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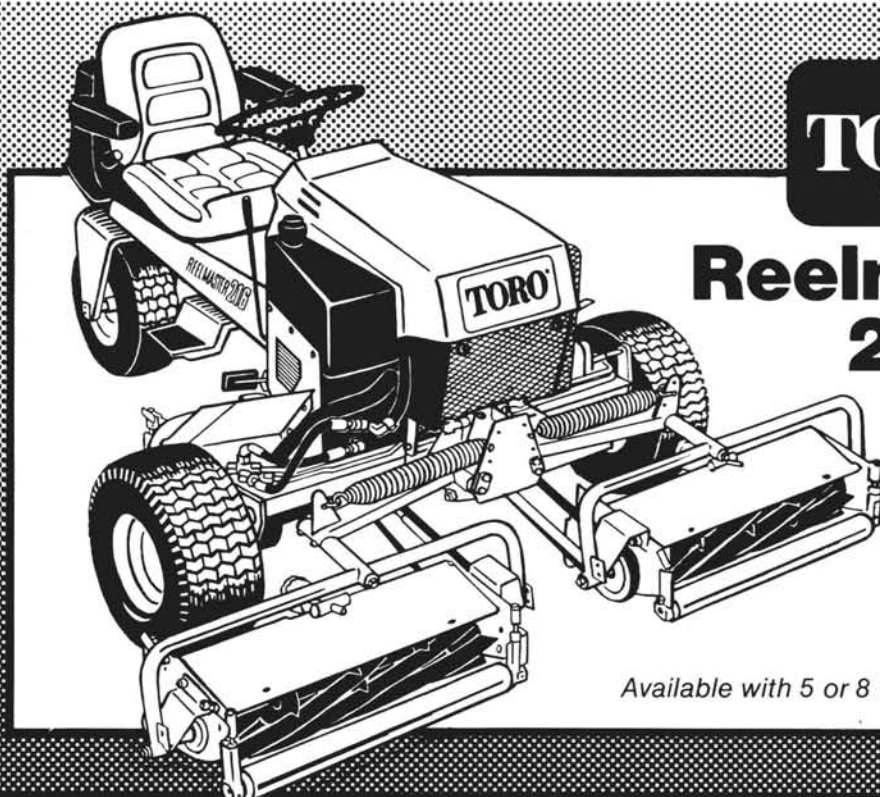
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## Midwest Breezes



### Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

**July 7** — Black Layer Symposium sponsored by Midwest Regional Turf Foundation. Call for info: (317) 494-4785.

**July 14** — MAGCS meeting at Village Green of Woodridge

**July 22** — Midwest Turf Field Day, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Purdue Agronomy Farm

**August 17-23** — Western Open at Butler National

**August 24** — MAGCS meeting at Turnberry C.C.

**September 21** — MAGCS meeting at Balmoral Woods G.C.

**October 8** — MAGCS meeting at Woodstock C.C.

**November 9-11** — Penn State Turf Conference

**November** — Annual Meeting

**December 8-10** — NCTE at Pheasant Run, St. Charles, IL

### Hospitality Tent at Western Open

Again this year we are going to host a hospitality tent at the Western Open. The Board realizes there were some problems associated with last year's effort, but the first year is always the hardest. This year we have a different location. This year's tent will be located directly east of Oscar's maintenance building near the dogleg of the seventh hole and between holes two and seven. This should provide us with a much more advantageous position.

We will also man the tent for shorter periods of time in order to coincide with the main influx of traffic in this area. Of course manning the tent will require some help from our membership and we will be soliciting that help soon. Everyone that helps out will receive a shirt with the Midwest Logo for his efforts. The dates this year are August 20 thru August 23. We will be asking for volunteers soon so please be prepared to help out. Thank you.

#### The Finance and Publicity Committee

##### For Sale

1978 Jacobsen F-10, 10 blade reels, 18" wheels — call Ted Mochel, (312) 798-4927.

Assistant needed at the Tam Golf Course in Niles, IL — call Thomas L. Slack at (312) 967-5404 or 967-6633.

Congratulations to Cathy & Dave Mahoney on the birth of a daughter, Jessica Lindsay, born May 8th, 1987 and weighing 8 lbs. 2 ounces.

Randy Kane reports seeing a lot of Anthracnose on fairways early in June — let's hope by the time you are reading this the situation is cleared up.

Lesco has finally delivered some of their new Lesco 500 mowers to some area courses. If you are near any of these golf courses that have them you may want to have a look: Butler National, Crystal Lake, Kishwaukee, Naperville, and Skokie.

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council has awarded grants to the departments of Agronomy, Entomology, and Plant Pathology of the Pennsylvania State University totalling \$65,000 for turfgrass research and extension activities for 1987. This total represents the largest contribution the council has ever awarded to the Penn State Turfgrass project.

The council generates the majority of the revenue for these grants through golf tournaments, memberships, and the co-sponsoring with Penn State of the Eastern and Western Pennsylvania Turf Conferences and Trade Shows and the Golf Turf Conference held at University Park.

