



A concrete wall was installed at the waterfall's spillway to avoid erosion, and was then hidden with outcropping stones. By the time we got around to installing the rocks lining the creek, last fall's rains threw us a curve ball in the mud. With it being too muddy for the skid loader, we finished placing the rocks using straps attached to an excavator backhoe which I enjoyed operating. The rocks lining the creek were placed directly on the Geotextile fabric so water would not flow under the outcropping stones, and grades were not as crucial.

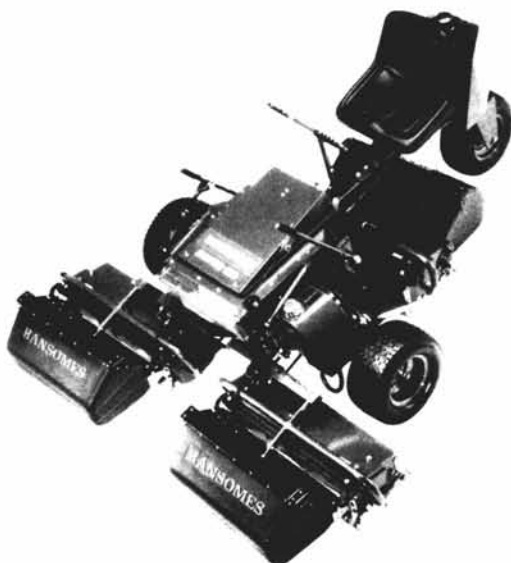
The retention pond which is less dramatic, is lined with cobblestones to accommodate the fluctuating water levels caused from runoff. The submersible recirculating pump, which is housed in a concrete vault, uses 2-4" stone to filter the water, and pumps the water back to the upper pond before the waterfall.

We hoped to complete all of the grassing last fall, but with the terrible weather, we'll have to finish the sodding and landscaping this spring. The membership is pleased enough already though to talk about changing the picture on the scorecard.

I'm looking forward to finishing the project and get ready for the tee and bunker renovations planned for 1992. "Never a dull moment!"



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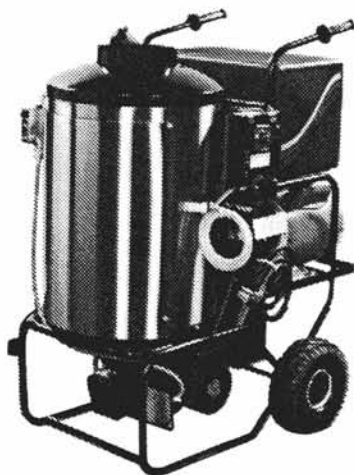
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## Grass Composting Principles

by Ray S. Ayer

1. Keep proper carbon/nitrogen ratio
2. provide aeration to keep material aerobic
3. provide 60% moisture
4. provide and maintain bacterial populations

1. Grass is very high in nitrogen and will give off ammonia gas and other smells like silage if not fixed with carbon. 30 parts carbon to 1 part nitrogen (30/1 ration). This translates out to about 2 parts leaves to 1 part grass. If leaves are not available cornstalks, sawdust, straw, dead weeds or other high carbon materials **must** be used. Grass alone **cannot** be successfully composted without having a slimy stinky mess.

### CARBON TO NITROGEN RATIOS

grass clippings	20:1
green leaves	40:1
dry leaves	80:1
sawdust/wood chips	500:1
dry straw	100:1
cow manure	20:1

2. If the material is not turned and mixed it **will** go anaerobic and smell bad. The entire pile must be mixed and turned once or twice a week. Leaves alone may be turned 3-5 times per year. The site must allow equipment to turn the material under varying weather conditions.

3. Material should be damp but not wet. This allows maximum bacterial action to break down the material. In the spring the material may stay wet enough, but if it gets too wet it drives out the oxygen and it will go anerobic. In the summer it may dry out and slow down the bacterial break down process. Water must be added to the center of the pile. The material may be turned during a rain storm if conditions allow.

4. The bacteria to digest anything is already on that thing. Thus the natural bacteria are already present, however conditions must be maintained to allow them to thrive and multiply. "Starters" are not normally needed although soil or manure may be added to give it a boost.

The above requires the application of the M & M's principle. Money, manpower, and motivation. None of the above will happen if the program is squeezed in between other duties. A person must be put in charge with adequate time, management support and money.

