

**THE BULL SHEET, official publication of the  
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## President's Message

The recent survey concerning your monthly MAGCS newsletter proved very interesting. There were definitely some strong opinions expressed. Pro or con, I was happy to see so many of our members take an active interest and respond to the survey. This proved to be an excellent forum for our membership. While our members could not come to a total agreement on all of the topics, it was definitely a unanimous decision that our editor, Fred Opperman, is doing an outstanding job. Being the editor of a newsletter has a lot of things in common with being a golf course superintendent. At times it can be a thankless job. Nobody notices the good job you are doing when all is running well but everyone notices when you make a mistake. Getting people to write articles is like getting members to fix ballmarks. Amateur journalists and their criticism parallel card room agronomists.

On behalf of the membership, my sincere thanks to Fred for his continued success with the **Bull Sheet**. Fred had some tough shoes to fill following Ray Gerber as our editor. He was up to the task and has kept our publication in national prominence. We may not win many awards with the GCSAA Newsletter Editors' Contest, but we can be proud of having a very effective communication tool that meets the needs of our membership.

The next time you pick up a copy of our wonderful publication, take a minute to consider the efforts of our editor each month. Send Fred some information or an article that could be sued. None of us are professional journalists. Most superintendents write a column for their club newsletter. Please take a few minutes and share your thoughts or ideas with the rest of the membership. Also, don't forget to support our advertisers. It would not be possible to produce the superb quality of our newsletter without the financial support of our advertisers.

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

## Director's Column



### Those Were the Days

by Ed Braunsky, Geneva Golf Club

What a summer so far! With all the heat, lack of moisture and high humidity, I often wonder if this is what it was like 50 or 60 years ago.

Since we just honored those grand old "supers" we call seniors, I thought it would be neat to look back at activities and maintenance programs of years past.

I came upon some old copies of the *Bulletin of the Green Section of the United States Golf Association*. One copy was dated Volume 5, 1925 and the other Volume 8, 1928. The *Bulletins* have twelve months of information with about eight articles and thirty pages per month.

The 1925 volume has an article in January titled **"Building a Nine Hole Course for \$4,000"**. The article talks about how the labor, irrigation, seed, manure ("PU"), chemical fertilizer, tile and fence material would come in at \$3,934.88. With the change you could take the crew to Burger King in the horse and buggy. It also talks about how the actual construction would need to be done and monitored. "Cooperation of the membership in the actual labor of construction, and daily supervision by the one in charge means a saving of a large portion of the ordinary expenses by promoting a good spirit among the workmen and forestalling costly mistakes." Other points include: "There is under consideration a plan to secure a house that will serve as the greenskeeper's residence and provide the club members with two locker rooms with showers, a lounging room, and a porch that will permit, if desired, the selling of soft drinks and light lunches by the greenskeeper's wife". I will save that last one for my wife when she complains about not getting out much. The article closes with "If Britain can give good golf on 18-hole courses for five or six guineas (is that as in pig?), we can give it in Oberlin on a 9-hole course for twenty dollars. Other articles for the 1925 volume include: **"Destroying Pocket Gophers"**, **"How to Use Manure"**, and **"Winter-Killing in the Chicago District"**, which quotes Mr. Leonard Macomber, Green Chairman CDGA. He states, "We had a pretty bad ice storm in December and the *Poa trivialis* and of course the *Poa annua* patches have been entirely killed out, many of the greens being very badly spotted. This is especially noticeable at Exmoor, Flossmoor, Indian Hill, Evanston, and in fact at practically all of the older courses where *poa* species are found in the greens." Did I say this was 1925? Sounds more like spring 1991.

