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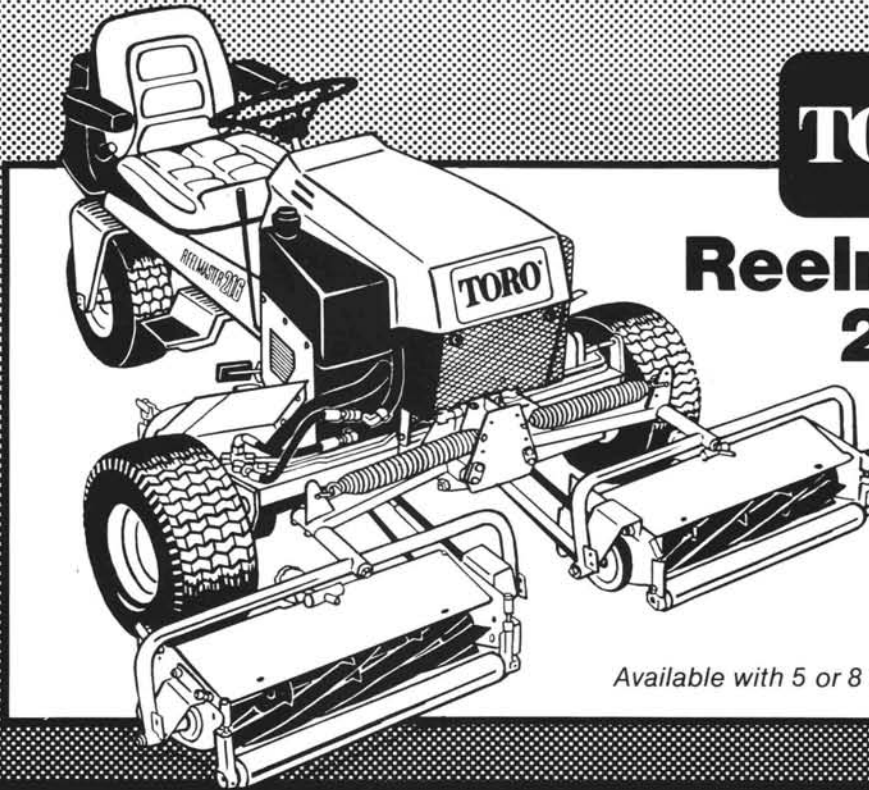
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## Midwest Breezes



### Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

- March 9-10** — GCSAA & Wisconsin Seminar  
“Managerial Productivity”
- March 10** — USGA Green Section Conference, Belmont, MI  
Call Jim Latham, (414) 354-2203
- March 14** — MAGCS monthly meeting at Nordic Hills C.C.
- March 15** — MAGC Mechanics meeting, 1 p.m.  
at Glen Oak C.C.
- March 24** — CGDA Green Seminar at Butterfield C.C.
- April 25** — MAGCS monthly meeting at Marriott’s  
Lincolnshire Resort
- May 23** — MAGCS monthly meeting at Silver Lake C.C.  
Joint Associations.
- June ?** — MAGCS meeting at Lake Shore C.C.
- July 18** — MAGCS meeting at Springbrook C.C.  
Seniors Day
- August** — Balmoral Woods G.C.
- September** — MAGCS meeting at Crystal Lake C.C.
- October 10** — MAGCS meeting at Lake Barrington Shores

Sorry that we weren’t able to print the Midwest Regional Turf Conference dates in our upcoming events. But they seem to keep it a secret to the last minute and then it is too late for us to print it. The conference was February 29 - March 2, 1988.

The feature speaker for the CGDA Green Seminar will be the President of the National Golf Foundation, Mr. David Heuber. He will be speaking on the boom in golf, the numbers of golfers, and the new courses going up all across the country. Read the NGF article in this issue on the billion dollar industry that golf has become.

Tom Robinson, Supt. at Highland Park C.C. is looking for an assistant. Call Tom at (312) 432-4800.