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council is extremely pleased to be in the position to substantially support Penn State's Turf Program and thanks the many volunteers and participants in the fund-raising activities for their dedication and commitment.

Dan Murray and Joel Purpur entered the Mid American Canoe Race from Elgin to Aurora held June 7th. Their time was 4 hours, 2 minutes and 55 seconds — Dan said it was slower than their time last year of 3 hours, 58 minutes and 6 seconds due to the strong head winds. Also Dan said that Joel wasn't doing the paddling that he should have been. This was about the 12th year for Dan in the race and the 4th year he and Joel were partners.



Bruce Williams & bachelor Al Fierst won the best ball event. It just goes to prove that everyone can win in golf with the proper handicap. They had a net 58!

Thanks to Bob Olsen from Olsen Distributing Company for the very scrumptious hors d'oeuvres that were served at the McHenry C.C. meeting held June 8th. Everyone was really filling their plates — that's a testament to the fine chef at McHenry and the host who provided them. Thanks Bob!

### "Touch of July"

Summer in Sarong arrives on high,  
As Fireworks light up the Sky.  
The Morning Dove coos to Her Mate,  
Warm mornings are here, isn't it Great!  
Yes, it's great to cut a swath in the Dew,  
To watch Green Grass greet you.  
But you must be early, ahead of the crowd,  
When voices carry, sounding so loud.

Kenneth R. Zanzig



*Preparing a sample of turf for testing; Thomas Nash, Sales Mgr. and Vonnie Estes, Director of Marketing for Agri-Diagnostics*



*Vonnie Estes presenting a door prize of a free testing kit to Paul Wagner, Supt. at Chevy Chase*



*Group pictures of the good times at McHenry C.C.*

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## Update at Purdue

A Turfgrass Extension Specialist will be hired to join the faculty of the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University. This person will fill the opening created when Dr. Freeborg retired. The funding for this position will come from state appropriations to Purdue University. This will be the first time that two turfgrass specialists at Purdue University will be supported by state funds.

The individual hired as the Turfgrass Extension Specialists will be responsible for planning and coordinating the annual Turf Conference, Turf Field Day and Turf and Ornamental Pesticide Use Seminars. This individual will also interact with professional turf managers through meetings, newsletters and publications in trade magazines. A portion of the Turfgrass Extension Specialist's time will be spent to help homeowners with their turf problems. This will be accomplished by training session for County Agents and writing extension bulletins. The individual hired will also devote some time to research in an area of his interest.

Dr. Throssell will be responsible for teaching all the turfgrass courses and be the leader of the turfgrass research efforts. Dr. Throssell will continue to serve as Executive Secretary of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation and participate in extension activities.

The presence of two individuals at Purdue devoting all their time to turfgrass is a major step forward for the turfgrass program. This will allow us to be more active in teaching, research and extension. Since the Turfgrass Extension Specialist's salary will be paid for by state appropriations the money raised by the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation can be directed toward research. Once an individual is hired and familiar with the position we will be able to accomplish much more than we have in the past.

The Turfgrass Extension Specialist position is open immediately and qualified applicants are encouraged to apply. The minimum educational requirement is an M.S. degree with specialization in turfgrass science. Practical experience working with turfgrass would be helpful. Interested individuals can apply to or contact Dr. Clark Throssell, Department of Agronomy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, (317) 494-4785.

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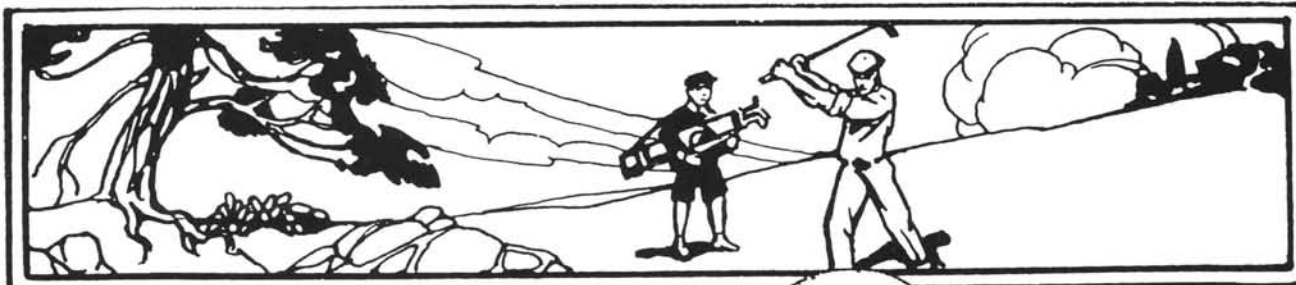
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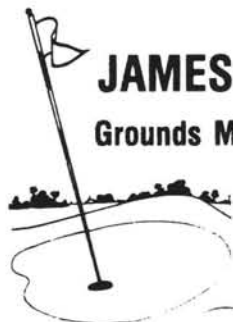
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Dear Fred,

Page of your most recent issue carries an item of great significance. I hope that this will not be the last time that you will carry an item on soil microbes. I'll venture an opinion that the population of microorganisms in putting green soils (sand?) will fall woefully short of the figures quoted for "lawn soils".

