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President's Message

by **Bruce R. Williams, CGCS**
President, MAGCS

At our July meeting we gathered to honor the Senior members of our association. While only a small portion of our fine Senior members were in attendance, I want the rest of you to know how we feel about you. The following proclamation was given at the meeting honoring our Senior members:

We, the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents are deeply indebted to all of our Senior members for their contributions to our profession. Each one of you has helped to set the ideals for which many of us hope to aspire to. While each of you are unique, collectively you have set the stage for future generations to follow in your footsteps.

We salute you as mentors, innovators, & leaders of our industry. On behalf of our membership I would like to thank all of you for many years of dedicated membership to our great Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. We look forward to seeing you at many of our monthly meetings in addition to the special Seniors' Day meeting.

It doesn't seem like one day a year is enough to recognize our Senior members. However, our gratitude goes out to all of you 365 days of the year. Best of luck and good health to all of you. **Seniors we salute you!!**

Articles in Consideration for the Ray Gerber Editorial Award

Issue date:	Article & Author
September 1988	"Bentgrass in Retrospect" Roger Stewart
January 1989	"Lightweight Fairway Mower Comparison" David Blomquist
January 1989	"In Defense of Kentucky Bluegrass" Dudley Smith
November 1989	"Proper Restitution" Brian Green
April 1990	"Orange Lines in the Roughs" Timothy Kelly
May 1990	"Shellcrackers Keep the Geese Away" Kevin Czerkies

The judges for this year's competition will be: Bruce Williams, President MAGCS; Dr. Tom Fermanian, U. of I.; Edwin Wollenberg, Retired Superintendent; Dr. Randy Kane, U. of I. & CDGA; and Fred D. Opperman, Editor.

Director's Column



Don Cross, CGCS

"A Cut Above the Rest"

by Donald A. Cross, CGCS

By the time you receive this issue of **The Bull Sheet** August will be gone and the potentially restless nights and stressful days associated with it, will have passed. The seemingly endless rush of club championships, invitationals and other events will only be memories. It's time to take a well deserved sigh of relief and smile of satisfaction. Satisfaction in knowing you and your staff have done your best to provide your members, guests, and clientele with some of the best conditioned golf courses in the country.

I'm sure you've all received many compliments this Summer, heard all the favorable comments about other courses, and have had the opportunity to play some real beauties. What a terrific year to be in this profession.

Indeed we have been blessed this year, at least through the beginning of August, with relatively mild temperatures, low disease pressure, and regular rainfall. These factors and others have made quality conditioning easier to attain this year. I strongly believe, however, that if these factors were less than favorable, we would all rise to the challenge and in spite of adversity, continue to provide superb course conditions.

Our dedication, commitment to excellence, perseverance, as well as our willingness to continually seek education, would see us through the tough times. Ah EDUCATION, (I had to put in a pitch sooner or later), one of the keys to our successes. The compliments we've all heard about our great greens, beautiful fairways, gorgeous flowers and splendid grounds, would certainly be much more difficult to receive without our continued education endeavors.

We're in exciting times of technological advancement and yet trying times as targets of environmental concern groups. From new, more efficient equipment, superior plant protectants and growth regulating products, computers and more; to concerns about ground water, underground storage tanks, and right-to-know. All issues at hand requiring considerable effort, on our part, to keep informed.

How do we keep up? We all know the answer. Read as much as we can from the publications, bulletins, and newsletters we receive. Attend field days, demonstrations, conferences and seminars. Last but not least, we by all means stay 'a cut above the rest' by attending MAGCS monthly meetings, the Midwest Clinic, the MAGCS session at the NCTE, and the GCSAA/MAGCS continuing education seminars.

Two Benefits in One

**by Kerry Anderson, Vice President
Illinois Turfgrass Foundation**

You deserve a break! After a busy season who not take a short vacation? The perfect opportunity is offered by the North Central Turfgrass Exposition, being held this year in Springfield, Illinois.

