

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

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Twenty-seventh Anniversary

Another year has rolled around. It seems like just yesterday that the first Bull Sheet was printed. How well I remember the first idea for a publication by the late Norm Johnson. After a discussion with Bob Williams and the present editor, Norm went to work. The first issues were one or two pages type written. Now it became necessary to have a name. The name "Bull Sheet" was suggested by Bob Williams. With the addition of the drawing of a large head of a bull it then became our Midwest Superintendents Association official bulletin.

At the beginning it was decided that there would be no advertising. However, due to its growth and cost of printing and mailing, it became necessary to accept advertising. I am happy to say that four of our first advertisers are still with us and we do appreciate all the others. If it were not for them the present quality of the Bull Sheet would not be possible.

The Bull Sheet has had only one printer, the Ever-Redi Company in La Grange. They have done a wonderful job for us these past twenty-seven years.

I want to thank all of the contributors for their many interesting and valuable news items during my term as editor, especially Stanley Rachesky, Entomologist, University of Illinois, for his educational articles. They have certainly been appreciated.

The Bull Sheet is mailed to individuals in various parts of the United States and Canada. We hope they appreciate receiving this publication as much as we enjoy sending it to them.



Cliff Behrendt

The June 11 meeting will be held at Turnberry Country Club on Bard Road, Crystal Lake, Ill. This is a fairly new golf course. I am sure most of you have never played it. Bring your golf clubs and enjoy yourself. If you are not going to play golf, come out and let our host, Superintendent Cliff Behrendt, show you around a beautiful piece of real estate.

I KNOW YOU BELIEVE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU THINK I SAID BUT I AM NOT SURE YOU REALIZE THAT WHAT YOU HEARD IS NOT WHAT I MEANT.

Bill Krafft

Editorial

... AND WE WISH TO THANK

It would be almost impossible to calculate the tremendous impact television has given to the game of golf. Starting with the Bing Crosby Tournament in January, some part of nearly every weekend is filled with golf of the finest caliber. It serves as a special pleasure for the sports enthusiast but most of all it stimulates a desire for every viewer to become a participant.

The professional golfer reaps the harvest of tournament winnings, endorsements, and other sources of income. And, justly so, for he has given millions of people hours of entertainment and a great boost to the game of golf. His image has helped create new courses, new golfers and new jobs. We wish that each could be successful, but the professional tour can be a heartbreaking, painful experience.

Most golfing telecasts are performed with the precision of a fine watch. Very few key situations are ever missed and with the marvel of the split screen it is not unusual to watch two contenders performing simultaneously on separate greens. These masters of the telecast leave little to chance and the viewer generally has a better view than the front row gallery. But, as the tournament draws to a conclusion and the winner becomes evident the commentator starts passing out the plaudits.

"We wish to thank good old Charlie Chester and his wonderful staff for such cordial treatment; the ladies of the N.R.A.; Buzz Brown and all of the folks at the P.P.A. for their usual tremendous job; Hector Hankins, the president of this elegant 7,000 yard layout; the gallant ladies who contributed their time by carrying the large score cards; Frank Fineline and the boys who did such a magnificent job over in the parking lot." The list is endless and anonymous to most viewers. But, as the cameras fade slowly into the sunset the one man who was responsible for the total beauty and playability of the course is seldom mentioned.

During the recent U. S. Open at Pebble Beach there were continuous "huzzahs" for the magnificent condition of the course. But, never were the magnificent few who spent months in preparation ever thanked, acknowledged or even recognized. From the moment a major tournament is scheduled, the superintendent is plagued with constant problems and worries. Pebble Beach problems were even more difficult because as a public course, all preparations were made in the midst of day to day play.

Yes, Mr. Commentator, let's not only thank the people who preceded the tournament by several weeks, but also the people who have shed sweat and tears to make the course a source of pride. And, please, Mr. Commentator, let's put a final professional touch to your job and not refer to this man as a club superintendent, a greenskeeper, a groundskeeper, or whatever comes to mind. Give him the title he deserves — "golf course superintendent". Most of all let's acknowledge, just as the golfers do, that his contributions were exceptional.

