

(Nematodes cont'd.)

critters seldom exceeds a few inches per year? Were they spread by golf shoes, spikers, aerifier tines, or did the population build up in the soil naturally? Is it the sandier soil we're using in our greens or did the mercuries and other heavy metals used for disease control keep Nematodes in check? Milorganite has been known to suppress Nematodes. Is it because activated sewage sludge contains metals which may suppress Nematodes, or does activated sewage sludge enhance development of natural predators?

Nematodes should be treated in the adult stage with soil temperatures above 60 degrees F. As the season moved toward fall, soil temperatures dropped and rains became frequent, which helped the greens recover to a healthy looking appearance. Knowing Nematodes were likely to reoccur the following season, the greens were watched very closely for symptoms.

Mid May of 1986, the soil temperatures warmed and Nematodes were again found on the yellowing grass plants. At this time all greens were treated with Namacur 15% granular at 2# material per 1000 square feet. Nine holes were closed and treated at a time because Namacur is a highly toxic restricted use chemical which must be watered in using a minimum of 1/2" water immediately after application.

Namacur claims systemic control for up to seven months, so only one treatment was made. We experienced no discoloration or burn on the turf after the heavily watering in the chemical and the health of the greens improved with no reoccurring symptoms.

I've learned a great deal about Nematodes but have come up with more questions than answers. Experts also question the threshold levels required for damage on golf greens. We know this may be a reoccurring problem at Bartlett Hills Golf Course and are much too familiar with the damage symptoms. I feel our course is safe for the rest of the year, but next year may be a whole new ball game.



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Octoberfest; time to share Your favorite Beer.  
Pumpkins, Corn Shocks, Halloween Fun,  
Leaves turning color, Fall's on the run.  
Another Golf Season is closing fast,  
Pressure is off, Relief at last.  
Beautiful Autumn, a Painter's delight,  
Soothes the Soul, all is right.  
The Treat of Harvest Time fills the Air,  
A Share of It's Treasure to All is There.

Kenneth R. Zanzig

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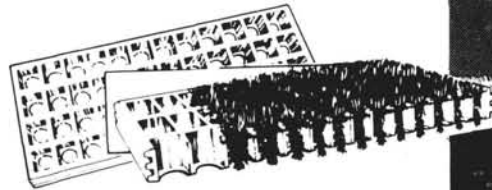


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The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and GCSAA proudly present two two-day educational seminars in the Chicago area. "BASIC TURFGRASS BOTANY & PHYSIOLOGY," instructed by Dr. James B. Beard of Texas A&M University and Dr. Jeffrey S. Krans, Mississippi State University, will cover the basics of turfgrass botany and physiology, including the origin and taxonomy of the turfgrass plants; cells, tissues and organs; plant physiology; shoot and root growth and development; seeds and inflorescence. Mowing, fertilization, water management, cultivation, establishment and pest management of the turfgrass plant will be discussed.

Mr. William "Bill" Speelman, product application manager with Toro's irrigation division, and Mr. David D. Davis, independent irrigation consultant, will teach "IRRIGATION PART II: SYSTEMS DESIGN & MANAGEMENT." Covering the design, operation and management practices for energy efficient, water conservative and cost effective golf course irrigation systems, subjects will include economic designing of mainline piping systems, selecting and locating "looped" mains, analyzing the efficiency of sprinkler coverage and selecting sprinklers, valves and controllers. The influence of computers on the system design and management and the overall economics of golf course irrigation will be discussed.

**January 6 and 7, 1987  
Pheasant Run Resort  
St. Charles, Illinois**

Attendance at either of these seminars will earn participants two Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and a Certificate of Achievement from GCSAA. Space is limited and registrations will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. Refunds will be allowed only for WRITTEN cancellations received at GCSAA Headquarters **two weeks in advance** of the seminars.

### REGISTER NOW!!

Call 1-800-GSA-SUPT for more information, or write GCSAA Regional Seminars, 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, KS 66046.

NOTE: Registrants are responsible for their own overnight accommodations. A special rate of \$65 for a double or single is available to seminar attendees at Pheasant Run. A reservation card documenting your participation will be forwarded upon receipt of your registration fee.

Bruce Burchfield reports that he lost one assistant and gained another. Ernest Corsi who has been with Bruce for several years has taken over the new course that is being built in Glendale Heights and has been named Glendale Lakes G.C. Greg Coyne who was Tom Rodems assistant at Kankakee C.C. has moved north as Bruce's new assistant starting in October. And as is posted, Tom is looking for an assistant now.

The ITF Golf Day which was held at Bryn Mawr & Evanston was a huge success. The courses were both great, but you couldn't say the same for the weather. The MAGCS donated \$2,000.00 to turfgrass research and \$716.00 was raised in a raffle. Carl Hoppman and his assistant Terry Dillner won the Domenic Grotti Trophy which will be a yearly event at the ITF Golf Day.

### Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

- October 6 — MAGCS monthly meeting at Wilmette C.C.
- October 29-30 — The Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium
- November 5 — Annual meeting of MAGCS at Cyprus Inn.
- November 10-12 — Penn State Turf Conference
- December 9-11 — North Central Turfgrass Exposition
- January 6-7 — GCSAA & MAGCS Seminars at Pheasant Run
- January 26 - February 3 — GCSAA Conference in Phoenix
- March 2-4 — Midwest Regional Turf Conference

### Petition for By-Law Change of Article II, Section 2 Membership

Proposal to read: "Class B — Golf Course Superintendent or Assistant Golf Course Superintendent: To qualify for Class B Membership, an applicant shall have completed at the time of application for membership, at least one (1) year as a golf course superintendent or at least three (3) years as assistant to a golf course superintendent, and shall be presently employed in either of the above capacities. Class B Members shall have all the privileges of the Association, except that of holding office."

-----  
Dave Behrman had a crowd at his monthly meeting with 116 for golf and 120 for dinner. Nadler picked up the check for lunch and the drinks and hors d'oeuvres before the dinner meeting. Thank you Nadler Golf Car Sales.

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Congratulations to Harry Lovero, the new Superintendent at Oakbrook Hills Golf Club which is the new Carson/Butler course at Midwest Road & 35th Street in Oakbrook. Harry was the assistant to Harold Frederickson at Edgewood Valley C.C.

-----  
Dudley Smith is calling in all college grads to polish up their golf game, especially the Penn State grads, so they can take the trophy away from those hot shot golfers from Purdue. The 3rd annual inter-collegiate golf tournament will take place at Wilmette Golf Course at our October monthly meeting. If you are a graduate from a college you are qualified to play and win the trophy.

### Position Open — Assistant Golf Course Supt.

Kankakee Country Club in Kankakee, Illinois is looking for an Assistant Superintendent. Good salary, health insurance, and a three-bedroom home on the beautiful Kankakee River for the right applicant.

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## In Your Garden It's Pumpkin Time

Happy Jack O'lanterns  
In windows Halloween night.  
Lilittle spook and goblin faces  
In the flickering light.  
Shouting gleefully  
They run from door to door  
Though their shopping bags are full  
They'll trick or treat for more.  
In that window, on this porch  
Carved, glowing pumpkins mean,  
You kids are welcome at this home.  
And Happy Halloween.

Carved pumpkins ... Jack-O'lanterns ... the symbol of Halloween fun. Whether you can get your youngsters to eat a spoonful of squash or not, there are few who don't appreciate the ones we call pumpkins. They are fun. The seeds are good to eat, and carving the face on a big orange beauty is part of our American tradition.

I guess I'm still a kid at heart, says James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Horticulturist in Cook County, because I still look forward to going to the farm to pick out and carve a jack O'lantern.

The original jack-O'-lantern according to Irish legend was a ne'er-do-well kinsman known as Jack O'Lantern. Turned away from heaven and doomed to roam the depths for ever, he hollowed out a turnip, lighted with a coal from the devil's furnace to find his way.

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Irish immigrants replaced the turnip with the pumpkin, thus the Halloween tradition.

Pumpkins are native to this country. Besides their use as Jack-O'lanterns they have been immortalized in legend and history ... They were obviously a vital source of food to the earliest settlers in this country, found their way into literature in the **Legend of Sleepy Hollow**, and into intrigue ala the Alger Hiss microfilms.

While most pumpkins end up with carved faces, there are many other ways you can use them. Who can resist pumpkin pie with some ice cream on the side or whipped cream on top?

Pumpkins are everywhere now. Take your youngsters out to one of the area farms or a roadside stand. Some farms will still let the kids pick their own pumpkins. Others have attractions such as haunted houses or petting zoos. And, school tours are welcome too.

While your children are picking out the perfect candidates for their Jack O'lanterns, buy some pumpkins for cooking too.

Pumpkins store well if kept in a cool dry place such as a basement or store room. They will last several months at about 50 degrees, as long as they are undamaged. Be sure ones you store have the stems on them. Or, cut them up and freeze them for future use.

Small pumpkins usually are grown for pies. One will be just about the right size for a pie. Intermediate sizes are best for jack O'lanterns.

And, just in case you are interested, giant sized pumpkins are enormous and the winning entry at each year's Half Moon Bay Pumpkin Festival in California regularly tops a quarter ton. How many pies would that make?