This April I revisited Springfield to preview the exhibit hall. This visit served to remind me that Springfield is a very interesting town. The conference site is exceptional. The Ramada Renaissance is truly a 5-star hotel with outstanding service located in downtown Springfield, not only in the heart of the business district but at the center of the historic district as well. Many fine restaurants (and drinking establishments!) are located within walking distance of the hotel and convention center complex.

The historical attractions in Springfield are numerous. They encompass historic homes including one by Frank Lloyd Wright, as well as Lincoln's home and tomb and the executive mansion. Visit the State Capitol, the Illinois State Museum, and the Henson Robinson Zoo. You'll relive history as you find yourself in the summer of 1851 walking the halls of the Old State Capitol Building. Authentically costumed guides portray characters of the 1850s as they blend a traditional guided tour with first-person interpretations of Mr. Lincoln's World.

Springfield celebrates all month long when the arrival of the holiday season rekindles the old fashioned Christmas spirit. This celebration takes form in Children's Christmas at the Old State Capitol, Christmas Floral Display at the Washington Park Botanical Gardens and Carols at the Carillon.

Springfield is easy to get to. The Amtrak station is only a few blocks from the Ramada Renaissance Hotel. Trains depart from Chicago several times a day and round trip fare currently is \$45.00. The driving is easy as well, via a major expressway (I-55) direct from Chicago to Springfield. From the north side of Chicago, and through Bloomington/Normal, the trip to Springfield is about a 3½ hour drive.

So why not take a late-Fall vacation? Visit the North Central Turfgrass Exposition and Springfield, too! For more information about the NCTE call 312/644-0828.

"Seasonal Changes"

Fall is in, Summer is out,

That's what September is all about.

While We enjoyed Summer's treat,

Enough for pressures and excessive heat.

So Welcome to Fall's timely intrusion,

Goodbye Dog Day's, and false illusions.

Seasonal changes bring new directives,

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Kenneth R. Zanzig

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T. R.'s Treasure Hunt

I had an idea about two weeks ago. Every once in a while I get a brainstorm. They usually fail, but this time I think that I beat the odds and came up with a real humdinger. Believe it or not: it works too!

At the Cantigny Golf Club we have a serious problem with litter. I know that all golf clubs face this same problem, but we also have a retired army colonel as our vice president of operations. If you have ever been on a military installation the one thing that you will not see is litter. Needless to say that our Colonel expects the same spotless look at our club which is a good program, but I would rather difficult to put in motion. My crew is by no means lazy, but the Colonel also has a peculiar problem with cigarette butts. He hates them. So aside from trash I had to get my crew to manually pick up butts.

Consequently I started my treasure hunt. I hung the following notice up by our timeclock:

Treasure Hunt

Our golf course is currently suffering from a disease of epidemic proportions. We are plagued by a sickness that every golf course in America suffers from daily. We are constantly being inundated by litter in monstrous proportions.

The disappointing thing about this problem is that nothing is being done about it and it is so easy to cure. Pleading, brow beating, and outright screaming has no effect on the litter; it still lays there and all that is needed to do is physically get off your butt and pick it up.

So I have decided to put a bounty on our trash. Papers, cans, small branches, cups and cup lids, and especially cigarette butts will be worth money — good old American green backs!

This is how the plan will work. I will personally mark 'some not all' of the above named trash. The value of the litter will be as follows:

- 15 minutes
- 30 minutes
- 45 minutes
- 1 hour
- 1 cup full of butts=1 hour

For example: If someone finds a paper with a 15 on it, he will receive 15 minutes credit towards one hour of time off with pay. You can bank your hours until you have earned one hour and go home an hour early with pay.

The beauty of this is that the employee will have to pick up the paper to look for a number value. Hopefully a prudent employee will not toss the litter back on the ground.

No cheating will be allowed! So don't save your cigarette butts! I will personally look through them to make sure that they are not all the same brand.

It's a sorry thing that such an easy problem has to be resolved in this manner but I feel that it is a feasible solution that in the long run will keep our course in the number one caliber that it belongs.

Happy Hunting, T.R.

