

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

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Fred Opperman — President.

The President's Message

he is sen ice o my a icle is o d ama ize my messa e
on SA E Y. What I'm trying to say is: The first sentence
on my article is to dramatize my message on SAFETY.
For it was two years ago this time that I was careless
and lost the tip of my finger on my left hand. It is that
finger which strikes all the above missing letters. The
loss of a tip of a finger is small compared to the loss of a
hand, foot, eye, arm or leg.

But that may be the price we have to pay if we
ourselves are careless in our own safety and the safety
of others. It is everyones responsibility to have safe
working conditions and to create safe working habits.
Years ago it was a persons own pride and common
sense so to speak that he would have safe working
conditions. But today OSHA and the EPA is looking
over everyones shoulder and breathing down their
necks. We are now required by law and punishable by
fines if our working areas and equipment are not up to
the present day standards.

Now is a good time of the year for all Superintendents
to go over all their areas and correct any items that can
be corrected before someone has an accident. Check to
see if all electrical outlets are grounded, check all the
handles of the tools for cracks or splinters, sharpen all
the cutting tools like axes, knives, shovels, and saws.
"It's the dull tool that cuts you."

A person could go on forever pointing out things to
correct or look for. My point is try to make everyone
aware of what is around you. Open your eyes. Look at
your operation through the eyes of a stranger. Invite a
friend over and ask him to be critical of your operation
in terms of safety. emem e Sa e y i s ! Remember
Safety First!

"Behind every successful Superintendent there is a
woman" and with this in mind we are trying to open up
a space to provide our "better half" with a column they
can communicate with. Our columnist Mrs. Grass "L"
is to be commended for taking on such responsibility.
For her and the column to be successful in this
endeavor she will need your help in contributions.
Knowing Mrs. Grass "L" her quips will be a must
reading for all.

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Dear Mrs. Grass "L"
846 N. Fairview Ave.
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Welcome ladies to the first article of "our" monthly informative center to be found in the **Bull Sheet**. If you recall an article featuring "The Summer's Wife" in last May's **Bull Sheet**, then you will see the correlation in starting a women's corner. Many women related to that particular summer's wife and felt for the first time she's not alone in her feelings or misunderstandings. In as much as we wives are "special", I figure we all have something to contribute, whether it be information on summer survival, recipes to make for a hot supt. on a cold night, a poem for longevity or at least until the snow comes, a swap shop of no more needed buggies, baby bed, high chair etc., or a need of the above items (sorry ladies this is only for material objects), info on a baby sitter so we can attend conferences with hubby. In general anything you feel may be of interest to us ladies. We can be our own private analysts, health spa and Betty Crocker if we pool our knowledge and experiences; because we have so many things in common, such as husbands, whether they be Golf Superintendents or Commercial men. I need your support, without your enthusiasm this can't possibly get off the ground.

I need letters of encouragement and letters to publish each month. If you want your name published or kept secret I'll do so, just share with us all a bit of your creativity. Maybe you know of a product we gals can buy to keep grass stains off our husbands knees, or a diet we can follow to stay in shape as winter approaches. If I may add, please don't suggest we all read the new book "Total Women", because after reading it myself I'd love to write Marabel and suggest she marry a Superintendent next time around, then author a book, "How to make your marriage come alive". She'd know at times we can't even find the fella!!!

I would like to establish one point and hope we all keep it in mind each time we contribute to the space we were graciously given in the **Bull Sheet**. We are not here to put our personal digs, grudges or dislikes on paper, but to inform or reform a group of women who at times need (I feel) to be noticed and realize they are not alone. Even you fellas should enjoy this because you too will notice you are not alone. Many husbands like yourself reiterate over and over to our many questions, - maybe, - we'll see, - I'll try, - not long, - I won't forget, - and the ever faithful, "in a minute". Maybe a few of the older Supt. wives can give helpful suggestions to our new Supt. wives or visa versa.

Ladies it's our ball game, we just have to utilize the space and with enough togetherness we can't help but be successful. You have a question???? Ask it!! Someone with an answer, write it in??? However; our editor Ray Gerber, has one request from us delicate creatures, "No naughty words". Now I wonder which one of us he knows????

Editor's Note, all replies must be in the hands of Mrs. Grass "L" by the 1st of the month or they will be carried over to the following month.

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A MESSAGE TO DOG LOVERS

Of all dogs, the hot dog is the noblest, it never bites the hand that feeds it, but always feeds the hand that bites it.

DUES!?!

