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Mike Bavier — President

The President's Message

Turf Research is on the upswing in Illinois. Many of you were part of the Illinois Turfgrass Day (August 25th) at Indian Lakes Golf Club. The enthusiasm that was shown was outstanding. I guess when you have two fine people like Dr. Turgeon and the Dean of Agriculture, Orville Bently, who, by the way, took time out from his busy schedule to show up for the day, working for their cause becomes a little easier. The committee, headed by Roger LaRochelle, did a superior job of making arrangements for the day with everything running like clockwork. The weather even cooperated—in fact, it was a cool day, something we had little of this summer.

Many people get a little put off when asked to make contributions—not so this time. The generosity was phenomenal as shown by the numerous gifts given by clubs, the Chicago District Golf Association, and even by the distributors who so heartily dug into their pockets for donations. I feel a little discouraged, however, that we got such poor coverage from many of our local papers. Possibly they missed the importance of the day. Every one of us will benefit from the research that will be carried on—the home owner, apartment dweller, and the like. Without turfgrass, the state would be pretty desolate, not to mention the oxygen given off for each of us.

The swing of the pendulum to putting monies in research rather than towards scholarships is very much to my liking and that of many of my friends. The continuous flooding of turf scholarships must come to an end. I didn't say to discontinue the giving of scholarships entirely, but we should use some discretion in how many are given out. Just as children become accustomed to receiving candy for no reason other than to keep them from crying, we should refrain from giving out an abundance of scholarships that would encourage people into a profession that is as demanding as ours. We need good people but giving too many of them a chance doesn't really get me excited.

Illinois has started a research fund that seems to be a step in the right direction. This shows some foresight in that we are looking after the interest of our clubs and the people of our state. Now the turf researchers must take over and give us some quality information and maybe something within a year, not twenty years down the line. The continued success and fine results of the program, I'm sure, will depend on continued enthusiasm by the researchers and ourselves.

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The sympathy of the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is extended to the entire Raymond Davis family due to the death of Ray. Raymond was a retired golf course superintendent formerly at Medinah C.C. and North Shore C.C. He supervised the building and maintenance work at Arlington Park Towers golf course. He also was a past president of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, and a member of the golf course Superintendents Association. He passed away at the age of 71.

The sympathy of the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is extended to the Al Purvey family of McHenry, Ill. Mr. Purvey passed away on August 24th, 1975. He was an AA member of the G.C.S.A.A. and of the M.A.G.C.S. Al was the golf course superintendent at McHenry Country Club for 48 years prior to his retirement 15 years ago. He was active at McHenry C.C. until the day of his death.

THE PROOF OF A GOLFER

by Edgar Guest

The proof of the pudding is the eating they say,
 But the proof of a golfer is not
 The number of strokes he takes in a day
 Or the skill he puts into a shot.
 There is more to the game than the score which you
 make

Here's a truth which all golfers endorse:
 You don't prove your worth by the shots which you
 make;

But the care which you take of the course.

A golfer is more than a ball-driving brute
 He is more than a mug-hunting czar.
 To be known as a golfer, you don't have to shoot,
 The course of your home club in par.
 But you do have to love every blade of the grass,
 Every inch of the fairway and greens.
 If you don't take care of the course as you pass;
 You're not what "a good golfer" means.

Just watch a good golfer some day when you're out,
 And note what he does as he plays,
 He never goes on leaving divots about,
 'till the grass is put back, there he stays.
 Observe him in traps as he stands for his shot,
 Then note when the ball has been played,
 He never unthinkingly turns from the spot,
 'till he's covered the footprints he made.

You may brag of your scores and may boast of your
 skill,

You may think as a golfer you're good;
 But if footprints you make, in traps you don't fill,
 You don't love the game as you should.
 For your attitude unto the sport you enjoy,
 Isn't proven by brilliance or force;
 The proof of a golfer—now get this my boy,
 Is the care that you take of the course.

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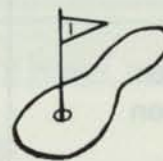
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A SEASON OF EXTREMES FOR 1975

Fred Opperman CGCS, Supt. Glen Oak C.C.

In my opinion this year has been one of the toughest to keep grass. We had a super spring and all turf came out of the winter in excellent shape.

I don't know how many Superintendents keep track of the temperatures and rain fall during the year, but I do. I have a Taylor recording thermometer which records the temperature 24 hours per day for one week. I have had this machine for about 7-8 years and still have all those weekly charts.

