

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

Editor — Ray Gerber  
 865 Hillside Ave.  
 Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137  
 Phone — 469-6467

Associate Editor — Robert Williams  
 90 East Franklin, Apt. 208  
 Lake Forest, Ill. 60045  
 Office Phone — 432-0088

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Well, here we are in November and my term in office is almost completed. It seems as if it has just started. This will complete several years on the board of the Midwest Association. This has been a great experience and one that everyone should try once. You would find it not only a rewarding but also a learning experience. In looking back over the years, my only regrets are that I did not have more time to devote to the Association as my present position has been increasingly more demanding the last couple of years, therefore limiting the time available to spend on outside projects.

I would like to thank the board of directors and all the members of our Association for their support throughout the year. Also, I wish the new board the best of luck. I am sure they will carry on in the tradition that the Midwest has set for many years.

**Joe Grenko**

**MAGCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1978**

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## **INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS OFFERED MEETING ASSISTANCE**

Officials of the Mid-Am Trade Show have offered all state, regional and national horticultural industry associations an opportunity to hold Board, Committee or Membership meetings at no charge any time during the show's four-day run in Chicago.

Donn W. Sanford, CAE, Managing Director of the Mid-Am, said, "We'll make available, at no cost, necessary meeting space for any qualified organization which wants to schedule a meeting at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, our headquarters hotel". The Hyatt is adjacent to the O'Hare Expo Center, scene of the Mid-Am Trade Show, which runs from January 14 to January 17, 1979.

"Already, several groups have announced plans to meet during the show period", said Sanford. He listed the All-America Rose Selections, National Association of Plant Patent Owners, Wholesale Nursery Growers Association, Mail Order Association of Nurserymen, and the American Association of Nurserymen, Illinois State Nurserymen's Association, Illinois Landscape Contractors Association and the Wisconsin Landscape Federation.

"With more than 5,000 industry professionals in one location, it seems only natural to schedule association meetings at the same time", he said.

Interested groups should contact the Mid-Am Office at 4300-L Lincoln Ave., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008, or call 312/359-8160, said Sanford.

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## KEEP BUGS OUTDOORS

Ants, spiders, sowbugs and millipedes are just some of the insects that can become a nuisance in your home unless they are properly controlled, according to James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Extension Horticulturist in Cook County. These insects come in a variety of sizes, shapes, and colors, and can be found in many locations around your home and yard.

Ants live in colonies or nests in the ground. Occasionally, however, they may nest under the concrete slab or in the crawl space of your home.

Ants feed on a variety of materials, Fizzell says. Some species feed on grasses; others, on sugars. The aphid attendant, another ant species, moves aphids or plant lice from plant to plant and uses secretions from the aphid as its food. Ants may become numerous in lawns and gardens as well as indoors, wherever they can find a reliable food source.

There are only two spiders in Illinois that are considered poisonous. However, all spiders use some type of poison to stun their prey and being bitten by any spider is certainly not a pleasant experience. Spiders really belong outdoors where they are most beneficial.

Sowbugs and millepedes feed on organic matter. Indoors, these insects may feed on the backing of some rugs and draperies, or on glues used in book bindings.

The most satisfactory and safest method of controlling these pests is to use 1/2 concentration of DIAZINON (often sold as SPECTRACIDE) as a water-diluted foundation spray. Apply the spray to the point of run-off to the outside foundation of your house from the soil area to one foot above the ground. Also spray a six-inch strip of soil next to the foundation. Crawl-space areas may need treatment if the insects are entering your house from there. A repeat application may be necessary every two weeks until a hard freeze kills the insects outdoors.

Applications must be thorough. Be sure to spray all the way around the house, behind concrete slabs, and into any cracks or crevices of concrete slabs that adjoin the foundation.

**Mr. James A. Fizzell**  
Senior Extension Advisor, Horticulture  
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## HOW DO YOU DE-EDUCATE THE PLAYER

To learn how we should de-educate the player, we first must look at how he has been educated. First he has learned by asking the professional or other members when the course has maintenance practices going on that disrupt his game. The golf course superintendent has also tried to show what is being done with signs, information on locker room bulletin boards, and letters to the membership. These are all good ways to learn, but all it has taught the player is to take his business elsewhere while these practices are being done on his course. He still doesn't realize why the golf course shouldn't be like those on television everytime he goes to play.

