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RESPONSES

12. Does your club provide a retirement program?
A. Yes 76 B. No 62
13. Do you have a self-funded retirement program?
A. Yes 90 B. No 48
14. How much life insurance does your club provide?
A. None 26
B. 10,000 33
C. 10,001-30,000 30
D. 30,001-50,000 20
E. 50,001 and above 29
15. Which of the following does your club pay for?
Mark all that apply:
A. GCSAA dues 131
B. GCSAA turf conference 118
C. Midwest monthly meetings 118
D. GCSAA Seminars 117
E. Chicago Seminars (NCTE, CDGA, Medinah) 124
16. Are you responsible for golf cart maintenance?
A. Yes 58 B. No 78
17. How many weeks of paid vacation do you receive?
A. 2 weeks 27
B. 3 weeks 35
C. 4 weeks 49
D. 5 weeks 12
E. 6 or more weeks 15
18. How many years have you worked at your present job?
A. Fewer than 6 63
B. 6-12 31
C. 13-18 25
D. 19-24 8
E. 25 or more 11
19. Are you a Certified Golf Course Superintendent?
A. Yes 41 B. No 96
20. Please mark the highest education level completed:
A. High School 14
B. Associate degree/2 year program 66
C. BA/BS 4 year college program 50
D. Graduate degree 3
E. Masters degree 5
21. How many holes do you manage?
A. 9 13
B. 18 102
C. 27 11
D. 36 9
E. More than 36 2
22. Are you permitted to use your club facilities?
A. Yes 88 B. Yes, with discretion 53 C. No 1
23. Does your club provide housing for any of the following?
Mark all that apply
A. Superintendent 13
B. Assistant Superintendent 14
C. Mechanic 0
D. Seasonal Employees 22
E. Does not provide housing 94

(Look for the NOVEMBER issue to publish the rest of the survey)

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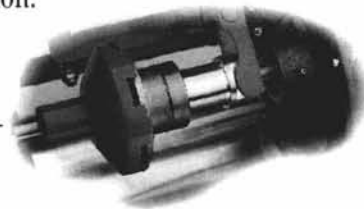
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Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

October 4 — MAGCS meeting at Bartlett Hills G.C.

October 20-22 — Technical Business Management seminars by the GCSAA, Willowbrook, Illinois

October 22 — Fall Dinner Dance at River Forest Golf Club

November 10 — MAGCS Turf Clinic at Medinah C.C.

November 30 - December 1 — NCTE at Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, Illinois

January 31 - February 7 — GCSAA Conference, Dallas, Texas

Nominating Committee Slate

by Ray Schmitz

Chairman, Nominating Committee

The following list of candidates for the Board of Directors of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents has been reviewed and accepted by the MAGCS Board of Directors. Elections will be held on November 10th at Medinah Country Club immediately following the MAGCS Annual Turf Clinic.

The slate of candidates will be as follows:

For the office of President: Alan Fierst

For the office of Vice President: Joel Purpur

For the office of Secretary-Treasurer: Donald Cross

For Director: Three directors will be elected for a two year term and one director will be elected for a one year term of office. Incumbent — Ed Braunsky, Incumbent — David Blomquist, New Candidates — Rory Bancroft, Donald Ferreri, and Robert Maibusch.

This is the slate of candidates presented by the nominating committee. However, there is always the opportunity for a class AA, A, or B member to nominate a class A member from the floor for any office of the MAGCS.

The MAGCS is a growing organization with many important decisions to be made in the near future. With this leadership I am convinced the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will continue to prosper and maintain its well respected image among the other chapters of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Congratulations are in order for a few more clubs that have been recently certified by the "Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System". Cantigny Golf Club, Village Links of Glen Ellyn and Evanston Golf Club have all been certified. This makes 5 clubs in the Chicagoland area, with Aurora and St. Charles being certified earlier in the year.

It comes as no surprise to us in the Midwest to see that John Shilling and Diana Green of the GCSAA have resigned. I guess the heat got too hot in the kitchen.

In the September 1993 issue of "National Geographic" there was a short article, "A Bubble Gum Flavor to Send Geese Packing." It seems that the flavor of grape bubble gum or soda is what the geese can't stand. The flavor comes from methyl anthranilate (MA), which is a chemical that occurs naturally in Concord grapes and citrus blooms. John Cummings, a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture is attempting to develop an MA-flavored microcapsule that can be sprayed on grass and remain for 40 days. Wouldn't that be nice ... It may put some of those four footed goose chasers out of business.

Lake Barrington Shores is still looking for a mechanic. Call Steve Cummins, Supt. at 708/382-3252.

With the fall over-seeding and new projects being done, please remember to save the "Blue Tags" and turn them in to Mike Bavier or Dudley Smith. Those tags are cash for research funds. Let's make an effort to save them.

