

Dear Fred,

Enclosed please find an article written in the Aurora Beacon-News, January 26, 1984. Phil Torza was abt more than "The Pro's Pro" as he was often referred to; I knew and worked with him for twenty six years and I must honestly say that he helped our profession as Superintendents equally as much. I would greatly appreciate you incorporating parts of this article into one of our **Bull Sheet** publications. As the title of this article states, Torza had it all together. I have seen no other words printed about "Phil" so I'm hoping we as Supts. could very nicely say a few parting words thanking him for all he has done for our profession too.

Thank you buddy.

Carl G. Hopphan

Torza had it all together

Nobody ran a golf tournament better than the late Felice J. (Phil) Torza.

Torza, the soft-spoken little gentleman who was head golf professional at the Aurora Country Club, left us two days before Christmas, another name on cancer's long list of victims. He ws 63.

If there is only one thing Torza will be remembered for, it's organization. The little Italian had it all together. His tournaments were run with such perfection, he often was called upon to give clinics for other golf pros.

Torza could not only put on a good tourney — he was an excellent teacher and a truly great player. Among his peers in the pro golf ranks, he was affectionately known as "The Pro's Pro."

Although only a little guy — he stood but 5-6 (and that's with golf spikes on while standing on concrete) — Torza could generate great distances off the tee on his drive. His fluid swing was as picturesque as Ted Williams taking a swing at a low fastball.

Torza's exploits as a golfer are well documented.

- Torza was a perennial member of the Illinois Radix Club Team, which is comprised of the 10 finest club playing pros in the state each year.
- He won the Illinois Open two times and twice won the Illinois Match Play title.
- He played in four U.S. Masters tournaments.
- In 1952 he was runnerup to Walter Burkemo in the National PGA tourney.
- In about 1969 he was the first-round leader in the Western Open.

Torza was a dapper man who was as organized in his appearance as he was in running club business. And he was quiet, although never at a loss for words. He was always very cordial and eager to help promote the club, or golf in general.

But Phil Torza will be missed. He has left a legacy of charm and excellence that will be hard to beat.

Excerpts from Aurora Beacon-News
Jan. 26, 1984 — by Gary Stutzman

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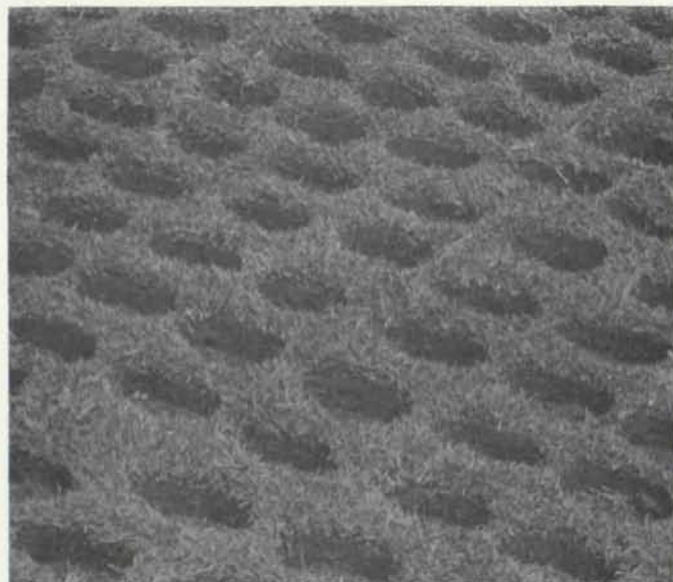
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The above pictures show how the divots were once repaired at the Glen Oak C.C. These pictures were taken in 1943. Donald Gerber once did this job for his Dad and said when you got to the par 3 holes like the 11th hole that is pictured you wondered why am I doing this. If the night waterman didn't do his job well all of your work was wasted for the plugs died. The divot repair tool is in the office at Glen Oak as a reminder of maintenance practices of the past.



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Spring Start Up:

Tom Nester

Chicago Toro Turf-Irrigation, Inc.

Well, it's that time of year when we are all trying to get the golf course ready for 1984, irrigation system included. After a winter like this one there are some things to consider when activating your water system. Extreme cold and high moisture can cause excessive heaving in the soil which can be rough on any pipe system, so for 1984 think "slow". Start filling your system as early as possible and fill it with a minimum of pressure. This will allow a better condition for testing and flushing of your pipe system. A check list that will help you with a smooth turn on is listed below, take into consideration your own local conditions and type of system.

