

President of American Society of Golf Course Architects Sees Continuing Boom in Golf Course Construction

The pent-up demand for new golf courses is not a short-term situation, but one that will continue into the next decade, according to Ken Killian, president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

"We've seen a tremendous surge in remodeling work, as well as new course development in 1986, and that certainly will continue throughout 1987. Furthermore, that activity is across the board — real estate, resort, municipal and private courses," Killian noted.

"In fact," he added, "if economic conditions remain stable and the interest in golf continues to grow, the next 10 years could well become another 'golden age of golf' in the United States and Canada."

Killian pointed out that not only is the number of golfers growing, but that the frequency of their play is increasing, too. The ASGCA president said that this is due partly to the fact that Americans have more leisure time and more people are taking early retirement.

The Chicago golf course architect also identified regional population shifts, such as the ongoing trend toward Sun Belt cities. These year-round golfing markets are experiencing a continuing demand for new golf courses of all types.

Increasing numbers of women and senior golfers, Killian stated, are requiring architects to design more versatile courses that will accommodate all types of golfers. More of today's courses, for instance, have multiple tees that allow the low handicapper to test the full length of the course while the new player or high handicapper can use the front tees to play a course that is still a challenge.

ASGCA President Killian also projects a growing number of high-quality public courses, especially in smaller cities and suburban areas around metropolitan areas.

"Golfers who travel on business and play some of the country's outstanding resort courses are demanding new and interesting designs at home, and public and municipal courses will be coming on stream at a more rapid rate in the future," Killian predicted.

He added that anyone interested in building or remodeling a golf course may obtain free information from the American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601.

To support his contention that golf will continue to boom in the next decade, Killian pointed to statistics discussed at the recent Golf Summit '86 meeting. Researchers have found that a modest 2% growth rate will generate nearly nine million new golfers by the year 2000; a 5% growth rate (only half the rate experienced in the 1960s) would result in more than 41 million total golfers by the year 2000.

"It is the responsibility of all those associated with the game of golf to make sure that this expansion is done well, with the highest level of professionalism, so that the next generation will look back and recognize that we not only planned well, but executed with a respect for the great traditions of golf," Killian said.

Position Available Weber Park Golf Course Head Greenskeeper

Skokie Park District, a north suburban Chicago Metropolitan Park and Recreation Agency, a population of approximately 65,000, announces the opening of the Weber Park Golf Course Head Greenskeeper.

This position is directly responsible for the maintenance of a **small 9 hole, par 3 Golf Course** and adjacent Weber Park. The employee is under the direct supervision of the Supervisor of Landscape Services and Development, but is granted opportunities for independent action and exercises immediate supervision over full-time and seasonal golf course maintenance personnel.

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Editor's comment: In one of the newsletters that come across my desk is this interesting article which can very well apply to our golf courses.

The Safety Link

by Robert R. Maeglin

This message comes through the courtesy of the Michigan Association of Timbermen and the Michigan Logger Safety Training Program.

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Midwest Breezes



Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

January 6-7 — GCSAA & MAGCS Seminars at Pheasant Run

January 13-14 — Indiana GCSA 2 Day Seminar

January 26-February 3 — GCSAA Conference in Phoenix

January 31 — Prayer Breakfast in Phoenix

March 2-4 — Midwest Regional Turf Conference at Purdue

March 3-5 — Landscape Exposition at O'Hare Exposition

April 3 — USGA Regional Mtg. at Westmore C.C., Milwaukee

Midwest Breezes

Chicago Turf & Irrigation is interviewing for a sales oriented individual for commercial equipment. Duties will involve management of the dealer sales program, specification sales with key maintenance contractors and marketing oriented tasks for non-Toro products. If interested, please send a resume care of Ron Jones, 911 Hilltop Drive, Itasca, IL 60143.

Bob Breen, Superintendent, Arrowhead C.C. is looking for shelter house plans. If you do have any plans and would share them, please send them to him at Arrowhead C.C., 26W151 Butterfield Rd., Wheaton, IL 60187.

Some of the jobs that were open earlier in the year have now been filled; Joe Reents has taken over at Oak Hills C.C. and Paul Mays moved back into the area from Minnesota to fill the position at Green Acres C.C.

Gary Country Club has been renamed — Innsbrook C.C.

The NCTE certainly seemed to be another huge success story this year. The attendance was way up and the trade show was a success — the commercial people had someone to talk to this year as compared to when they were in Peoria.