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At their last MAGCS Board of Directors meeting it was voted on to send \$500.00 to the GCSAA Disaster Relief Fund. This fund is to help the various people who became homeless due to the widespread flooding. This fund will become a permanent part of the GCSAA S & R and any left-over monies will be carried over from year to year so it can be ready for the next flood, hurricane, earthquake or tornado. Individuals can send their donation to: GCSAA S & R, Disaster Relief Fund, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS, 66049. Be sure to mark "Disaster Relief Fund" on your check.

Sprinkler Irrigation is seeking Golf Sales and Golf Service persons for the Chicago area. Persons experienced in golf course management and irrigation installation or operation are wanted. Send resumes care of Stephen Eisele, CGCS, Golf Manager, Sprinkler Irrigation, 3105 N. Main, East Peoria, Illinois 61611, or call for information — 800-373-4120.

Glen Bereiter, Superintendent at Steeple Chase G.C. is looking to buy Roller Base Sprinklers for 1 inch hose. Call at 708/949-1419.

For Sale: 1990 Chevy Suburban, 83,000 miles, good condition. Call Fred Opperman 708/428-5009

Experiences with Wildflowers

by Tony Rzadzki, Cantigny Golf

In recent years the once infamous patch of weeds that had to be mowed has gained great popularity with the general public. I am referring to the current rave of wild flower planting. The wild look is in, and people are accepting the natural beauty that wildflowers can provide. With this favor in mind and the acceptance of the natural look versus the daily manicuring of high maintenance golf facilities, golf course superintendents should be jumping at the opportunity to naturalize areas on their golf courses, especially those that are involved in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.



Once established, a wildflower area can provide two things; a low maintenance area to care for, and a new habitat for native birds, insects, reptiles, and mammals.

Once established, a wildflower area can provide two things; a low maintenance area to care for, and a new habitat for native birds, insects, reptiles, and mammals.

I believe that all of us, if we look hard enough, can find areas even as small as your living room that could become a wildflower habitat. A small bed near a tee or green, possibly an area adjacent to a pond or even a pond bank, a two or three foot wide area that borders a tree line, any of these small areas would not have to be maintained once your bed is established. An area that was once turf or hard to maintain would now be covered with flowers!

What I would like to discuss in this article is the basic labor that is needed to establish wildflowers areas, and some alternatives that have also worked for me at my golf course.

Establishment

Once you have decided to establish wildflowers in an area no matter what the size, some basic preparations must be made. Any of the first three methods mentioned below can be used to remove the turf and create a bed.

1. Spray the area with herbicide to kill the turf.
2. Remove the sod with a sod cutter.
3. Disc, rototill, rake, or spade and rake smooth with a garden rake, gill tool, or harrow.
4. Once you have a nice planting bed and you used method number one to remove the turf, you may want to wait a week or more and respray any weeds that regenerate. Wait one more week then you are ready to sow your seeds.
5. Evenly spread your seeds and cover with ¼ in. of soil.
6. If you can, cover the area with a mulch or straw to help retain water and keep weed seeds out.
7. Keep your bed moist until plants have well established themselves. Water is critical to these plants for the first three weeks.
8. You will need to mow this area in late fall at a height of 4 inches. Leave the plants there, they provide a mulch for the new seeds that have been produced and spread by your mower.

(continued on page 17)

OFFICIAL NOTICE
ANNUAL MEETING
Midwest Association of
Golf Course Superintendents, Inc.
NOVEMBER 10, 1993
Medinah Country Club

AGENDA

- I. Roll Call
- II. Minutes of 1992 Annual Meeting
- III. Communications
- IV. Report of Officers
 - A. President, Tim Kelly
 - B. Vice President, Alan Fierst
 - C. Secretary/Treasurer, Joel Purpur
- V. Committee Chairman Reports
 - A. Arrangements, Kevin Czerkies
 - B. Education, Kerry Blatteau
 - C. Golf, Ed Brawnsky
 - D. By-Laws, Ray Schmitz
 - E. Employment, Tim Kelly
 - F. Membership, Mike Bavier
 - G. Long Range Planning, Don Cross
 - H. Public Relations, Dave Blomquist
 - I. Editorial, Fred Opperman
 - J. Executive Secretary, Penny Meyer
 - K. Past Presidents Council, Roger Stewart
 - L. Commercial Advisory Council, John Lebedevs
 - M. Benevolence, Mike Bavier
- VI. Unfinished Business
- VII. New Business
 - A. Annual Election
Slate of Candidates
For President—Alan Fierst
For Vice President—Joel Purpur
For Sec./Treas.—Don Cross
For Director
(3-2 year term, 1-1 year term)
Dave Blomquist, Ed Brawnsky
Don Ferreri, Rory Bancroft,
Bob Maibusch
 - B. Present New Board of Directors
 - C. Pass Gavel
- VIII. Adjournment

“Oktoberfest”

Mother Nature and Jack Frost have Their Day,
Planning October's delightful display.
Harvest the Crops, Enjoy the Feast,
Dance to the Music, the Halloween Beat.
Oktoberfest with It's colorful Leafy Blast,
The End of the Year's coming on fast.
Look at the Leaves, seems a bit Queer,
I thought We got rid of Them last year?