Let's take a look at the course from the players point of view. He has paid a good sum to play golf on the course we provide, so he is entitled to the best we can give. This means the turf should be cut, traps raked, cups changed, tee markers moved and the other normal practices accomplished. But as we all realize every job can't be done in one day, as on a homeowners yard, which can be completed in several hours. The question may be asked how does the player compare your course with the one down the street or on television. Comparisons are almost impossible because of different grasses, budgets, maintenance practices, and the facilities. Thus, we have left nothing to compare our courses by, but what the player has seen on television. As we all know these television courses have been groomed for that appearance from one to three years, as in the case of the U.S. Open. But the average member doesn't know this, so he is comparing our course each day with the television course groomed for a year or more. This leads to extremely unfair conclusions by the player about his home course.

What does the player actually know about maintenance practices other than they disrupt his golf game. The player doesn't realize how long any job takes to complete, such as the rough mowing only being able to be finished once per week, thus the grass cut on Monday will have a week's growth by Saturday or Sunday when he plays his golf game. Also, without aerification and other cultural practices performed during the year, the player would have very poor conditions for any kind of a golf game. Many players don't realize that if we have two days of daytime rainfall in a week many of the mowing jobs for that week will not be completed, and many areas of tall turfgrass may occur. Even with adverse conditions, the player still expects his course to look like those on television.

We in the maintenance field try as much as possible to schedule for the least player inconvenience, but this can't always be accomplished. Also, major tournaments on the club golf calendar require extra grooming just as in national tournaments, so if the player wants to compare his course, due it at that time, because no one can keep tournament conditions every golf playing day.

In conclusion, I feel the player needs to de-educate himself from the television golf and learn of the everyday conditions of his own course. He can play every day under conditions approaching those of a tournament even with the most adverse conditions that may occur. If a player really wants to see what occurs at a national tournament he should look at the gallery areas with no turf at the end of a weeks play, and the golf course superintendent and his crew looking at a year's work to get good playing conditions to return for his membership.

**John C. West, Supt.**  
**Lake Barrington Shores Golf Club**  
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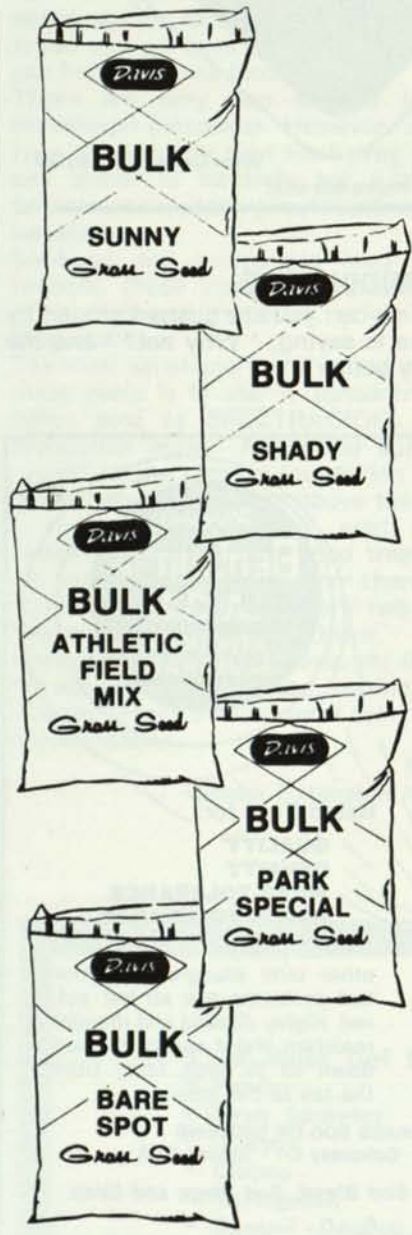
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...with the guy who talks too fast is that he often says something he hasn't thought of yet.



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## PROTECT YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM FROM FREEZING

Check these important points before you start draining your system - 1. Shut down early-before freezing temperatures become a threat. 2. Plan in advance - a systematic step-by-step procedure will assure the best drainage and make sure all parts of the system are covered. 3. Have the tools available to do the job. 4. Have replacement drain valves and fittings to cover any valves that have caused trouble before. 5. Check your irrigation system plan or layout, for location of the manual drains in the system. Can they be located? Are the drain sleeves centered over the valves so they can be operated from above ground at grade level? 6. Check the operation of the master shut-off valve from the present city main. Will it seal off the water and not let it bleed into the sprinkling system during the winter months. 7. Do you have any gravel drains which you know should be rebuilt? Drains built in heavy soils will fill in with time and will not absorb the water quickly.

