THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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The President's Message

Since everyone is talking and writing about pesticides and ecology I also would like to put in my two cents about this relevant topic, and get a few things off my chest. Ever since Rachel Carson wrote her eloquent warning about some of the evils which threaten our environment, pesticides have been under constant attack by over-zealous, self-proclaimed ecological experts and opportunists. Unfortunately these attacks by instant ecologists are threatening many of the important pesticides that we need to maintain and improve our environment. Hasty and restrictive federal and state laws banning some of these necessary pesticides, without extensive knowledge and study of the problem, can become far more detrimental to the well-being of man than beneficial to nature.

There is no doubt in my mind that some "hard" pesticides should be taken off the market - not because they are pesticides, but because they have been proved beyond a shadow of doubt by unbiased chemical experts, and scientists to be harmful to mankind and other lesser animals. In my opinion the real culprit lies in the handling of pesticide material. For the real issue that Rachel Carson was trying to bring out, I believe is: CARELESSNESS by man. Because if is a fact, I can state that golf course superintendents have always been extremely careful in their handling of pesticides. The golf course superintendent has always been aware of ecology - before Rachel Carson, before the "flower children" and Earth Day, before instant bandwagon ecologists, and before it became a fashionable fad.

Paul Voykin, President

Sunset Ridge is celebrating its 50th anniversary by being host to their first pro tournament. What could be a more exciting and dramatic birthday party. Bruce Champton is the defending champion of the \$150,000 Western Open which will be played on June 22-25.

Domenic Grotti is the golf course superintendent at the Sunset Ridge Country Club in Northbrook, Illinois, the site of the 1972 Western Open golf championship. Dom has been the superintendent for the past thirty-seven years and has done a magnificent job. A new six foot cyclone fence has been installed around the entire club property. I wonder if the club erected this fence to keep the unwelcome people out or to keep Dominic from leaving.



This is the original office where the BULL SHEET originated in 1947 at La Grange Country Club. Howard Baerwald, Superintendent at the La Grange Country Club, says the office is the same as twenty-five years ago. He just can not wear it out.

BULL SHEET, History

by Bob Williams

Norm Johnson conceived the idea of an official publication for the Midwest GCSA. At the time, he was the superintendent at La Grange Country Club and treasurer of the MGCSAA.

The first meetings and the development of the "Bullsheet" took place in Norm's office at La Grange and often ran into the late evening hours. Ray Gerber and Bob Williams were the assistant editors with Paul Burdett acting as our roving reporter.

The "Bullsheet" was originated in 1947 and the same printer has been used for these past 25 years. (in La Grange). The name was suggested by Bob who had used this title for an Army bulletin he edited during World War II.

The first issues were one page mimeos with no advertising. Norm was a good Samaritan and began sending copies all over the country to many local chapters and superintendents. The cost of postage and printing grew rapidly and we finally decided we needed advertising to help defray costs. At first, we only allowed 1 inch ads at \$5.00 each.

Editors for the past 25 years, in order -

Norman C. Johnson, Donald S. Strand, William Stupple, Bert Rost, Ted Woehrle, Doug Jabaay, Tom Burrows, Richard Trevarthan, Roger La Rochelle, Ray H. Gerber.

Paul Burdett eventually became the unknown "Mole" with a monthly column concerning personalities and inside information that kept people guessing for a while as to who the real "Mole" was.

Be kind to your friends; if it were not for them you would be a total stranger.

Midwest Association dinner dance will be held at River Forest Golf Club on Saturday Night, October 14.



Editor

Editorial

This issue, June 1972, represents the "Bull Sheet's" twenty-fifth anniversary. The idea of having a Midwest publication was initiated by the late Norman C. Johnson, who was Superintendent at La Grange Country Club at that time. The name "Bull Sheet" is credited to Bob Williams, superintendent of Bob O'Link Golf Club. Mr. Herb Graffis offered his expert encouragement and several individuals contributed news items. The "Bull Sheet" has gone from one page per issue, to fourteen pages per issue and has always been printed by the same company — Ever-Redi, formerly in La Grange and presently in Brookfield, under the management and ownership of Mel Durland.