The 1928 Volume offers such gems as **"Controlling Fairway Weeds with Sulphate of Ammonia"**, **"Parasite Control of the Japanese Beetle"** and **"An Unusual Golf Course Pest."** The unusual pest story goes like this. "A recent letter from Mr. L. W. Kephart, who has spent several months in plant exploration in East Africa for the USDA, tells of a problem that greenskeepers encounter in some parts of that country, but with which they are never likely to be confronted in the US. In speaking of the golf course in Jinga on the north shore of Lake Victoria in the Province of Uganda, he says, 'In the evening, Bill and I took a stroll out across the beautiful golf course that has been built along the hillside overlooking the Lake and Falls. The Jinga golf course is, undoubtedly, distinguished from all other golf courses on earth, by reason of the fact that one of the chief difficulties of its manager is keeping the hippopotamuses off the greens. I have no doubt that many an inebriated American golfer has seen green crocodiles and purple hippos in his sleep, but they are a sure enough hazard. One evening, not long ago, a dance was held at the golf club. During an intermission, two couples went out for a stroll across the grass in the moonlight. Coming to a nicely shaded mound, they sat down to enjoy the moonlight. With an enormous grunt, the mound raised up beneath them, scattering the couples wildly in all directions, and moved off. Since then the Jingitas have chosen other scenes for their moonlight sonatas. It must be discouraging for a greenskeeper to have his carefully nurtured turf devoured in one gulp by a pensive hippopotamus' ".

As you can see, way back when, the same type of problems existed. If anyone wishes to look over these two Volumes, give me a call — 708/232-0627.

I will end this here since I need to jump on the Cushman to patrol for hippos.



### The USGA® Equitable Stroke Control (ESC) Procedure

ESC is the downward adjustment, for handicap purposes, of unusually high scores on individual holes which, if included in the 18-hole score, would be abnormally high in relation to the player's general ability. Each player is responsible for adjusting his score in accordance with the formula below before it is returned for handicap purposes.

On completion of each round, adjust your actual score as follows for USGA Handicap System purposes:

Course Handicap	Limitation on Hole Score
Plus or scratch	Limit of one over par on any hole.
1 through 18	Limit of two over par on number of holes equal to handicap. Limit of one over par on balance of holes.
19 through 36	Limit of three over par on as many holes as the handicap exceeds 18 strokes. Limit of two over par on balance of holes.
37 through 54	Limit of four over par on as many holes as the handicap exceeds 36 strokes. Limit of three over par on balance of holes.

For example, a player with a USGA Handicap Index of 21.8 who has a Course Handicap of 23 at a course with a relatively high Slope Rating would be allowed a maximum score of three over par on five holes and a maximum score of two over par on each of the remaining 13 holes. A player with a Course Handicap of 12 would be allowed a maximum of two over par on 12 holes and a maximum of one over par on each of the remaining six holes.

If a player starts but fails to complete a hole, he shall, for handicap purposes only, record a score for the hole in accordance with the above formula. There is no limit on the number of incomplete holes in a round provided incompleteness is not for the purpose of controlling the handicap. A player should not discontinue play on a hole when there is a reasonable chance that he will play the hole in fewer strokes than the score allowed by ESC.

New golfers who have not established USGA Handicap Indexes should assume the USGA maximums of 36.4 for men and 40.4 for women — converted to the Course Handicap.

Example of application of ESC for a golfer with a course handicap of 23:

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	TOTAL
Par	4	3	4	4	4	5	4	3	5	5	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	71
Score	5	5	4	6	5	8	6	8	7	9	11	3	7	6	4	4	7	5	110
Over Par	1	2	0	2	1	3	2	5	2	4	7	0	3	2	0	1	3	1	—
ESC Adjustment								-2		-1	-4					-1			102

A player with a course handicap of 23 strokes must adjust downward any hole score in excess of three over par. He is allowed a maximum of five hole scores of three over par; beyond that, the maximum allowable score for any hole is two over par. On the scorecard above, he has six scores of three over par or more. Accordingly, he must reduce to three over par the scores on the holes on which he scored more than three over par, and he must reduce to two over par the score on one of the holes on which he scored three over par. The 17th was selected arbitrarily to be lowered two over par. ESC is not related to the allocation of handicap strokes to the holes of a course.

For additional information on the USGA Handicap System, refer to the *USGA Handicap System and Golf Committee Manual*.

