

**Patrick E. Klein**  
**March 24, 1959 to February 21, 1987**

by Bruce Sering

**Pat Klein** — Golf Course Superintendent at Hillcrest Club from March 1983 until his death on February 21, 1987. Pat is survived by his wife Sue, Matthew, age 4 and Sarah age 2. Other survivors include his mother Mary Spartz, stepfather Vernon Spartz, two sisters Marge and Laura Klein and a brother John.

Pat's love for golf course work began when he was a youngster of 12. He started working on Little Crow Country Club as a crew member in his hometown of Spicer, Minnesota. He worked his way up the ladder of responsibility to become, as a teenager, the Assistant Superintendent of Little Crow. Pat attended Michigan State University's Turf Grass Management Program starting in the Fall of 1977. He began working at the Glen View Club, Golf, Illinois in March 1978 as a student intern. Following his graduation in 1979 he returned to Glen View Club as Assistant Superintendent and remained there until becoming Superintendent at Hillcrest in March 1983.

These are the facts of Pat's life, but those who worked with him and were privileged to know him, realize there is so much more to say about him. His integrity and honesty were above reproach, no mean feat in today's world.

Pat loved his family and did not neglect them even though the demands of being a superintendent always beckoned him. It was a familiar sight for the members and neighbors at Hillcrest to see Pat, Sue, Matt and Sarah on a golf cart touring the Club in the evening.

Pat believed in God. His faith, his love for his family and his courage in facing the cancerous brain tumor were an example for us all. Pat learned about his condition about 2 years ago. Instead of withdrawing from life, he faced it fearlessly. Enduring radiation treatments and chemotherapy, he never complained or said, "Why me Lord?". Pat's quality of life for the past two years was good. He worked everyday, took his family on vacations, and kept his spirits on a high plane. Near the end when the debilitating effects of his brain tumor began to take hold, I asked Pat, "How it's going". What he said to me sums up the way Pat Klein approached life. He was lying in his family room, paralyzed, his eyes could not focus, and he could just barely hear out of his right ear. He said, "Well, it's a little tough now, being winter and all, but come the spring, I'll be able to get around better, and it'll be better." Pat stopped breathing early on the morning of February 21, 1987 with his mother, Mary and his wife, Sue by his side.

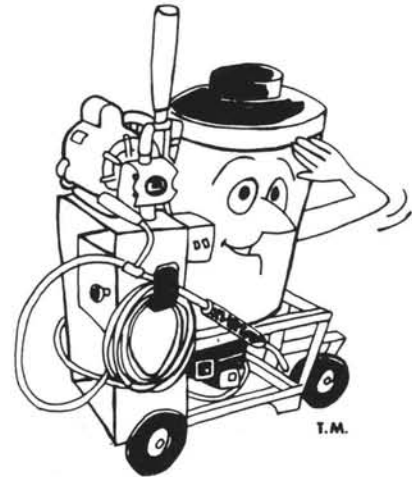
Sue Klein asked me to publicly thank the members and staff of Hillcrest Country Club for all their many kindnesses, their generosity and support. Also, Sue is very appreciative of the members and staff of Glen View Club for their love and generosity. And to Pat's many friends, Sue expresses a special thank you.

Donations are being accepted by the:

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## Midwest Breezes



### Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

**April 9** — USGA Regional Meeting at Westmore C.C. in Milwaukee

**April 23** — MAGCS meeting at Inverness C.C.

**May 18** — Joint Association meeting at Pontiac Elks C.C.

**June** —

**July** —

**August** — MAGCS meeting at Turnberry C.C.

**September** —

**October** — MAGCS meeting at Woodstock C.C.

**November** — Annual Meeting

**December 8-10** — NCTE at Pheasant Run

### Good News for "The Bull Sheet"

"The Bull Sheet" has just been awarded 1st Place in the 1986 Harry C. Eckhoff Award for excellence in golf journalism in the category for Professional Association Newsletters. We have received other awards in this National Golf Foundation contest since 1983, but this is our first — 1st Place! In 1983 we received an Honorable Mention, 1984 we received 3rd Place, and in 1985 we received another Honorable Mention.