If the system was installed to grade and manual drain valves have provided good drainage in the years past, continue the same procedure. The following steps will be helpful in setting up a new procedure or serve as a checklist to your present procedure: 1. Turn off the pumping plant (or water service) and depressurize the system by bleeding off the main and pressure tank. 2. Insert couplers at the higher elevations and allow the air to bleed back into the system during the drainage procedure. Bleed out as much water as possible through outlets above the ground. Now, open the manual drain valves at the low points. 3. Allow sufficient time for the water to drain out of the pipe and for the water to be absorbed by the gravel sump. The time required is dependent on the amount of water, condition of the gravel sump, size of the drain, and depth of the water table. Allow 2-3 days for drainage on light sandy soils and 5-7 days on heavier soils. Be sure the water has drained from the line. 4. Open the in-line manual control valves at each tee and green to allow the water to flow to the low area. 5. After complete drainage of the line, close off the drain valves to prevent the re-entry of water due to the rising water table, flooding conditions or melting snow. 6. Remove the couplers from the quick coupling valves at the higher elevations. 7. Any sprinkler heads which are in low flood areas should be sealed off and if necessary, removed from the riser and capped shut. 8. In low areas where the water table is too near the surface and drainage is not possible, a "pump-out" type sump will be required.

If you are using air to blow out the system, check the following steps: 1. The air compressor must be of adequate size to keep the water moving down to the end of each lateral section. For golf courses a 250 cubic foot/min. air compressor would be needed. 2. Inject the air at the pump house location, through the main trunk lines to each branch lateral line. 3. Plan for the removal of water out of each branch lateral line and on automatic systems sequence and operate each valvel station until air displaces the water. 4. Repeating the procedure is important. Water will drain and collect again in the low areas of piping (4 or 5 times may be necessary). 5. After you think you have removed all the water from the pipelines then crack open the drains and blow out until only air escapes. 6. When the water has been removed the drain valve should be closed to prevent the re-entry of water due to flooding, rising water table or melting snow.

Special attention for automatic controllers: 1. Leave the electric current on each of the field controllers during the winter season. Keeping the timing motors energized will add heat to the cabinet and help to lower the relative humidity and reduce moisture and condensation. 2. Seal off any holes in the panel enclosure so that rodents will not nest in these locations and cause any shorting out. 3. Program a short time intervals so activate each valve station (2½ to 5 minutes timing at each station once a day.)

### PUMPS AND PUMPING PLANT

1. Secure electric controls to "off"—lock in "off" position or remove fuses.
2. Remove water from mechanical piping, pumps, check valves and pressure tank.
3. Disconnect suction line, or open drain in suction piping to prevent breakage. (Caution: Drain valve must be below frost level.)
4. Cover any openings in pumps, suction piping, and discharge piping to prevent entrance of rodents, or having foreign objects fall into the lines.
5. Particular attention to remove and drain the regulator pilot control valves on pressure regulating valve.
6. Remove any water from air compressor lines, pressure switches, and pressure gauges.
7. Pay special attention to drain Numatic air chargers. They must be disconnected and stored in non-freeze building.
8. Most of the centrifugal pumps used for irrigation have a stuffing box. Loosen up the stuffing box and distribute the grease. Back off and loosen the gland for winter storage.
9. Spray a rubber preservative on any rubber suction gaskets, diaphragms, and foot valves to keep them from drying out and cracking over the winter months.
10. Special guidelines should be followed to protect gas driven pumps. Follow the manufacturers recommendations to protect the cooling system, cylinders, battery, and pump casting. Vacuum pumps and vacuum primers should be removed and stored in an cool dry place.

### Compliments of "Paul Bando" Sisco.

M.A.G.C.S. Annual Meeting will be held at Geneva G.C., **A. J. Standt** will be our host. This is the meeting you will not want to miss. Come out and vote for the candidate of your choice. Nominations from the floor are in order at the proper time. The meeting date is Thursday, November 2, 1978.

## MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 1978—1979

### OFFICERS:

President.....Robert Breen  
1st Vice President.....John Berarducci  
.....Edward Fisher  
2nd Vice President.....Edward Smith  
.....Leonard Berg, Jr.  
Secretary - Treasurer.....David Meyer

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

(2 to be elected for two year terms, 1 for a one year term)

Phillip Bersin.....Peter Leuzinger  
James Mitter.....Albert Staudt  
Richard Kensinger.....Edward Braunsky

## SUCCESS WITH TREES AND SHRUBS LIES IN PROPER PLANTING

Planting is one of the most important procedures determining the success or failure of ornamental plants. According to James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Extension Adviser, Horticulture, in Cook County, attention must be given to this practice if you expect plants to respond well. Watering, pruning, fertilizing, and buying good plants seldom make up for poor planting, he says.