At Pheasant Run Country Club December 14, 1975, Mr. Charles Tadge, from the G.C.S.A.A., presented a talk on the benefits derived from being a member and the need for a \$25.00 increase in annual dues. I do not wish to criticize, but rather evaluate the dollars spent for various services derived from different areas as well.

On a local level, the Mid-West G.C.S.A., I feel benefits me far more because of the personal contact with the membership on a regular basis or when I choose to attend a meeting. The University of Illinois, Purdue and Wisconsin Turf symposiums are all of Zenith quality and I must add at a far lesser cost to the individual or club.

The local suppliers over the years have all contributed very extensively to our education as well as for the manufacturer, at a substantial expenditure of dollars on their part but free to us as their guests.

The trade magazines are loaded with up-to-date information on a national level and they are received by us at no charge as well.

It seems every service rendered by the National G.C.S.A.A. is of a far greater cost to the individual than that which is offered on a local level.

I'm not trying to be penurious, but I would rather justify an increase to the Mid-West G.C.S.A. and local seminars because over the years, they have benefited all of us to a greater extent.

I am not saying we should become isolationists yet support the National, but let's take a closer look at why some of the services cost so much more. At times, I get the feeling that they are more interested in selling insurance jackets and jewelry or creating a union. We all have had to trim our budgets at work and at home to a point where the money was spent 10 times over mentally before the actual expenditure.

Being a Libra is one of check balance, and therefore, I cannot see the increase which is being requested by the National G.C.S.A.A.

by Leonard Schnepf
Supt., Brookwood C.C.

GREEN SEMINAR Chicago District Golf Association Butterfield Country Club Thursday, March 25, 1976

Tentative Agenda

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration and coffee
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Determining A Course Rating
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	What a Superintendent Seeks from His Chairman - Panel of Superintendents to Discuss
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	What a Green Chairman and Board of Directors Seek from A Superintendent - Panel of Green Chairman and Club Presidents to Discuss
11:30 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.	Summary
11:40 a.m. - 12:00 Noon	Questions and Answers
12:00 Noon	Cocktails and Lunch

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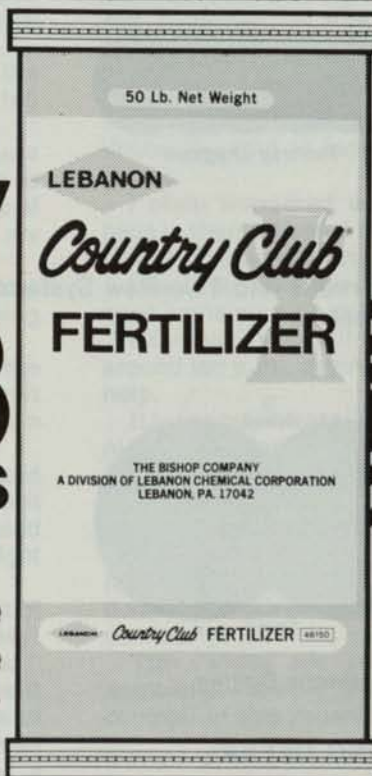
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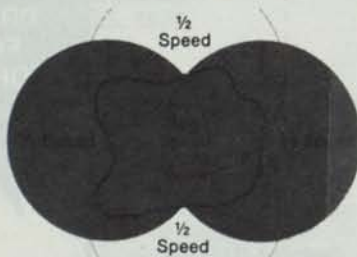
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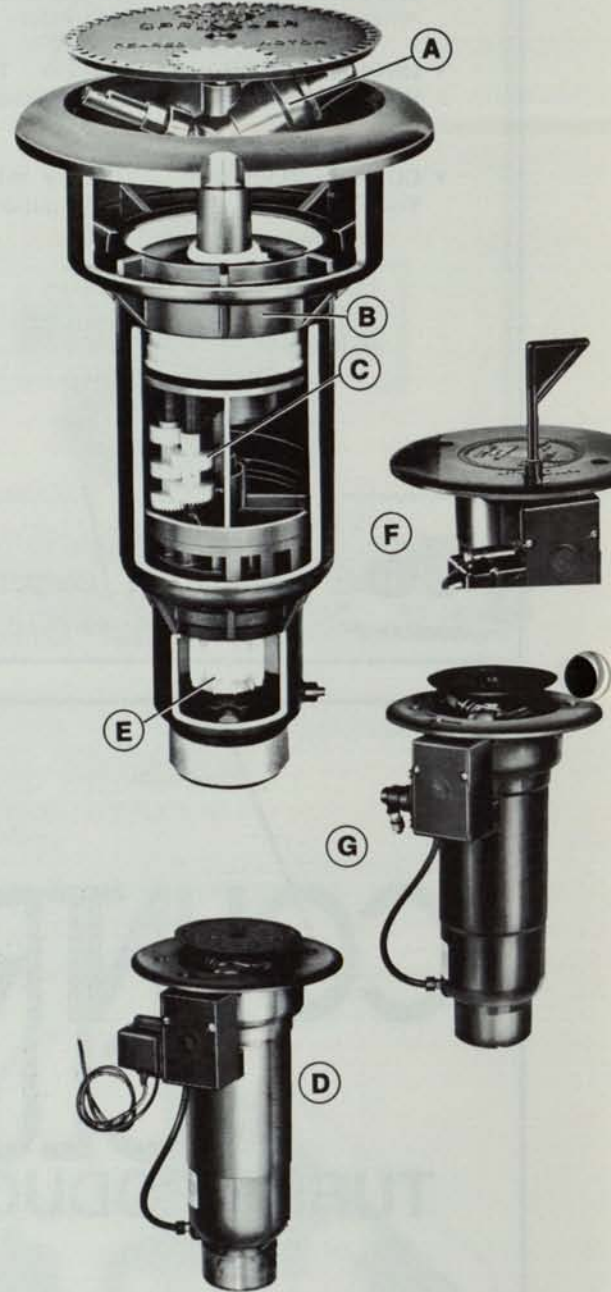
Fairway Diagram