Bruce & Kim Burchfield brought another daughter into the world on January 23, 1987. Their 5 year old daughter Barbara, will now have a little Molley Brayton to play with in the near future. Congratulations parents!!!

The news going around is that Thorngate C.C. will be moving to new quarters. The new location will be further west and the present location will no doubt be built upon.

Joel Purpur was finally roped and led off down the aisle on February 21, 1987. After the knot was secure, Joel & Deborah spent a week on the slopes at Breckenridge, Colorado. Congratulations Joel!

Medinah C.C. will be rebuilding three greens on the 3rd course this Spring. Koelper Brothers will be doing the #1 green, #15, and #16 (they are the old #12 & #13). These greens are to be built to the USGA greens specifications.

Assistant Superintendent is needed at Medinah C.C. Send your letter of introduction and resume to Pete Wilson, Supt., Medinah C.C., Medinah, IL 60157.

There have been and will be some new irrigation systems in use in the area. Last October and November Midwest Irrigation installed a single row system with 690 heads and basic Toro electric controls for Len Berg at the Village Greens of Woodridge. The System was completed and tested before winter set in.

Bill Leath at Elgin C.C. also had a system installed by Midwest last fall, but they still need to put in the controllers. Bill's system will be a double row with a Toro 8000 controller, the newest thing on the market.

Ed Stewart of River Forest C.C. will be installing a Toro system this Spring. It too will be a double row system but with a VT4 controller. Ed's system will have a PSI pump package with 1350 gpm including 3 pumps.

Len Berg has been appointed to serve on the GCSAA Educational Committee for the coming 1987 years. If you have any questions, complaints, suggestions — get them to him for he has a committee meeting on next years conference the end of the month.

The March meeting hold at Nordic Hills G.C. had 90 in attendance for the dinner and meeting. The guest speakers were from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Dave Wehner went on to describe the various testing being done on the following: Fairway Bentgrass Study, Crabgrass Control in Bentgrass, Milorganite with Potassium, Late Fall Fertilization, Fertilizer Burn, Heat Tolerance of Turf.

Dr. Hank Wilkenson described his tests on the following: Poa Patch, Nematodes (severe outbreak in Illinois in 1986), Continuing to advance the Patch Disease Research.

Dr. Tom Fermanian explained his program and that some of his staff have left Illinois for jobs in other states. The summer field day is scheduled for August 5th at Urbana, the NCTE is scheduled for Pheasant Run in December, and continued use of the computer for turfgrass use, Weed and Growth Control research is still going strong with new products coming on the market. Prodiaminine (experimental label) is a new pre-emergent for crabgrass control that can be applied in the fall.

Ken Zanzig and his wife enjoyed their retirement gift of their trip to Hawaii in early March. I'm sure the tropical breezes will bring about many poems from our poet and that we may be able to read them in future issues.

If you are lucky enough to score a "Hole in One" at the April meeting at Inverness Easy-Go will give the lucky person at GXT-800!

If any of you fellows are ice fisherman and need some tips on how to catch fish through the ice, just give Ted Mochel a call. Ted this past winter pulled a 6½ lb., a 8¾ lb. and a 9¾ walleye from the water. The 9¾ lb. walleye had a length of 29½ inches.

Congratulations to Chris & Dave Behrman on the birth of Benjamin Robert on January 26, 1987. Benjamin weighed in at 7 lbs. 8 oz. with blond hair and blue eyes.



February 26, 1987

Fred Opperman, CGCS  
Editor  
Midwest Association of Golf  
Course Superintendents  
1022 Shady Lane  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Dear Mr. Opperman:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that your organization has been awarded a 1986 Harry C. Eckhoff Award for excellence in golf journalism.