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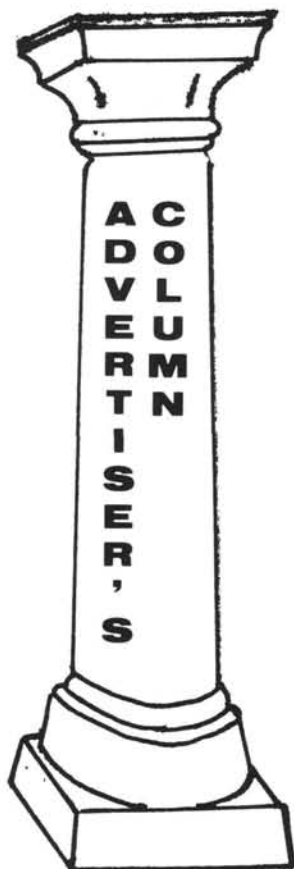


## Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc.

I appreciate the opportunity to relate some of my early experiences and training, practical and academic for becoming an Arborist.

Born in Sweden my boyhood years were spent in the forest, meadows, rivers and the moors. Swedish forest population is made up of Beech, Oak and a mixture of other deciduous trees such as Lindens, Ash, European Alder, Willows, Aspen and Wild Cherry. Fifty four percent of the area of Sweden is forested with conifers; such as Spruce, Pine being predominant and accounting for the heavy lumber industry. The forests with its rich flora and wildlife fascinated me and I early made contact with foresters who were always respected by the common people.

While still in grade school, during semesters I worked; transplanting seedlings in the forest nurseries and later also planting the Pine and Spruce seedlings in the "badlands"; moors not suitable for agriculture. To-



*The forest I planted when just in grade school.*

day, those plants are mature trees ready to be harvested. After graduating from grade school I secured employment as a gardener apprentice at Christinehof; a large estate with the corps de logis being built during the latter part of the 17th century and owned by Count Piper. In order to be accepted at any professional school, forestry, gardening, agronomy, three — four years of practical experience were mandatory for the applicant and I was no exception. Besides myself there were 3-4 other apprentices under the direction of a graduate head gardener. There were conservatories for grapes and peaches, and also for flowering plants. Considerable acreage was covered with nursery stock, perennials and vegetables. The area around the mansion was terraced with walks, turf and flower borders. Because of a rather harsh climate, grapes and peaches were

(cont'd page 18)

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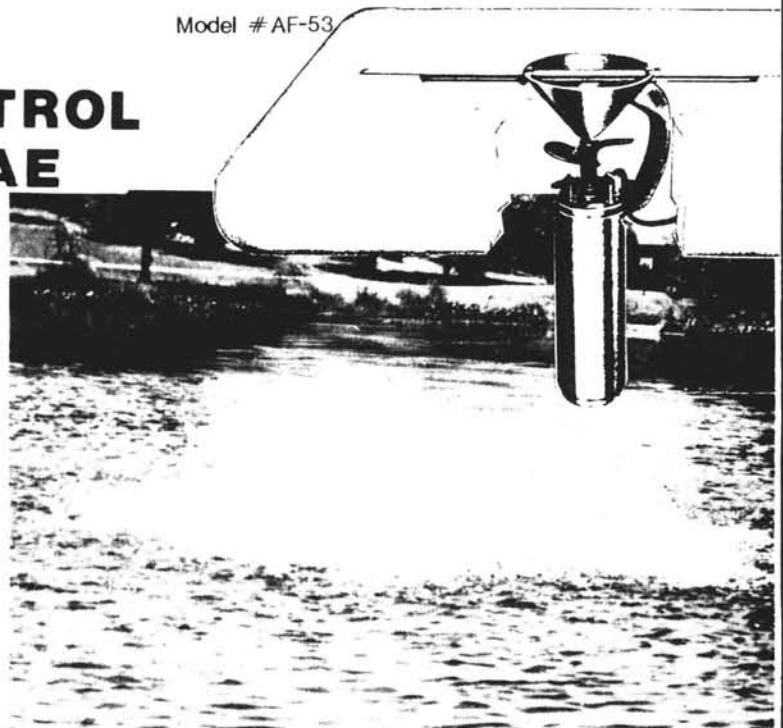
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*Christinehof, the mansion where ghosts nightly held forth.*

grown under glass. The castle or mansion was surrounded by deep forests and also some rather wide fields. During the winters because of inclement weather making my trip home difficult, I stayed in an auxiliary building. The apprentice quarter had a large fireplace and was quite comfortable. However, the local population told so many gruesome ghost stories that I some nights did not feel too well at ease. The constant nocturnal noises also at times disturbed me. But for a stubborn belief in the protection of a greater power, I would not have stayed overnights. After about one year and a half I became an apprentice at "Villa viola"; a rather extensive greenhouse complex some 400 miles from my home. All employees had room and board furnished by the employer, Mr. Forsberg.

