

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

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Fred Opperman — President.

The President's Message

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October in our area of the midwest is associated with "Indian Summer" and the beautiful fall color of our trees. Unless you are the Superintendent who has a natural wooded course, it just may be up to you to see what kind of fall color you may have on the golf course and grounds.

Glen Oak Country Club has had a tree program now for nine years. Since they saw the hand writing on the wall, so to speak, of the rapidly spreading Dutch Elm Disease, the club decided to go into a very extensive tree planting program. Nine years ago the club had 238 beautiful elms, today we have 31 left and tomorrow???

In that nine years the club has planted 707 trees at a cost of \$52,434.13 or an average of about \$75.00 per tree. Of these 707 trees we have 33 species. We have 12 varieties of maples alone, 5 varieties of ash, 4 of locust and 4 of oak. When planting trees on the course we try not to plant more than two or three of the same species and variety in one grouping. We feel that we have learned our lesson with the elms in overplanting with just one species.

Since coming to Glen Oak I have kept accurate records of all the trees we have purchased. A master listing of all trees are kept and the date they were planted. During the nine years I am able to tell you how many trees we planted in each year and the species, variety, and cost. Cost factor alone is startling like everything else today. In 1969 the average cost of our trees were \$66.30 and in 1975 the average cost was \$130.15.

As you can see, nine years ago you could buy two trees for the price of one today. In our own program it is a good thing we started as early as we did. Today we have only to plant for the few elms we have left.

What about the fall color? My favorites are the Sugar Maple for its outstanding yellow and the Sweet Gum for its brilliant red.

The M.A.G.C.S. Annual meeting will be held at Butterfield C.C. on November 11, 1976. Art Benson, Jr. will be our host supt.

Milwaukee and Wisconsin Supts. Symposium, October 27-28, 1976. You all come!

EDITORIAL

A recent article concerning irrigation of golf course turf sparked some thoughts about the subject of which we as golf course superintendents are daily contending with. July and August usually are the most critical months, night time temperatures remain warm and usually humid and days are always hot. Poa Annua becomes a minute by minute thought passing through the mind, to the point where you start talking to it and believe it is listening to you. Water management becomes a most important function during these periods. I believe a large portion of our water management decision making lies with the desires of the golfing membership. We know what is necessary to provide green, playable fairways; adequate water application to maintain healthy grass, but firm enough to give a well hit drive plenty of roll; but healthy enough that wherever it stops rolling, it has a perfect lie. I guess there is but two alternatives our memberships have; a green wet fairway, or a brown dry one.

Heavy soils that drain poorly require that special touch or what is called T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care). Too much water is easy to apply, thus are we watering to keep the driest spot green? To maintain uniformity becomes the most sought after goal, considering that nature, a very un-uniform creature is our sidekick. Applying water with sprinklers is subject to wind; soil density and structure vary throughout the course, meaning some soil will accept water and clay won't; traffic and subsequent compaction patterns are not uniform; and of course the types of grasses vary all over the course. Deep root penetration means healthier turf, but water must be below the roots for the roots to grow down. Here is where the decision making lies - if the water applied does not penetrate through the root zone and deeper, do we continue to water until this is achieved, or let the grass come under stress? If we water to totally penetrate the dry area, the sure result is an over-wet playing condition around the remaining area. This wet area is then subject to compaction; but, has this been truly noticeable and detrimental to the fairway turf? During rainy weather periods we have had to continue to mow fairways with compacting gang units. Aerifying, thatching, spiking and normal management practices have helped alleviate compaction.

Let's let the grass come under stress. First of all, Poa Annua begins to wilt, sparsely it begins to die; bentgrasses survive, only because of deeper root systems, but still wilt; this surely is not promoting root development, there isn't any moisture for the roots to strive for. The stressed area gets worse with traffic and carts; with morning and evening traffic the grass usually recovers, it's that mid-day cart driving through the stressed area, you will see those tracks the rest of the season. Also, think back a few years on that same stress area, usually it will be quite slow to recover the following spring, if it recovers at all. And if it does come back, it will be the first problem area as soon as hot weather hits, and probably increase in size. Also, localized dry spots seem to pop up all over stressed areas, and it seems to be the first place fairy ring shows itself. Not many positive remarks for leaving grass in a stressed condition. T.L.C. becomes the only solution, finding yourself devoting all your time and money babysitting these areas through the summer.

During the months of July and August, frequent light applications of water seem to provide the best result from an aesthetic and a playing point of view. However, Superintendents have in the past and will continue in the future to satisfy the demands of the golfing world. Grass tennis courts have not withstood the test, I wonder if we are asking mother nature to give above and beyond the call of duty for the game of golf.

Anonymous



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The 50th Anniversary celebration held at Sylvania C.C. on Sept. 13, 1976 was honored by the presence of the above past presidents of the G.C.S.A.A. Speaking for all of them, it was a huge success. We thank you.



A couple hundred years of golfing experience and still smiling. I.to r. - Ray Gerber - Herb Graffis - Jo Graffis - Bob Williams.