This year from May 1st thru August 31 I have recorded at Glen Oak C.C. in Glen Ellyn 46 days of temperatures of 90° or above. No days of 100° of which we usually have 2-3 days per year in the past. There was one period from about July 15th thru August 12th where we only had five days where the temperature didn't hit 90° or above and all those days the temperatures were in the high eightys.

Temperatures and Rainfall breaks down below:

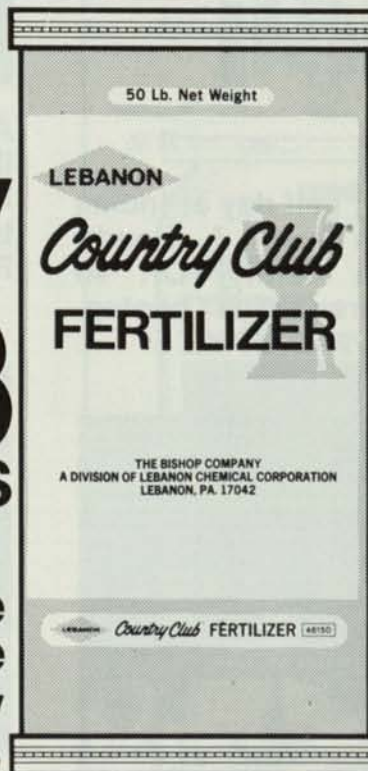
	Temperature	Rain''
June	9 days 90° +	2.68 for month
July	23 days 90° +	1.64 for month
August	14 days 90° +	5.78 for month (2.85'' was on Aug. 30)
Totals:	46 days 90° +	10.10'' Rain

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Pictures Taken at I.T.F. golf day at Indian Lakes C.C. L. to R. Ken Quant, A. Staudt, P. Vandercook, Dean Bently, Dr. Al Turgeon, Dorothy Carey. The photographer is sorry Dorothy.



A foresome of golfers waiting to tee off at the #4 betting hole. L. to R. C. Behrendt, F. Ross, A. Staudt, Dorothy Carey. I.T.F. treasurer, checking on the dealer Bonnie Fuchs. Man standing not identified.



L. to R. Ken Quant, Roger LaRoche, Pete Vandercook, Pro Shop Employee.



Turfgrass pulling contest by Al Turgeon and Ken Quant. The sod testing machine could not take it, so these two heavy weights took on the task. Sod furnished by Bill Kraft.

Mr. Carl Schwartzkoph Agronomist for the U.S. Golf Association Green Section, will be our guest speaker at the M.A.G.C.S. October 14 meeting at Glendale C.C. Carl will bring us up to date as to what has taken place on golf courses this past season.

Mr. Ray Gerber
The Bull Sheet
865 Hillside Avenue
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Dear Ray:

Please express my personal appreciation and the gratitude of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation to the readers of the Bull Sheet who contributed to the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Golf Day by attending, by being sponsors and by selling and buying raffle tickets.

The golf day was a financial success and although it was our first effort, our financial goal was reached. This would not have been possible without the fine cooperation we received from so many people.

In addition, I would like to thank you for your personal efforts in terms of publicity and for the space allotted to us in the Bull Sheet.

With the support of the many fine organizations and individuals, turf grass research in the state of Illinois has a bright future.

Thanks again for your help.

Very truly yours,
Illinois Turfgrass Foundation
Peter Vandercook
President

INDISPENSABLE?

Milton A. Wolfson

Sometime, when you're feeling important
Sometime, when your ego's in bloom
Sometime, when you take it for granted
You're the best qualified in the room . . .

Sometime, when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole —
Just follow these simple instructions
And see how it humbles your soul . . .

Take a bucket and fill it with water
Put your hand in it, up to the wrist
Pull it out and the hole that's remaining
Is a measure of how you'll be missed!

You may splash all you please when you enter
You can stir up the water galore —
But stop and you'll find in a minute
That it looks quite the same as before . . .

The moral in this quaint example
Is do just the best you can —
Be proud of yourself, but remember
There's no indispensable man!

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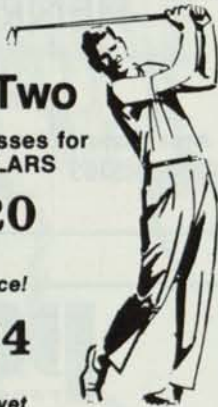
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Editor

MIDWEST BREEZES

The September issue of the Bull Sheet reported Keith Montgomery, Supt. at Kishwaukee C.C., was in the hospital. At this writing Keith reports he is out of the hospital and back home and hopes to be back to work real soon. Keith sends a word of thanks to all the nice folks of the Midwest Golf Course Supts. for the beautiful terrarium he received during his stay at the Sycamore Hospital. Keith, the best of good health from here on.