After my crew read this notice the results were remarkable. In one day I got back twelve cups of butts! The following days a steady supply of litter and butts came flowing in. I knew at first that I would get creamed in giving free time out, but once the litter and butts got under control and their numbers reduced

(cont'd. bottom page 5)

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(T. R.'s Treasure Hunt cont'd.)

ed so did the cost of time off. Now about a cup or two a day comes under my scrutiny and everyone at the course is very-pleased.

So if you want to clean up your course and can afford some free time off for your crew, you will find this to be an inspiring way to rid yourself of the plague that reeks us all — LITTER!

Tony Rzadzki, Asst. Supt.
Cantigny Golf Club

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Eight Year Turf Field Day Hubbard, Oregon — June 20-21, 1990

by Anthony Meyer

Each year for the last eight years on the third Thursday of June is Field Day at the Research Farm near Hubbard, Oregon, which is sponsored by Bill Rose, President of Turf Seed, Inc., and Dr. Bill Meyer, President of Pure Seed Testing, Inc. Tee 2 Green is the company that does the marketing of bent grasses. Also on display was Turf-Seed's wildflowers called "Bloomers" and Crystal Rose-Frickers, U. S. Coordinated Wildflower trial located on the research farm.

Marge & I flew out to Portland and participated Wednesday, which was for the growers, and Thursday for others interested in viewing the Performance Trials at the largest independent research facility in United States, 105 acres. The visitors were given an overview of turf grass development in the works. There has been tremendous improvements, especially in ryegrasses and tall fescues. They have developed endophyte enhanced turf grasses with improved insect resistance and stress tolerance. Varieties are now genetically darker and more dwarf, with lower fertility requirements. The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program has a unique uniform grading system that is used at Pure Seed, Inc. Research Farm so that they can make intelligent appraisals of the progress made.

The special guest speaker this year was Dr. Garrick Latch, director of the DSIR Grasslands Research Division in Palmerston, New Zealand. He has been working with newly discovered endophytes that are toxic to insects, but do not affect grazing animals. This is the first year that experiments are being made with pasturing sheep on endophyte induced grass in New Zealand.

We are certainly proud of our son, and the progress he has made in his research program.

Voting Delegate's Report

The By-Laws Committee of GCSAA is considering a possible change in the election process of our Directors and Officers. The following alternatives are under consideration:

1. Leave delegate voting just as it is.
2. Leave delegate voting as it is except eliminate secret ballots. All delegates will be required to cast a voice vote at the annual meeting.
3. Members vote individually by "mail in ballot" prior to the conference with election results announced at the annual meeting.
4. Voting members either mail in individual ballots in advance of the conference or vote individually during the conference with the election results announced at the annual meeting.

If you have any strong feelings concerning this issue please send them, in writing, to me prior to the end of the year. The association will be represented by myself in Las Vegas. Roger Stewart will serve as our alternate delegate. We are currently working at improving our voting strength prior to the annual meeting. We are presently the fourth largest chapter in the country which is impressive since we are not a statewide chapter like Florida or California. Please let us know your opinions so that we may represent the wishes of the MAGCS.

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Bob Williams Elected to Illinois PGA Hall of Fame

Bob Williams is the first Golf Course Superintendent to be elected to the Illinois PGA Hall of Fame. Bob is to be inducted into the PGA Hall of Fame on September 14, 1990. Anyone wanting tickets for this event can call the Illinois PGA office at (708) 990-7999.

A little background to Robert M. Williams. He was first introduced to golf as a caddy at the Onwentsia Club. He decided on a career in turfgrass management and graduated from the University of Massachusetts. Upon graduation he worked for three years as assistant at Medinah C.C. and then to an assistant at the Ohio State University courses. He served three years in the military during World War II. After the service he became superintendent at the Beverly C.C. for twelve years. In 1959 he started at Bob O'Link G.C. and retired there in 1980.

He has published many articles and has lectured for all of the various golf association seminars and numerous Universities and Colleges. He is the past president of our local and national association. He claims his greatest achievement was in the training of 67 student trainees who are now superintendents or in related fields all across the country.

