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

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I think everyone has their own share of problems this season so I will not elaborate on mine. In this general trend of thought, I would like to bring up our August meeting that is held in conjunction with the Illinois Turf Foundation. Last year we held our meeting in the same manor, but we have very poor attendance by the superintendents. I hope this year we can improve on this attendance.

If you think of the services that the Illinois Turf Foundation provides, it has been a very worthwhile cause. I am sure that many of your fellow superintendents have received help in some way or another from the organization. For example, the increased number of high quality graduates in our field from the University of Illinois and the research that has helped solve many of our problems. I am sure the Foundation will continue to be of service to us in the future. I hope to see you all at Indian Lakes in August.

Joe Grenko

### WAYS TO COPE WITH PRESSURE

R.P. Savoy, DTM, The Toastmaster, Sept., p. 19

Of all the skills needed by today's executive, none is more important than the capacity to work comfortably under pressure. Here are common sense ways to achieve this vital state of mind: Realize that it is possible to handle a pressure job without discomfort; thousands of other people do and if they can, so can you. Analyze the pressure you feel; if you know where it's coming from, or whom it's coming from, you can usually get some relief. Learn to plan your time effectively; a lot of pressure is self-imposed by people who put things off, then have to catch up. Find a hobby that relaxes you, something so absorbing or challenging that you can't think about the pressure of the workday. Learn to fantasize; psychologists tell us that it is healthful to vent anger through fantasy. And it's certainly a lot less destructive to workplace relationships.

PLEASE!!!— If you have any changes of status (especially a change of address) notify the Association Office—529-4303.

### EDITORIAL

### What Do You Want From Your Association? by Joe Grenko

In the past few years I have heard a lot of comments as to what our Association should do for its members. This has included everything from placement and employment to setting salaries for different clubs and rating clubs as to what salaries should be.

Our association was founded on the principal of a social association to gather and distribute information on the art of growing fine turf grasses. At our monthly meeting we play courses in the area for enjoyment and compare ideas on management practices and products. We are not in the business to criticize or categorize our fellow members courses. We all know it is impossible to compare courses be they private or public. All courses are different due to budget, soil or even the people that play them. Every course has its own character and must be cared for to coincide with this fact.

I know that I would not want to apply for a job that someone has already set the standard as to what that club should be. The club has its standards set by their budget, their members or owners. I would like to think that I should have a chance to take the opportunity to better myself and the club by upgrading their standards through my abilities. I think it is all of our jobs to promote ourselves. When it gets right down to it, we are selling a service. How we sell it and maintain it will dictate what our future will be. What it comes down to is that you are your own salesman and have to live with what you sell.

How do you contend with the person coming into our field for less than our idea of what is a fair price. Again, it is up to you to sell your experience and qualifications and be able to prove that this will make the difference. And I think it is only fair to say that this is not going to change in the next few years if ever. The colleges and universities are turning out many very well qualified every year-far more graduates than there are jobs. Take a look around at the people who have held jobs at the same club for 10, 15 or 20 years. It is not that they are lucky, they are working at it, keeping up with the times, doing new things to better what they already have. A good many times, it is not the major things that count. They usually have a way of working themselves out through necessity. It's the many little things. Public relations has to be one of the main reasons for length of time at a club. The superintendent is no longer just someone who cuts the grass, his technical ability and skills are increasing by leaps and bounds. Everyone of us skilled in managerial and administrative technology. Due to the constantly rising prices, we have to do comparative buying. We should learn to associate with members and play golf to realize what the members want and what we have to do to create these conditions. In this day and age, you cannot sit back and relax, you have to think ahead.

The golf course superintendent's position is not changing as fast as some other areas. I think many courses are paying as much as they can afford, which means that in some cases to earn more you have to change jobs. Unfortunately, there are not an abundance of well paying jobs around. It would be that you could take on more responsibility in another area. This may bother some of you, but it is one way of increasing your pay without moving from one club to another. I am sure there are many of you with the capabilities to do this.

Our association as it compares with others in the

nation ranks among the largest. Therefore, we should be one of the leaders. I think it is time we stopped talking about the job and pay we should have and get the utmost out of the one we have. To use an old expression, the grass always looks greener on the other side of the street, but it is our job to reverse this situation.





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Dear Ray;

Summer reveals work for some, Vacations for others.

#### "SUMMER REVELATIONS"

The play is heavy, the sun is strong,
This is a part of Summers song.
Wet'ness, humidity, fighting disease,
Dryness, compaction,
The golfer to please.
For if He's contented
And the course looks swell.
Thank the good Lord
And the water from the well.
A fight to overcome periods of stress,
A battle with some of Natures pests.
It's a duel, it's a challenge,
But rewarding to feel,
That it's under control,
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### CAREFUL PLANNING IN DESIGN STAGES OF **GOLF COURSE CAN REDUCE MAINTENENCE** COSTS

The rising costs of maintaining a golf course are proving to be a real headache. The mushrooming price of equipment along with the ever-increasing costs of labor are making maintenance expense an item worthy of considerable planning.