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## June 10, 1991 Naperville C.C. MAGCS Meeting Golf Prizes Awarded

Prize money available — 95 players X \$7.00 = \$665.00

Solid Shirts — 8 \$140.00

Pattern Shirts — 11 \$275.00

Pattern Sweaters — 2 \$ 70.00

Vest — 1 \$ 15.00

Fee to Pro for score

keeping \$125.00

Total Spent \$625.00

Percentage of players that won prizes — 23%

At each event the goal is to award prizes to 25% of the participants. The exception to this is the Seniors event in July where we award a prize to each senior participant and the yearly MAGCS championship in September where we award 5 places in each flight which equates to 40-50% of the participants.

At each event the policy is to award prizes only to those players who are present at the meeting. If a member does not wish to stay for the education and awarding of prizes, he must not care if he wins or not and his prize will be forfeited. Forfeited prizes will not be re-awarded to additional players for the following reasons:

1. Due to the additional prizes awarded in July and September with no increase in prize money allotment in July and a minimal increase in September, any forfeited prize money allotments are transferred to prize funds for those meetings.

2. It is not always logistically possible; i.e. a member of a foursome is not present but 3 others are. Foursome prizes are awarded and we cannot award to all members of the next place foursome.

3. Due to the rising cost of meeting locations, the amount of money allotted to prizes is minimal and we are attempting to stretch it as far as possible.

I hope this explains the policies of the golf committee satisfactorily. We will be happy to answer any further questions at any time.

**Kerry Blatteau, Mike Bavier  
Golf Committee Co-Chairmen**



*Dave Blomquist, Supt. and Dr. Randy Kane at the June meeting at Naperville C.C.*

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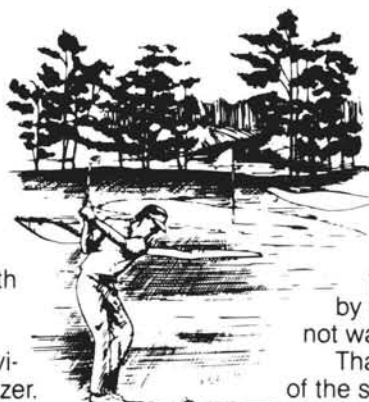
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## Divide Iris, Day Lilies, Spring Bulbs Now

by James A. Fizzell, Sr. Ext. Adviser  
Horticulture, U. of I.

August is the month to divide perennials such as day lilies, iris, and the spring flowering bulbs, like tulips, daffodils and crocuses. These plants tend to become overgrown after a number of years and flowering is reduced.

Carefully dig the plant clumps from the ground. Shake off as much soil as possible. Gently scrub off the remaining soil so that the root structure may be examined. Spread the bulbs out to dry. Be sure to label them so you know what is what.

Examine the iris and daylily roots (rhizomes). With a sharp knife, cut out all injured or diseased parts and discard them. Then divide the rhizomes into clumps, having a large piece of rhizome and at least two fans of leaves. Large divisions will flower next year. Small divisions may take an extra year.

After they have dried sort the bulbs by size, discarding the diseased bulbs. The largest bulbs will flower next spring. You may wish to plant the smaller ones in a nurse bed to develop for a year or two.

Since perennials will occupy the same spot in the garden for several years, work the soil carefully, adding bone meal and organic matter to improve fertility and drainage.

Dust the rhizomes and bulbs with a good fungicide before planting. The rhizomes should be spaced 12 to 18 inches apart, and planted one to two inches deep in the prepared soil. Water them in thoroughly with a trickle hose.

Plant the bulbs at the correct depth. This varies from type to type. Plant in groups for immediate effect next spring. If the soil has been worked up well, bulbs can be planted by hand, or use a bulb planter.

If you are planning to start a new flower garden, plants, divisions, and bulbs are available in garden centers now.