Start at the source - PUMP HOUSE Check:

- Proper voltage and phase
- Tighten all electrical connections, Disconnects, Starters, etc.
- Clean cabinets and Electrical Boxes
- Lubricate motor bearings and pump bearings. Change oil
- Check all screens in control valve, and all sensing lines to pressure switches, flow switches, and safety circuits, etc.
- Test system gauges for accuracy
- Inspect intake structure, wet well, foot valves, etc. Test run all pumps and be sure the power is disconnected when working on any electrical panels or switches

PIPE SYSTEM:

- Check all manual valves, Gate, Butterfly, Ball, etc.
- Insulate, fill and flush slowly a section at a time.
- Inspect any bridge crossing and exposed pipe, creek crossing manual drain valves, etc.
- Inspect and mark all valve boxes.

CONTROL SYSTEM & VALVES:

- Power to all locations, check fuses and wire connections.
- Proper activation, sequencing station to station, timing, proper valve activation, time of day and day sequencing.
- Inspect cabinets, lubricate hinges, clean inside, Insect and rodent control.
- Check ground rods and lightning arrestors.
- Valve activation, positive on off, flush thoroughly.

SPRINKLERS & QUICK COUPLING VALVES:

- Proper activation and rotation.
- Set to grade.
- Nozzle performance, plugged, scored, out of adjustment, replace if necessary.
- Caps & Covers replace if damaged.
- Broken or missing hinge covers, weeping valves

The above check list will help you with the basics for a smooth start up, remember the "slower the better". I'm sure mother nature will cooperate, and 1984 will be a great year for Golf and growing quality turf.

"Shelter"

by David Hughes

Mt. Prospect Golf Club

"Lord, Shelter Us From the Rain,
 But Leave It Come to Grow Our Grain,
 And Keep Green the Land
 Where We Play Our Game."

Midwest Breezes



Our new "Midwest Breezes" logo was drawn by Mrs. Bev Hammerschmidt who is the wife of the President of the Glen Oak C.C. Many thanks to her for helping us to identify this column.

Future Meeting Dates

- May 14, 1984** — Joint meeting with the Central Illinois GCS, The Midwest GCS at the Kankakee Elks C.C. Bill Bennett, Host.
- June 4, 1984** — Members only meeting at Old Elm Club. Shotgun start with a four man best ball. Ed Fischer, Host.
- July 9, 1984** — Seniors Day. Golf & Cookout at Sportsman C.C. Tim Miles, Host.
- August 20, 1984** Riverside G.C. Roger Stewart, Host.
- September** — We need a place
- October** — We need a place
- November** — Annual Meeting

For Immediate Release ... Bryan Michael Johnson, another future lawnmower salesman was born on February 9th, to Rick & Christine Johnson from Illinois Lawn Equipment Co.

Congratulations to Peter Voykin on receiving his GCSAA 25 year pin!

For Sale by St. Charles C.C.

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Golf Course Job Opening

Kendwood Golf Club: Salary \$18,000, Medical, Dental & IMRF benefits, plus paid association expenses, 3 week paid vacation. Under direction of Park Superintendent. Call or write: Mr. Robert Rolek, Round Lake Area Park District, 916 West Rollins Road, Round Lake, IL 60073 (312) 546-8558.

Andy Dauksas is looking for an assistant's job. He is presently employed at Idle Wild C.C. He has 8 years experience on a golf course, is single, 24 years old, and holds a degree from Iowa State in Turf Management. Call him at (312) 798-4927.

Pardon our goof-up ... In the article of testing fungicides at the Glen Oak C.C. in the last issue, it was printed: "Bayleton - #11/300 gals per 4 acres equals 1 oz/M and Vorlan - #22/300 gals water per 4 acres equals 2 oz/M". It should have been 11 pounds/300 gals for Bayleton and 22 pounds/300 gals for Vorlan.

Dear Mr. Opperman:

Congratulations! Your entry in the Foundation's Harry C. Eckhoff Award contest was honorably mentioned in its category.

Your certificate will be mailed to you as soon as it is printed.

Being a service organization ourselves, we're particularly appreciative of those who also serve golf. Again, congratulations and we look forward to seeing more of your outstanding publications.