According to the American Society of Golf Course Architects, there are several steps a club can take in the design stages of construction or renovation to

reduce maintenance costs:

1. Whether a club is planning a new course or making renovations on an existing one, a well conceived, specific master plan will produce great benefits in terms of reduced future maintenance and smoother overall course operation.

2. Design a course with careful planning to permit

the easy flow of traffic on and off the greens.

3. Eliminate areas which require hand maintenance as much as possible. Automatic watering systems and larger trees lead to maintenance savings down the road.

4. Educate the membership that lush green fairways are not always the best way to go. The texture and lie

are much more important than the color.

5. Let out-of-play areas grow wild when feasible, eliminating costs and providing cover for wildlife at the same time.

6. Employ the minimum number of sand traps to trim

7. Take great care in selecting a contractor to work on the course and, upon completion, keep maintenance procedures under constant review.

8. Incorporate the maintenance equipment traffic pattern into the course design to facilitate easy access of machinery to all areas, reducing the need for hand maintenance.

9. Design trap edges to divert water away from traps to eliminate washing and sand replacement.

10. Install golf car paths to strategically route traffic.

11. Replace bridges with culvert crossings.

Careful planning in the design stages of construction or renovation can heop reduce maintenance costs in the future. Taking a little time in those early stages can save you money in the long haul.

---Reprint Forefront 10/77

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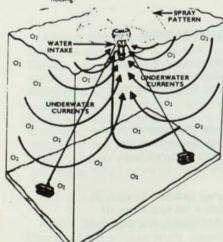
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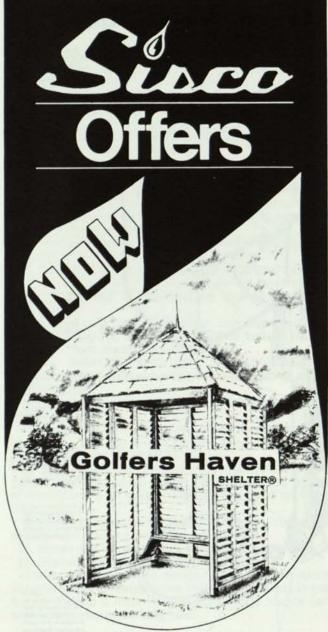
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Dear Mr. Gerber:

On behalf of the members of Sunset Ridge Country Club and myself, I would like to thank you for the article you dedicated to our Domenic Grotti, in the Bull Sheet for June 1978.

As you already know, everyone associated with the Club think Dom is the greatest.

Cordially, G.C."Doc" Watson, CCM General Manager

#### **TELL HIM NOW**

If with pleasure you are viewing Any work a man is doing, If you like him, or you love him, Tell him now.

Don't withhold your approbation 'Til the parson makes oration, And he lies with snowy lilies O'er his brow.

If he earns your praise—bestow it! If you like him— let him know it! Let the word of true encouragement Be said.



Editor MIDWEST BREEZES

On June 26th G.C.S.A.A. President George Cleaver CGCS attended the Western Golf Association's 1978 golf tournament at Butler National Golf Club. George presented an award to Ed. Fischer, Supt. for his excellent work at Butler National. George was assisted by G.C.S.A.A. director Mike Bavier CGCS. Prior to the presentation George and Mike visited several golf courses in the Chicago area. Reports are they found them in excellent condition.

This editor visited the Butler National G.C. on June 26th during the Pro-Am golf tournament. The course was in championship condition. There may have been a few Bluegrass crybaby players among the losers, but then there are always a few in every event. Ed Fisher can be proud of the accomplishments he has made during the past four years.

The Midwest Breezes may die on the vine unless you are willing to support it. The one thing that will keep the breezes blowing is for you to send in news that can be used. Surely there are some things that have taken place at your club or at home that others would like to know. Don't say, "I do not have time". This editor wrote the breezes for many years for our national publication at the time it was published in St. Charles, III. It is up to you to help keep the breezes!

Adolph Bertucci celebrated his 60th birthday on June 3 with a garden party at the Bertucci estate in Lake Forest. His charming and lovely wife, Mary, was a perfect hostess and any one knowing Adolph can imagine what a host he was. 600 friends signed the register. As is the case at all of Adolph's parties, the food and refreshments were superb. Everyone had a wonderful time and at least one guest was heard to remark, "Say, why don't we make this an annual affair". Many congratulations, Adolph, and may we see you on many more birthdays.