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Greens Diagram



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BENEFITS OF A SUPERINTENDENT

My topic, the benefits of a Superintendent covers a broad area. So, I'll try to elaborate on what I feel are some new items and discuss some overlooked, but important privileges of our jobs.

I tried to get an overview for my talk by discussing benefits with Superintendents in different areas. I came up with such a wide variety of benefits and such incomplete knowledge of them that I was quite disturbed!

Now gentlemen, taking into consideration our responsibility, that of a piece of property worth millions and relate it to salaries of other professions and tradesman with a lesser monetary responsibility. We are grossly underpaid!

Upon extensive research I found that the benefits just don't compensate the difference between professions or tradesmen of a lesser responsibility.

Example: A caterpillar tractor operator is responsible for only one phase of a multi-million dollar project, where we accept the total responsibility of the project.

Now I'd like to point out some of the benefits I never realized until I took this mini-survey!

First of all I'm sure you are all aware of our biggest privilege, that of being able to work with mother nature every day. Although, sometimes she's not a good mother, but a whatever you want to call her!!

Just about everyone has food benefits to some degree. Some can eat off the menu, as many times a day as they wish—as well as bringing guests. Some, however, eat in the kitchen!

One particular club has a unique way of handling the Superintendent's food privilege in that they charge his budget the annual sum of \$2500.00/year, to be used for individual dining as well as guests. This is an excellent way of handling the situation. The manager can better regulate food stocks as well as anticipate volume employees will use.

This is also an excellent way to guide the Superintendent in defining this privilege to its full extent without abuse.

Regarding Retirement plans, the federal government has now enabled us to start our own programs. Such as Individual Retirement. However, there were a couple of interesting programs I ran into while conducting my survey.

I found that some clubs buy annuities for their key personnel. This has a good point in that it is something the Superintendent can take with him.

Another good plan I came across was that of the General Retirement Fund. The clubs are in a difficult position in the area of retirement because of so much transient labor.

So, with a General Retirement Fund they can hand pick in the areas of Seniority Responsibility and merit as they see fit. I found this program usually associated with clubs run under a general ledger type budget system.

One particular club retired a man after thirty years of dedicated service with a check totalling two weeks pay! Obviously some work in this area should be pursued.

The expense account as you all know is a key benefit to some of us. In that it helps us to better ourselves in our profession and association. I found one club with an interesting feature in that the Superintendent had a floating account. Depending on where the National Turf Grass Conference was held, for example; if it were held close to the area it was naturally smaller than if it was held in say Portland, Oregon, where it was then increased by five-hundred dollars.

Don't you think that if a Superintendent can come back with one idea that would save the club two-thousand dollars, the trip was worth it?

I'd like to make mention of something just recently passed in our local association. From the efforts of our survey committee, an interview committee has now been formed. The job of the Interview Committee is to assist clubs in the direction of hiring the best qualified man for their particular needs.

Golf privileges are very important to us. I personally feel and many agree, you can't have a complete understanding of how the course plays through the members eyes without actually playing it once a week.