The M.A.G.C.S. annual dinner and dance will be held at Midwest Country Club on November 15th, 1975. Lorraine and Marvin Gruening will be our host. In the meantime get out your dancing shoes and try them out.

The year of 1975 will long be remembered by the golf course superintendents in many areas. Sleepless nights were not uncommon. High temperatures and high humidity, lack of precipitation at times and too much at other times seems to have caused the trouble. At this date weather conditions have changed and everything is on its way to normal, so all will be forgiven until another year when the same conditions could be repeated.

It has been reported to the editor that John Ebel, Supt. at Barrington C.C. is in the Sherman Hospital in Elgin, Ill. We all hope it is for a short period of time. Remember John the duck season will soon be open.

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation golf day on August 25th at Indian Lakes C.C. was a great success. One hundred-twelve attended. Many of them played golf on a fine conditioned golf course. Dave Meyer, Supt., and his assistant, Jose Gongalez, have done a magnificent job. Several thousand dollars were contributed by many individuals, companies and associations, who are interested in turfgrass research. We all thank you. Attendance was not only from the Chicago area but also from central Illinois and Indiana. Our member Bill Kraft usually reports and receives his prize. We were happy to have our friend from Michigan with us, Andy Bertoni. Andy, as usual, had a few stories, some new, some old - including some parlor stories? for the ladies. Dorothy Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of I.T.F. Inc., was present the full day and did a magnificent job along with Roger LaRoche, Chairman.

Paul N. Voykin is now teaching turf-grass management at Lake County College every Thursday night. (The course Dr. Mike Healy taught the past few years.) Paul tells us he finds teaching hard work but exciting. (Is that because he has two pretty girls in his class?) Paul has also been invited to present a talk Nov. 3rd to the Georgia Supts. Short Course at University of Athens, Georgia.

Rodney Voykin and his wife have moved to their beautiful new home in Wheeling.

Bruce Burchfield, new Supt. at Hillcrest C.C. is laying down 2,500 sq. yds. of Fyking sod around his greens.

John Berarducci, Supt. at Ravinia came through one of the worst summers with flying colors. His course was out-standing this season.

Some supts. who have been having trouble with poa annua are trying the renovation method Paul Voykin has so successfully instigated at Briarwood, a few years ago. Heavy airification, disking and seeding with a mixture of Manhattan rye grass and creeping bent grass, right after Labor day. Paul tells us this method of renovation with the Manhattan rye grass is the best in his opinion for over seeding predominantly poa annua fairways.

Bob and Bobbie Williams are heading for a well deserved vacation to Tokyo, Japan for a 10 day trip on the C.D.G.A. Golf Tour.

Adolph Bertucci enjoyed his first day off from a very long and hot summer by playing Briarwood Country Club with the States Attorney, Mr. Jack Hoogasian and two assistant states attorney, one of which was Adolph's son, Jimmy. Adolph tells us he is in the process of building five more fast drying tennis courts, giving Lake Shore C.C. a total of twelve tennis courts.

It's conference time again with some of our people participating in various areas—Bob Williams spoke to the Central Illinois G.C.S.A. on Sept. 8th at Pekin, Ill. He will also speak before the Illinois P.G.A. school on the 14th of October. Paul Voykin is busy on the speaking tour too in addition to teaching Turf Management at Lake County College. Paul will appear on the U.S.G.A. program in January and the Georgia G.C.S.A. meeting in November.

The North Shore Scratch League included 3 Supts. this season—Bob and Ben Kronn and Bob Williams. Bob Kronn led the league this year with a 36.2 average for 18 - 9 hole matches—Bob and Ben had 38.5 and 39.2 respectively—Not bad for a couple of "senior" golfers.

Dom Gratlis is mighty proud of his all new service building. It's a beauty and Dom says "Stop in".

Joe Dinelli is "riding herd" on the installation of an automatic irrigation system at North Shore C.C.

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The August issue of the G.C.S.A.A. "Superintendent" had some very good news. The membership had reached the 4,000 mark. A couple weeks later the G.C.S.A.A. News Bulletin arrived stating the association had four hundred and one that were delinquent. Please check your membership card. If you do not have a 1976 card, get your check in the mail; or if your employer pays your dues, find out why it has not been paid. The G.C.S.A.A. needs you.