Jim Converse, Editor

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Editor

Midwest Breezes

The editor and Mrs. Gerber were recently in the Minneapolis area for a few days visiting relatives and friends. One of our truly good friends was a past president of the G.C.S.A.A. during the years of 1941-1945. Harold Stodola, one of the remaining active "Greenkeepers" and his better half, Ethel, made our visit most enjoyable. I also visited Woodhill Country Club where I started in golf course work in 1916. George Jenrich, Superintendent, is keeping the course in its usual fine condition.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Berg. Kristi Lynn, a 7 lb. 5 oz. girl, came to live with them on April 22, 1974.

Our May meeting, held at Woodmar Country Club, was well attended considering the cold day. Forty-three hardy golfers battled their way over a beautiful golf course made possible by Superintendent Roger LaRochelle. Seventy-eight enjoyed a delicious dinner. The educational part of the meeting was very interesting. Stan Frederiksen, from the Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, did an outstanding job in his presentation on disease control. Those in attendance went home with considerable knowledge gained. We thank the educational committee for their choice in a speaker.

Congratulations to Judy Opperman for winning two blue ribbons in the DuPage County Arts and Craft show for her macrame hammock and a wall hanging. She was the only two blue ribbon winner in the show. Her success qualifies her to enter the regional show in DeKalb.

Tony Reklevicous, who has been with Briarwood Country Club and with Paul N. Voykin, as head mechanic for the past 14 years, is recovering from major surgery in the Highland Park Hospital. Tony is rated as one of the finest golf course mechanics in the midwest and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

How can the Bull Sheet be improved? If you have any suggestions please send them to the editor.

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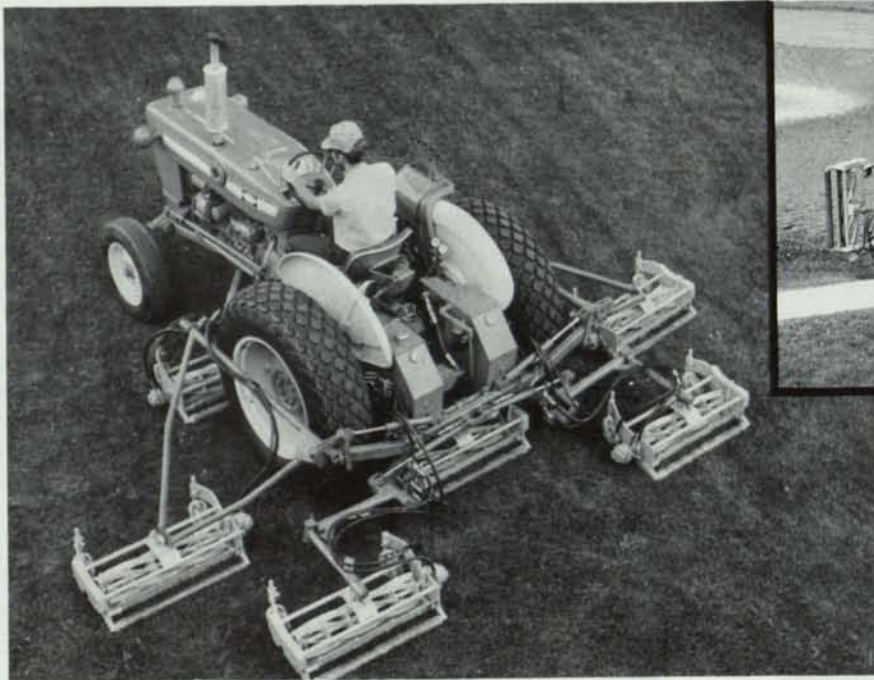
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Golf Digest,
Letters to the Editor,
c/o Larry Dennis,
297 Westport Avenue,
Norwalk, Conn. 06856
Dear Sir:

I want first to compliment Mr. Larry Dennis for his excellent article concerning slow golf play and how to speed up the game. However, as an ardent golf enthusiast, and an active participant for many years of this wonderful old game, I think that one major hindrance to fast play was missed by Mr. Dennis. I am referring to the number of unnecessary golf clubs that golfers carry.

