

MIDWEST BREEZES

Who knows what all of these men had in common? Not pictured is Bert Rost who should be included with this group. Answers will be elsewhere in "The Bull Sheet".



Norm Johnson



Don Strand



Bill Stupple



Ted Woehrle



Doug Jabaay



Tom Burrows



Dick Trevarthan



Roger LaRochelle



Ray Gerber

WEDDING BELLS

Cupid's arrow struck again! Robert and Cheryl Maibusch were united in marriage on December 4, 1983. The newly-weds are honeymooning in Hawaii. Bob is the superintendent at the Hinsdale Country Club.

CONGRATULATIONS

Changes among the Clubs.

Carl Hopphan, from Aurora C.C. to Evanston, C.C.

Walter Fuchs, Sr. retiring at Evanston C.C. to the sunny rays of Naples Florida.

Hans Hopphan from assistant at Aurora to "The Superintendent" there.

David Mahoney from assistant at Naperville C.C. to "The Superintendent" there.

Tim Davis from Woodstock C.C. moves to Shore Acres.

Joel Purpur, assistant at Glen Oak C.C. to "The Superintendent" at Bartlett C.C.

GCSAA PRAYER BREAKFAST

While attending the International Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada make plans for being present at the Prayer Breakfast on Monday, January 30th. The Prayer Breakfast has been scheduled at the beginning of Conference week for several years and is open to all faiths. The purpose is to share prayer and fellowship with members of our fine Association. It is scheduled to be held in the MGM Grand in the Metro 5 room. Continental breakfast will be served at 6:30 A.M. and the Prayer Breakfast will start promptly at 7:00 A.M. The guest speaker will be 15 year veteran of the National Football League, Jim Otto.

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Ooops Department: Sorry for the misspelling for Gret Oltman in the last issue. Greg is the new President of ITF. Sorry also for the misspelling of Thornton's Sod in the last issue.

Stan Zontag at a recent get together stated that bent seed will be difficult to get next year. That also means it will be expensive.

GCSAA Seminar "Disease of Turf"

Don't forget to sign up for this excellent seminar to be held at Pheasant Run C.C., January 10 & 11th, 1984. Drs. Couch & Larsen will be conducting this two day clinic. Learn the latest up to date information on disease causing fungi, nematodes, viruses, bacteria and other factors influential in the health of plant life. Cost is only \$75.00 Make reservations by calling: 1-800-GSA-SUPT.

Skokie Country Club goes back to the Renaissance. John Berarducci, Past President of the Midwest, has been busy this past couple of years putting his course back to the days of 1938. This involves green construction and recontouring, high sand traps, fairway bunkers, and tee construction. Rees Jones, Golf Course Architect, from New Jersey was hired to assist John with this major project. John hopes to complete the project by the close of the 1984 golf season.

Elgin Country club has a long history of values tied to the Leith family. William Jr. has been Golf Course Superintendent for the past 21 years and succeeds his father, William Sr., who was Pro/Supt. for 34 years. Being raised on a golf course, it became very easy and successful for Bill to follow in the foot steps of his father.

The club was organized and opened for play (9 holes) in 1901. Tom Bendalow was hired as the golf course architect. In 1928 the existing clubhouse was built and the course was expanded to 18 holes. Over the years the club has hosted many Professional and Amateur golf tournaments. The most recent, for the third time, was the 1983 Illinois Open.

Some of Bill's projects this past year included; rebuilding and contouring of # green along with sand traps, rounded up three fairways and overseeded with 50% seaside - 25% Penncross - 25% Penneagle, and enlarged two tees which were seeded to Penncross. Over the years Bill has established a fairway renovation program.

Bill relates that Educational Seminars and the tremendous fellowship with his many peers of the industry have enlightened him over the years. Hard work, dedication, and the many years of service provides great inspiration to the members of this fine association.

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“ANSWERS TO THE PHOTO QUIZ”: They were all Editors of “The Bull Sheet”.