National Golf Foundation
Joe Much

Member Recognition

Bruce Williams, Superintendent of Bob O'Link Golf Club, has had a very busy tour of duty with more to come. His talks at the National this year were "Fairway Maintenance — The Over All Approach" (for GCSAA) and Budgeting & Purchasing (for USGA). In April, Bruce will be representing the United States and speaking at the British Turfgrass Expo at Cambridge University in England. He will have the opportunity to view and tour some of the greatest golf courses that most of us read about in text books. A benefit Bruce will cherish is the exchange of turfgrass knowledge with the industry professionals from across the ocean. In May, Bruce has been invited to speak at the local meeting of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendent's Association. Most recently, Bruce has been appointed to the GCSAA Educational Committee for 1984 by the Executive Committee. If any of our members has any input or comments regarding topics for the 1985 Educational Conference, in Washington D.C., please contact Bruce as soon as possible. He will be attending a spring meeting during the first week in May to lay plans for the 1985 Conference.

Congratulations Bruce and thank you for the giving of your time, from all the Midwest members.

Gardener Wanted

Brian Chalifoux is looking for a head gardener for Olympia Fields C.C. Please call him for details at (312) 748-0495 ext. 237.

Need an assistant? Steven L. Conlin, graduate of the 2 year turf course at Michigan State and is a certified Pesticide Applicator. He can be reached at 205 Barcliffe Lane, Schaumburg, IL 60194 or phone (312) 490-9683.

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Notice

April 23, Woodridge Golf Club Meeting Golf Event:

4-man Florida Scramble minimum team handicap of 40
Net team score computed using 25% of teams total handicap
Make your own foursomes

The Golf Committee has adopted an amendment to the S.O.P. which will require that all contestants competing in the Annual Tournament must have participated in at least two other association golfing events prior to the tournament date. This is to encourage membership participation at other meetings in addition to the Annual Tournament Meeting.

Allen Frantik, 2S532 Seneca, Wheaton, IL 60187, is looking for an assistants job in the area. Allen will graduate from U of I in May with a degree in Horticulture and Turf. He has four years experience on golf courses. Call him at: (312) 665-8748.

Midwest Survey Forthcoming

The Executive Board of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is making plans to conduct an extensive survey of its members salaries, benefits and budgets. An Ad Hoc Committee has been formed and President Stewart has appointed four Class A members to design and complete the survey.

The itinerary for this project is to have survey forms sent out to all Class A & B members by June 1st, have surveys completed and returned to the President of MAGCS by July 1st, and to collate information received from the survey for distribution by September 30th or sooner.

The results of the survey will not appear in the **Bull Sheet** due to a shortage of space and because participation will be limited to active golf course superintendents only. If you would like to become more abreast of the various types and/or styles of golf course operations in the Midwest area then it would benefit you as a member to participate.

Upon completion of this survey the Golf Course Superintendent can use this as a viable tool. It can be used during interclub communications, budgeting—both annual and long range, and for setting personnel goals. The success of this project is solely in the hands of the membership.

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us to run the system with a high level of accuracy. We currently employ one full-time man to operate, repair, and maintain our irrigation system and pumping plant.

WETTING AGENTS — As I have mentioned, the improvements in our water application and drainage, it is important to note that the use of the wetting agents on our fairways has been a successful program. Our best results were shown using 4 applications of Aqua-Gro at 8 oz./M at 30 day intervals starting May 15th. The wetting agent helped water percolation, drainage, and enhanced root development.

With an improved irrigation system, an improved drainage network, and the use of wetting agents it was much easier to limit the amount of water applied to the fairways. Moisture continuity developed and the number of wet spots and localized dry spots were kept to a minimum. Our objective of drier fairways was met.

The better golfers prefer a tight fairway lie so that they can hit the ball cleanly with the club face and eliminate fliers. In order to do this we must provide a dense, healthy, upright plant so that the ball sits up. The golfer of the 80's now demands higher turf quality on the fairways resulting in greater playability. I will now touch on several areas that are part of our long range program to meet this objective.

MOWING — Several years ago we experimented with the use of lightweight mowing equipment and clipping removal for the fairways. The results after one year of clipping collection with the Turf Pro 84's were outstanding. We followed the work already done by Superintendents such as Al Muhle, Cal Gruber, and Tony Bifano. This topic has been covered at length in recent years so let it suffice to say that the members of Bob O'Link were impressed with the program and we will use 3 new HF-5's with baskets to mow all of our fairways in 1984. Our height of cut on the fairways varied from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch in the 1970's. We now mow at $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in the beginning of the season and raise the mowers to either $\frac{5}{8}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ inch depending on stress. What was formerly the low end of our cutting height is now the top end of our cutting height range. By removing the clippings we have noticed a reduction in disease incidence, an increase in the bentgrass population, and reduced temperatures in the turf-grass canopy.

