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Mike Bavier — President

### *The President's Message*

Golf Course Superintendent — keeper of the green — property manager — greenkeeper. These are just a few of the names we have been called and will be called in the future. Many times a group of us get together, the question comes up, "What do you think we should be called?" Do you think we really need to change our title again? To my thinking, this would be ludicrous. Some of the people still call us greenskeepers, which, of course, should be greenkeepers because we take care of more than just the greens. Some call us golf course superintendents, and the rest probably don't even know who we are or what we do.

No matter what the name, I firmly believe the professionalism with which we carry out our duties will have more to do for us than any change in name. There are many aggressive superintendents, young as well as old, that will not rest until we are elevated to the stature of the other department heads of the club, such as the golf professional. This is the great American way of life—that everyone has an equal opportunity and thus we should, and rightfully so, pursue this goal. Those aggressive individuals have set their goals on the superintendent being recognized as an important "profession". This is not a one shot deal or pay-off. By becoming professional in every possible way, we will expand our opportunities to show the golfing people what the game is all about. We are the ones that give them that beautiful course that they can relax on while forgetting some of their worries. But we must realize one basic thing—crawling always comes before walking. Being recognized as a profession will take time and a lot of hard work. We should continue to be aggressive and pursue our goals of being recognized as a vital artery of the club operation.

What does "professionalism" mean? Attitude, appearance, public relations, how well we get the job done—all go into being a professional, not merely having a specific title. (Having plenty of green grass sure does help, too!) This doesn't necessarily mean we need to wear a sport coat most of the time—to the contrary, I firmly believe in helping where help is needed, not making a habit of any one job but not worrying about getting my hands or shoes dirty. More than ever today, employees like a helping hand and sincere concern and understanding from the boss. The change of hats from employee to supervisor, and then changing clothes to have lunch with the members is, to

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## MAGCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1975

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The following is a list of office telephone numbers for the entire Board.

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my thinking, the epitome of professionalism. This is a drastic change from our days of isolation, when many of us would not visit the clubhouse or have any desire to meet the members.

So, again you might ask what really is the best name for us to be called? I doubt very much anyone can answer that question and possibly they never will. But the name itself is not important. We should get paid for what we do and how we go about it. Thus, in our endeavor to become more professional at our jobs, we will enhance our stature at the clubs at which we work and the title we have will be symbolic of our professionalism.

### MAKE WINTER USEFUL

by Carl G. Hopphan  
G.C. Supt., Aurora C.C.

The many long cold days from December through March, when our golf course turf is dormant and usually covered with a great blanket of snow, can provide valuable hours for creating; creating new and better things for future growing seasons. A number of winters ago I made a promise to myself or maybe the word challenge would be better suited, that each and every Winter season would produce something new and better for my golf course.

I strive to add some form of beauty to an area of the course and also to create a *something* that will make maintaining the golf course better, easier, and faster.

Perfect turf is not always the complete answer. Too many of our members or golfers take the beautiful turf surface of #1 tee for granted, it's supposed to be that way, but design a nice looking arrangement of flowering containers to the tee post and all of a sudden you're a genius. If this is what it takes, why fight it, most golfers can not appreciate a complete fertilization and pesticide program, but they surely go wild over petunias. I have added different stone and floral arrangements to just about every tee on the course and keeping them simple and easily maintained eliminates adding a costly item to my budget.

My *something* for this year involves consolidating a small Onan generator, a Speedaire air compressor, and a 3.5 H.P. Briggs and Stratton gas engine on a small homemade trailer. The trailer is very easily pulled around the golf course by a truckster and in just one month has made it one of my most valuable items. The generator gives us electrical power to operate trimming equipment that is far lighter to handle, making the edging of sand traps and trimming around trees etc. a much quicker and far easier task. The air compressor which is run by the Briggs engine will enable us to spray paint tee posts, fences, gates, and curbing around the clubhouse area. In previous years these painting jobs all had to be done by hand with a brush and quite frankly did not get done as often as they should.