Norm Johnson was the first Editor and founder of “The Bull Sheet” and that was back in 1948 or so. The reason I say or so is because I don’t know when the first issue came out. I have on file Volume I, #10 dated just September Issue, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. I also have Volume I, # 11 December Issue, Glen Ellyn, Illinois but no year is printed. I presume it is 1948 for on the cover it is stating don’t forget the January 3rd, 1949 annual meeting. Our files are missing many of the first 6 to 8 years and it is difficult to be absolutely sure of exact dates.

Anyone having back issues of “The Bull Sheet” and would care to part with them to give the Midwest a complete file of all issues would be greatly appreciated. If you wouldn’t want to part with them could we have them to photo copy to still complete our files. At the end of this article I will list “The Bull Sheets” that we are missing.

Well, back to the Editors. Norm Johnson was the founder, followed by Don Strand who gave it up in May 1951. Bill Stupple was then in charge from June 1951 thru December 1958. Bert Rost took over January 1959 thru January 1961. Ted Woehrle was early 1961 (we are missing 4 months and the exact month Ted took over I don’t know) thru August 1965. Doug Jabaay came on the scene in September 1965 thru April 1967. Tom Burrows picked up the reins in May 1967 and served till January 1968. Dick Trevarthan started February 1968 thru February 1970. Roger LaRoche followed Dick in March 1970 and pounded the typewriter till Ray Gerber took over in February 1972. Ray held the position of Editor till he died July 6th, 1983, a period of over 11 years. It was during this time period that “The Bull Sheet” really “bloomed” for Ray had the time to devote and improve upon our newsletter. “The Bull Sheet” went from 8 pages and 24 ads the beginning of 1970 to 18 pages and around 35 ads that it is today.

As I stated before I would like to have any “Bull Sheet” that anyone would care to donate to us, so we could have a complete file. I am not sure how or why, the first “Bull Sheets” were numbered. For instance there might be a Volume IV #18 dated June 1951. Then there is a Volume V #2 dated August 1951. That means that Volume V started in July 1951, but it doesn’t explain to me why there is a #18 issue for the fourth volume. Today we have only twelve issues per volume. This brings me back to when the original issue came out, I don’t know. Does anyone? Please inform me.

Below are the issues that we are missing and would like to have for our files: (I will put the number of the month after the year for the issues that we need)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1982 - 9 | 1957 - 3,4,6,7,8,12 |
| 1980 - 5,8 | 1956 - All except Dec. |
| 1978 - 4,5 | 1955 - 4,5,6 |
| 1977 - 7 | 1954 - 2,3,4,6,7,12 |
| 1967 - 4 | 1953 - 3,7,8,9,11 |
| 1962 - 2,6,12 | 1952 - 2,5,9 |
| 1961 - 2,3,4,5,8,9,10,11,12 | 1951 - 2,3,4,5,7 |
| 1960 - 6,7,8,9,10,11,12 | 1950 - All except 11 & 12 |
| 1959 - 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 | Before 1950 |

we need all of them.

Fred D. Opperman, Editor

DR. BILL DANIELS HAS OPEN HEART SURGERY

Dr. Daniels had a double by-pass heart surgery on December 10th and was home by the 16th. We wish Dr. Bill the speediest recovery. Anyone wishing to send a note or card can address it to: Dr. Bill Daniel, 643 N. Sharon Chapel Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906.

Dear Mr. Opperman:

This letter is being written with the intent that a superintendent in need of an assistant will come in contact with my resume.

My name is Sam Mac Kenzie, this past March I graduated from Michigan State University's two year Turf Program with a Certificate of Turfgrass Management awarded. I served my internship with Oscar L. Miles at Butler National Golf Club in Oak Brook, Illinois and at his invitation I returned for a second season which I now am completing. Some of my duties have included crew leader of fairway renovation, tee and cart path construction, experience in machinery and irrigation repair, as well as all normal turf practices. In addition I've worked three seasons for Donald R. Shryack at the Macomb Country Club in Macomb, Illinois.