In my opinion the average player carries far too many golf clubs. He doesn't need 14 clubs. And the time he spends, during the course of a round, in deciding which club to use (usually the wrong one) leads to slow play and much frustration. Frankly, if he had fewer clubs to cope with, he would have fewer decisions to make. Moreover, his game would improve. Although I have always had the greatest respect for golf professionals and, of course, for the fine craftsmanship of the golf club manufacturer, I think both groups are appealing to the golfer's vanity, rather than to what he really needs and can cope with. It's time to break up the sets of golf clubs and sell the golfer only what he needs.

The escalation of few clubs to the present high number of fourteen clubs is slowing the game. There has even been some discussion to go to a higher number—such as a seven wood, an eleven wood, and so on, which would total five woods and nine

irons plus a putter. (By the way, what the hell is an eleven wood?) It's time, I think, to quit fooling ourselves.

All we are doing is frustrating ourselves—and holding up play by wasting important time with 14 decisions (at least) about which club out of 14 to select. It's ridiculous. Can you picture a 20-handicap player deciding whether or not he should use a one iron for his next shot? In my opinion, all that any good player need to use is a driver, a 3, 5, and 8 iron, a sand wedge, and a putter (at the most one or two other clubs). Any more is a gross appeal to his vanity.

Consider, also, the fact that the smaller expense of a smaller golf set (along with a smaller bag) could get more beginners interested in the game, no matter what their income level. Golf, for better or worse an elite sport, would thus be able to compete better with other and less expensive sports like tennis and backyard paddle tennis. On top of all this, a young caddy would have more time to watch where the ball lands, and to pay more attention to his other golf duties, one of which is the proper club his golfer should use. This last is a lost art and no wonder. With that many clubs to choose from, how can any caddy be expected to know what club to use when the golfer himself is puzzled as to the selection? To compound the situation, the caddy also has to lug an unnecessary, exhausting 50-pound bag laden with 14 clubs plus an extra putter or wedge, a transistor radio, extra shoes, jacket, and other mishmash, along with practice balls and God knows what other idiosyncracies. Only half of these clubs can possibly be used for playing golf—and the other half for killing rattlesnakes, gophers, and other visions. It's a wonder that the caddies don't get more hernias. The present excessive number of clubs used by the average player is adding to frustration, slow play, tremendous expense, and perhaps the eventual downfall of this wonderful old game. It's time to quit listening to the sales pitch by the clubmakers and concentrate on faster and better golf play.

I remain yours truly for further discussion at the 19th hole.
Paul N. Voykin

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June 18, 1974

Chicago Botanic Garden
Glencoe, Illinois

Registration: 9:30-10:00 A.M.

FIELD TOUR (10:00 - 11:40)

- Stop 1 — Turfgrass Varietal Plots - A. J. Turgeon
 - Stop 2 — Turfgrass Disease Diagnosis -
M. C. Shurtleff and W. A. Meyer
 - Stop 3 — Insect Identification and Control -
R. Randell
 - Stop 4 — Ground Cover Display - F. A. Giles
- 11:40 - 1:30 — Break for lunch

WORKSHOP (1:30 - 3:30)

- Fungicide Evaluation Results and Recommendations
for Turfgrass - M. C. Shurtleff
- Helminthosporium Diseases of Bentgrass -
W. A. Meyer
- Insecticide Research on Turf - R. Randell
- Herbicide Research on Turf - A. J. Turgeon
- Care and Planting of Trees and Shrubs - F. A. Giles

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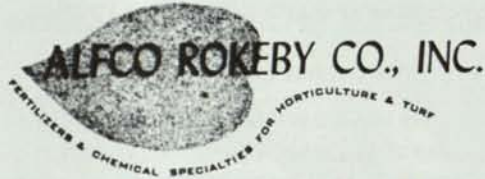
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Gypsy "Rose" Moth

by Stanley Rachesky
Entomologist — University of Illinois

Let me entertain you for the next few minutes presenting the fantabulous, stupendous, electrifying Gypsy "Rose" Moth, stripper of trees. Watch as she bumps and grinds her way through the branches, devouring every leaf in sight.

