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Mike Bavier — President

The President's Message

"Hell, no, he's the President and shouldn't need any advice," Harry S. Truman replied when asked if he had given President John F. Kennedy any advice when paying him a visit. This also was quoted to me in a letter from one of the Midwest past presidents. Thanks anyway, Eddie, but I'm not a J. F. K.!

As you might imagine, many vocal comments are made, along with an occasional letter, to the president. This, of course, is the privilege of each of the members. As president of any organization, one looks to the membership for guidance and must always consider what the membership wants and needs. However, when you get right down to the "nitty gritty", the truth is that the decisions must be made by the president. He must do this with the **total** membership in mind, which sometimes means there might be a couple of his friends that will not agree with his decisions. This cannot be helped. So what does this all mean? Simply, that while your suggestions and ideas are more than welcome, I can only try to do what is right for all.

Since this is being written before leaving for New Orleans, I would like to say thanks to all from this area and from many other areas of the country for the opportunity to represent you at the National. Whatever the outcome of the election, win or lose, I will try to take it in stride, remembering my friends that were so helpful. Your support has been more than any one man can ask for. Thanks again.

One last thought before I'm on the road to the sunshine state. Those many trying times of the summer sure are brightened with a nice vacation of sun and fun including a side trip to the National Conference, which gives us all the opportunity to broaden our knowledge in the turf fields. If you were unable to travel this year or attend the conference for one reason or another, next winter put the two of them on the top of your list—you, your family, and your club will all benefit. Keep smiling and happy vacation!

Jon D. Heimsness, assistant golf course superintendent at Wayzata, Minn., would like to locate in the Chicago area. His resume sounds good. If you know of anyone looking for an assistant, they can get in touch with Jon at Wayzata C. C., Wayzata, Minn. Phone 612 473-8846.

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

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Editorial

by Bruce A. Burchfield
Superintendent Calumet Country Club

As I sit here on this January day, one might think my main thoughts would primarily be concerned with the usual winter chores of getting ready for the upcoming season and anticipating a trip to our National Conference. However, I have had a very trying experience which has occupied the majority of my time. I would like to relate this experience to some of the younger superintendents, such as myself, and to the more experienced ones also, who possibly may have not had this problem.

A new irrigation system was installed last season at our club. Before proposing the new system to the general membership, we (The Board of Governors and myself) contacted the local well works company and requested all the information which they may have on our two wells. They were very cooperative and told us we have good wells and our pumps should be in good condition, due to recent repairs. The galonage required for the new system was the same as required for the old system, and there appeared to be no problem. I proposed to The Board of Governors that we have tests run on both wells anyway. But, due to the fine report the well works company had given us, and the recent repairs, it was decided that the testing was not necessary at the present time.

Now the problem begins. The new irrigation system was completed and we found that we were short of water and pressure. Once again the well works company was contacted. They now think that the pump bowls and impellers could be worn, or possibly we need a couple of stages added to the present pump. Lowering the pump to a deeper setting would also be done with the addition of the stages, to insure the possibility of not breaking suction. The well works people were doubtful if acidizing would be beneficial.

After discussing this matter with the superintendents in the neighborhood, one suggested I contact C. E. (Scotty) Stuart on the matter. Scotty stated that according to his last test of our well (1957), and comparing it with the wells in the area, that we should be producing much more water.

Because of the fact that the well was only an eight inch hole (drilled in 1918), could it be that the 7'-5/8" pump was actually plugged off the top fissures of the well over the past several months. The pump was lowered 20 ft. (80' - 100') two years previous. We decided we would raise the pump back to its original setting (80'), and acidize with one thousand gallons of 15% muriatic acid. Lo and behold we not only increased our water capacity back to its original expectations, but also added an additional 150 gpm (90 gpm - 500 gpm).

The reasoning became so very apparent. The pump was actually blocking off the top fissures of the well, and a gradual bridging was forming between the large pump and the bore of the well. The acidizing

cleaned out the fissures which had not been used to their full capacity.

The cost to acidize and adjust the pump came to a total under \$3,000.00, quite a lot less than drilling a new well or purchasing a new pump, which in this case would not have helped anyway. I am convinced that one cannot afford not to contact a knowledgeable individual, such as an irrigation or civil engineer, who knows the situation of the wells and water tables in your area, before hiring a well works company to either sell you a new pump or drill a new well.