Your entry, THE BULL SHEET, was judged First Place in the category for Professional Association Newsletters.

The National Golf Foundation is preparing the awards at this time and will present yours in the very near future. The Foundation will also submit a news announcement detailing all of the 1986 Harry C. Eckhoff Award winners to all local and regional golfing publications.

Enclosed please find camera-ready artwork that you are welcome to use to identify yourself as a winner in the 1986 Eckhoff Award competition.

The NGF is honored by your participation in this competition, and wish you great success with your efforts in the coming year. We look forward to your entry for the 1987 Harry C. Eckhoff Award competition.

With kind regards,

Bill Jasso  
Director of Communications

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As April warms the ground,  
Though We hear not a sound,  
Transformation's doing It's thing,  
Showing All the Face of Spring.  
An Array of new growth has begun,  
Reaching for It's place in the Sun.  
Soon as far as the Eye can See,  
There will be a Green and Floral Sea.  
Spring has thrown wide the door,  
I just heard a Voice cry FORE.

Kenneth R. Zanzig

## Leaves of Grass

Every individual plant of Kentucky bluegrass produces three feet of leaf growth in an average season. This growth amounts to about five tons of clippings per acre each year. When these clippings are left to decay in place, they are worth the equivalent of three applications of lawn fertilizer. The average lawn in the United States requires some 40 hours of mowing each year. Larger lawns are likely to require more than this and gardeners with smaller lawns, get away with less time at the mower. How often should a lawn be mowed? As far as lawngresses are concerned, not more than 1/3 of the total growth above the soil should be removed in clipping at any time. Thus, a turf maintained at a 2 inch height could grow to a 3 inch height before mowing. A lawn maintained at a height of 1 inch could grow to a 1 1/2 inch height before mowing. At these frequencies, clippings need not be removed; they will decompose and help nourish the lawn.

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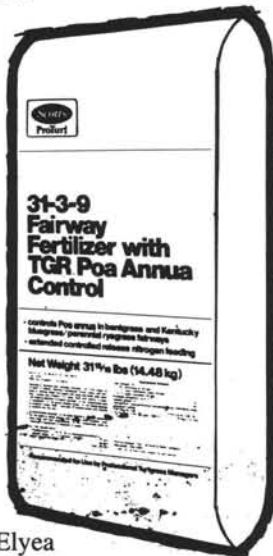
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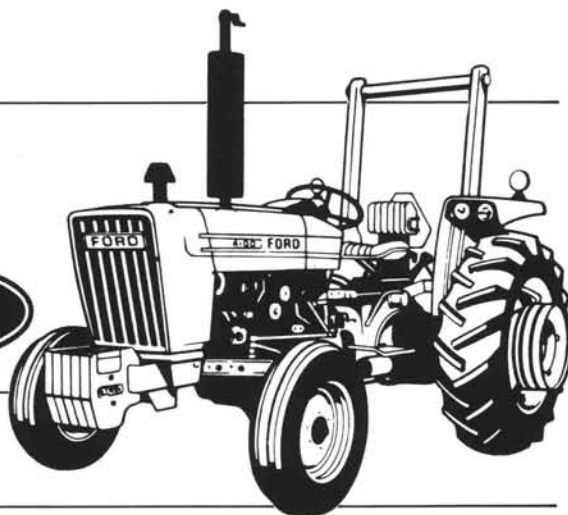
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## The Other Side of the Hill

by Art Davenport  
Boylan Sales (Yamaha)

In the recent January issue of the **Bull Sheet** I read a statement from Fred Opperman urging MAGCS members to take pen in hand and help supply articles for the monthly newsletter. I reread Fred's plea a second time and could not find any mention that these articles had to be submitted by a real live superintendent, so I decided to put a few thoughts together regarding a view from a salesman's standpoint, or from "the other side of the hill".