At a time when it seems to be quite popular to upgrade our profession, I would think that a little creativeness or call it upgrading ourselves, can't do anything but help this cause.

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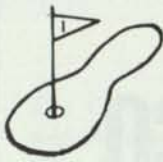
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The July meeting will be at Crystal Lake C.C., Jack Hanson, host Superintendent.



Brairwood C.C. Supt. *Paul Voykin* is getting his golf game in condition. He has it down to one shot per hole on a 140 yd. hole on Friday the 13th. Who says that 13 is not lucky? It was witnessed by three Brairwood members.

I am sure *Paul* carried out the usual procedure pertaining to anyone making a hole in one and making it possible to hear the clinking of glasses in the cocktail lounge.

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Editor

## MIDWEST BREEZES

At our May 22nd meeting, held at Inverness C.C. MAGCS President Mike Bavier presented Richard Trevarthan, Supt. at Prestwick C.C., with the GCSAA Certification Award. Congratulations, Dick.

The one hundred seventeen members attending this meeting were impressed with his talk. The day was beautiful and seventy-seven members played golf on a fine conditioned golf course. The golf committee, under the guidance of Carl Hopphan, chairman, presented many prizes to the winners.

*John Chovanec*, for many years a field director for Chicago District Golf Association, has retired and taken a position as tournament director for the Illinois P.G.A. Good luck, John.

The MAGCS will hold their annual fall dinner and dance at Midwest Golf Club on November 15th.

The Bull Sheet carried a mistake in several issues, "not intentionally," in the Midwest Ass'n Bulletin. The editor is happy to know that there is someone who reads the entire Bull Sheet. Thank you Park Ridge C.C. Supt. Carl Gassl.

The Chicago area golf courses are at this date in the height of their golf season. The weather has been good also not so good depending on one's location. High winds damaged many trees, yet a half mile away no high winds, but rains caused flooding. Another storm brought hail and heavy rain; one hundred yards away no rain or hail. Really a freakish season so far but not bad for turfgrass.

If anyone of you have any local news send it to me, the editor. I am sure others would like to hear about it. It could be of an educational value and this would make it even more worthwhile. The mail carrier pays me a visit six days a week. I will be looking for a letter or card from you. Thanks.

Our June 9th meeting of the MAGCS was held at the beautiful Hinsdale Golf Club. Carl Landgrebe, host Supt., had the golf course and club house grounds in excellent condition. Sixty-four members played golf. The course and weather was perfect. The hospitality,

dinner and service was of the best. Our many thanks to the club and employees for making this day a most enjoyable one.

*Robert Williams*, Supt. at Bob O'Link Golf Club was presented with the Charles Bartlett Plaque. This is an award given to one of our members in appreciation for his outstanding contribution toward the greenkeeping profession. Congratulations, *Bob*.

*Carl Grassl*, Supt. at Park Ridge C.C. also received at the June 9th meeting by President *Mike Bavier* the G.C.S.A.A. Certification Plaque. Carl's name will be added to the list as a certified Golf Course Superintendent.

Dr. Al Turgeon from the University of Illinois was our guest speaker at our June meeting. Dr. Turgeon gave a very interesting talk along with slides explaining some of the research work that is being done at the University. Some of this work is in a long range program and will bring considerable valuable information to the turfgrass industry. We sure appreciated his attendance and bringing us up-to-date on their research work. Al mentioned chemicals used in excess could change the growing habits of the plant and hinder its growing habit. This maybe something to keep in mind.



**Marshall Dann**

Marshall Dann, Executive Director of the Western Golf Association, was our guest speaker at the May meeting. Mr. Dann explained the many details required, and certainly necessary, when sponsoring a National Golf Tournament.

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The 1975 United States Open Golf Tournament is now past history. I am sure it will not be forgotten for many years by the U.S.G.A. Committee, Members of Medinah Country Club and especially Superintendent John Jackman. John lived with #3 course for the past three years. The course at the first part of the week of the tournament was in perfect condition, just beautiful. And then came the rains. A big percentage of the preparation had disappeared. When things of this kind happen, what does one do? It would fill a book to explain all the details that were required and the work that is involved after everyone has gone home. Cheer up, *John*, it is only three months until hunting season.