In the early 1950's, it became necessary to accept advertising because of our expanding costs. I am happy to say that four of the Bull Sheet's original advertisers have continued all these years. They are: Paul E. Burdett, George A. Davis, Roseman Tractor Equipment Co., and Swift and Co. Initially there were ten advertisers; today there are twenty-eight. The Bull Sheet thanks all of you. Your support has made it possible to continue publication with no increase in the advertising rate — ever!

On April 28 the Chicago District Golf Association Annual Green Seminar was held at River Forest Golf Club. One hundred forty club presidents, green chairmen and green superintendents attended this educational meeting. Paul Voykin, Midwest Association President, was moderator. The program included:

Pesticides – Stanley Rachesky, entomologist, University of Illinois; Chemical Fertilizer – Dr. Paul Alexander, Executive Director, G.C.S.A.A.; Good Turf and Chemical Usage – Dr. William Daniels, Purdue University; Waste Disposal – Oscar Miles, Superintendent of Olympia Fields Country Club; Species of Trees – Arthur Howard, Clavey Nurseries; Memorial Tree Planting Program – Donald F. Johnson, C.D.G.A.

You can imagine by the topics and the well qualified speakers of all the value that will come from this meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. at which time forty-eight men headed for the golf course for an enjoyable game of golf on a beautiful course.



Mel Durland, Printer

In 1947 the official newspaper of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was a very new project. The little store-front print shop where it was printed was also a very new organization, owned and operated by a young married couple who had lots of ambition, not much to work with, and visions of success in their minds.

"The Bull Sheet" began as a one-sheet mimeographed paper with a drawing of a large Bull in the upper left hand corner. Mr. Norm Johnson, its originator would come into the shop, gather pieces of copy together and plead with us to "squeeze" the typewritten copy so that he would not have to delete any of the information he wished to present. He was such a nice, jolly man, and to bribe us to cooperate, he would bring in delicious sweet rolls and lots of funny stories to tell. We missed him when he moved away from the area.

A little later in the career of both the Ever-Redi Printing Service and "The Bull Sheet", plans were underway to print the paper instead of mimeograph it. Three of the Superintendents one nice spring afternoon decided to come in and talk about it. I remember that day very well — these rugged looking outdoor men all seemed to crowd into the door at once and I was alone in the shop. I was a very naive young woman and my heart jumped into my throat. All the movies I had ever seen of gangsters and con men came into my mind — and I thought our career was ended as printers — surely these men were here for "protection" money — and we would end up with a brick in our store window. I was so relieved when they identified themselves.

The Golf Course Superintendents were among our very first customers in 1947, and they have continued with us through the years. We have had a very happy relationship with each other. Ever-Redi Printing appreciates them, and has found much pleasure in meeting different editors and other personnel who have contributed to making "The Bull Sheet" the success that it is.

Mrs. Mel Durland



Originator of Bull Sheet Norman C. Johnson. Name credited to Robert Williams.

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents 2108 N. Elizabeth Drive

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Gentlemen:

This is to express our appreciation of your generous donation in support of the Turfgrass Research Program at the University of Illinois.

At the present time, financial support from state and federal agencies is extremely limited; yet, our turf program is growing and in need of monies for equipment, supplies and labor. It is the donations from private organizations that enable us to progress at a rate that the turfgrass industry of Illinois wants and deserves.

Our goal is to have the finest Turfgrass Program in the United States—with your continued support and participation, we can and will have such a program.

> Yours for better turf, A. J. Turgeon Assistant Professor T. D. Hughes Assistant Professor

I SOUGHT A SMILE

I sought a smile along the way, One smile just meant for me.

- I searched the faces as I passed; A smile I could not see.
- And sadder still my sad heart grew, For no one seemed to care;
 - And life seemed worthless, dull, and dark, My burdens hard to bear,
- Until one day a truth I learned. With smiles upon my face
- Now everywhere I go I find There are smiles in every place!

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Local Happenings

Everywhere I have traveled, and it has been to many real nice places, I have always come back to a good one.

^a Harold Frederickson's wife vacationed for a month in Las Vegas. Harold is Superintendent at Edgewood Valley Country Club. Roy Nelson, Superintendent at Ravisloe Country

Roy Nelson, Superintendent at Ravisloe Country Club, and his wife have returned home after a vacation in Hawaii. Speaking from my past experience I am sure they enjoyed it.