The gypsy moth, a voracious insect that has chomped its way through the forests of the East Coast may be positioning itself to threaten the woodlands of Illinois.

The first gypsy moth in Illinois was trapped in Palos Township in South Cook County by a ranger of the Cook County Forest Preserve District.

The moths in Illinois may have hitched rides on a variety of vehicles. Campers, railroad cars, or automobiles returning from the infested areas could have carried egg masses. The egg masses more than likely would go unnoticed by vehicle owners (who goes around looking for egg masses on his car?) The masses look like small sections of a sponge. In nature, they're found on tree bark, rocks, and many other places. The egg mass will contain anywhere from 50 to 800 eggs.

The caterpillars grow to about two inches in length. They have double rows of very conspicuous blue and red dots or tubercles down the length of the back. This caterpillar, also called a larvae, is the stage of the insect that does the damage to the trees. They can defoliate entire stands of forests. One caterpillar will eat a square foot of leaf surface every 24 hours.

The adult moth cannot feed. Its main purpose on this earth is to mate and lay eggs. Male moths have dark brown forewings and wingspread of about 1½ inches. They are strong fliers. The female moths on the other hand, are white with black wing markings, are much larger than the males, and surprisingly enough, do not fly.

The gypsy moth is not native to North America. It was introduced here in 1869 from Europe by a naturalist in Massachusetts who wanted to study them. They are kept under control in Europe by natural predators and parasites.

The imported moths in Massachusetts were accidentally freed during a violent windstorm and began to spread.

In Connecticut, over 365,000 acres have been defoliated as well as 240,000 acres in New York and 130,000 acres in New Jersey. Repeated defoliations will destroy a forest. It also increases fire hazards, permits soil erosion, and drastically effects wildlife.

In urban areas, the caterpillars have destroyed

shrubs around homes and trees in parks. They also can infest homes, stores, and swimming pools.

This column on gypsy moths has been written to inform and educate the public on a destructive insect that may, or may never, become a problem in Illinois. Don't go around thinking that every caterpillar or moth you see is a gypsy moth. At present, the chances are mighty slim you'll ever see one.

However, if you feel that the caterpillar you may have captured fits the description mentioned, send your specimen to the University of Illinois, 169 Natural Resources Building, Urbana, Illinois 61801. You may also send the specimen to the Illinois Division of Plant Industry, 999 N. Main Street, Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137. Either of these offices can give you a positive identification of the insect problem. An increase in the search for other possible specimens is being made in South Cook County area to determine the extent of the infestation.