Grass isn't everything on the course, but things like how well the course is marked off, height of cut in different areas, how to make the greens hold properly and areas that need attention in a priority manner!

I think if you stop and take into account, that if your an avid golfer yourself you'd realize the money saved by not having to pay for these privileges.

To relate my experience in this area, I made an approximate count of eighteen hole rounds I played this year at my club. I counted twenty rounds at ten dollars a round, plus another ten dollars for cart use, a total of four-hundred dollars—and that doesn't include playing other courses as a guest, or having guests at my club. I came up with a figure of close to one-thousand dollars. This is what it would cost me if I wasn't in this profession.

Could you play golf on a Saturday afternoon and are your members aware that their prime time might also be your prime time? Your scheduling might not allow you to play on Monday night!

Elastic benefits—

These are benefits that you don't really take count of and maybe don't want to bring to anyone's attention.

Example: I ran across one particular Superintendent who is famous for what I call the "hat benefit". This entails the members usually seeing you in a cart wearing one of your favorite hats. Then you give your favorite hat to your best worker and the members say, "look at Jimmy work! Wow! He deserves a raise!" While you split to indulge in one of your favorite bad habits.

I often wondered why some Superintendents have beds in their offices. I never could quite figure that out! Until I uncovered "the bed benefit".

I realized that this was utilized when you feel you need some strange companionship.

Example: Your wife gets that anonymous phone call around ten p.m., saying that the night waterman needs help.

It turns out it wasn't a night waterman after all, but a night waterwoman.

Enough, for the elastic benefits, and by the way, I really don't know anyone who uses these antics.

Being serious! I just wanted to point out a few of the inconsistencies from one club to another. Some Superintendents have really nothing as far as benefits, some don't take advantage of what they have. We need continuity.

The ranges are so extreme that efforts by our association should be made to achieve a minimal contract in this regard!!

by John Berarducci, Supt.
Ravinia Green C.C.

SUPPORT YOUR ADVERTISERS



The Editor
MIDWEST BREEZES

Ralph Hinz sent word up to the Chicago area that he is doing fine and says "hi" to all.

Roy Nelson was in the hospital for some repairs the last week of January. Word has it he is home now and doing fine. Hope his wife will be able to keep him down for a while.

Tom Matthews, Cliff Behrendt's assistant from Turnberry G.C., will assume the duties of Superintendent at Aurora C.C. in Aurora, Ohio. Good luck, Tom.

Dick Trevarthan spent a couple of weeks in Florida—he sure looks good. How's the new maintenance building?

The Illinois Landscape Contractors Association awarded the Glen Oak Country Club "First Place" in their Landscape Construction-Commercial/Industrial division in their awards ceremony January 13th, 1976. J. B. Design, Inc. was the Landscape Firm and Jim Bussey was the Landscape Designer.

The stork delivered a future Golf Course Supt. to Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Fischer of Butler National G.C. A 7 lb. 3 oz. boy, Eric William, was born on January 22, 1976. "Congratulations."

The old saying, "Early to bed and early to rise" did not apply to Bruce Sering, Supt. at Glen View G.C. Bruce became a hero on early Tuesday morning Feb. 10 by reporting a fire on the mezzanine floor of the Radison Hotel. What Bruce was doing on this floor at this early hour wearing no shoes is your guess. We all thank you Bruce.

Paul Voykin who is now writing a lawn column for Illinois Farm Week will be in Toronto, March 9 at the Canadian Conference to present his talk "General Managers and How to Survive Them". We bet Paul's bold and incisive presentation will be the talk of the association.

The 1976 G.C.S.A.A. Conference and show is now in its past history. I am sure everyone attending, enjoyed it. The G.C.S.A.A. Board and Committees along with the employees did an outstanding job. The Minnesota local chapter is to be congratulated. They were magnificent.

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WINTER INJURY IN THE COOL TEMPERATE ZONE

Desiccation and low temperature kill are the two major causes of winter injury to the turf plant in the cool temperate zone of the United States. A third type of injury caused by fungus organisms, **Typhula spp.** and **Fusarium spp.**, is prevalent from year to year, but is not as serious or as damaging as desiccation and low temperature kill. Mechanical damage, a fourth type of injury, is increasing.

Desiccation Injury

A grass plant must rely on an internal water supply for respiratory activity. When soil moisture is limited and the internal supply of water within the plant is diminishing to a point that water loss is greater than the amount that can be taken into the root zone, the plant desiccates. This is basically a wilting phenomenon but one that is more feared than any other form of physiological winter injury.