Need an assistant? Clifford L. Jones, Jr. is looking for a position. He has experience having worked at four other courses and with the Wadsworth Golf Construction Company. He is a graduate of Joliet Junior College in Turfgrass Management. Phone number is (312) 754-6526 or write him at: 98 Holbrook Road, Chicago Heights, IL 60411.

Sean Hoolihan writes from Hawaii that the weather is fine this time of year and thinks of us in the cold Midwest putting up with all of our snow and freezing temperatures. He mentions that they get 20+ inches of rain during their peak golfing season, so he also has his problems to contend with. If you need his address when you get to vacation in “heaven”, it is: Navy-Marine Golf Course, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

We are pleased to hear that Dave Louttit is back on the job on a part time basis.

Oops, oops and oops! It seems this editor made an amusing mistake in the February issue. Dave Louttit was scheduled to write the Director’s Column that month. I received a short article that mentioned working on the Gary C.C. and etc. It was signed “Dave”. But it was Dave Wollenburg that wrote the article that I gave Dave Louttit credit for. Sorry D.W. about that mistake.

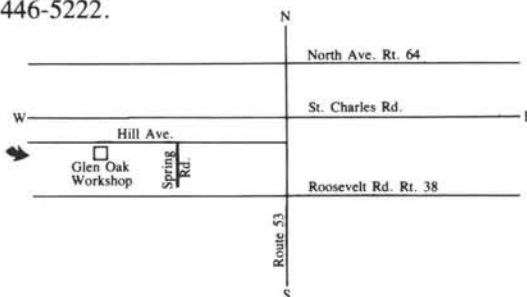
Wants an assistant. Kankakee C.C. looking for an assistant. Please reply by sending a resume to Greg Coyne, Superintendent, P. O. Box 29, Kankakee, IL 60901.

Congratulations to Terry & Connie Dillner on the birth of their 3rd child, Laura Ruth, on January 22, 1988. Laura Ruth weighed in at 8 pounds, 9 ounces. Terry is the assistant to Carl Hopphan at Evanston Golf Club.

Golf Course Superintendent Needed. Fort Sheridan Golf Course on Chicago’s North Shore is seeking a superintendent to maintain a 18 hole golf course. Full time year-round position with benefits. For more information, call (312) 926-3554, 926-2197, or 926-2084 and ask for Dan Kraft.

Our MAGCS golf team did very well in the tournament before the conference in Houston. Ed Fischer will fill in the details, next month.

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Mechanics will hold a meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Glen Oak C.C. workshop. The date is March 15, 1988. For more information call John Maguire (312) 446-5222.



### “March Sunshine”

Winter weather wanes each day,  
As March Sunshine bulldozes It’s way,  
Into Our life with New Season splendor,  
To which We willingly surrender.  
Nature wedges between Winter and Spring,  
Energizing new life into the swing.  
Anticipation of new seasonal direction,  
Stimulates Our Golf Course affection,  
So, Hats off to the Season, soon to begin,  
Where We’ll be happy, in work to the chin.

**Kenneth R. Zanzig**

The deepest sympathy of the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is extended to the Fisher Family due to the death of their 4 month old son, Steven Fisher. Steven died on January 25, 1988.

(Adding Flowers to Course cont'd.)

quires no maintenance except for cutting back in fall or spring, and cutting off old flowers after flowering. The foliage remains an excellent coppery green the whole season. Astilbe is generally a pest-free, very hardy perennial. It reaches 2-3' in height.

• Incorporate **Sedum spectabile** 'Meteor' or 'Autumn Joy' into shrub borders. The pink-red flowers are effective for over a month from late summer to early fall, and can be left on the plants to add texture to the winter landscape. The apple-green succulent are very high quality for the whole season. This perennial is virtually pest-free. Both cultivars reach a height of 24-30''.

• Use an ornamental grass like **Miscanthus sinensis** 'Gracillimus' in shrub borders or along a fence. The 5-foot tall plumes of this perennial clump-grass are very effective in September-October, turning gold late in the season. The plumes create winter interest when left on the plants.