The MAGCS donated a \$2,000.00 check to Illinois Turfgrass Foundation for Turf Research at the annual meeting which was held Tuesday afternoon, December 9, 1986.

Sand Creek Club is to be sold (or maybe is by the time you read this). Bethlehem Steel Corp. built this private club for it's employees about 10 years ago. About three years ago a membership was made available to the public in hope of raising revenues. But hard times in the steel industry is forcing the company to look at a Chicago firm that manages several private clubs to take over its operation on East Porter Avenue.

Editor's and Ray Gerber Editorial Award Winner's Comment

It is a strange situation that as the Editor of **The Bull Sheet** I am also the winner of its prestigious annual award. Having known Ray Gerber and being so close to that wonderful man for 13 years, I have coveted a place on the Ray Gerber Editorial Award plaque since its inception in 1983. It is really with great honor that my name is now the fourth to be added to this very special plaque. Everyone should have had the opportunity that I have had to be able to work with this fine gentleman, to be able to sit and listen to his wisdom of "greenkeeping". His unceasing self-control allowed a young successor to come in and make changes to a golf course that he had cared for with so much dedication for over 34 years — without being critical of any changes. It's a shame there are not more Ray Gerbers around for one to wait in their shadows and to learn to walk in their footsteps before going out into that big bright world on their own.

Yes, I am quite proud to add my name to Ray's plaque, and for those of you who did or did not know Ray, I hope your name will deserve a place on it starting in 1987. It's a goal to shoot for and a very satisfying one to achieve.

Thank you, Ray Gerber, for making it such an honor for me.

Fred D. Opperman, CGCS
Editor and Ray Gerber Editorial Award Winner

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James G. Prusa, GCSAA Associate Executive Director and Director of Education is leaving to go into a new business venture. Prusa will stay thru the conference in Phoenix.

Tony & Marge Meyer spent the Christmas Holidays in Innsbrook, Austria visiting their granddaughter who is studying there as an exchange student.

Knollwood C.C. is looking for an assistant. Call Randy Wahler at (312) 234-4160.

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John Lapp, CGCS

North Central Turfgrass Exposition



Ribbon Cutting at NCTE

L to R: Peter Leuzinger, Robert Graunke, Dr. Kent Kurtz, unknown official and Conrad J. Stynchula



*Bruce Williams, CGCS
Moderator for MAGCS Clinic
morning session*



*Mike Matchen, Superintendent
at Wilmette Golf Course
"Use of Synthetic Green Covers"*



*Joel Purpur, Superintendent,
Bartlett Hills Golf & C.C.
"An Approach to Nematode Problems
in Greens"*



*John Gurke, Assistant Superintendent
at Old Elm Club
"Clubhouse Landscaping"*



*Mike Nass, CGCS
Moderator for MAGCS Clinic
afternoon session*



*Dr. Randy Kane, CDGA
"1986 Golf Turf in Review"*



*Alan T. Fierst, Superintendent
at Oak Park C.C.
"Winterizing the Golf Course"*



*Dave Mahoney, Superintendent at
Naperville C.C.
"Use of Embark in Bentgrass
Conversion"*



*Dr. Clark Throssell, Purdue University
"Putting Green Speed"*



*Fred D. Opperman, CGCS,
Editor of **The Bull Sheet**
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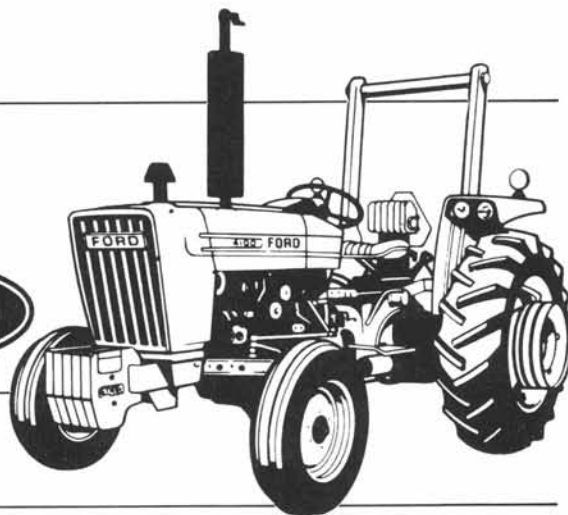
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James R. Burdett

Grounds Maintenance Supplies

The seed of a new enterprise, founded upon tried and proved methods, is sure to grow. This it was in late 1983 when Jim Burdett founded his new business.