Dudley Smith and Adolph Bertucci contributed to the size of the gallery at the Masters Golf Tournament.

Carl Happhan, Superintendent at Aurora Country Club, was recently honored by having several Japanese executives from the company that manufactures I.B.D.U. play golf at Aurora Country Club. Carl was presented with a beautiful evening purse for his wife and was extended an invitation to visit Japan on the Company's jet.

Roger La Rochelle, Superintendent at Woodmar Country Club, is in the process of installing an automatic irrigation system.

ts

Bruce Sering, Superintendent at Glenview Club, will be installing an automatic sprinkling system on his golf course this year. Evanston Golf Club will be installing an automatic

Evanston Golf Club will be installing an automatic sprinkling system. It looks like there are going to be three happy superintendents within this next year.

Stanley Rachesky, Entomologist from the University of Illinois and one of our monthly Bull Sheet contributors, will have an announcement to make in the early part of October. The passing out of cigars will be on the agenda. Congratulations.

Joe Dinelli has been busy making many improvements at North Shore Country Club. He has recently built four new sand traps and two new tees, and completed a landscaping program around the clubhouse and pro shop. Joe has installed over three miles of drain tile at North Shore.

Albey Staudt, superintendent at the Geneva Golf Club and 2nd Vice President of the Midwest Association, celebrated with his wife their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on Sunday, May 7th. Congratulations!

Chester Randby takes over position as Golf course Superintendent at Foss Park District, North Chicago.

A correction from the May issue of the Bull Sheet. Al Dorband, Superintendent at Mission Hill Golf Club does not go to Plum Tree National Club. The position has been filled by Charlie Shiley, one of our long time superintendents in the Chicago district, and has for the past several years been Superintendent at North Hills Country Club in Milwaukee. We welcome you back Charlie.

Gene A. Palrud reports he has purchased a new house in Deerfield.

Joe Canale reports his pro shop has had some unwanted visitors. Many valuable articles were taken.



Paul Richardson, Vice-President of Illinois Lawn Equipment, Inc., died suddenly from a cerebral hemorrhage while at work in the company offices. He was forty-seven years old and had been the owner of Steel City Lawn Equipment in Gary, Indiana for 20 years.

Paul was well-known in the industry and was beginning to become established in the Chicago area as a knowledgeable turf expert.

He leaves his widow and five children who reside in Merrillville, Indiana. His son, Paul, Jr., is a mechanic at Illinois Lawn Equipment and will continue with the company.

Paul will be deeply missed by all his associates in the trade and at his company and the many, many friends of years' standing.

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"NOTHING SEEMS NOW LIKE IT USED TO BE"

It seems to me they are building staircases steeper than they used to. The steps are higher or there are more of them or something. And another thing . . . the small print they're using lately. The other day I had to back half-way out of a telephone booth in order to read the number on the coin box. It's ridiculous to suggest a person of my age needs glasses, but the only way I can find out what's going on is to have somebody read aloud to me, but that's not satisfactory because people speak in such a low voice these days. It's funny, too, how much further away things are. They've certainly moved all the greens back almost twice as far. And whoever added that steep hill approaching No. 16? ... They don't put the same material into clothes anymore. I've noticed all my golf slacks have a tendency to shrink especially around the waist or in the seat of the pants. And what kind of shoe laces are those George has these days! They're so much harder to reach. And people how they are changing! They are younger than they used to be when I was their age. I went back to an alumnus reunion at the college I attended in 1943 ... that is 1933 ... I mean 1923 ... and I was shocked to see the mere tots they're admitting as students these days ... no, nothing seems now like it used to bel

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The sympathy of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is extended to Mrs. Sterling Hamilton and family because of the death of Mr. Sterling Hamilton, Sr., who was superintendent at the Crystal Lake Country Club.

Sterling Hamilton, Superintendent, for the past 50 years at Crystal Lake Country Club, passed away on May 3, 1972. Mr. Hamilton started his work at Crystal Lake during the construction of the club in 1922. A remarkable record. It was always his wish that when his life was to come to an end, it would happen suddenly and at a time when he was working. This is exactly what happened. He was preparing his garden for spring planting. A great man in the golf course superintendents profession. He will be missed by all of his friends which there were many.