• Use **Iris sibirica** 'Caesar's Brother' as a background for an annual flower bed. This dark blue Siberian iris is an excellent spring perennial staying in flower for 2-3 weeks. Cut back flowers in early summer. The foliage clumps, 2-3' tall, are excellent throughout the season.

• **Paeonia lactiflora** and **Paeonia tenuifolia** are beautiful peonies. The first, **P. lactiflora**, is the traditional peony. It is effective as a single specimen, and can easily take the place of a shrub. Select single-flowered peonies, which do not require staking and do not flop over in a spring rain storm. It reaches 36-42'' height, is available in reds, pinks and white. **P. tenuifolia** is the "Fern-leaf Peony," a much finer textured perennial than the other. It is available only in red. The 24'' Fern-leaf Peony dies back by mid-summer; place it in the foreground of a shrub border for spectacular spring color, allow it to die back naturally.

• **Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm,' Achillea 'Coronation Gold'** and **Anemone hupehensis japonica** are outstanding perennials,

useful on the golf course as single specimen plants in shrub borders. 'Goldsturm'-flowers for 6-8 weeks in late summer. It is a 36-48'' tall, clump-forming somewhat spreading yellow cone-flower.

'Coronation Gold' is 36'' tall, bright golden yellow, and very prolific in flowering. The gray-green fern-like leaves of this Yarrow form a 15'' clump, and the flowers are held high above. It is very heat and drought-tolerant.

The Japanese Anemone forms a dark green, 24'' mound, and flowers in late summer. The delicate-looking lavender, pink or white flowers are held above the leaves. It does best in semi-shaded areas, and is also very effective when planted in mass.

• **Hemerocallis**, or Daylilies, are highly adaptable, low-maintenance perennials. Colors range from palest yellow through gold and orange to near-red, with many bicolors; flowers may be single or double; individual cultivars flower over several weeks between late June and late August; height varies from 1-4'. Daylilies are excellent for erosion control on banks, and are often used as a large-scale groundcover. This is truly a multi-purpose perennial, equally effective in a naturalized garden or as a specimen clump.

• **Hosta** is a large genus of perennials with great variety, ranging in size from less than 1' to over 3' height and greater spread. Leaf color ranges from pale yellow-green to distinctive blue-green, many cultivars have variegated color. Flowers, generally held above the foliage, are white, lavender or blue, and often fragrant, flowering a 2-3 week period from mid-to late-summer. This shade-requiring perennial is useful for many purposes due to its diversity of form. Larger types are useful as specimens, and mid-size types as groundcovers.

• Bulbs belong in every landscape. They brighten up a bare bed used later for annuals and add color to an evergreen planting. Remember these pointers when planning for bulbs.

• Daffodils are best planted in large irregular patches in light shade, where they are naturalize into a permanent planting.

(continued page 16)

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(Adding Flowers to Course cont'd.)

- When planning a bed of daffodils and tulips, use "single early tulips," which flower at the same time as daffodils.
- Leave bulb foliage undisturbed for six weeks after flowering before cutting back, to allow for replenishment of the bulb.
- Planting in clumps or broad swaths is more effective than planting in straight lines.
- Tulips are excellent when interplanted among daylilies. The tulip gives early season color, and their drying foliage is covered by the daylilies.
- Annuals are generally planted in beds or borders where they can supply a splash of color. However, they are also effective when planted in smaller numbers among trees and shrubs. Try planting a few individual plants of impatiens in a shrub border. You will be quite surprised at how large a 'Blitz' or 'Novette' impatiens can grow in one season! For a very low-maintenance small edging plant around a flower bed or shrub border, try **Sanvitalia procumbens**, the Creeping Zinnia. It is 6" tall and very spreading with masses of small daisy-like yellow flowers. A orange-flowered cultivar, 'Mandarin Orange', is among the 1987 All-American Selections. Creeping Zinnia has no insect or disease problems and the plants bloom until frost, despite heat and drought. Another annual to try in small clumps is **Salvia farinacea** 'Victoria'. This cultivar of the Mealycup Sage has a high flower-to-foliage ratio, giving maximum blue color and excellent quality foliage. Sometimes old ideas are best; **Canna x generalis** is still one of the best large annuals. Older cultivars grow to 5' in height and are hard to use in landscape, but newer types are only 24" tall, with less coarse foliage. Try a few among shrubs.