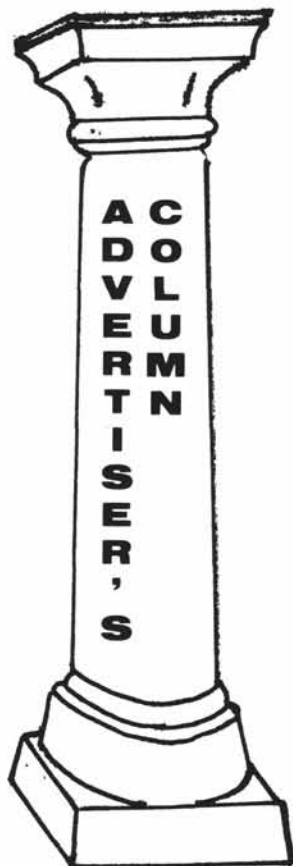
Jim had a history of over 30 years in golf course experience, from caddying at Glen Oak Country Club while in grade school, through his lawn mowing business to working on the grounds at Medinah Country Club while in college at the University of Illinois. After graduation, he entered the family business of golf course distribution when his brother, Paul, was drafted. In 1972, Jim took over Burdett's, Inc. and ran it until some mistakes overtook the business and it was closed in late 1976. Armed with the background of the golf course distribution business, he and his wife, Marilyn, decided to get back into it in 1983.

Within a radius of 35 miles from Lombard, Illinois, the home of this new business, are more than 175 golf courses. This seemed to allow a proper customer base and radius of delivery to feel comfortable. Delivery time is not as important these days of bids and the golf courses' ability to stock sufficient supplies, yet when the customer is looking for additional products, they would need it in 24 to 36 hours, just as in the days that Jim was brought up into.

The background that Jim brought into the new business had given him a knowledge of many products which were well proven in the market. Some of these products have been discontinued by manufacturers because of a high cost factor of insufficient sales of a product. Several superintendents have asked Jim if he had a source for various older products. In certain cases, he has located a manufacturer who will make some of these products or has found some of these products in inventory with another distributor, but forgotten since their volume of that product was low. Two products which fit into this category are the heavy duty 3/8" ROPE'R STAKES with step down design and SEAT 'N BENCH ENDS which utilize extra sturdy strap steel.

A phone call came in this spring which alerted Jim to the availability of a sprinkler head which hadn't been manufactured for some time. Within the 35 mile radius, there are few courses that haven't converted to automatic watering, yet still some have a manual system on fairways. To those superintendents, this sprinkler head met a need.

One measurement of success, keeping solvent, is close to the top. This means keeping sales up and costs down. The new business required a delivery vehicle as well as a unit to use while making sales calls. Either unit needn't be large. In early 1984, the mini-van concept was being introduced and it was decided



to use a mini-van as both a sales and delivery vehicle. Certain lines of merchandise were available directly to the Burdett organization and these lines would fit into a mini-van. Costs were cut by selling and delivering at the same time and, with Jim having an evening job, the business stayed "in the black" from the beginning, the fruition of a proper seedbed.

At present, this business is unique in the territory served — being the only sole proprietor-sales-delivery person in one. New lines are being added annually so, in 1985, Jim's wife, Marilyn, joined the crew. Marilyn does telephone answering and book work for three hours a day during the season. She gets to the office in Burdett's garage at 7 a.m.

The wide support received by this new business is most gratifying and will ensure a continuing competitive distributorship.

Dr. Jack Butler Receives Award

Dr. Jack Butler, Extension horticulturist and turfgrass specialist at Colorado State University, was named the recipient of the 1986 F. A. Anderson Distinguished Service Award by the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service.

Dr. Butler was presented with this prestigious award at the Annual Cooperative Extension Awards Banquet in Fort Collins on October 2, 1986. This award, sponsored by the Colorado Cooperative Council, is given in recognition of meritorious service to the people of Colorado through Extension education.

Dr. Butler was honored for his excellence in Extension education and service programs for the turfgrass professionals and industries in Colorado and Rocky Mountain region.