This is where it all started 50 years ago.



It looks like Paul Voykin is explaining what a country club general managership is all about.

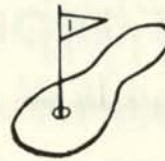


Progress has been made over the past years.



Ed Fischer, host supt. - October 4th meeting.

The condolences of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Supts. is extended to the Elmer G. Lemke family due to the death of Elmer. Mr. Lemke had been the golf course supt. at the famous Tom O'Shanter C.C. in the Chicago area for many years. He was employed as golf course supt. at the Four Winds C.C. at the time he passed away. He will be missed by his many friends. Elmer was a member of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Supts. and also a member of the Golf Course Supts. Association of America. Mrs. Lemke, what could we possibly say to ease your sorrow?



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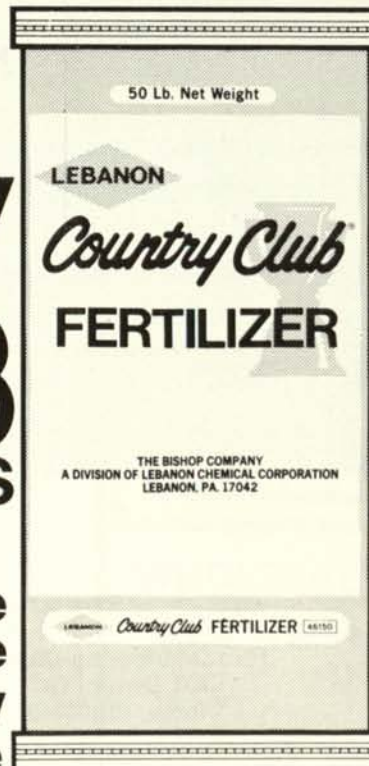
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Trees Can Save On Utilities

Properly spaced shade trees can help prevent home air conditioners from working overtime in scorching weather.

"We need to take a second look at plants as temperature control devices," says James A. Fizzell, Horticulturist at the University of Illinois Extension Service, Cook County. "Trees planted near a house not only help you save on utility bills but also contribute to energy conservation."

Air conditioners don't need to run as often if the sun doesn't beat down on your house all day, Fizzell explains. Shade trees partly shield the roof and keep the sun's rays off the walls in the morning and afternoon because twigs, branches, leaves, and trunk partly absorb and reflect the radiation. The amount of radiation that gets through depends on density of the tree's canopy.

For example, the canopy of a honey locust will transmit more radiation and thus give less shade than that of a burr oak of equal size. But the honey locust is a faster growing tree and is usually more popular with homeowners.

Large shade trees also provide refuge for people who wish to sit outdoors on a hot day, Fizzell adds. An actively growing tree transpires large quantities of moisture into the atmosphere. If the wind isn't blowing too strongly or if the trees are protected from winds by a shelter belt, this transpiration can result in increased humidity within the tree canopy. Since moist air doesn't heat as rapidly as dry air, this helps to keep temperatures under a tree moderate.

"August is a good time to think about where you will plant trees this fall," Fizzell says. "While you would be better off if someone had planted trees 20 years ago, you can still increase your comfort, and the value of your home with tree plantings now."

James A. Fizzell
Extension Adviser/Horticulture
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

PESTS AFFECTING MAPLE TREES

The popular silver maple trees, so widely planted in this area are subject to two pests which are quite evident at this time of year. They are cottony maple scale and maple bladder gall.

Unightly red or green wart-like growths (galls) on the leaves are signs of infestation of bladder-gall mites. The mites overwinter on the bark of the trees and in early spring migrate to the leaves where they stimulate the formation of the galls. In each gall, many mites live and feed, protected from outside elements. It is doubtful if galls associated with these mites cause enough damage to justify spraying large trees.

Malathion, applied at the time the buds are swelling but before the leaves appear in spring, will give effective control.

Cottony maple scale is a common and injurious pest on soft maple and a variety of other trees, including such fruit trees as apple, pear, plum and peach. The infestations may be heavy enough to kill twigs, branches, limbs and occasionally, entire trees.

James A. Fizzell
Associate Ext. Advisor
Horticulture/Cook Cty.



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MIDWEST BREEZES

The summer of 1976 in the Chicago area will go down in history as the driest season on record. This is the year that tells you if your new automatic irrigation system is doing the job you expected it to do, or did the old manual system with the center sod cup in the green do as good? This should have been a good year for the irrigation manufacturing company and their salesmen.

Ed Stewart, Supt. at River Forest C.C., is celebrating his 25th year at River Forest - a good record, Ed. Congratulations! Do any of you have a 25th or more anniversary coming up? Pass this information along to the editor.

 If you are looking for bargains, Jim Burdett, Swift Road and North Ave., can take care of you. He has a **cut to the bone sale** - 15 to 50% off on all inventory from October 1 to 15, 1976.