A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT THE WORLD FOOD SHORTAGE

As most of you have read recently we, in the turf industry, have been blamed for a good portion of the food shortages in the world.

We are fertilizing our grass on our golf courses when people in other parts of the world are not able to buy fertilizer and consequently they are starving to death.

Nothing is being said about the fertilizer used to grow tobacco, which we all know is of no benefit to man — (It actually kills people because of the cancer caused by smoking) maybe that's not all bad either because then we would have fewer people to feed.

Nothing is being said about the alcohol being produced from grain and hops — these all need fertilizer too.

What about all the pets that mess up our lawns and golf courses? It is estimated that our cats and dogs in America consume enough food to feed over 10,000,000 people — No one mentions this point — because the Humane Society would not allow it.

We don't have a lobby in Washington to extol the benefits of turf in America.

Sure, golf is a rich man's game. But he needs this sport to wind down after a tough day at work. It is mentally rewarding.

The oxygen produced by the grass is also beneficial —

A plot of grass 25 feet x 25 feet (625 square feet) can produce enough oxygen to support the life of four people.

There are seventy such plots per acre or enough oxygen produced to sustain the life of 280 people per acre.

Most golf courses average 130 acres in area so the average golf course supports 36,400 people.

The State of Michigan has over 500 golf courses located throughout the State. This is enough grass to support the oxygen needs of 18,300,000 people There are over 11,000 golf courses in America.

Some other beneficial aspects of turf are:

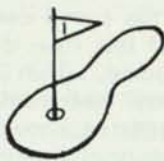
Erosion control caused by wind and water; Air purification (turns CO into O); it is valuable in noise abatement; cools the air, reduces glare, and increases property value.

The next time someone feels that we are responsible for the starvation of people because of our fertilizer use — just point out all the good we are doing for America. We are supporting life through oxygen production, and because of this, we have been helping to keep the air fit for breathing, which perhaps is more important than food.

Taken from **A Patch of Green**

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Charles Baskin, President GCSAA, presents the Distinguished Service Award to Ray Gerber.

RAY GERBER SAYS THANK YOU

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO THANK ALL OF YOU INDIVIDUALLY FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND SUPPORT FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO RECEIVE THE G.C.S.A.A. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD. THE GREATEST TRIBUTE THE ASSOCIATION CAN BESTOW UPON AN INDIVIDUAL. I CERTAINLY AM PROUD OF THIS AWARD AND I WILL CHERISH IT AS LONG AS I LIVE.

I WOULD LIKE TO PASS ALONG A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS, ALSO THE CHICAGO-LAND GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION AND THE G.C.S.A.A. BOARD WHO HAD THE FINAL WORD, AND FINALLY, A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO, ROBERT WILLIAMS, PAUL VOYKIN AND MIKE BAVIER, M.A. G.C.S. PRESIDENT, WHO MADE THE INVESTIGATION OF MY PAST FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS ON A GOLF COURSE.

I AM MORE THAN HAPPY TO BE ONE OF THE THREE WHO RECEIVED THIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ALONG WITH DR. BILL DANIEL FROM PURDUE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXTENSION WORK. ALSO DR. FRED GRAU FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION THROUGH PROMOTION AND PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROGRAMS IN THE U.S.G.A. AND THE U.S.D.A.

MOWER ADJUSTMENT AND SPEED

The Bull Sheet editor, being one of the older men in the golf course maintenance work, has decided to do a little investigating on what is happening in regards to mowing fairways and rough. Surely the precision work is more refined on a mower today than years ago. This does not make it more fool proof and this statement is being proven. Who is at fault if the bed knives get wavy and also the reel blades? The pride that the operator used to have in his work seems to be a lost art. The older men with years of experience in mowing are still getting by with very few problems. So the trouble must be due to the operator and also the man who adjusts the mowers. The reel blades and the bedknife should be adjusted so they just touch each other all the way across. One may call it zero, zero. The next step is the speed the

operator should travel. Will he reduce his speed when making a short turn? I doubt it, unless the person in charge make it a definite order and then checks occasionally to make sure his order is being adhered to.