I have introduced the term "shock absorbers" to help poorly informed people understand some of the functions of the Living Soil complex. Adequately nourished and "adjusted" periodically, the soil complex can absorb many shocks from chemicals, fertilizers that bypass the organisms, heat, cold, flooding, drought and traffic.

Beneficial forms can overpower the pathogenic types when the proper adjustments are made. Some day, perhaps not in my time, soil microbiologists will be able to "assay" the content of the Living Soil so as to guide treatments that favor the disease-suppressive types. Treatments made to turfgrass will be evaluated for their effect on the soil flora and fauna.

This is only a beginning on creating an awareness of the tremendous value of soil microorganisms and the factors that affect their well being or their demise.

Fred Grau

### Fred's Weed Patch

On my morning rounds of the golf course I noticed as I came past the 6th tee a piece of paper that seemed stuck on a branch of the hawthorne there. Being a born picker-upper of any litter and paper I naturally stopped. But this paper was special for it was a note to me. It was a scorecard torn in half and had written on it, "Fred's Weed Patch". The author of the note was right, the shrub bed was full of weeds. But I know the author wouldn't believe me if I told him that I had scheduled that particular shrub bed to be weeded two days before I saw my note.

But like anything in life you tend to put priorities on the jobs around the course — one has to do so to keep the place running. Like where would "Fred's Weed Patch" fall in line with the following: greens being mowed, fairways, tees and rough all kept cut, spraying the weeds in the rough, fixing that sprinkler that is leaking on the 8th tee, getting the traps raked from the last rain, getting your flower beds planted, making up the payroll, replacing that compressor for the lake, cleaning out the field tile for the 5th hole so it drains the next time it rains, banks need mowing, ballwasher broken on the 2nd tee, repair that divot on the 8th green, weld that mower bracket, oil is leaking from the tee mower, Jose quit to take that other job that pays 10 cents more per hour, the new flowers are wilting, the office needs all your bills, the fairways are getting dollar spot, the tees already have it, the clover you already sprayed is just getting healthier and growing four leafs, and oh yes, that weed patch of Fred's needs attention.

### Last Minute Up-Dates:

Walter Fuchs, Sr. wants to thank everyone for their cards and phone calls. He promises to make one of our Midwest meetings yet this summer. Ted Woehrle had a double by-pass surgery in mid June. Send him a get well card at 3390 Witherbee, Troy MI 48084.

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## USGA Turfgrass Information File

The USGA Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) provides computer-based bibliographic access to published materials relating to turfgrass research and management. The file is operated as a part of the Turfgrass Information Center at the Michigan State University Libraries. This USGA research project, in cooperation with GCSAA, first became operational in August of 1984 and now includes more than 9400 references, most of which (approximately 85%) include abstracts.

### *File Purposes and Uses*

As a file designed to support the efficient and effective retrieval of research results, TGIF can be exploited to identify source documents discussing particular grasses (or cultivars, for that matter), cultural practices, agents, research methodologies, environmental conditions, etc., alone or in combination. It is also useful as a reference tool, for example, in tying together disease nomenclatural changes, surveying the state of knowledge on a particular insect pest (in the turf context), or quickly identifying who has conducted research on a particular concern. In many cases, the abstracts themselves can provide management guidance based on summary conclusions. And it is unbeatable at identifying that, "I can remember seeing an article on that about a year or so ago ...", item, and quickly, too.

### *File Scope and Content*

To build the file, current published literature from some seventy journals is selectively processed, including these kinds of sources:

**RESEARCH:** *Agronomy Journal*, *Plant Disease*, *Phytopathology*, *Crop Science*, *Canadian Journal of Plant Science*, etc.

**TECHNICAL:** *USGA Green Section Record*, *California Turfgrass Culture*, *Golf Course Management*, *Journal of the Sports Turf Research Institute*, etc.

**TRADE:** *Weeds Trees & Turf*, *Grounds Maintenance*, *ALA*, etc.

In addition, online files and bibliographies from the National Agricultural Library, Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux (U.K.), Biological Abstracts, etc. will be reviewed regularly to include materials from sources not usually reporting turf research.

Currently over 1200 different serial titles are represented in the database. Included are journals, conference proceedings, research annuals, newsletters, and extension bulletins in addition to the books, papers, theses and dissertations, and special publications that make up the remainder of the file. Over 95% of the file entries have been published since 1968, reflecting the emphasis on recent materials.

Though significant results can be retrieved on most turf topics, it must be noted that the file continues to be "under construction" and cannot be considered "exhaustive" at this time. Coverage of the literature since 1980 is most complete, with the 1972-1979 period less well represented.

### *The Setting*

Designed to compliment and enhance the existing O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection at the Michigan State University Library, TGIF is but one element in a three part cooperative effort to develop a Turfgrass Information Center at MSU. The Noer Collection, based on O.J. Noer's personal library and supplemented by gifts from many others, has now grown and

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