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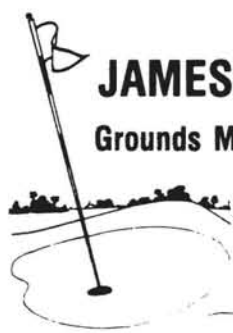


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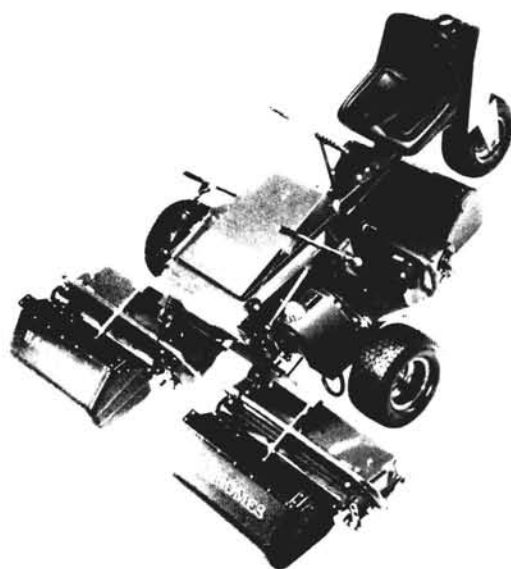
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# THE PAPER MAKERS

by Chet Ryndak, Naturalist



From late summer until the first hard frost of autumn, the most frequent telephone calls to our nature centers relate to "bee" problems. Usually, the actual problem animals or culprits are not bees but wasps. During mild autumn weather, these insects gather on ripened fruit, harass picnickers, fly about the sides of buildings (seeking out the warmth of the sun) and cruise into the interiors of homes (hunting for food or a place to winter over). Wasps prey upon other insects and are largely meat eaters. When swatted at, wasps are quick to retaliate and to turn the tables. Female wasps are armed with a stinger, which can be used several times in succession, and will furiously defend their nest.

Ants, bees, and wasps all belong to the same group of insects, the order of *Hymenoptera*. Many of the species in this order are called "social" insects. They live in a "colony" consisting of a queen, a mated female, who does the egg-laying; unmated females, the workers, who do most of the chores; and drones, a colony's only males, who mate with new queens. Workers, who make up the majority of the colony's population, function under a caste system in the division of labor.

The bald-faced hornets, the yellow jackets, and a species called the paper wasps are grouped together as "paper wasps," because they rear their young in intricate cells of paper similar in appearance to the honeybee's

wax comb. These wasps are the world's finest paper makers, constructing their paper nests from chewed pieces of wood and paper. An egg is laid in each chamber and the grubs are fed by the queen and later by infertile female workers.

Quite conspicuously, the species named paper wasp builds an umbrella-like comb which is suspended by a short stem from beneath eaves, windowsills and other over-hanging structures on houses; or in trees and shrubs. The queen hibernates in winter, using the walls of a building or crevices in logs or trees as a hiding place. When she emerges in the spring, she constructs a small wood-pulp nest, made up of only a few cells. After the first eggs are laid and hatched, she busily feeds the growing larva until they cover the cell with silk. Upon emergence, the wasp is now an adult worker who aids in feeding young and nest building. The nest usually reaches a diameter of four to six inches. Toward the end of summer, males and queens are produced. Mating occurs, and the young queens go into hibernation. The workers and males do not survive.

The bald-faced hornet builds an oval nest, which can be larger than a basketball. It is suspended from the branch of a tree or anchored amongst the stems in a bush. The nest contains many levels of paper combs and has an outer covering made up of sheets of gray to brown paper. A bald-faced hornet nest can contain thousands of hornets. They are extremely aggressive to any intruder. When summer is over, workers and males perish and only the young queens survive by hibernating.

In contrast, a yellow jacket's nest is built within something else such as in the ground, in hollow trees, stumps, and in the outside walls of houses. The paper combs are in layers, enclosed in sheets of brown paper. Other

than nest location, this wasp's life style is similar to the two species described above. It is the species commonly found around areas used by people.