Mowers used to cut sparse turfgrass should be very carefully adjusted. In occasions of this kind there is not enough grass leaves to keep the edges of the reel blades and bedknife lubricated. When this takes place, look out for trouble.

What are some of the other reasons that bed knives get wavy. One of them surely is the speed that the mower is traveling. Did you know that a tractor traveling five miles per hour, pulling a seven gang Toro fairway of Toro rough mowers with 14" wheels, and the operator makes a short turn so the inside mower is not moving forward and the speed not reduced, that the outside mower is traveling nine miles per hour and the R.P.M. of the reel is 1638. On a nine gang under the same circumstance the outside mower is traveling ten miles per hour and the reel has an R.P.M. of 1797.

Looking at it anyway you want to, this is too much speed and I am sure lawn mowers are not made to be operated in this manner.

Many times one notices tractor wheel impressions in the fairways, mostly near the outer edges. This can be overcome by straddling the wheel marks each day of the week. On one day of the week put the outside mower out of gear and raise the rear part of the mower.

The question many times is asked, why does the bedknife and reel blades get wavy on the mower behind the tractor wheels. The cause of this is usually due to the mower being adjusted too tight and the grass is pressed down by the wheel leaving no green grass to lubricate the bedknife and the reel blades.

How about making a resolution this spring; "no more injury to the bark of the young trees." A good resolution for the tractor operator.

To: Professional and Personal Friends
From: Oscar L. Miles, C.G.C.S.
Subject: My Position Change Notice
Dear Friends:

Beginning March 1, 1975, I am happy to report, I will be employed at a beautiful club in Indianapolis, Indiana, the Broadmoor Country Club, as the golf course and grounds superintendent. I have officially submitted my letter of resignation to the fine organization at Olympia, as of January 18, 1975.

May I take this opportunity to express my warmest best wishes and thanks to each friend and business associate I have had the pleasure of getting to know in the great golf and golf course management field. Your kindnesses and support has been very important to me and has contributed to my success.

Please consider this your invitation to visit us when you are in the "Hoosier" state. Our new club address is:

Broadmoor Country Club
2155 N. Kessler Blvd., W. Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208

Good luck, God bless and may your fairways be forever green.

Cordially yours,
Oscar L. Miles
C.G.C.S.

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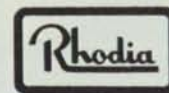
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MORE GOLF HISTORY FROM CHICAGO GOLF CLUB

In 1941 Mr. Dave Foulis, then the golf professional at the Hinsdale Golf Club, was asked to recount his memories of his early employment at the Chicago Golf Club. His letter follows — verbatim.

"In 1895 Jim Foulis was engaged as pro and green-keeper arriving from St. Andrews, Scotland, in March, 1895. Brother Bob came out in June to the Lake Forest Golf Club — now Owentsia. At the Chicago Golf Club they had golf in the summer and curling — pidgeon shooting and turkey shoots on Thanksgiving day and Christmas.

They bought sheep to graze on the course and there were two horses to mow the course, with boots on them.

In 1896 my brother Jim couldn't take care of everything so I, Dave, came out to assist him. We were busy making golf clubs and balls which were made of Gutta Percha then.

In 1897 Macdonald got creeping bent seed direct from Holland, a seed merchant there. (It) was the first bent seed that came over from Europe and we found out it was good for putting greens.

In 1897 a Mr. John Shoop, a grass expert who was engaged in 1893 to do the landscaping at the Exposition in Chicago, came to the club with several kinds of grass seeds and made plots on the north end of the polo field—of course, the polo field wasn't there then—and found out that Kentucky bluegrass and red top were best for the fairways, So we had, I remember, three tons of Ky. Bluegrass seed and one ton red top put on the fairways.

In 1898 there was a Professional tournament held at the club—they had ten matches between Onwentsia and the club members.

In 1899 a power mower was bought—the first one to be used on the golf course. It was driven by **Batteries**—no gas.

As time moved on we, Jim and I, made sand traps (and) some of the traps and mounds are still there, also some of the greens.

As time moved on there were several golf clubs opened up around Chicago. Almost every one had their members come to see and play the Chicago Golf Club course so that they could improve upon theirs."



Bob Williams, one of the speakers at New Orleans G.C.S.A.A. Conference.