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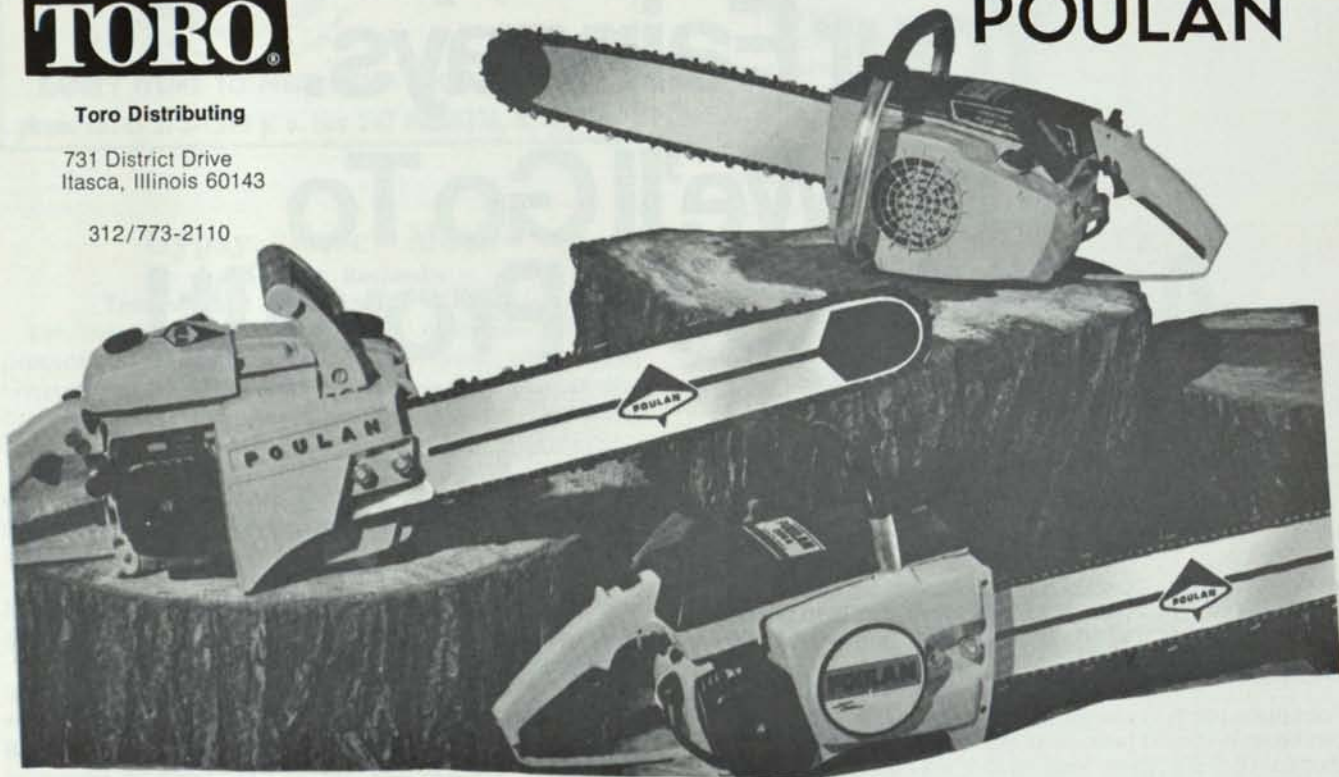
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ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS

The 1974 energy crisis provides an opportunity to evaluate the managerial procedures and operational techniques required for high turfgrass standards so vital to achievement of environmental beauty and ecological balance. We suggest a review and consideration of the management of budget, facilities, equipment, turfgrass and people.

BUDGET

- Budget for increasingly higher prices.
- Expect delays in deliveries of most products and supplies.
- Fuel costs represent some 2-3% of the total budget, whereas labor is estimated to be 65-70%.
- Should fuel costs double or triple, the major savings still will accrue through efficient management of the labor factor.
- Evaluate your equipment fleet against the tasks to be done.
- New capital expenditures for higher capacity, more efficient mowing and irrigation equipment will save both in labor and fuel expenditures.

FACILITIES

- Lower working temperatures in office and shop.
- Minimize interior and exterior lighting.
- Seek alternate heating methods and do not heat or cool non-essential areas.
- Consider use of insulation throughout the facility.

EQUIPMENT

- Keep engines tuned—adjust carburetor and ignition.

- Keep air cleaner and combustion chamber clean.
- Keep equipment properly adjusted and lubricated.
- Keep blades sharp to reduce friction loss.
- Keep tires properly inflated.
- Review owner's manual.
- Establish preventive maintenance procedures.

TURFGRASS

- Review all cultural practices and techniques.
- Test soils to determine pH and nutrient levels.
- Review fertilizer programs and products.
- Evaluate watering schedules — frequency, amount and timing.
- Correct all drainage problem area.
- Evaluate mowing schedules — frequency, timing, location.
- Evaluate adaptation and use of turfgrass varieties you now have versus characteristics to be found in "new" improved selections.
- Evaluate height of cut in relation to type of mowing equipment.
- Cultivate to insure efficient use of fertilizer, water and chemicals.
- Use pesticides wisely and maintain adequate programs for control of all pests, weeds, insects and diseases.

PEOPLE

- Review all tasks and establish priorities.
- Schedule equipment use to attain maximum efficiency.
- Retrain operators on mowing techniques, equipment operation and adjustment.

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