Being an assistant golf course superintendent is my immediate career goal. I hope this letter enhances the prospects of this goal.

Samuel C. Mac Kenzie

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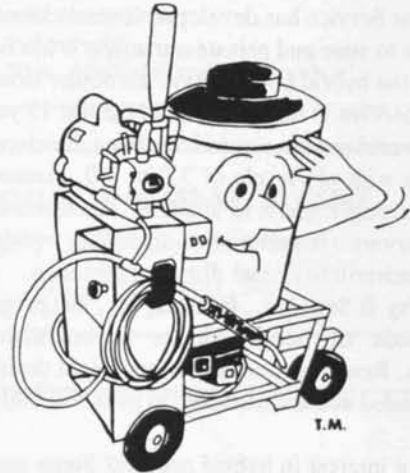
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HYBRID POPLARS

After 70 years, scientists have found a niche for hybrid poplars. It may soon be heating and lighting your home, providing gas, or even turn up in your pantry.

“How fast will it grow?”

People have asked foresters this question for years. Trees never grow fast enough to satisfy the grower. “Fast” growing trees now are commercially available in the form of hybrid poplars, however. But what is their real value?

Hybrid poplars have been around since 1910. In recent time, the U.S. Forest Service has developed several clones and made them available to state and private nurseries. It has been known for years that the hybrid poplars have the ability to successfully establish themselves in hostile soils. In the last 15 years, in excess of 500 hybrid poplar clones have been developed that can thrive in soils with pH levels of 3.0 to 9.0, meaning the soil ranges from strongly acidic to alkaline. These trees have been tested for various characteristics including rooting ability, growth, site adaptability, and disease resistance.

Miles W. Fry & Son, Inc., Ephrata, Pa., has propagated and tested hundreds of poplar clones to establish desirable characteristics. Resulting from these tests, eight desirable clones have been selected and are marketed to over 100,000 purchasers annually.

Why the big interest in hybrid poplars? Some poplar clones average eight feet of vertical growth per year over a four year period. It isn't just an odd-ball here and there; the growth is consistent acre after acre. In four years, average diameters of five inches are common. There is, of course, always a catch. One must do some testing of the best available clones to find out which ones will produce best with given site conditions. Some variables influencing growth include length of growing season, soil texture and fertility, available moisture, and competition from other vegetation.

Prior to the 1970's, the interest in hybrid poplars was in the area of pulp and sawlog production on submarginal lands. Today, this interest still exists, but the birth of another idea in utilization has put that research on the back burner.

The current interest of research that actually goes hand-in-hand with pulp-wood is in energy production. A tree is nature's perfect and natural way of storing solar energy. Trees store solar energy and make it available in concentrated form.

Wood is one of the front runners in the race to find an alternative source of energy. If wood is to play a vital part as an energy alternative, many acres of marginal and sub-marginal farmland will be growing trees, and those trees most likely will be hybrid poplar clones because of their ability to produce in such soils. Hybrid poplars are capable of storing solar energy at a much higher efficiency than any native tree known to the eastern United States. Hybrid poplars store 150 percent of the BTU's per acre per year stored by oaks, 185 percent of hickories, and 127 percent of maples.

ENERGY PLANTATIONS

Actual field management practices at the Fry & Son Nursery have proven that 15 air dried tons of wood can be produced per acre per year from several hybrid poplar clones. An energy plantation of trees simply is another farm crop. Rooted cuttings are planted on a 42 x 24 inch spacing giving a population of

6,200 trees per acre. After four years, the trees are harvested in a manner similar to harvesting corn silage. Sprouts grow from the stumps with the established root systems and are again harvested - this time in two years. This cycle continues for about seven generations, or until coppice sprouting is unsatisfactory. The ability of a hybrid poplar clone to resprout is a major requirement when selecting a clone for an energy plantation.