Container-grown plants and balled and burlapped (B & B) plants can be planted anytime. Bare root plants should be planted in early spring or fall when they are dormant.

Poor drainage accounts for more losses in planting than any other factor. In very poorly drained locations, installation of drainage tiles may be the only way to get plants to grow. Where groups of plants are planted, you may want to consider building raised beds or planting on hills or berms. This helps overcome poorly drained sites by creating a well-drained medium on top of the ground.

The hole for container or B & B plants should be the same depth as the plant set in the nursery and at least 6" wider on all sides of the soil ball. The soil on the bottom of the hole should be tamped firm to prevent excess settling and the formation of air pockets under the root ball. High planting is suggested in areas where soils are heavy and drainage is poor.

After placing the plant in the hole, cut all strings and push the burlap down into the hole. If strings are not cut, they can girdle the plant; and burlap sticking above the soil acts as a wick, drying the soil ball. Plants growing in containers should be removed no matter what the container. If roots are growing in a circle, once the plant is removed, take a knife and cut down the sides. This will prevent the roots from continuing their growth, causing girdling and poor rooting.

Fizzell recommends backfilling the hole with the same soil removed from it. Modifying the soil with peatmoss or compost as is often recommended creates a situation in which the water runs into the loose soil more readily than it can seep out through the surrounding soil. In such a situation, the plant will drown.

When back filling, fill the hole halfway with soil and apply water until you get a slurry. Fill the hole the rest of the way up and again make a slurry. This helps to get soil all the way around the ball and eliminates air pockets. When you finish backfilling, leave a depression for later watering.

The limited root system of the plant may make supplemental watering necessary, during extended dry weather. Be careful not to keep the soil continually soaked.

Leave the area over the root ball free of sod and cover the soil with a mulch, such as wood chips. A ¾ inch layer of mulch will help to conserve moisture, reduce weed growth, maintain uniform soil temperatures, and prevent crusting.

Support newly planted trees by staking. Wrapping the trunk of thin bark trees, such as Norway Maple, will reduce winter injury from frost cracking.

**Mr. James A. Fizzell**  
Senior Extension Advisor, Horticulture  
University of Illinois

**WE'VE HEARD IT SAID...**On close examination you will find that the person with a green thumb also has a calloused palm.

## TOO HILARIOUS NOT TO SHARE

Taken from "AIDE", the USAA Insurance Company publication, what follows are actual quotes from accident reports submitted to various insurance companies by hapless policy holders:

"Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have."

"The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intentions."

"I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way."

"The guy was all over the road; I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him."

"I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment."

"To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian."

"My car was legally parked as it backed into the other vehicle."

"I told the police I was not injured, but on removing my hat, I found I had a fractured skull."

"I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him."

"The indirect cause of this accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth."

"I was thrown from my car as it left the road. I was later found in a ditch by some stray cows."

"The telephone pole was approaching. I was attempting to swerve out of its way, when it struck my front end."

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Editor

### MIDWEST BREEZES

The M.A.G.C.S. meeting held at McHenry C.C. was one of our best attended meetings. One hundred fourteen enjoyed a marvelous steak dinner. Prior to dinner Chicago Toro provided hors d'oeuvres for everyone. Ninety-four played golf on the water soaked hills and valleys. The super condition of the course was made possible by our host Supt. **Harold Michels**. The halfway house on the course was a very popular place. Turf Products, Ltd. was our halfway house host. Thank you, Turf Products and Chicago Toro.

This being our annual golf tournament there were many prizes. Usually the most important one is the championship. **Bob Kronn**, Supt. at Rolling Green C.C., received the big trophy and his father, **Ben Kronn**, Supt. at Twin Orchards C.C., received the senior trophy. Congratulations to father and son.



Champion Bob Kronn



Bob Kronn and Sr. Champion Ben Kronn

The **Voykin** brothers made a trip to Canada to help their mother celebrate her seventieth birthday. Congratulations, **Mrs. Voykin**, and we all hope you have many more.

Congratulations to our good Indian friend **Bill Krafft**, on Oct. 3rd he was presented a handsome lapel pin signifying his 30 years as a member in the P.G.A.

We are sorry to hear that G.C.S.A.A. Director of Communication, **Douglas H. Fender** is no longer with the Association. More details will come your way at a later date.

The M.A.G.C.S. October 9 meeting held at Plum Tree National Golf Club in conjunction with the Wisconsin Supts. Association was enjoyed by all. Golf was played on a beautiful and magnificent conditioned course made possible by our host, Supt. **Charles Shiley**. The steak dinner was wonderful.