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Good Turf and Chemical Usage Dr. W. H. Daniel, Turf Specialist, Department of Agronomy Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana

(Presented before the Chicago District Golf Association meeting, April 28, 1972 at River Forest Golf Club).

How pleasant to look over an expanse of turf and say "It is ready for use. Blow the whistle, start the game, step up to the tee, it's your turn. The lawn is perfect — the green puts true — the field has good traction!" Whatever the use, wherever the turf is ready for use is the key to modern Turf Management.

And, it should be that way. We have the best tools, the most chemicals, the most technology, the most varieties, and the bigger budgets to work with. We put together technology, tools, time and tedium towards producing that good turf.

Chemicals

We need to promote growth and protect from damage. There is no glory in having disease riddled turf. There is little merit in having **Poa annua** fail. Crabgrass killed by frost is less than the best. Severe dollarspots on fairways does not improve turf performance.

We are fortunate to have the monoculture of man in cities, in suburbia, as members of a community. We wish these people to be well fed, well entertained, and in a good environment — fine!

We must support them with other strong monocultures — the golf course ready for use, the highway prepared for travel, the orchard with healthy fruit, the fields with ample yields. Now what is the problem? If monoculture must be strong and must have its performance ecology-wise tied to the others, we can only dream of diluting our monoculture of man and with other monocultures less cared for. Therefore, let's plan and wisely use chemicals to produce strong monocultures.

Examples of Wise Usage

Throughout Europe, and until recently in the United States, **Poa annua** was an uncontrolled pest, affecting golf throughout its range of enjoyment. The seedheads, the bumpy green, the drying turf in summer, the smothered turf in winter — Oh! It was perfect at times. Today we have four systems of control the growth restriction route of Po-San; the seedling prevention route of Bandane, Dacthal and Betasan; the selective restricting route of arsenics. These are just tools that help to accomplish a program.

Today we estimate more than 2,000 golf courses (of more than 10,000 in play) are using calcium arsenate for selective **Poa annua** control, and hundreds have entire areas free of **Poa annua**, crabgrass and goosegrass. It is a success story — not easy to achieve, but worth while today. Takes a lot of technology, much tedium, and a strong dose of patience. But, it is quite a challenge to remove one plant, replace it with another; meanwhile permitting normal usage.

In our hew and cry we deplore burning. This has saddled you in the Chicago area with a very heavy burden of disposing of vegetative trash. If we are going to be gungho about growing vegetation we must anticipate vegetation removal. There is room for some wood chipping; there is room for some clipping composting; there is room for some burying, but it takes much knowledge to keep civilization on a firm footing. The cleanliness of our air is a replaceable resource. Those who understand this can contribute much in the future.

Superintendents have long been noted for their pride in their green thumb activities. They do know how to get the most out of grass. Now we have many chemicals to augment this process. Slow release fertilizers are commonplace; selective broadleaf weed control is commonplace; disease control with fungicides is commonplace. Today wisdom is using as little as possible to do the job as well as possible. Therein lies the finesse of the technical man in this technical age.

The Understanding of Green Committees

As technology advances, committees become policy makers; in fact, their challenge is to be well ahead on policy, so he turns to you - those representing clubs - and says - "Is your policy to be free of Poa annua," or "is it to leave the Poa annua?" Then when you establish that policy and back it with budget, the superintendent, having determined budget, needs to carry out your policy; has tedium of two years which you need to understand just enough to share with your fellow members as to principle and goal. As you have more capable superintendents, as they attend special seminars and programs, as they know their technology, this relieves committees of tedium, and places upon the superintendent the responsibility for program accomplishment

So far in turf we have lost the mercuries for fungicides, and one or two insecticides. This has not hurt our turf maintenance much. I believe we are over the hill in unfounded ecological regulation. Now we should be concerned — we should target the least possible usage, be extremely careful not to have the waste leftovers in streams, in sumps; to use our materials uniformly and wisely.

We should be concerned with personal safety, safety with equipment, and normal caution so that the human is protected while the work is being done. It will be a tragedy if we lose many of the products, but it need not occur. We have a voice — let's speak out for the need and the value, and keep our skirts clean in the programs employed.

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