Two last suggestions; break any rule you don't like, and be creative. Some of the best flower combinations happen through experimentation. Try a few new flowers each year, and keep notes for future reference.

Credit: The Grass Roots, December '86

## UI Agreement Reached

After lengthy negotiations, representatives of business and labor finally reached agreement on a new Unemployment Insurance (UI) system for the state. The agreement, which was also approved by the General Assembly during the fall veto session, revamps the state's 50-year-old UI system.

The measure simplifies the state's UI system by directly relating contributions owed to benefits paid, and assesses benefit charges only against the benefit recipient's last employer. In the past, benefit charges were often assessed against employers two or three times removed from the present one.

Also under the agreement, businesses will be relieved of paying more than \$400 million in FUTA penalty taxes, and the state will make the \$580 million final installment of a \$2.6 billion federal government loan. In addition, the plan will provide UI benefits, under certain circumstances, to locked-out employees.

The plan also gives labor a four percent annual increase in benefits over three years, and establishes a targeted balance of \$750 million in the State of Illinois Trust Fund. The state can borrow from the fund, interest free, while maintaining the UI system's stability. To provide for greater stability, the system will contain a self-adjustment mechanism to balance UI benefits with employer taxes.

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## GCSAA Conference — Houston Voting Delegate Report

On Monday 8 February, 1988 the GCSAA Annual Meeting and Elections took place at the George Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. With the complete GCSAA Board of Directors plus the Executive Director present, various reports were accepted and all new and old business items were dealt with. Upon completion of the report segment, the GCSAA elections were conducted and the new officers were introduced to those in attendance.

FOR PRESIDENT: John Segui, CGCS

unanimous vote

FOR VICE PRESIDENT: with 3,967 votes cast

Dennis Lyon, CGCS (CO), 3201 votes

Jerry Faubel, CGCS (MI), 766 votes

FOR DIRECTOR: (3 to be elected) with 11,756 votes cast, additionally one to be appointed to fill remaining term (1 yr.) of Dennis Lyon.

William Roberts, CGCS (WI), 3663 votes

Jerry Faubel, CGCS (MI), 3045 votes

Joseph Baidy, CGCS (OH), 1691 votes

Ken Sakai, CGCS (CA), 1450 votes

Michael Wallace, CGCS (CT), 905 votes

Lee Deiter, CGCS (VA), 548 votes

Gary Bennett, CGCS (SC), 454 votes

Roberts, Faubel, and Baidy were elected to 2 year terms on the GCSAA Board of Directors. Ken Sakai, by unanimous vote of the GCSAA Board, was appointed to fill the vacancy created

by the election of Dennis Lyon to Vice President. Sakai will serve for a 1 year term.

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and the Chicagoland Association of Golf Course Superintendents combined forces, as is always the case, to cast a total of 204 votes for each of the vacancies on the GCSAA Board of Directors. Delegates Len Berg and Alan Fierst interviewed each of the candidates and reported their evaluations to the MAGCS caucus prior to the GCSAA elections. Upon reporting their findings to the caucus, a vote was taken by those present to accept the recommendations of the delegates and cast the Midwest's votes accordingly.