FERTILITY — During the early 70's recommendations for fertility on fairways may have been as high as 6 lbs. N/M per year. Research has shown that in the north central part of the U.S. we can now feel comfortable with 3 lbs. N/M annually. With clipping removal we must increase our fertilizer requirements by about 20%. We apply $1\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. N and K/M in December with $\frac{1}{2}$ of the N being Urea and the other $\frac{1}{2}$ sulfur-coated Urea. A $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. application of the same material is used in early May, late August, and in October. The seasonal fertility ratio is 3-1-4. High levels of sulphate of potash enhance the heat and drought tolerance of the turf and make the leaf blades more rigid.

AERATION — Aeration equipment came a long way during the 70's and the new equipment allowed us to take more cores and have deeper penetration into the soil. Some Superintendents actually used a greens aerifier for troublesome spots on the fairways. Well if the Greensaire was beneficial to the worst parts of the fairway, why couldn't it improve the entire fairway? Again we followed the lead of several other Superintendents

(cont'd. pg. 18)

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and used the Ryan Greensaire to aerate all of our fairways beginning in 1980. Using 4 aerifiers we aerate 2 fairways per day. Machines are lubricated hourly and oil changed daily. Plugs are dragged with a cyclone fence drag mat and then the residual thatch and vegetative matter are blown to the center of the fairway for pickup. The deep penetration and close proximity of holes gives us a super job. Using this method once a year in the Spring we have reduced our thatch level and aided water penetration into the soil.

PEST MANAGEMENT — Weeds have not been a problem in our fairways with the exception of an occasional patch of clover which we spot treat. Insects were never a problem on our fairways but along with the 80's came a new pest, *Ataenius spretulus*. We treat our fairways with 40 lbs. per acre of Of-tanol 5G to solve this problem. Last season we also treated the fairways for cutworms after finding populations as high as 15 per square foot. Our disease control program is preventative using alternating applications of contact and systemic fungicides.

A typical season would start off with 2 applications of Actidione RZ at 1.2 oz./M in the Spring. This would be followed with:

Bayleton - 1 oz.

Daconil 2787 - 3.7 oz.

Bayleton - .6 oz. + TGF ½ oz.

PMAS - .8 oz. + AD Thiram 2.14 oz.

26019 - 1.5 oz.

Bayleton 1.0 oz.

and for snowmold control PMAS - 1.0 oz. + Thiram 4 oz.

Until 1983 Pythium was not much of a problem and we only spot treated when pythium was visible. With more than 40 days in the 90's last summer Pythium was probably our largest fairway problem and we made five applications of Banol or Subdue at 2 oz/m. Fairways with clippings removed had less Pythium pressure than those mowed with conventional gang units.

ROOT PRUNING — Root pruning has become necessary since the height of cut has been reduced and the application of water limited. The trees that cause the fairway turf the most problems in their struggle for moisture are elms, willows and cottonwoods. Whenever we see a localized dry spot in a fairway with one of these trees nearby, we immediately root prune. A trench is dug in the rough at a depth of 2-3 ft. The trench is lined with tarpaper and then backfilled with gravel.

We are currently experimenting with several products which might improve our fairways.

Evaluation of Tri Calcium Arsenate is scheduled for 1984 and we will also expand the testing of Rubigan, a sterol inhibitor, for the suppression of *Poa Annua*. Aqua Gro and Embark show some promise for reducing seedheads on *Poa Annua*.

Our long range plan for fairway improvement has been quite successful. Our members are pleased with the playability of the fairways. The ball gets more roll and flier lies have been eliminated. It is certain that such a program is not inexpensive. Yet, the cost of improved fairways is not prohibitive. Once the permanent improvements of drainage and irrigation were completed at a cost of \$130,000 then we are only dealing with 3 increased expenditures annually. Mowing with clipping removal costs an additional \$10,000 per year. Aeration with Greensaires costs an additional \$6,000. The use of wetting agents costs \$3,000.