First of all, there is already a certain amount of pleasure involved for a sales rep who personally calls on a golf course or country club, for we usually find ourselves out of doors on a warm, sunny day surrounded by acres of well kept grass, many healthy trees and a wide variety of other foliage. We realize how fortunate we are not to be cooped up in a dull, boring office from 8:30 to 5:00 each day. Why, we have it made, don't we? We drive around all day enjoying the sun and fresh air, looking for the opportunity to show off our product knowledge by telling you of our latest innovations, who's using what and who and of course trying to explain the latest price increase.

How could this possibly be any better!! From the salesman's point of view, or our "side of the hill", company presidents, purchasing agents and golf course superintendents all have one thing in common — they have vendors coming to them. They are in a position to judge the products, weigh the facts and compare the prices in order to either make the final decision or lend input to those who will.

Buyers and input people are the ones who give us the incentive to get up in the morning with the feeling "This is going to be a great day. I can't wait to get started." You are the ones who make it a pleasure to stop by time after time, even for just a visit. The superintendent, in many instances, is the vital link between the course and the golfers, and their opinions reflect directly back to you. From April and December, you are in the spotlight at your facility, so it's no surprise to us you were selected as the best man for the job.

We, as hard working sales reps, definitely appreciate the dedication and time you put into your job, and we are most thankful for your support, your interest, your thoroughness and your fairness. Thanks is such a very small word, but ... thanks.

## Nitrogen Fertilizer Use by Lawngresses

At any given time, lawngresses can use only about one pound of actual available nitrogen per 1000 square feet. This is not very much. For **quickly** available sources of nitrogen, an application of 10 pounds of fertilizer containing 10 percent nitrogen, will supply this amount. For **slowly** available sources of nitrogen, an application of 10 pounds of fertilizer containing 30 percent nitrogen will supply 3 pounds of nitrogen. The larger amount of nitrogen, only part of which is immediately available, will last longer without over-stimulation of lawngresses.

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## The Black Layer Problem on Greens

by Bruce Branham, Assistant Professor

Paul Rieke, Professor

J. M. Vargas, Professor

There have been an increasing number of reports from golf courses around the State of a black layer which forms below the soil surface on greens. In a worst case, those areas which develop a black layer can suffer significant turf loss. The turf research group at MSU has observed the problem on many golf courses and are beginning several research projects to determine more about the cause and cure for this problem.

At the present time, we have formed the following hypothesis on the development of the black layer. We are certain that the black layer is in an anaerobic state (no oxygen present - waterlogged) and this waterlogged condition is responsible for loss of turf. An anaerobic condition can develop whenever the ground becomes saturated with water which displaces the oxygen in the soil and prevents normal gas exchange with the atmosphere. In many greens which are constructed according to the USGA greens mix and are predominantly sand, the formation of an anaerobic condition may seem contradictory because sandy soils normally have excellent drainage. However, where layers develop in a soil profile, these layers retard downward water movement and under certain conditions anaerobic areas may form.

It is our belief that the black layer forms when a layering problem causes an anaerobic condition following heavy rains or irrigation. Under anaerobic conditions an entirely different group of microorganisms become active. These organisms produce products quite different from anaerobic respiration. Gasses produced under anaerobic conditions include carbon monoxide (CO), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S). Many of these anaerobic respiration products are toxic to plants. In particular H<sub>2</sub>S is the poisonous gas responsible for the deaths of over 1,500 people in Cameroon recently. The hydrogen sulfide produced by anaerobic organisms can react with metal ions such as iron or copper to form insoluble black precipitates. These metal sulfides are probably responsible for the color of the black layer. Indeed, the Black Sea derives

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its name from the production of vast quantities of these black metal sulfides. The precipitated materials seem to enhance the layering problem and thus once the black layer is formed it is very difficult to dry out.