His wife, Roberta, and he will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary next year.

Bob, congratulations on this honor, and we thank you for your leadership and guidance.

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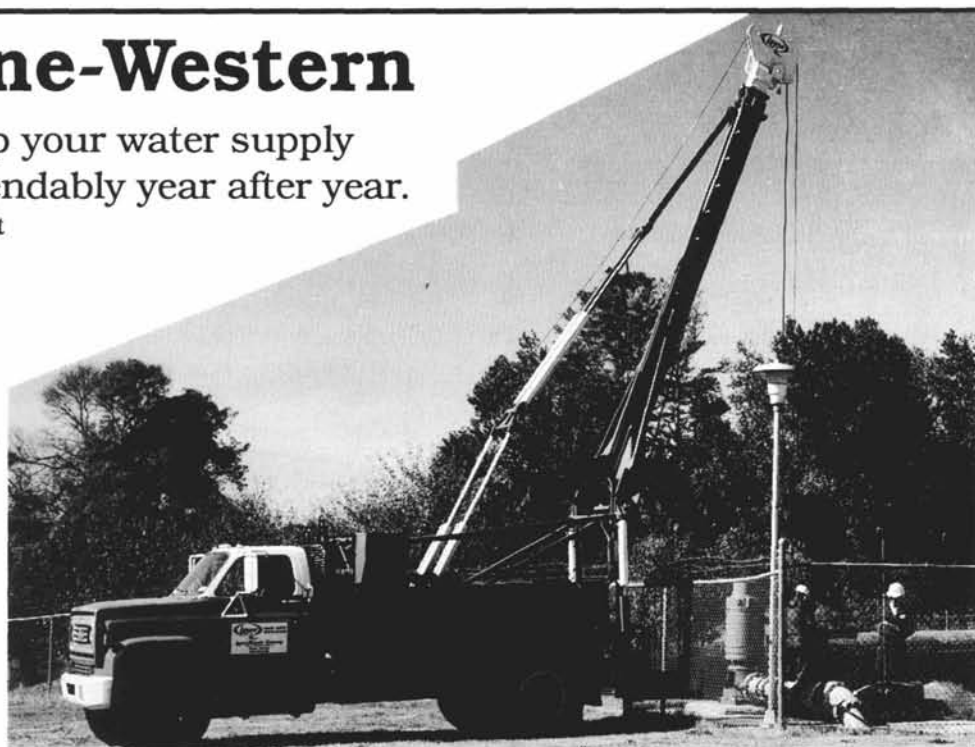
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Noise/Nuisance Ordinance

by Brian Green, C.G.C.S.

Seldom, if ever, do I think of myself as a noisy individual. But talk to some of the new golf course neighbors and you'd think I'm the loudest man in town. In fact, your neighbors at your courses might be thinking of you in a similar manner. Add to this a loosely written Nuisance Ordinance and you may find yourself caught in the middle of neighbors' opinion, police enforcement and a demanding golf membership. Such has been this spring's experience at Sunset Valley in Highland Park.

We're a public operations, in the 50,000 round category, that in good weather can't get any more crowded with golfers. As one fellow said, "It's like a river of golfers starting at dawn steadily flowing continuous foursomes till dark." It's our job to get out in front of this stream to set up the course for a day of play. So everyday at 5:00 a.m. machinery is heading out for the front nine. This normal maintenance scheduling has been taking place for over sixty years.

One thing in life that is constant is change. Two things in particular have changed over the last twenty years that we're all too aware of. First, this decade of regulation, the new and improved Nuisance Ordinance for example. Second, our neighbors have changed from wooded lots and flood plain wetlands to houses or condominiums, all housing many opinions of our operations.

After several stand-offs with our Police Department responding to calls about noise before the ordinance guidelines of 7:00 a.m. weekdays and 9:00 a.m. on weekends, I realized that this uncomfortable situation of refusing to bring the machinery off the course and the police just trying to do their enforcement bit could go on all summer. The new neighbors simply could call every morning of this season getting a quick response from the police. At this point we decided to approach the City Council for a waiver of the Noise/Nuisance Ordinance in order to continue our operations of providing a well maintained course for the golfing public's enjoyment.