Converting raw wood to energy can take several forms. It can be bulk fed directly into combustion chambers for steam generation (approximately 150 power plants in New England burn wood to generate electricity for power and steam for heating), it can be converted to wood gases (known as wood gasification), and it can be digested and distilled into ethanol and butanol.

Morton Fry, the son in Fry & Son, Inc., estimated that 122 million acres can supply enough alcohol from hybrid poplars to satisfy current annual consumption of gasoline and fuel oil in this country. And unlike biomass derived from grain, the hybrid poplar regenerates itself year after year.

WOOD GASIFICATION

The gasification of wood probably is the most practical application of the several energy conversion forms mentioned. It is simple, with very little, if any, pollution problems. Gasification technology has been with us a long time — prior even to the discovery of electricity. It was used during World War II in Europe when petroleum was impossible to get for cars and tractors. Wood gasification has not become a permanent energy source in the past because of the convenience and availability of low cost petroleum. However, there is reason to believe that petroleum costs will continue to rise and may be three to four times most costly within the next 20 years. If this happens, there is no question that wood gasification will be commonplace in this country. It will become the transitional stage in our search for direct solar energy conversion from the sun.

Wood is gasified by controlled, limited combustion, to release volatile gases. These gases are mainly hydrogen, carbon monoxide and a little methane. Wood gasifiers have their greatest benefit in stationary applications, such as fueling boilers and furnaces, as well as fueling reciprocating engines for powering electrical generators. Wood Power Energy Corp. was organized to engineer, develop and test systems for converting wood into usable forms of energy. They built two prototype downdraft wood gasifiers for Fry & Son, and these gasifiers currently supply fuel to heat a 16,000 square foot green house and operate a 70 kilowatt generator.

POPLAR BURGERS

Dibyendu Roy, a faculty member of the forestry department at the University of Toronto, has been extracting protein from trees for some time. The scientist contends that poplar protein can be used as a meat extender in hamburgers and as a protein booster in bread and other food items. Hybrid poplars may show up in our breakfast cereal within 12 years.

“A poplar tree is the only plant we know that contains most amino acids essential to the human diet,” he said. “The leaves contain about 20 percent protein, slightly less than soybeans or meat, but more than eggs.”

In recent years, there has been much research in converting cellulose from trees to cattle feed. Muka, an animal feed and vitamin supplement, is made of finely ground leaves, bark and

(continued on page 16)

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Four-year old poplars are planted 6,200 to the acre.

small branches. Muka is a pelletized supplement currently used in the USSR, and which shows promise in this country as traditional supplements continue to rise in cost.

Hagerstown, Md., currently is committed to a 1.5 megawatt power plant to supply energy for a sewage treatment facility. Hybrid poplars from a 500-acre energy plantation will be the fuel (in the form of wood gas) to generate this electricity. Plans currently are being prepared which may lead to producing 25 megawatts of electricity to service 50,000 people in this eastern community. If this becomes a reality, eight to nine thousand acres will be leased on contract with local farmers to grow hybrid poplars.

This country has approximately 500 million acres of marginal land according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Much of it is capable of growing hybrid poplars. When and if the going gets tough, the hybrid poplar is showing that there are alternatives.

**By George Poe, District Forester
Credit: Outdoor Highlights 10/17/83**

“TRANSITION”

It's sad to lose another Year,
To push it in the past.
Though even from the start we knew,
Just how long It would last.
Now We'll have a Brand New Year,
To live with every day,
To fulfill Our dreams of progress,
In work, in life, in pay.
It's worth a sincere effort,
To try to spend time better,
And improve each day of the New Year,
Regardless of the weather.

Kenneth R. Zanzig

WILSON'S PHILLIPS ELECTED NGF CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Joe F. Phillips, who has spent 35 years in various capacities with the Wilson Sporting Goods Company, has been elected chairman of the National Golf Foundation's board of directors.