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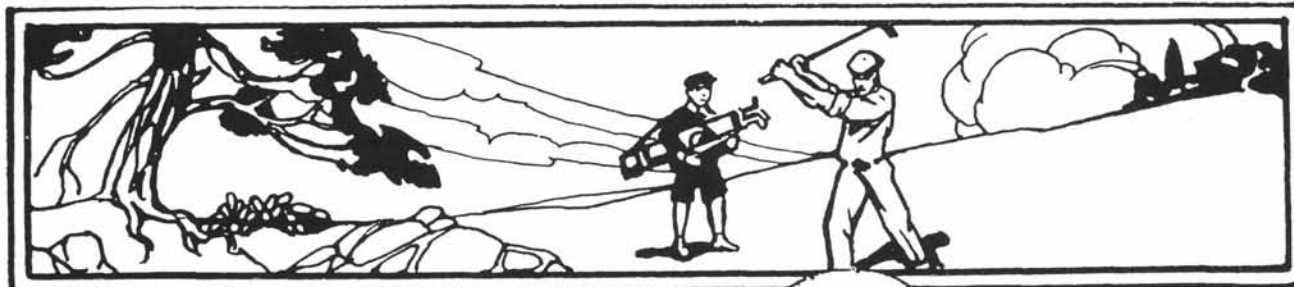
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Pfister Menu: All Meet ... but No Potatoes

"A Dudley Smith Impression of the Program at Milwaukee"

The twenty first Wisconsin Turf Symposium in Milwaukee found a classroom full of students going home with empty notebooks. The subject matter was "The Micronutrients (Who Needs Them?)". The speakers were helpless because research on the use of minor elements on turfgrass has NOT been done. The professors gave us the SWAG treatment (scientific wild ass guessing) commonly called food for thought.

Over 200 turf enthusiasts attended the two day session at the Pfister Hotel, among them 18 from the Chicago area.

Comments from the podium:

Dr. Jack Butler, Colorado State

1. Local problems are NOT always important universally. Micronutrients are NOT a major world concern. Iron (Fe) is as important a fertilizer in western states as N, P, and K.
2. Clipping removal on fairways alters fertilization practices. Bluegrass fairways fed 3 lb. nitrogen annually showed 3 lb. removed in weighed clippings, likewise bentgrass fairways showed nitrogen being discarded in tissues removed.
3. The amount of certain minor elements needed for turf growth is trivial. You could satisfy the need for copper by simply using brass nozzles on the spray rig.
4. Soil tests at Milwaukee Country Club showed one percent iron present (adequate for turf) BUT the iron was in forms unavailable to the plant. Soil testing is a vital tool neglected by most superintendents.
5. Organic fertilizer should be used on sand based putting greens because the minor elements contained are needed in this leached porous media.
6. In Rocky Mountain area research no post graduate work is under study on micronutrients, BUT a thesis is being written on "The Effect of Elk Urine on Creeping Bent Greens."
7. Putting green speed, or golfball roll, can be reduced by 25% or a matter of inches on the stimp meter, by an application of sulfate of potash at 1 lb./1000 sq. ft. (If you have a scratch handicap golfer harassing you about putting green speed, wait until the club championship and fertilize every other stripe with potassium sulfate).

Dr. Randy Kane, Illinois

Calcium deficient soils are prone to pythium attack (Couch). Calcium effects soil properties and water penetration.

Nitrogen applied as NH_4^+ lowers the pH in the root zone, H^+ is released and less disease is present. Nitrogen in the NO_3^- form releases OH^- ions from the plant and the pH in the root zone rises and so does the disease level.

Dr. Robert Shearman, Nebraska

1. Of the sixteen essential elements most are available to plants at pH 6.5-7.0. At pH 7.5 iron, boron, manganese are bound up and not released for plant benefit. Are we wasting dollars fertilizing minor elements on high pH greens?
2. High phosphorus applications may produce iron deficiency.
3. Soil tests inform you of the pH status, and the nutrients available at that level.

4. Late Fall nitrogen applications are enhanced by adding iron for root development and winter hardiness, less desiccation.
5. Excess iron sulfate makes BLACK greens. This is foliar desiccation or reverse photosynthesis, a temporary condition.

Dr. James Beard, Texas A&M

1. The closer we get to perfection, i.e. creeping bent fairways, the more obvious our imperfections become. So the need and use of micronutrients (iron) is showing up.
2. Do NOT add large amounts of a single nutrient (iron) assuming it is deficient. You will disrupt the release of the other minor elements. You will destroy the BALANCE.
3. Dr. Beard has traveled the world and NEVER seen deficiency symptoms for micronutrients in turf; with the exception of iron. So how big a problem is it?
4. Root hairs live 14-21 days. We need root hairs for the uptake of nutrients. With temperatures above 80° root development ceases. At this time consider foliar feeding, especially iron. At mid day the stomata on the leaves close permitting the upward flow of nutrients. With the stomata closed we might pick up a different time of day to spray liquid fertilizer, and also to prevent foliar burning.
5. The USGA green mixture is sound IF you stick to the original mix; with part soil and part organic matter. 100% sand greens are asking for trouble. Sand greens go OUT OF BALANCE easily. There is no forgiveness from soil-less greens.