### What to Do

It is clear from our observations that once the black layer forms, it is difficult to destroy. Prevention of the formation of the black layer is therefore very desirable. Attempts should be made to alleviate or prevent the formation of any layers in the soil profile. Core cultivation is the best method to disrupt layers and improve downward water movement. Topdressing programs should be done correctly to prevent layering. Watering should be restricted to syringing to help dry out the black layer. In addition, because roots are usually killed by the gasses released in the black layer, the root system is so shallow that syringing is needed to maintain the turf. Our current research is aimed at developing treatments to disrupt the black layer and improve drainage. Wetting agents should be helpful in preventing the black layer from forming by improving water percolation. However once the black layer forms, wetting agents would be of limited benefit.

We stress that the above explanation is only a hypothesis, but one we feel describes the current problem. Research is underway to prove or disprove this hypothesis.

Credit: Patch of Green 2/87



New courses are starting to pop up all over in the Chicago area. Five to ten years ago, the news was that housing developments were replacing the golf courses. Now it is just the opposite. Here are a few course that are in the stages of being built or in the planning stages: Lake Street Links & Tees in Addison, Terrace Hills G.C. in Algonquin, Canterbury G.C. in Crystal Lake, Marengo Ridge G.C. in Marengo, Wynstone C.C. in North Barrington, Cantigny Links in Wheaton, White Eagle C.C., and Tamarak C.C. in Naperville, The Burn in Norway, and Glendale Lakes in Glendale. That list ought to get the musical chairs going and some change of address for a few assistants and superintendents.

For Sale: 1978 Jacobsen F-10 Fairway Mower, 10 Blades, Nice Shape & Clean. Call Ted Mochel at Idlewild C.C. (312) 798-4927.

Doctors Shurtleff, Fermanian and Randall have come out with a new book. "Controlling Turfgrass Pests" is available from Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632 Attn: College Publicity Department, enclose a check for \$25.95 (cloth) plus your state tax.

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## "Immigration Facts"

Immigration Service has announced that they will be coming forth with verification law forms. At present all that is necessary for having new employees is to obtain the documentation that I will list below. However, once the forms are available, employers would have to conduct retrospective verification of all employees hired after November 6, 1987. If that verification reveals that an alien is not authorized to work, the employers will be required to comply with the new law's paper work. I will advise your association when the forms are available.

The documents needed to verify authorization to work are documents either from group a) or one document from both group b) and c).

Group a): The individual must have either a United States passport; certificate of US citizenship; certificate of naturalization; unexpired foreign passport, if the passport has an appropriate unexpired endorsement of the Attorney General authorizing employment in the United States; or resident alien card, if the card contains a photograph of the individual and an evidence of employment authorization in the United States.

Group b): A social security card which does not prohibit employment in the United States; a birth certificate in the United States or a certificate establishing US nationality at birth which is certified by the Attorney General or other documentation authorizing employment which has been accepted by the Attorney General.

Group c): A driver's license or similar document issued for purposes of identification by a state, if it contains a photograph of the individual or other personal identification information relating to the individual as the Attorney General finds acceptable or in the case of individual under 16, any other identification authorized by the Attorney General.

If the individual has any of the documents listed in paragraph a), that is sufficient. However, if there are none of the documents present in paragraph a), there must be both documents found in paragraph b) and c). In addition, the individual must attest under the penalty of perjury that he is authorized to work or is a citizen of the United States lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

Although it is not authorized to photostate a citizenship certificate or a permanent residence card, they may be photostated solely for this purpose.

**Stanley J. Horn**  
Attorney at Law

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## Executive Blend BLUEGRASS SOD

**THE BLEND**—Combination of 5 disease resistant cultivars chosen on the basis of adaptability to a variety of growing conditions.

**SOIL TYPE**—820 irrigated acres of sandy loam mineral soil.

**ROOTING**—Rapid establishment in any soil type with less water.

**SERVICE**—On-Time—Radio Dispatched—Forklift Delivery.

**PENNCROSS  
CREEPING BENT  
SOD**

75%  
Sand Base



Quality Supplier of  
Seed, Fertilizer,  
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