Also elected to serve on the executive committee were Robert F. MacNally, of PGA Golf Co., as 1st vice chairman; Dr. John Jepson, Titleist Golf Division, 2nd vice chairman; W. Morris Walton, Burton Manufacturing Co., secretary; and Jack J. Curran, Mizuno Golf Company, treasurer.

Phillips, 55, replaces Jerry Martin, of Hillerich & Bradsby, as chairman.

“Being involved with the Foundation this past year has been both challenging and rewarding,” Martin said. “I’m confident that I’m leaving the board in good hands. And you can be sure that I’ll be assisting Joe Phillips as a continuing board member in any way I can so we can keep the NGF moving forward in its quest to serve the industry.”

Phillips joined Wilson in 1948 as a salesman in the Philadelphia area. In 1974 he moved to the home office in Chicago to become director of golf promotion. In addition to his current title of vice president of golf promotion, which he’s held since 1979, he’s also served as vice president, sales, for Walter Hagen, a division of Wilson.

“I’m certainly pleased to be a part of the NGF,” Phillips said. “It’s a necessary vehicle to promote golf.

“One of the main things I’ll focus on is that we make the proper selection of the next president. And we must continue our efforts on fundraising, and get every company in the business of golf-related products to be part of the NGF.”

Phillips has also been president of the National Golf Club Manufacturers, the Golf Ball Manufacturers, and the Golf Manufacturers & Distributors Association.

Phillips lives with his wife Janice in Glen Ellyn, Ill. and is a member of Glen Oak C.C. in Glen Ellyn. The Phillipses have four children and five grandchildren. One son, 32-year-old Joe Jr., is a vice president in Wilson’s retail sales division.

“We want to move the Foundation ahead,” he remarked. “We have to get the additional funds to complete the Foundation’s projects for the betterment of golf.”

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PLANTS THAT ATTRACT BIRDS

Are you a bird fancier? Our severe winters work a hardship on our feathered friends. Now is the time to start thinking about new plantings which will enhance bird activity in your golf course or yard and provide for them next winter.

The following is a partial list of plants which provide both food and shelter or nesting materials for many Chicago area birds.

Berberis thunbergii (Japanese Barberry): A low to medium shrub with red berries in the fall lasting into winter. The berries are favored by the catbird, cedar waxwing, chipping sparrow, hermit thrush, junco, robin, song sparrow and tree sparrow. It can become a serious weed problem in some areas.

Cornus florida (Flowering Dogwood) and **Cornus mas** (Cornelian Cherry Dogwood): Small trees with bright red to scarlet fruit in the fall. The fruit is favored by 93 kinds of birds, including bluebird, brown thrasher, bob-white, cardinal, catbird, cedar waxwing, downy woodpecker, flicker, robin, song sparrow, thrushes and towhee.

Crataegus sp. (Hawthorns): Small trees with miniature red apple-like fruit. Fruit is present in the fall and into the winter on Cockspur and Washington Hawthorns. The fruit attracts 39 kinds of birds, including blue-bird, bob-white, cardinal, cedar waxwing, fox sparrow, hermit thrush, kingbird, pine grosbeak, purple finch, and robin. The Washington Hawthorn is a particular favorite.

Euonymus europaeus (European Spindletree): A tall shrub with rose-pink and orange fruits in the fall and lasting into winter. Bluebird, brown thrasher, cardinal, catbird, flicker, robin, scarlet tanager, towhee, and others like this fruit.

Lonicera tatarica (Tartarian Honeysuckle): A tall shrub with red berries in June and July. It may become a weed problem.

The berries attract 20 kinds of birds, including bob-white, catbird, cedar waxwing, junco, olive-backed thrush, pine grosbeak, red-eyed vireo and others.

Morus alba (White Mulberry): A medium sized tree frequently planted to prevent excessive depredation of fruits having greater ornamental value. The blackberry-like fruits are white or pink to purplish in early summer. They are a favorite fruit of more than 50 native songbirds.