M.A.G.C.S. Dinner and Dance will be held Saturday night, November 18 at Indian Lakes C.C. In the mean time get out your dancing shoes and try a few preliminary steps with the best girl friend or boy friend.

The Annual M.A.G.C.S. clinic will be held at Medinah C.C. on November 29 & 30, 1978. This is one meeting you cannot afford to miss.

**Tim Miles**, Supt. and Manager at Sugar Creek G.C., Villa Park, Ill. has resigned and taken the same position at Sportsman C.C. which was purchased by the Northbrook Park District.

**Bill Stuppel**, one of our long time Supts. and former Supt. at Exmoor C.C., is at this writing confined to a hospital in Highland Park, Ill. Bill was stricken with a heart attack. **Bill**, we are all pulling for you and wish you a speedy recovery.

We are sorry to hear the **Al Bertucci**, Supt. at Old Elm C.C. was admitted to the Highland Park Hospital due to a heart attack. **Al**, we all hope it will be for only a short period of time and that you will soon be back on your beautiful golf course.

Automobile accidents are something we all try to avoid. But there are times it does happen regardless how careful we are. **Wolfgang Mueller**, Supt. at Onwentsia Club, and **Mrs. Mueller** can vouch for this statement. Some months ago Wolfgang was involved in a car accident and recently returned to the hospital for observation. After the required period of time Mrs. Mueller went to the hospital with their car to bring Wolfgang home. On the way Mrs. Mueller was involved in an accident resulting in her hospitalization and will require several months for recovery. Following this recovery period Wolfgang will return to the hospital for surgery. Some of us think we have problems, we should count our blessings more often.

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Elgin, Ill.



## POSITION OPEN

At Medinah Country Club, Medinah, IL 60157. This is a private country club, with three 18 hole golf courses. His responsibilities will include golf course maintenance, golf course budget; purchasing responsibility, club house lawns; flower gardens, trees and shrubbery; and plant nursery. A grounds crew of 33. Annual maintenance budget \$400,000. Turf grass consists of Bent on greens, Bent and Blue on tees, Bent on fairways, and manual irrigation system. Personal requirements: College Graduate. Experience required: 5 or more years as a golf course Supt. Knowledge of all equipment. Fringe benefits: Club paid Life Insurance; Club paid Health Insurance; paid annual vacation 30 days per year; paid annual sick leave; dues paid in G.C.S.A.A.; expense for vehicle; expense involved in attending regional and national educational conferences. Travel expense for interview will be paid. Interested Supts. concerning this position, contact R.V. King, green chairman, c/o of R.S. Hatch & Sons, P. O. Box 394, Elmhurst, IL 60126. Home phone: 312-834-3220, Business: 312-834-1036. Deadline for applications: November 30, 1978. Annual basic salary bracket: From \$25,000 to \$35,000. Supt. will be directly responsible to **Robert Nelson**, General Manager.

## G.C.S.A.A. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION BEGINS SOON

Registration materials will be mailed in October to all GCSAA members for the 50th International Turfgrass Conference and Show, to be held in Atlanta, February 4-9, 1979. A descriptive brochure, with information about all conference activities will be included, along with the registration and housing forms.

Non-GCSAA members who would like to receive this information may do so by writing to GCSAA Headquarters, 1617 St. Andrews Dr., Lawrence, KS 66044.

## POSITION OPEN

### Golf Course Manager -

Sugar Creek Golf Course is seeking an experienced turfgrass manager to manage its nine-hole, executive layout public golf course, located in Villa Park, Ill. Position entails management of all facets of golf operation.

Compensation: Salary \$14,282.00 - \$17,500.00, pension, full hospitalization insurance, life and disability insurance, educational expenses, memberships in organizations, dental benefits, vehicle provided and a remodeled nine-room house provided. Also liberal vacation and sick leave.

For position profile call Stephen Harrell of the Manager Search Committee; c/o Elmhurst Park District, 225 Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst, Ill. 60126; (312) 834-2215.

Dear Ray:

November brings a lot of beauty, true, but I sure don't like to see those leaves fall.

"AUTUMN REALITY"

The Autumn scene with all it's color,  
Is hard to compare with any other.  
But when the leaves fall and the trees are bare,  
And Winter greets you with that vacant stare,  
One feels the loss and must abide once again,  
To accept the change of the Season.  
It's hard to adjust but do it we must,  
Be it the rhyme or the reason.

Kenneth R. Zanzig  
Supt. - Old Oak C.C.

## Nutrient deficiencies, weeds, diseases, thin turf, insects.

For the superintendent who has everything . . . or anything . . . or who just wants to make a good thing better . . . ProTurf offers research tested, golf course proven professional turf products.

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