The editor personally wants to thank the United States Golf Association for their consideration in making it possible for the Class A Members of the Golf Course Supts. Association to be admitted to the Open Golf Tournament without charge and a special thanks to Lee Record, U.S.G.A. director, and the U.S.G.A. for the photographer pass that I was most happy with.

## ARE BIRCH TREES ON THEIR WAY OUT

Birch trees offer some of the most beautiful landscape trees available to the home gardener. Unfortunately though, these trees are threatened by an insect pest that is making them very difficult to grow. The pest is bronze birch borer and is capable of killing even large old trees says James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Extension Horticulturist in Cook County.

Infestation is first noticed when tips of upper branches turn brown. These branches progressively die back until the entire tree is killed. Branches infested by borer often exhibit swollen ridges on the branch. When you look at the inner bark of an infested branch you will see numerous burrows. The burrows are packed with sawdust and contain a small white grub.

The grub will complete its growth and emerge in June as a tiny beetle. Beetles cut their way out of a branch, leaving small "D" shaped holes. The beetle then lays eggs in the cracks of the bark. The eggs hatch in about 10 days. The borer then works its way back into the tree to repeat the cycle.

Control is very difficult especially in severe infestations. The recommended material is Cygon (dimethoate). Most effective applications are made the first and third week of June.

Trees should also be fertilized and watered to maintain vigorous growth. Pruning can also be used to remove infested branches thus reducing overwintering populations.

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**REFERENCE BOOKS**  
by Stanley Rachesky  
Entomologist - University of Illinois

Reference books are a necessary part of one's profession. However, they must be readily available to answer a variety of questions received from your clientele. The following is a list of some of the references I use in my office to assist me in answering the myriad of questions I receive from residents of northern Illinois.

Borror, D.J., DeLong, D.W.  
*AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF INSECTS*  
(New York, NY: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, Inc.) 1964

Borror, D.J., White, R.E.  
*A FIELD GUIDE TO THE INSECTS*  
(Boston, Mass.: Houghton Mifflin Co.) 1970

Carter, Cedric J.  
*ILLINOIS TREES: THEIR DISEASES*  
(Urbana, IL: State of Illinois, Dept. of Registration and Education) 1964

Carter, Cedric J.  
*ILLINOIS TREES: SELECTION, PLANTING AND CARE*  
(Urbana, IL: State of Illinois, Dept. of Registration and Education) 1970

Darlington, Arnold  
*THE POCKET ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PLANT GALLS*  
(London, England: Blanford Press 1968)

English, L.C.  
*ILLINOIS TREES & SHRUBS, THEIR INSECT ENEMIES*  
Circular 47  
(Urbana, IL: State of Illinois, Dept. of Registration and Education, Natural History Survey Division) 1968

Fichter, George S.  
*INSECT PESTS*  
(New York, NY: Golden Press) 1968

Forsberg, J.L.  
*DISEASES OF ORNAMENTAL PLANTS*,  
Special Publication #3  
(Urbana, IL: University of Illinois College of Agriculture) 1963

Helper, Jacques R.  
*HOW TO KNOW THE GRASSHOPPERS, COCKROACHES & THEIR ALLIES*  
(Dubuque, Iowa: Wm. C. Brown Co.) 1972

Hermes, W. B., James, M.T.  
*MEDICAL ENTOMOLOGY*  
(New York, NY: The MacMillan Co.) 1961

Jacques, H.E.  
*HOW TO KNOW THE BEETLES*  
(Dubuque, Iowa: Wm. C. Brown Co.) 1971

Kaston, B.J.  
*HOW TO KNOW THE SPIDERS*  
(Dubuque, Iowa: Wm. C. Brown Co.) 1972