To avoid being stung by wasps and bees, there are some precautions you can take. When being pestered by a wasp or bee, rather than swatting at the insect, walk away from it. By trying to shoo them away, they can become more aggressive. When on a picnic, keep food covered so as not to attract wasps. Also, use bottled pop rather than canned soda. An open pop can becomes an invitation to a yellow jacket or bald-faced hornet. Once in the can, the risk of being stung in the mouth or throat can become quite real. If you have fruit trees, remove any fallen or rotting fruit, as this becomes a congregating place for wasps. If a hornet nest should be built in your yard, avoid removing it until the first hard frost. If the nest is in a precarious position, where there is constant danger of someone being stung, then a competent animal removal agency should be contacted to eliminate the nest. Rotting or hollow railroad ties and any rotting timbers in flower or vegetable gardens should be removed, for they offer ideal locations for yellow jacket nests. Also mortar should be tuck-pointed and wood frame structures caulked tightly, to prevent the yellow jackets from nesting in the home. Using petroleum jelly, Vaseline, in the ceilings of bird nesting boxes usually stops the paper wasp from building its nest, which will aid both the nesting bird and the person monitoring or examining the box.

A word to the wise, let it bee, even if it isn't!

Forest Preserve District of Cook County

Editor's Note: Any person who is stung and then shows signs of high blood pressure, nausea, high temperature or other allergic symptoms should call a physician.

(cont'd. page 10)



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Country Club 8-4-24* 100% Sulfate of Potash	Greens Fall Fairway Year Round	30%	12,000*

The particle sizing is a small homogeneous granulation for less mower pickup.

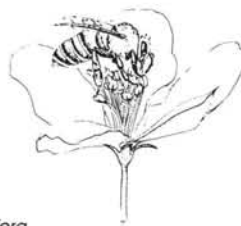
Brian McGuffin

**Lebanon**  
TOTAL TURF CARE

1332 Reichert Road Crete, IL 60417 (708) 672-7537

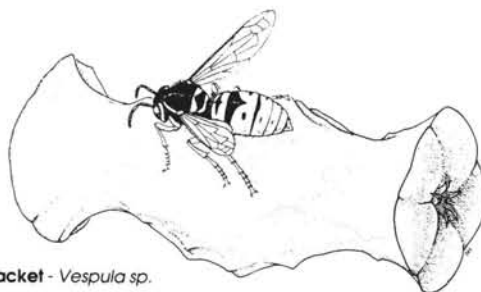
## Bees & Wasps

Illustrations by Nancy Halliday, Naturalist  
Forest Preserve District of Cook County



Honeybee - *Apis mellifera*

**Size:** worker 1/2 in., drone 3/4 in., queen 3/4-1 in.  
**Body Color & Characteristics:** Black base color with orange (or amber) colored bands. Body very hairy.  
**Nest Type:** Wax combs with hives developed within a protective structure i.e. commercial hives, building walls, hollow trees and the like.



Yellow Jacket - *Vespa sp.*

**Size:** 3/4 in.  
**Body Color & Characteristics:** Blue-black base color with bright yellow stripes encircling the abdomen. Body smooth and glossy.  
**Nest Type:** Paper comb built below ground in tunnels or under other protective cover i.g. the siding of buildings.  
**Comment:** This wasp is the nuisance at most picnics. It's the species that goes after soda, hot dogs, pastry and the like.



Paper Wasp or Polistes - *Polistes sp.*

**Size:** 3/4 in.  
**Body Color & Characteristics:** Blue-black base color with bright yellow stripes encircling the body and orange patches on the abdomen. Body smooth and glossy with the abdomen very tapered at the front (waspish waist).  
**Nest Type:** Umbrella-shaped paper comb, suspended from beneath an overhanging protective structure i.e. windowsills, roof eaves, soffits etc.  
**Comment:** This wasp and its nest is the most common species observed around the home.



Bald-faced Hornet - *Vespa maculata*

**Size:** Worker & drone 3/4 in., queen 1 in.  
**Body Color & Characteristics:** Blue-black base color with yellow or white bands or patches at tip of abdomen. Body mostly smooth and glossy with some hair and having a chunky appearance.  
**Nest Type:** Paper comb in a ball shaped nest suspended from tree branch.  
**Comment:** This docile species is frequently seen in yards stripping fiber off of weathered wood.



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