Oscar Miles, Butler National Golf Club

1. In his current rebuilding Oscar uses 80% dune sand and 20% Indiana peat. His experience with 100% sand base was a management nightmare until some organic matter developed. Pure sand base drained too fast, desiccation prevailed, and nutrients leached out.
2. Oscar adds one quart sulfuric acid in his 300 gallon spray rig. This lowers the pH of the solution giving a better performance from the insecticide and fungicide applications. Sulfate of potash is also added when spraying fungicides.
3. In the past six years the pH of the Butler National greens has dropped from 7.8 to 7.3 with the addition of powdered sulfur. Five pounds of sulfur is applied annually. That is five periodic feedings one pound sulfur per 1,000 sq. ft.

Jim Latham, USGA

Using sulfur to control pH is risky. Toxicity of nutrients may develop. Copper and zinc are not mobile in the soil and easily become toxic.

A golf course in Wisconsin had the mishap of spraying CUTRINE on the putting greens rather than the ponds ... terrible black putting surfaces, but nice green lakes.

In the 1960's Chicago had a crusader preaching pH neutrality and the importance of SOIL BALANCE. He cited the merit of sulfate of potash, and the use of high calcium line. Recently, his concern has been the salts in our irrigation water driving the pH level upward. Now, twenty five years later, the professors at the Milwaukee seminar concede they are puzzled by these same issues. You are a good man ... Vaclav Zolman. Same time next year, bring your notebook and pencil.

Dudley Smith, 11/8/86

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GCSAA to Receive National Award for Excellence in Education

The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) has announced that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), Lawrence, Kan., is to receive an award in ASAE's 1986 Awards of Excellence in Education competition. Sponsored annually by ASAE's Education Section, the awards are presented to associations that have demonstrated creativity and innovation in continuing education programming.

This year's tough competition attracted a record 100 nominations in seven different categories, representing a wide range of national, state and local associations. Monna Kohn, ASAE's Education Section chairman and the full-time director of education and affiliate services at the American Health Care Association, Washington, D.C., said this year's nominations "were of the highest quality and represented an impressive array of association education programming ideas."

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of American won recognition in the category of Educational Curriculum and Coordinated Series of Educational Programs. The GCSAA Continuing Education Division I is the first phase of GCSAA's long-range continuing education plan to be fully implemented. The program consists of a defined series of multidisciplinary courses leading to a professional certificate in golf course/turfgrass management. The Division I curriculum represents 19 separate seminars involving 30 hours of classroom instruction from leading educators in the industry. Completion of Division I will be a prerequisite for entrance into Division II of the program, which is now being implemented.

GCSAA will receive its award at a special recognition luncheon to be held Nov. 18 in conjunction with ASAE's National Association Management Conference in Chicago. Associate Executive Director and Director of Education James G. Prusa, an active member of ASAE, will represent GCSAA to accept this prestigious award on the Association's behalf.

"We are thrilled by the recognition ASAE has bestowed upon our Association," proclaimed GCSAA President Riley L. Stottern, CGCS. "To be recognized by a group that represents the professional management of all associations is an encouraging appraisal of GCSAA's performance. It is especially important to me that we are being nationally recognized for one of our chartered purposes: education. It is most fitting that Mr. Prusa — the original architect of the program — accept this award on our behalf. The kudos are as much his as ours. This recognition will only spur us on to set even greater goals for the GCSAA and higher levels of service for our members. I congratulate our entire staff."

GCSAA Board Member and Chairman of the Association's Certification and Education Committees Dennis Lyons added, "I, too, congratulate our staff and thank our committee members. This unique recognition will only serve to spur on the efforts of our staff and volunteer committees alike."

"It is especially gratifying," Prusa noted, "to have our endeavors recognized by my professional peers at ASAE. The credit for our success goes to my staff, GCSAA members and most especially the Board of Directors for their leadership and support."

The American Society of Association Executives, Washington, D.C., is an individual, professional membership society made up of nearly 14,000 association executives engaged in the management of the nation's 7,000 professional societies.

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- Full line of NK Seed, etc.
- Full line of chemicals
- Sprayers, Spreaders & Golf Equipment

All products are palletized
with local fork-lift delivery.

Indiana 219 / 552-0552

Chicago 312 / 641-2898