Credit: Patch of Green, 8/91

## Joseph Cain and Craig Gibson Receive Nor-Am Scholarships

John Turner, sales representative for Nor-Am Chemical Company presented two \$500.00 scholarships to senior, Joseph Cain and Craig Gibson from Purdue University. Both students were recognized at the Midwest Regional Turf Conference held in Indianapolis on January 21, 1992. The annual scholarship assists turfgrass students in meeting their educational needs and their professed interest in turfgrass management.

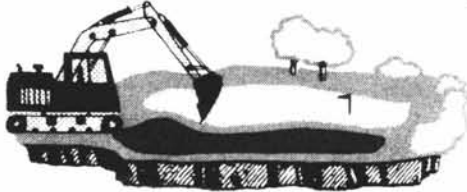
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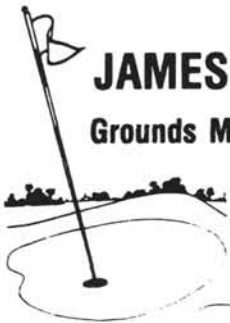
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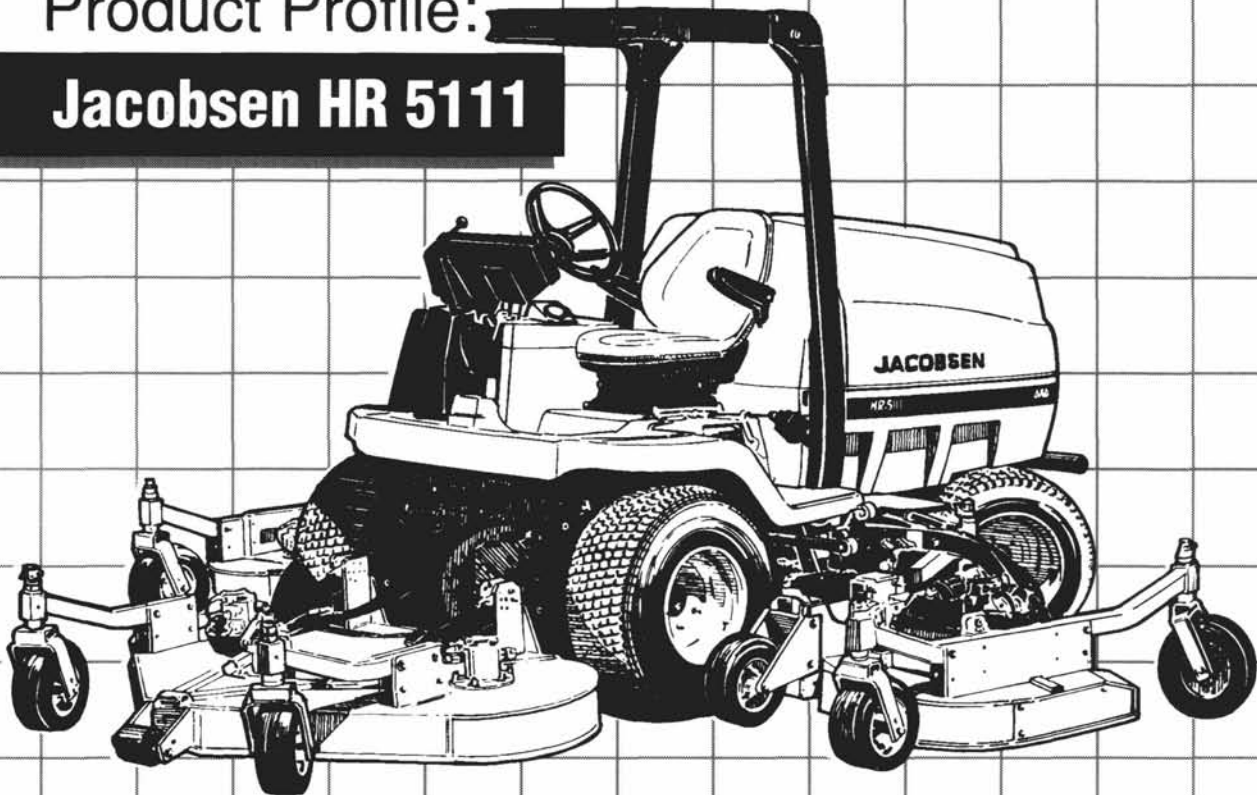


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# Hospitality Room in New Orleans

Photos by John Meyer



*Janet's twin with  
John Turner*



*Janet Good & Al Fierst*



*Bret Rush*



*Mr. & Mrs. Rory Bancroft*



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*Craig Joscelyn & Tom Prichard*