Emil Eiser, long time Superintendent at Shore Acres Country Club in Lake Bluff, recently retired. A number of Superintendents, both active and retired, were invited to attend a testimonial dinner given Emil by the members of his staff at the clubhouse on June 26. Among the momentos presented to Emil were plugs from each of the greens, a spoonful of sand from each trap on the course, an antique ball washer, the flag stick and flag from the 18th hole, a set of tee markers, luggage for Emil and his wife, and, as Emil was made an Honorary member of the club, a dozen golf balls to be lost in the ravines. Our best wishes, Emil, and the best of health in your retirement.

Dick Richardson, Supt. at Sycamore C.C. celebrated his 25th Wedding Anniversary on Friday, July 14th. Congratulations, Mr. & Mrs. Richardson.

Don Hoffman, super at Oak Hills C.C. Village will be married to Sue McCormack on August 5th, 1978. Congratulations and the best wishes from all of us.

**Bruce Burchfield**, Supt. at Hillcrest C.C. was in the hospital for further tests the week of July 4th. However, he is now at home and feeling fine.

We are all happy to see Carl Hopphan back in the saddle and looking just great and very stream-lined. Keep it this way, Carl.

August 21st, 1978 the Midwest Association and the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation will hold their annual golf day at Indian Lakes C.C., Bloomingdale, III. The purpose of this field day is to raise funds for turfgrass research. Let us have a good attendance and help support this very worthy project.

Our annual golf tournament will be held on September 12th at McHenry C.C. Keep this date open!

M.A.G.C.S. October meeting will be held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Superintendents at Plum Tree National G.C.

The M.A.G.C.S. Annual Clinic will be held at Medinah C.C. on November 29-30, 1978.

## ROTARY MOWERS AND SAFETY

Now that summer is upon us and school is finally out, we should have our full complement of High School and College students on board.

When you assign your employees, usually the newest and least experienced employee is sent out the shop door with a trim mower to mow around trees and the lake. This employee is, however, entrusted with probably the most dangerous piece of equipment in our inventory.

Before you send this employee out with the mower whose blade travels 200 mph, make sure he knows all proper safety and operational procedures. These procedures include how to fill it with gas, where and how to wash it, how to disconnect the spark plug wire when working with the blade, how to fill it with oil, to turn mower off when cleaning discharge chute, to wear shoes with skid-proof soles (safety shoes are better), not to mow over debris, and to mow slopes in a criss-cross pattern.

Just a few extra minutes of instruction and on the site training could prevent a serious injury and costly insurance claims against your club. Now available from The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council: A Turf Manager's Guide -- Microscopic Identification of Common Turfgrass Pathogens by Patricia O'Connor Sanders, Research Assistant, Department of Plant Pathology, The Pennsylvania State University, 28 pages, 6'' x 9''.

This manual is a practical identification guide for the on-site turf manager. It deals chiefly with microscopic features of the fungi which cause turfgrass disease and how to recognize them. The manual includes complete directions for sample preparation and microscope use. Photo-micrographs are included of the fungi which cause the following diseases of turfgrass: leaf spot/melting-out, fading-out, Fusarium blight, Fusarium snow mold, anthracnose, brown patch, dollarspot, Pythium blight, red thread, and Typhula snow mold. Directions for nematode assay and photomicrographs of stylet nematodes are also included. A complete glossary of terms is provided, as well as information on approximate cost and kinds of microscopes which the on-site manager may find useful.

I would like to purchase\_\_\_\_\_copy of the Guide. Price is \$5.00 for members of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council and \$10.00 for Non-members. Send order form to: Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, 16 Tyson Building, University Park, Pa., 16802. Make check payable to: Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council.

Name \_\_\_\_\_Address

Dear Ray:

I wanted to let you know that this may be a year of severe cutworm problems on golf greens.

Black cutworms, which are commonly found on many golf course greens, are now present in many cornfields in central and northern parts of the state. The adult moths will lay eggs for a second and third generation later on in the summer. Many of these eggs will probably be laid on golf courses rather than agricultural crops. Black cutworms feed in the bentgrass turf, but often the most serious damage is done by birds digging out the cutworms from the turf, leaving unsightly holes on the green surface.

Because of the large numbers of cutworms present in field crops in early June, I want to alert the Golf Course Superintendents of the potential for an usually high number of cutworms on golf courses the remainder of the summer.

Our suggestion for chemical control of cutworms on golf courses is to apply either Dursban or trichlorfon (proxol or Dylox) to the greens at the rate indicated on the label.

I enjoy your publication and keep up the good work.

Very truly yours,

Roscoe Randell, Extension Specialist in Entomology

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