In order to establish grounds for a waiver, we needed to gather a lot of background information. Included in this information was a chart of decibel readings that we had done with a hand held dB meter. We tried to compare our noise with other familiar sounds at a distance simulating our closest neighbors approximately 100 feet.

Distance	Machine	Average dB Reading
1. 100 feet (fenceline)	A Toro Triplex Mowing A Green (Mowing Noise)	63 dB
2. 100 feet	A Single Automobile Traveling at 30-35 m.p.h. (Road Noise)	64 dB
3. 100 feet	A Small Pick-Up Truck Traveling at 30-35 m.p.h. (Road Noise)	69dB
4. 100 feet	A Regular Rotary Mower Cutting a Homeowner's Yard (Mowing Noise)	70 dB
5. 100 feet	A Sand Raking Machine Raking a Sand Trap	61 dB
6. Inside Home (8 feet)	An Air Conditioner Running Inside the Home	65 dB

***A special note: We were not able to record ANY elevated noise levels of our operations from our greensmowers, sand pro or golf carts inside a building with windows closed.**

To further check our statistics, we talked with Toro Manufac-

(cont'd. page 10)



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(Noise/Nuisance Ordinance cont'd.)

turing. They confirmed our findings and added that a better muffler system has not been looked into because they meet all federal noise standards and the demand for quieter machines has not been voiced.

Keep in mind, we've done probably everything that your club is doing before we got to this point. For example, always avoid neighbors' homes till the last part of mowing schedule, avoid using loud equipment like rotaries, diesel tractors, blowers and weed eaters till later in the morning, and always try to reach an understanding with any complaint. Also, we never use any tractors before noon on weekends, mowing only Saturday afternoons. All these adjustments were for about seven complaints in the last eight years, three of these being this spring.

It took two appearances in front of the City Council, coupled with hours of background information and fifty local golfers to get our need for a waiver expressed. The Council majority approved a waiver for greensmowers only and for this public course only. It felt like a small victory considering other work that needs to be done and also the five private clubs in the area that were not considered.

Towards the end of the City Council meeting a lawyer spoke up on our behalf that could help all clubs in this situation. He said that this Nuisance Ordinance is so loosely written it's not enforceable. He added if someone tries to hamstring your golf maintenance operation with use of such an ordinance, you should find an easy victory in the courts. Other supportive comments were from the Council itself saying "Local residents certainly

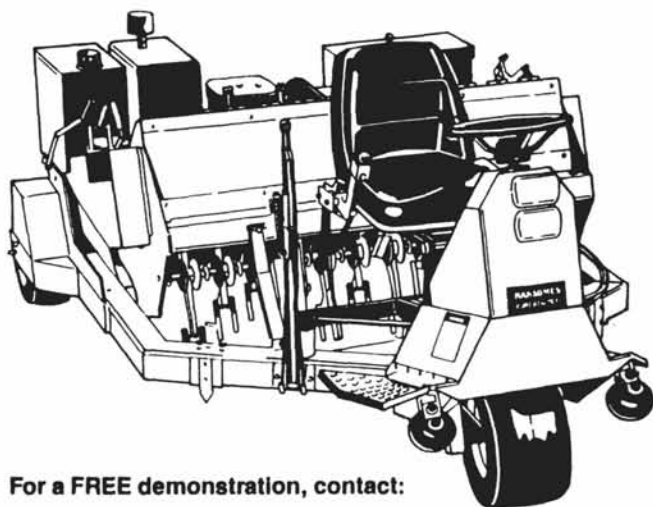
knew the course was there when they moved in" and "To vote against a golf course in this day and this town is like voting against a church or religion."

Any clubs feeling a similar pinch should feel free to contact me. Also remember we all have a lot of support in our communities, people that have no problem donating time and energy when it comes to looking out for the golf courses.



*Our Hosts for the July Meeting
Pat and Ted Mochel
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