*Tracy Murphy & Jim Roberts*



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Richard Reed, Len Berg,  
Verlyn Strellner & Bob Maibusch*



*Mike Nass, John Lebedevs,  
Elizabeth & Andy Dauksas*



*Rennie Jacobson, Tracy Murphy,  
Trent Bradford*

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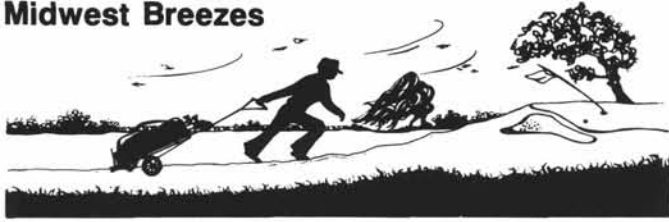
*Proceeds benefit Illinois Turfgrass Foundation research fund*

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## Midwest Breezes



## Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

- April 13** — MAGCS monthly meeting at Village Links, Glen Ellyn
- April 16** — Great Lakes USGA Regional meeting at Medinah C.C.
- May 4** — Combined Golf Day at Rock Island Arsenal G.C. and Short Hills C.C. in the Quad City area.
- May 6** — Joint meeting of Managers and Superintendents at River Forest C.C.
- June 22** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Flossmoor C.C.
- July 13** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Briar Ridge C.C.
- August 10** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Mt. Prospect C.C.
- August 17** — John Deere Tournament, location to be announced later.
- September 21** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Big Foot C.C.
- October 12** — MAGCS monthly meeting, Settlers Hill G.C.
- November 18** — MAGCS Clinic, location to be announced later.
- November 30, December 1 & 2** — NCTE at Pheasant Run Resort

### NECROLOGY

Donald Deuhr, former superintendent at Midlothian Country Club, and owner of Deuhr Excavating Company, Frankfort, IL passed away Feb. 29, 1992 after a lengthy bout with leukemia. Don was 62.

Don was a veteran of the Korean conflict, and inherited the superintendents position at Midlothian when his father, Ed Deuhr retired.

In his excavating business, Don worked for many area golf courses, installing wet wells, dredging ponds, etc. He catered to the superintendents whims and always "did things right the first time". A hard worker, a reliable friend.

Don was an active member of the German Lutheran Church in Orland Park. He was responsible for the completion of the church building program in 1991. Pastor Ledogar proclaimed "Deuhr was a doer".

Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Bernice; his mother, Lydia; his sister, Helen; and his younger twin brothers, Melvin and Mitz, who uphold the Deuhr tradition as superintendents of Midlothian Country Club today.

by Dudley Smith

Patrick Hulne is looking for an assistant's position. He has a BS in business and horticulture and has ten years in the landscape trades. Call him at 312/743-2987.

Ron Doruff at Chapel Hill C.C. is looking for an assistant. Call Ron at 815/385-0368.

George Hamilton has been appointed to coordinate the Penn State agronomy department's two-year turfgrass management program due to the retirement of Dr. Joe Duich. Hamilton is a graduate of the program who went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in agronomy from Penn State. He has also taught a variety of turfgrass courses and has been in charge of development for the university's Landscape Management Research Center since 1982. For information about the program, call 814/865-8301, or write to the Short Course Office, 306 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802.

Our old time friend and retired superintendent, Charles Shiley, was given a 50 year pin and a lifetime membership card with the GCSAA. Congratulations Charlie!

John Meyer of the Wilbut-Ellis Company has agreed to help out with the photos for your newsletter. This month he has pictures from New Orleans and he is also hoping to do articles each month on a different Superintendent. Please give your support to John on this endeavor.

Congratulations to MAGCS Directors, Debbie & Joel Purpur on the birth of their second child, Hayden, born 3/13/92. Hayden weighed in at 8 lbs. 4 oz.; Sue & Ed Braunsky with their second child, Emily Elizabeth, born 3/18/92. She weighed in at 7 lb. 2 oz.

Congratulations on newly weds, Debbie and Tod Hoppman on March 14, 1992.

We are still looking for a "few good men" to go white water rafting the 3rd weekend in September. See Joel Purpur or Fred Opperman.

Marty Baumann has changed jobs, from Mt. Prospect to Fresh Meadows.



*Here's a rugged group of guys at Whistler/Blackcomb Mountain, Vancouver, B.C. L to R: Mike Sauls, Dave Blomquist, Joel Purpur and Don Cross*

## "Magical Moments"

April's away in delightful style,  
Anticipation broadens that Springtime smile.  
Magical moments will soon reappear,  
Look around, They're already here.  
The Grass is growing, Mower's are singing,  
Course is open, Golfer's are swinging.  
Fortunate to be intertwined in Spring's endeavor,  
So Lucky to be, rather than clever.