Alan T. Fierst, Voting Delegate



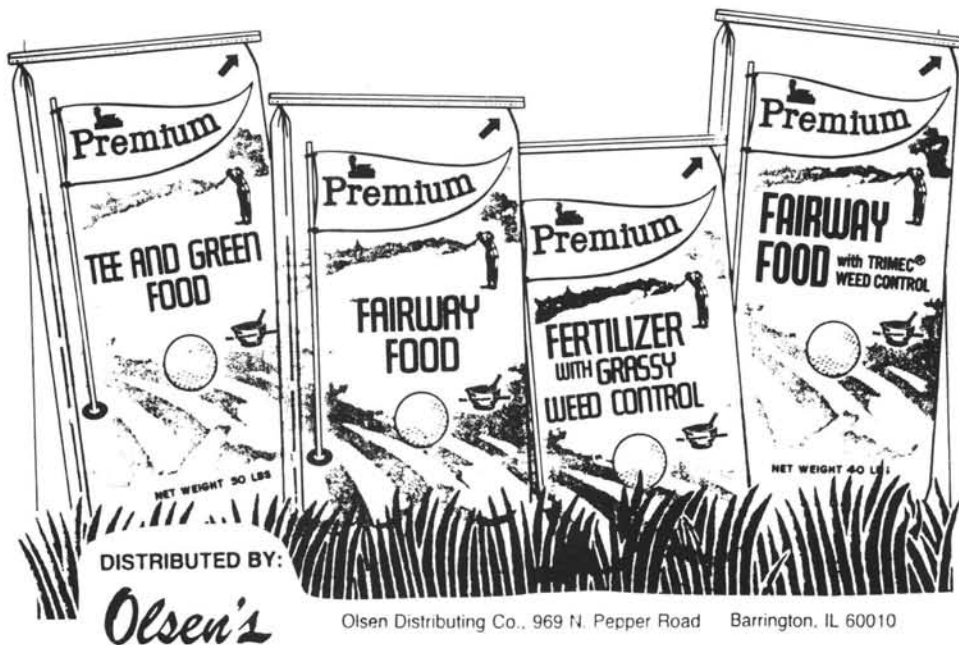
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## Winterkill

by David M. Casnoff

Dir. of Turfgrass Research, Northrup King

Winterkill is an all-encompassing term which includes several causes for injury during the cold weather periods: (1) winter desiccation; (2) direct low temperature kill which can occur during alternate periods of freezing and thawing and is a result of the hydration of the cells just prior to freezing periods; (3) low temperature disease causing organisms. In areas where freezing and thawing are a problem, frost heaving may be another factor in causing injury to plants.

During this season's winter, some rather unusual environmental conditions have existed. With the advent of low temperatures, the usual accompaniment of snow was absent. This led to several possibilities as far as injury is concerned. The most likely events are the following:

(1) As temperatures decreased, the top several inches of plant-available water were frozen. This water would not be available for plant use. As winds increased, the evapotranspiration rate of the plants would tend to increase. If the plant was not able to replace the water it lost through root absorption, it would probably die, especially if this "drought" had affected the crowns. These kinds of problems would most likely occur at higher elevations in maintained turfed areas (i.e. exposed hilltops). In these areas where snow cover is non-existent, this kind of injury can be expected.

(2) If the crown tissue of the turfgrass plants are desiccated, serious damage to the turf will occur and will most likely not recover except from nodes of surviving rhizomes and/or stolons. However, in most cases, crown injury does not occur and another form of desiccation termed as "windburn", by Beard, will occur.

(3) "Windburn" usually occurs in winter after snow cover thaws. The grass looks green and healthy right after the thaw. However, with an environment that favors high evapotranspiration rates, the green leaves will turn brown. Windburn and other superficial injuries are not a major problem if the desiccation does not damage critical meristematic tissue (i.e. leaf primordia, crown tissue, etc.) of the plant.

It is my feeling that both types of injuries may occur during this winter season. If in the spring, especially on high ground of your maintained turf areas, large turfgrass areas have not recovered, either after early irrigation or spring rain, severe low temperature kill due to desiccation has most likely occurred. In these cases, replanting of the damaged areas would be recommended.

There are several cultural methods that can be used to prevent or at least lessen these damages. Strategic placement of windbreaks (i.e. trees, snow fence) can be used to protect prone areas by reducing speeds of the prevailing winds. An additional benefit of a windbreak can be additional accumulation of snow on the leeward side of these windbreaks. Other preventive methods may be the use of mulches, topdressing and synthetic covers.

This information is provided to Northrup King's Medalist Turf distributors and their customers in the hope that any turf damage caused by this unusual winter will be minimized and/or diagnosed effectively.



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