 The G.C.S.A.A. 50th anniversary is now past history. It was celebrated at the **Sylvania C.C.** in Ohio on September 13, 1976. It was a great success. The attendance was good and anyone that did not attend sure missed a great celebration. The many old pictures that were taken, starting with the early years of golf and the many old pieces of equipment used in those same years was worth more than the cost of attending. Comparing the old equipment with the new modern equipment of today, we have come a long way. Seeing is believing and that is what took place at this celebration.

 The joint meeting with the Wisconsin supts. held at McHenry on September 20 was a most enjoyable one. 92 played golf on a beautiful conditioned course. The sad part was our host, Harold Michels, could not join us due to an aching back. 114 enjoyed a steak dinner with all the trimmings. We all thank Toro for the refreshments at the Halfway House.

 We not only have top golf course supts. in the Midwest Association, but also top golfers. The golf team consisting of: Robert Hansen, Fresh Meadows G.C.; Ken Goodman, Mt. Prospect C.C.; Robert Kronn, Rolling Green C.C.; and Brad R. Johnson, Ridgemoor C.C. are the champs in the G.C.S.A.A. tournament at Sylvania. Congratulations!

 Congratulations to Roger La Rochelle. Roger will become the new grounds supt. at Flossmoor C.C. Walter Pieper, the present supt. has been with the club for many years and has decided to retire and enjoy life. Not a bad idea, Walter, and congratulations!

Arnold Palmer, the guest speaker at the banquet did an outstanding job and many of the ladies went home all smiles with **Mr. Palmer's** autograph in their purse. It appears his army is everywhere.

This editor thanks all the hard working committees and all individuals for their time and effort for helping to make this occasion the success that it was. Meeting many of my long time friends made the day a joyful one for me and the appearance of the **Graffis Brothers** put the frosting on the cake.



Art Bensch, Sr. - Amos Lapp - Ken Lapp.

On August 30th, **Amos Lapp**, **Art Benson, Sr.**, and editor **Gerber** (with a combined experience of 161 years in golf course construction and maintenance work) did a little visiting with **Ken Lapp**, son of Amos, Superintendent at Cog Hill C.C. Cog Hill is doing considerable construction work on their Dubs Dread Course. They have three more eighteen-hole courses. The Dubs Dread Course is the more challenging one. After observing the construction of several new golf holes, it was our opinion that this will be one of the most challenging golf courses in this area.

The Supt. **Ken Lapp's** responsibility has been lightened by exercising authority and having good key personnel at the head of the various necessary duties.

What does a Superintendent do in his spare time after overseeing 1,000 acres of land, 400 riding golf carts, 84 greens (mowed daily), and other daily duties that include changing all cups, operating a manual irrigation system, mowing fairways, tees, rough, necessary trim work, repair work, plumbing and many other necessary duties, besides being a good husband and father? The answer you will have to get from Mr. Lapp.

Paul Voykin, Supt. at Briarwood C.C., is starting his season speaking tour. He has been invited to speak at the 30th Cornell Turf Conference on November 16-18, 1976.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

In regard to my friend Harry Grey's interview on management in your August issue of Golf Business regarding the statement on page 44, quote, "The rest of the time they (superintendents and golf professionals) were free to do as they wished with no control, no supervision", my reply to this insinuation can be equally absurd, **WHO IN THE HELL SUPERVISES THE GENERAL MANAGERS?** His almighty position of the "Big Brother" concept is ridiculous to many of us who experience successful country club operations with the triumvirate concept. The general manager's track record hasn't been proved to any extent thus far due to their short longevity at the same club. Does the Peter Principle apply here?

Paul N. Voykin
 Briarwood Country Club

THE NEW PRO ON THE COURSE

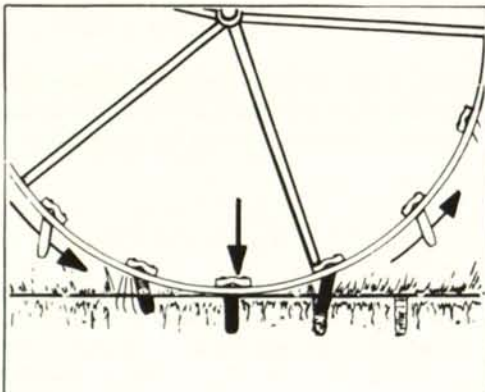


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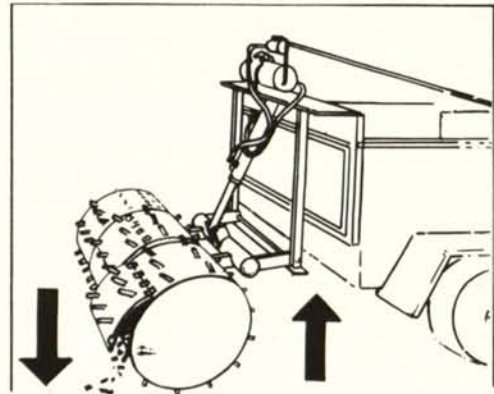
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