Kenneth R. Zanzig

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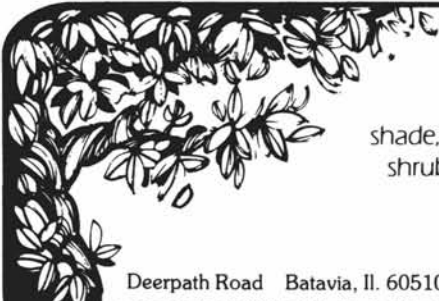


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# Getting to Know Your Fellow Members

by John Meyer



Our current president of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents is Ray Schmitz. Everyone knows that or everyone should. What most people don't know is what follows.

Ray was born April 30, 1937 in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. After graduating from St. Mary Springs Academy, Ray enlisted in the Air Force as a still photographer. During his four year enlistment Ray flew over 250 hours taking pictures of every golf course this side of Russia, just kidding.

After leaving the Air Force Ray attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison. There he studied agronomy and soils and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1964.

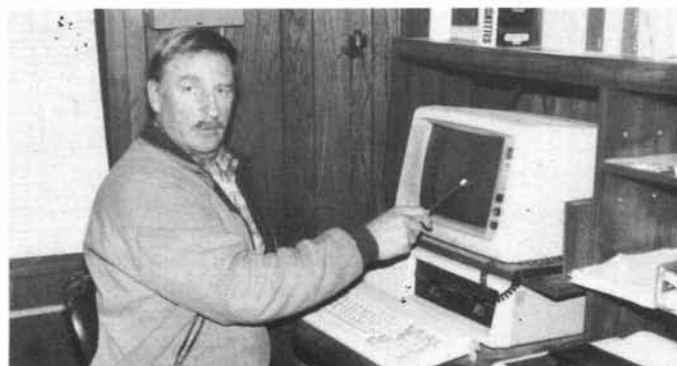
Ray's first job out of college was at the small nine hole Mount Horeb Golf Course in Mount Horeb, Wisconsin. Ray was only superintendent there one year before he moved up to Riverside Golf Course in Janesville, Wisconsin.

After two years in Janesville, Ray left the great state of Wisconsin for the great state of Illinois and a superintendent job at Hickory Hills Golf Club. Ray stayed at Hickory Hills for six years before he was asked to build Green Garden Country Club.

Ray was at Green Garden Country Club for six years before he accepted his current position at Flossmoor Country Club. Ray is now in his 14th season at Flossmoor.

Ray and his lovely bride, Jan, of 28 years reside in Frankfort. They have three sons, Mark, Andrew, and Todd. As well as one granddaughter Tiffonie Marie.

When Ray is not on his golf course or tending to the business of the Midwest he is on someone else's golf course playing in a weekly golf league. When the golf league is not happening the bowling league is.



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## “Flowers, Flowers & Flowers”

by Dean Bemis, National Accounts Mgr.  
Vaughan's Seed Co., Downers Grove, IL



A golf course superintendent and a greenhouse grower have a lot in common. First, both must deal with the growth of healthy plants; in your case, it's the establishment and maintenance of healthy grass plants. In the greenhouse industry, it's the establishment and maintenance of healthy flowering plants. The fruits of our labor are enjoyed by consumers during their leisure time, and are paid for out of expendable income. But the most important similarity between our two industries would be the sense of well being the customer derives from our endeavors! Since our two industries have so many similarities, let's explore how we might work more closely together for even greater success.

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If you are responsible for acquiring flowering annuals for your golfscape, perhaps you have visited a greenhouse and selected plant material from the varieties offered; in most cases, the result is satisfactory. But remember, most annuals presented for sale are selected by growers on the basis of greenhouse performance and profitability; in addition, crops must already be flowering in the "retail" environment for impulse purchasing by consumers. The ideal way to get good plant material is to "plan ahead". Annuals for the golfscape should be prescribed in a comprehensive plan outlining their use throughout the golf course. This plan should be completed early enough so growers can be lined up as suppliers **before** the sowing and growing season commences. If it's too late, do a plan **now** for the following season ... you'll be ahead of the game! If you would like professional help with your plan, contact me at 1-800-323-7253. By custom ordering your flowering annuals early in the season,

(cont'd. page 21)

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