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ILLINOIS TURF FOUNDATION FIELD DAY

The 1975 I. T. F. Field Day and open house will be held September 16, 1975, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting will get underway at the turf plots at the University of Illinois in Urbana. Specialists in turf management, plant pathology, entomology, weed control, etc. will lead the discussions. Your specific questions will be answered.

A tour of the turf plots will take place with a short summary of the work being done at each stop.

The 16th Annual I. T. F. Conference will be held at the Ramada Inn in Champaign, Ill. December 10, 11, 12, 1975.

Once again all sessions, housing, and banquet will be under one roof.

Schedule of speakers and topics will be announced later.

MOVING IMPORTANT NOTICE

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David Meyer, Host Superintendent

NOTICE OF MARCH MEETING

Date: Monday, March 17th, 1975 (St. PAT'S DAY)
Time: Lunch 1:00 P.M.
Place: NORDIC HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
Host: Mike Gruening & Dave Meyers
Meal: Cornbeef & Cabbage — \$5.00
Directions: Located on Nordic Road, West of Rt. 53, between Rt. 19 (Irving Park) & Rt. 20 (Lake St.) Club is west of Itasca.
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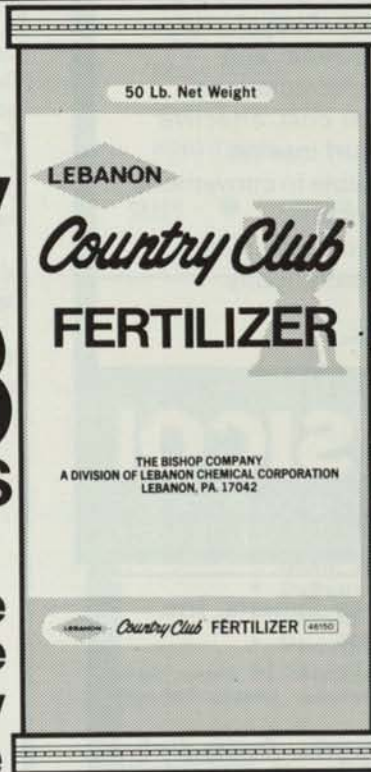
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The G.C.S.A.A. 46th Annual Conference and Equipment Show in New Orleans was a huge success.

Registration was at an all time high with an attendance of 4900.

The keynote address by Chris Schenkel, ABC-TV Sports Commentator, was one of the highlights of the show.

As far as the "Bull Sheet" editor is concerned, receiving the Distinguished Service Award was a memorable occasion.

The ladies golf tournament held in Florida was won by Sil Michels, wife of Superintendent Harold Michels of McHenry Country Club, with a score of 72-73. Congratulations.

The equipment show was very interesting. Many new models of equipment were on display, as well as new fertilizers, chemicals, and other necessary products used in turf maintenance.

The annual banquet on Thursday night was a sell-out with entertainment of top quality.

An evening visit on Bourbon St. was an education in itself — quite different from our educational program at Rivergate. Quite an experience.

The results of the election were:

Palmer Maples, Jr. — President
Richard Malpass — Vice President
George Cleaver — Director
Gordon Witteveen — Director
Louis Haines — Director

Contact: Dr. Bill Meyer (312) 974-3000

The ILLINOIS TURFGRASS FOUNDATION will be sponsoring a Golf Day on August 25, 1975 at INDIAN LAKES COUNTRY CLUB, 232 W. Schick Road, Bloomingdale, Ill.

This affair is being held to raise funds to support turfgrass research at the UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS. Tickets will be sold to individuals and will include golf, golf carts, Hors d'Oeuvres and dinner. Tee off times will be available between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Tickets will be available starting in May from Directors of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, and members of the Golf Day Committee.

The Golf Committee will be approaching members of the Turfgrass Industry to help sponsor the Golf Day.

Other activities for the day will include sod strength contests and contests to determine which putting greens have the deepest roots in August. Details will be announced at a later date.

GOLF DAY COMMITTEES

Golf Course Group

Ken Quandt	Dave Fearis
Dave Meyer	Wally Fuchs
Dudley Smith	Roger La Rochelle
Albie Staudt	William Meyer
Pete Bild	Pete Vandercook
Ray Gerber	

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