package. Others have purchased computers as a business tool. The cost of computers has been reduced dramatically and they are affordable for everyone's office use.

Last year the MAGCS sponsored a very informative computer workshop and may have a followup course this year. Russ Fink has done a fine job in establishing a computer bulletin board for golf course superintendents in the Chicago area. Duane Patton has a super bulletin board for superintendents called Turfbyte which is based in Lawrence, Kansas. Superintendents with computers are really missing out if they do not use these bulletin boards. Give Russ Fink a call and he can help you get on line.

The USGA has a cooperative effort with Michigan State called Turfgrass Information File or TGIF. This service enables anyone to get information from the O. J. Noer library on any golf course or turfgrass related topic. You don't need a computer to get the information but it is quicker and easier to use a computer to search the files. This program costs the USGA a lot of money each year and has received only limited use. I would like to encourage each of you to utilize this system. Failure to support the system will result in the USGA withdrawing their financial support from this project.

The age of computers is here. Learn about the advantages of computers and how they can help you in your golf course operation. Talk to your neighbors and find out what applications they are using for their golf course. Utilize the bulletin boards we have for our industry as well as the TGIF. Once you start working with a computer you will wonder how you ever got along without it.

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS
President, MAGCS