Rhamnus sp. (Buckthorn): Tall shrubs having red to blue-black fruit in the fall. Some berries may last into winter. Shrubs may become a weed problem. The fruits attract 18 kinds of birds, including blue jay, brown thrasher, catbird, cedar waxwing, junco, kingbird and robin.

In addition, several coniferous evergreens also provide food and shelter for many birds. These evergreens include Colorado Blue Spruce, Red Spruce, White Pine, Austrian Pine and White Spruce.

Many other woody ornamentals are also excellent food sources for Chicago area birds. These ornamentals include: Sugar Maples, Crabapples, Yellow and Canoe Birch, Russian and Autumn Olive, Spicebush, Bayberry, Virginia Creeper, Cherry (various species), Sumac (various species), Roses (various species), Viburnums (various species) and Grapes, to name a few.

Seeds from many garden flowers, such as phlox, verbena, zinnia, sweet william, marigold, cosmos, columbine, chrysanthemum, amaranthus, helianthus and the sunflower also are important in attracting birds.

Remember, once you invite birds to your property, they will rely on you for their food all year. Bird feeders and water will probably be needed to get the birds through severe winters.

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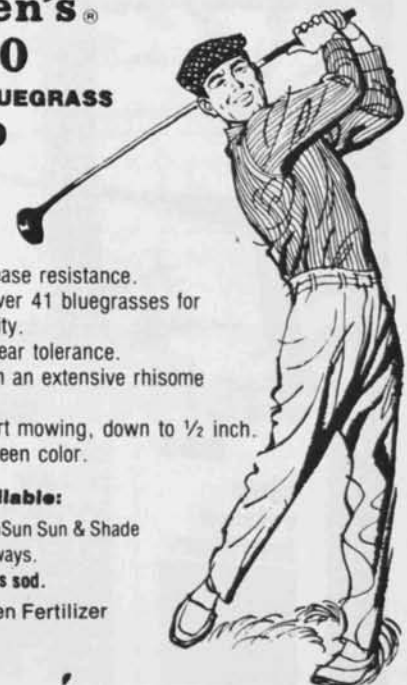
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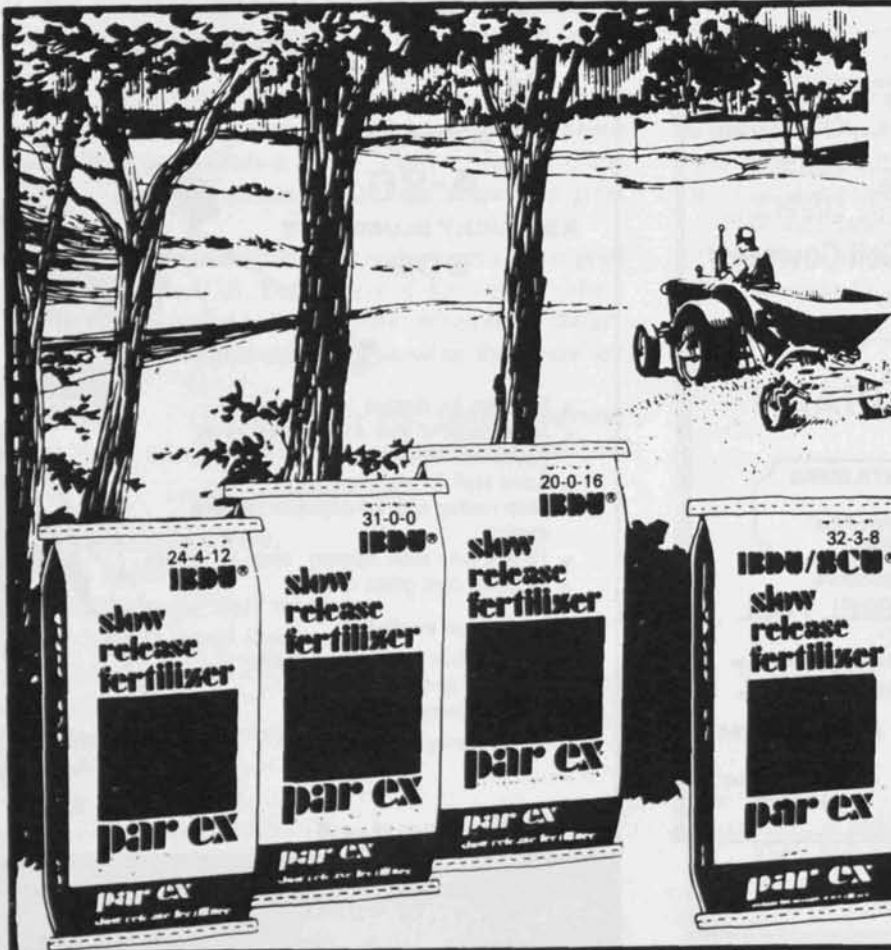
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Fred:

"Old" Bill Lyons just sent me this response to my request for "a few words of wisdom for our area superintendents". His enthusiasm prompts quick replies - and it is matched with results. I recall his turfgrass as the highest quality from various visits during my travels. I believe his thoughts and practices may be of interest to your readers if you wish to run this.

Happy winter!

Lorraine Abbott, National Golf Fndn.

Dear Sweetie, Lorraine,

If I forgot to answer your letter re the NGF award - please forgive me. I have been ill. That was a proud moment when Joe Much handed me the award plaque. You had something to do about that and I thank you.

Your letter of Nov. 22 - My Wisdom Thought for Supts. are the same as 40 years ago. The Supt. is golf's No. 1 salesman. The quality of his turf sells golf. The beauty he creates with grasses, trees, flowers, sand and water can make his golf course "UNRESISTABLE" (new word) to golfers.

The fast grass idea will cost some their jobs. They forgot to set up a FAST budget to go along with the idea. Some are sold on fungiciding as the 1st step in disease control. Wrong - it should be the last step.

We look at fertility levels in the grass blades by tissue testing. Too much Nitrogen can encourage diseases. Too little brings on Dollar Spot. Keep potash levels HIGH.

Acid thatch, below 6.5 pH will have diseases that will not show up if the thatch (not soil) is near neutral (pH 7.0) We grow acid thatch on top of a greens base that tests pH 8.9. So we

apply as little as 2 lbs. of spray lime (300 mesh) per 1,000 sq. ft. in mid summer with 1 lb. of powder blue nitrogen.

Automatic irrigation is not cheap. Some have become automatic drowning systems. Dr. Virgil Overholt, Eng. Dept., Ohio State preached drainage first then irrigation; providing the drain system would take off 4 times more water than the system would apply. (No one selling auto system would tell you that.) Yet, the key to good turf is drainage, Drainage and DRAINAGE!

We owners and supts. have to come up with better turf at lower cost. Our fairway fertilizer is a 14-3-14-11-15 yet the cost bagged our spread is only \$207.00 a ton. It has Nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, sulfur and magnesium. It is a good spreadable form with our Vicon.

The other cost cutter is fairway aerifying. One very profitable operator does his 3 times a year. DOWN SPOUT the water and reduce thatch buildup when lime and fertilizer is applied to activate thatch decomposing bacteria. He does not have a fairway watering system.

Investigate Grass Cells (Plastic) cup side up. For golf car paths. May be cheaper than asphalt; look better and will not be damaged by freezing. Sod cut 2" thick can be pressed into them or soil and seed can be used.

The "playing Story hand out" cost 10¢ each. If they wish to send 1 to each of their members we can supply.

After seeing the need for neighborhood SMALL golf courses I wrote a letter to Joe Much on GOLF UNLIMITED and ideas to get it started. I hope he puts it into the WEDGE.

Happy Holidays to you Lorraine.

"OLD" Bill Lyons

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