(cont'd. on pg. 20)

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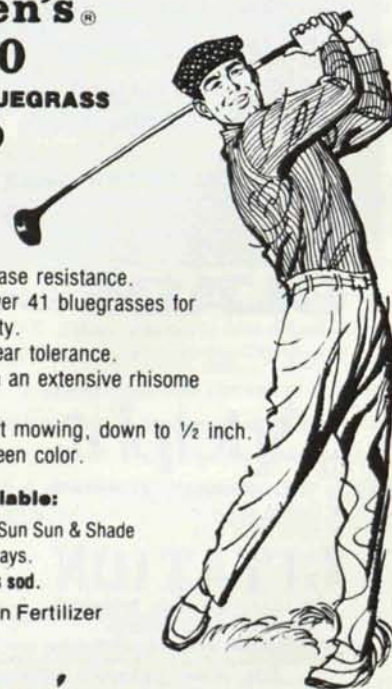
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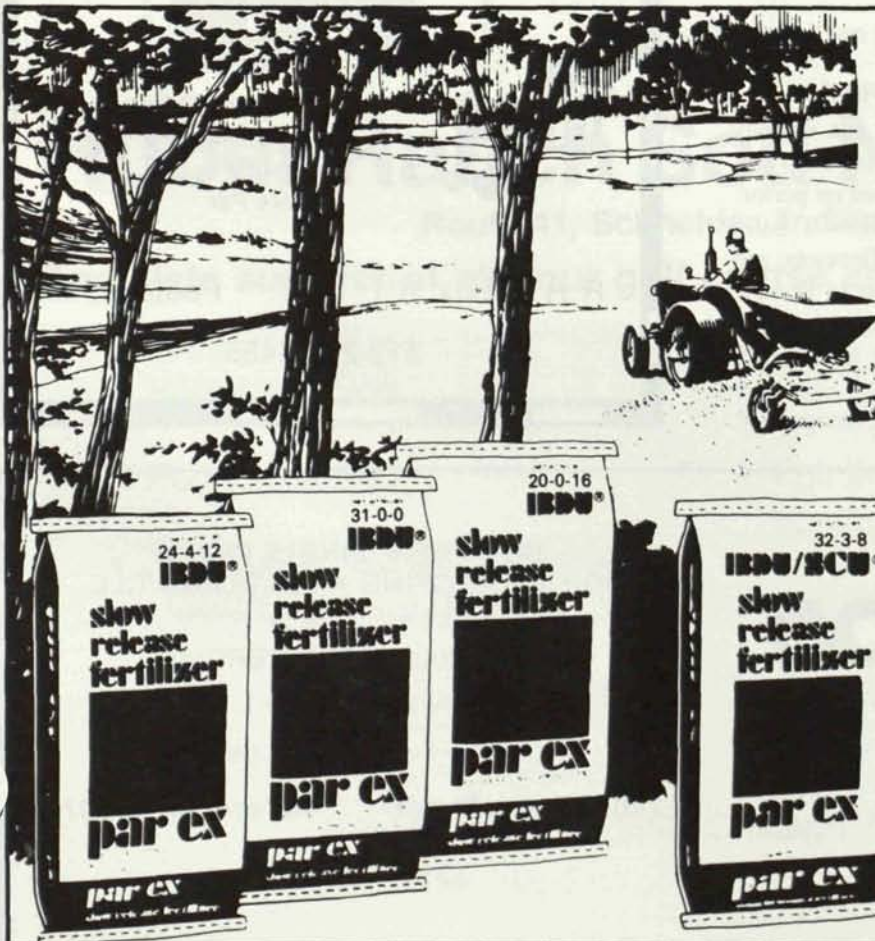
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The key to our program is that we have employed a number of different programs to accomplish our objectives. We are using a variety of approaches which have been proven effective by other Supts. Using all of the programs together in a holistic approach we benefit from a synergistic effect. Our fairways are healthier and easier to maintain during stress periods. It appears that cultural practices once restricted to our greens are now becoming commonplace on our fairways. Let's hope we never have to measure the amount of roll on our fairways with a stimpmeter!!

"April Springboard"

by **Kenneth R. Zanzig**

April trampolines Nature's miracles,
 Into marvelous displays.
 Springtime Months are always filled,
 With fruitful exciting Days.
 Lush green Grass and Leaves,
 Grow forth with pride.
 Trees and Bushes with rich Blooms,
 And Flowers, no longer hide.
 As the panorama explodes,
 With anticipated delight,
 Once again We're Blessed,
 To Witness Nature's Might.

Don Maske Wins Upjohn Award

TUCO — Division of the Upjohn Company has recently selected District Manager Don Maske to receive the 1984 Upjohn Academy Award. This yearly award is based on performance, attitude and service. Since 1970, Don was Sales Representative in the Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri. In 1979, Don received the promotion to become District Manager in the North Central States. Don and his wife, Sue, will attend the Academy Awards Banquet in Kalamazoo, Michigan this coming summer.

Congratulations Don for your achievement and recognition!

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