Mr. Forsberg was a fine person and I liked cultivating flowers for the trade. However, after about one year I was employed by the City parks of Uppsala. This year Uppsala is celebrating

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some 700 years of being the cultural center of Sweden. The University was founded 1472, and Carl Von Linneus, the father of the botanical science worked in Uppsala and founded its first botanic garden where I often studied. A statue of Linneus has now also been erected at the Chicago Botanic Gardens. After two years with the parks in Uppsala including annual studies from November until April at Tarna Folk High School, upper division I left to attend a private university that would shorten the time to graduation. During the years of apprenticeship; — if you changed employer, a letter of recommendation was required from the previous employer. The recommendations covered industry, knowledge and general comportment; — if the recommendations were below par — no employment. I loved Uppsala, the parks, the buildings and the great mounds holding



*Uppsala, ancient castle, birthplace of Mr. Hammerschild — president of the United Nations.*

the bones and weapons of the Viking Kings of long ago. The students gave the city an air of youthfulness and eternity. By the time I was through with my preliminary studies it was almost time for induction in the Army; — not just as a conscript, but as a student with extra time added to become an officer in the reserves. This did not appeal to me; — had debts to pay and wanted to get ahead in the world. My parents lived in upper Minnesota. My father was a woodsman, sawyer, farmer and hunter, — naturally U.S.A., was my destination. Late 1925, the King of Sweden granted my permission to leave. I had no difficulty getting passage to U.S.A., or to clear Ellis Island. Almost immediately I was employed by a Landscape firm in Manning Brown, Mass. This firm was landscaping the estate



*This estate — Bosjokloster, dating back to year 1200 — and owned by Count Bonde, has an 18-hole golf course. There are numerous golf courses in Sweden, but frankly, the Swedes are much better on ice than on grass. (cont'd. page 20)*



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(Nels J. Johnson cont'd.)

of Pier-Point Lamont, Ridge Rd., Lake Forest, Illinois. I spoke English and had a reasonable knowledge of Botany, and worked as foreman for about 20 "plantmen", mostly from Highwood, Illinois. They worked well, even though I did not speak Italian. That was the year 1926, and things were booming.

About two years ago I and my friend Adolph Bertucci met an old fellow whom we both recognized. His name was Robert Dixon and 1925 we had worked together at the Lamont estate. We had breakfast and Dixon still remembered the names of some of the fellows we worked with and to my surprise wrote me a letter relating what went on 1926, at the work place, the Lamont estate. Dixon is now dead, — but I treasure his document as much as my degree from Northwestern.

The winter 1926, I spent at home in Blackduck, Minn., and in the spring I was employed by a "tree care firm" on the Northshore, Illinois. Much of the "care" given the trees in those early years would not be approved today. One serious but popular practice was filling tree cavities with concrete. Concrete is non-compatible to living plant tissues and only accelerates the decay. After one year I was made foreman and remained in that capacity until the financial crash of 1929.

When I left my employer I was single; my parents had moved to Evanston and I told my boss he should give the jobs to the married fellows. Strangely, although things were tough, still work started coming in. My mother was my first "office girl" and in spite of her Swedish accent customers liked to talk to her. In a couple of years I employed 3-4 "steady" tree trimmers. No one had ever heard of powersaws, high rangers, or wood chippers; — it was all hard work using only physical power, determination and clear thinking. As years went by my business grew. In the early thirties I studied Plant Pathology at the University of Chicago. Eventually also "graduated" with honors from the Northwestern University. Also conceived the idea of licensing through examination of custom tree experts.

The Illinois Tree Expert Act, in spite of poor enforcement by the Dept. of Registration & Education still protected our trees, the homeowner and the environment. 1983, the Illinois Tree Expert Act was phased out, because the legislators did not consider it necessary to protect the public against "fly-by-nights" tree quacks and mental midgets, nor the proper care of our trees or environment. Certainly any successful undertaking demands determination, knowledge and fair play, — 1962 with some 50-60 employees the "Teamsters" decided we should be "unionized" and suddenly I found myself without workers. The men eventually came back and in spite of being followed to the worksties by union agitators we survived and today still remain free. The credit for our success with the Teamster situation is due to Congressman Robert McClory, and my attorney Raymond L. Jones, Elgin, Illinois. Ann Czech, my secretary for many years, also deserves credit for staying with the Johnson Tree Experts. All villages we worked for, golf courses, parks, with the exception of one, sympathized with our cause and so did our clients.

Today my two sons, Joel and Karl, are active owners and executives of the Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Inc. Based on background and education, love for our trees, ornamentals, environment and consideration and understanding of our clientele I am confident they will continue when I leave off.

**Nels J. Johnson, President**

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