Desiccation can be held to a minimum by applying several hundred gallons of water to the area of concern before it comes under stress. Water tanks, spray equipment and the use of the watering system are tools used to obtain and disburse the water. Several applications are normally required. In the plains area of the mid-continent, it is common to have the watering system in operation during the open winter months to prevent excessive turf loss. The watering system is drained from day to day after the system has been in use. If desiccation has occurred, it is important to power spike the damaged area several times, overseed, topdress and syringe frequently to encourage germination and plant recovery. If at all possible, play should be restricted until the damaged area has recovered sufficiently to withstand traffic. However, if early play is permitted, turf recovery is normally slow, as a form of mechanical injury is then taking place. Soil moisture and temperature will have a direct bearing as to how early a damaged area can be played upon.

Low Temperature Kill

The conditions for low temperature kill to the turf plant are physiological. When the lower crown of the turf plant is in an extreme state of water content under low temperature stress, complete destruction of the plant can occur. Often the turf plant comes out of the winter looking good under these conditions. However, damage has occurred within the plant to the crown and root system which is not visible. When temperatures begin to rise in early spring to encourage growth, the plant begins to transpire and will soon die; there is no life support system functioning.

Low temperature kill has been associated with ice formation, which has been misleading. There is no question that excessive ice or snow will cause suffocation or winter scald. Suffocation will occur if an excessive amount of carbon dioxide accumulates, if oxygen is restricted, or when an interchange of soil gases is stopped. Under an anaerobic condition such as this, the solubility of excessive use of arsenicals, or heavy metals such as mercury and cadmium fungicides and perhaps other herbicides, may increase the total amount of damage. Winter scald, on the other hand, is when standing water or ice acts as a lens for the sun, which, in turn, scalds the leaf. To prevent suffocation and winter scald injury, surface and sub-surface drainage must be adequate. Breaking and removing the ice layer during the alternate freezing and thawing period during the late winter is imperative.

Snowmold

Typhula spp. and **Fusarium spp.** fungi cause minimal damage to turf if normal preventive fungicide applications have been carried out. There is one exception when snowmold is in abundance during the spring of the year regardless of the preventive fungicide program practiced; that is when the ground is not completely frozen before the winter snow sets in. Snow is a tremendous insulator against cold and protects turf from desiccation. However, it increases the use of fungicides rather than limits their use. Recovery from snowmold injury to the turf plant is rather rapid if optimum spring growing conditions are present. Turf is not completely destroyed, but merely set back in a mottled state.

Mechanical Injury

Mechanical injury to turf takes place in two different forms; foot and vehicular traffic. With a long, late fall and early spring playing season in many areas, serious injury to turf by foot printing on frosted playing areas has become standard at many golf courses. Ice crystals within the grass blades are distorted and rupture living cells, causing death. Syringing greens in early morning, for instance, before traffic is allowed on the course, will help solve the problem; water melts the ice crystals.

During the spring when the upper portion of the soil has begun to thaw, the soil is overly wet and slippery. Foot traffic at this time will cause severe compaction and tearing of the roots at the point where they penetrate the still frozen area. When soils are partially thawed, injury is serious and long lasting. Visual damage is not noticed at this time of the season, but is one of the primary reasons why troubled areas act up during periods of summer stress.

Snowmobile damage to turf is becoming more apparent each season. A snowmobile running in loose snow will create approximately a five- to six-inch-deep track. When this area is used over and over, a glazing or icing effect takes place. Toxic conditions will develop as previously pointed out, with the end result in turf loss.

One can easily see what a golf course superintendent has to face in the cool temperate zone of the United States. Turf injury will result in many forms, in many ways, under varying conditions. It is not an easy task to provide optimum playing conditions when the breaks are not going your way. The golfing membership plays in late fall or early spring and often refuses to remain off the frozen turf. Construction to improve drainage or rebuild a new green is not carried out because of the late playing season. The ground is not frozen solid going into the winter months, an early snow falls and preventive fungicides have not been applied for snowmold control. To top it off, the snowmobiles have an early start this winter. With spring around the corner, anaerobic conditions have been created with an abnormal amount of snow. Ice and snow removal has been taking place in order to correct existing conditions. And, as the remaining ice and snow melts, low temperature kill has occurred with a healthy looking plant on the playing surface. Snowmold is scattered hither and yon, and the northwesterly winds are just beginning to let you know that desiccation may still be a problem this early spring.

Yes, here comes the golfer, the snowmobile has been put away and he can't understand why the course is the way it is. Under these conditions one must expect turf loss.