Levi, Herbert  
*SPIDERS AND THEIR KIN*  
(New York, NY: Golden Press) 1968

Mallis, Arnold  
*HANDBOOK OF PEST CONTROL*  
(New York, NY: MacNair-Dorland Company) 1964

Metcalf, C. L., Flint, W. P., Metcalf, R. L.  
*DESTRUCTIVE AND USEFUL INSECTS: THEIR HABITS AND CONTROL*  
(New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Book Co.) 1962

Mohlenbrock, Robert H.  
*FOREST TREES OF ILLINOIS*  
(Springfield, IL: Department of Conservation, State of Illinois) 1955

Moucha, Josef, Prochaska, F.  
*BEAUTIFUL MOTHS*  
(London, England: Spring Books) 1966

Shurtleff, M.C.  
*HOW TO CONTROL PLANT DISEASES IN THE HOME AND GARDEN*  
(Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press) 1966

Tehon, Leo P.  
*FIELDBOOK OF NATIVE ILLINOIS SHRUBS*  
(Urbana, IL: State of Illinois Dept. of Registration and Education Natural History Survey Division) 1942

Von Frisch, Karl  
*BEEES, THEIR VISION, CHEMICAL SENSES, AND LANGUAGE*  
(Ithaca, NY: Vail-Ballou Press, Inc.) 1971

Wilson, E. O.  
*THE INSECT SOCIETIES*  
(Cambridge, Mass.: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press) 1971

The following is a list of popular University of Illinois pamphlets. These may be obtained at your local Cooperative Extension Service office. Your University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service office is as close as your phone book and is usually listed under the county, e.g., Cook County Cooperative Extension Service.

*LANDSCAPING AND YOUR COMMUNITY*

- C858 *LANDSCAPING YOUR HOME \$2.00*
- NC-12 *LAWN DISEASES IN THE MIDWEST*
- SP24 *POISONOUS PLANTS OF THE MIDWEST \$2.00*
- C882 *ILLINOIS VEGETABLE GARDEN GUIDE*
- C930 *FLOWERING ANNUALS FOR SUN AND SHADE*
- C935 *GROWING SMALL FRUITS IN THE HOME GARDEN*
- C981 *GROWING TOMATOES AT HOME*
- C997 *GARDENING IN CONTAINERS*
- C998 *TREE FRUIT AND NUT VARIETIES*
- C1001 *HOME ORCHARD PEST CONTROL*
- C1059 *CARE FOR YOUR TREES*
- C1061 *TREE DAMAGE AROUND CONSTRUCTION SITES*
- C1066 *LAWN ESTABLISHMENT*
- C1076 *TURFGRASS PEST CONTROL*
- C1033 *PRUNING EVERGREENS AND DECIDUOUS TREES AND SHRUBS*
- C1051 *CONTROLLING WEEDS IN THE HOME GARDEN*
- C962 *PETUNIAS FOR COLOR*

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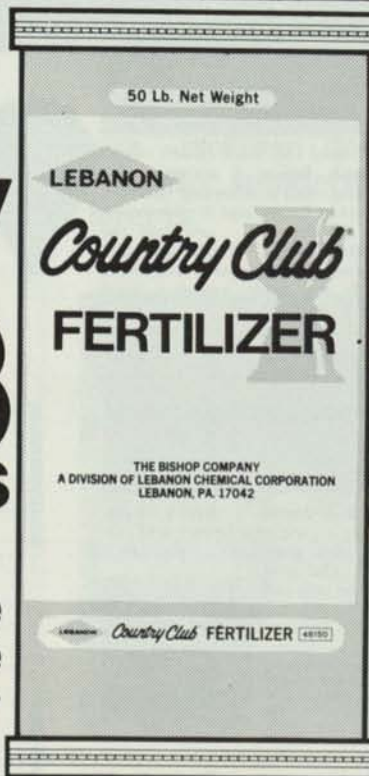
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Richard Valentine, Golf Course Superintendent at Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, Pa. is the second superintendent in Merion's famous 79-year history, succeeding his father, Joseph, who held the position for 54 years.



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