Kenneth R. Zanzig

WILDFLOWERS (continued from page 16)

9. Depending on your area a control burn can also be done, this helps keep out undesirable weeds and adds organic matter to the soil. Burn in late fall or early spring before nesting birds return and be sure to contact your local fire marshall before attempting this.

Probably the most important point that I will make in this whole article is this: be patient, **BE PATIENT, BE PATIENT!**

Probably the most important point that I will make in this whole article is this: be patient, BE PATIENT, BE PATIENT!

I believe that to a great extent patience was the demise of wildflowers in past years. The instant gratification that the planting of annual flowers provides is well understood by everyone. But, annuals require maintenance. Our society seems to be changing and if the words ... natural ... or environmentally friendly ... are used these days, whatever the subject, it is readily acceptable even if it takes some time to produce.

You as the sower of the seed understand the plant's physiology. You know that for the first months of your new wildflower area that your plants are going to look like weeds. You know that in a year the bed will look better and the following years that it will look gorgeous! Make sure that your greens chairman and committee understand this process. That depending on the type of wildflower seed that you use, this is a long term proposition, and that the end result will greatly benefit your golf club.

One thing that can be done if you are seeding a large area is to ask your chairman if you can put up a sign that says 'Habitat Production Area' or 'Wildlife Production Area'. This shows your golfers that you are concerned about your environment and that you are soon to have a natural habitat grace your course.

Alternatives

Wildflowers are beautiful but so are wild grasses. Grasses can provide you with an area that may not be as colorful, but the native texture may be just what you desire.

Native grasses such as fescue, switchgrass, buffalograss and the like require a different method of planting. If the area is clear and fairly weed free, loosen the soil to only a quarter of an inch deep and broadcast seed. Then roll the seed to get good seed to soil contact. Another method is to use a drill seeder. No till drilling or till drilling are both acceptable methods to show your seed. Grasses require firm soil so over tilling can prove detrimental to your project and also cause soil erosion.

One other method that we have used that I know most golf courses can achieve is to use a core aerifier. A pull behind aerifier instead of a self-propelled unit would probably perform better in tight soils, so if you have a large area and do not have a large tractor mounted rake or drill seeder, an aerifier can do the job.

Frost seeding is another method that we have used. If you have a fairly weed free area to seed, broadcast seed over the area. You can begin in early March. As winter leaves the moisture gathered in the spring and frost cracks allow the seed

(continued on page 18)

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to develop and germinate. Later in the year, mow the competing weeds, but not too short as to cause windrowing over your newly developing plants. If the area you choose has weed or turf cover on it and you would like to frost seed, chisel plow or disc the area in the fall and apply a herbicide. Then the following spring you will be ready for seeding.

Wildflower seed can be expensive. I have purchased seed and paid over \$600 to seed just two acres. Here are some alternative means to acquire seed that you may want to investigate before developing an area, especially if you are on a tight budget.

1. I am a member of Pheasants Forever. Pheasants Forever is a national organization dedicated to the 'protection and enhancement of pheasant and other wildlife populations'. If your course is located near a local chapter of Pheasants Forever, contact them. They may provide you with the seed and even plant it for you. Their national headquarters phone number is (612) 481-7142.

2. Contact your local soil conservation district, Department of Conservation, or your cooperative extension service. Some states or local agencies have programs available or may be able to inform you where you can get seed at a better rate.

3. Another method you could try is to **not** mow an area and let the natural grasses and wildflowers grow in. Later you could purchase potted wildflowers and plug them in throughout the area. These plants will seed and eventually more will develop.

4. One unique method that we have used is the propagation of native nuts, not local crazies, but oaks, hickory, chestnut, or walnut. On our course we collected hundreds of burr oak acorns, stratified them, then potted them. The seedlings that later developed, we transplanted into a 10 acre area that we have left unmowed for the last three years. The seedlings are growing well and our eventual goal is to create an 'Oak Savannah' in an area that was disrupted during original course construction.

5. Another plant market that could be pursued is the agricultural market. There is an enormous wealth of plant material available that has been developed in the Ag business, but for one reason or another may not be the most high yield grain that a farmer desires. Smaller varieties may suit some niche on your course. If you can imagine a field of waving wheat, or the scarlet, purple hues of a field milo in autumn, the outstanding habitat that they create for gamebirds and songbirds, it is hard to ignore the benefits that these products can give.

The thought of an agricultural plant on a golf course will raise eyebrows. Especially from green committees, but the right plant in the proper place can add stunning habitat. I planted a two acre plot of sorghum in an area that we once used as our compost dump. It is between two fairways and screened on one side by large oaks and the other side by a large wildflower berm. I did not sow the seeds in a row, but after discing the area, I simply broadcast the seed. I wanted to have the sorghum establish with the weeds because eyebrows were raised at my course about the use of an agricultural crop. Well, the end result was beautiful. The sorghum developed rapidly and outgrew the weeds so that the stalks and seed heads protrude at a perfect three and half foot height. I chose a variety that would not get over four foot high and become too overwhelming.

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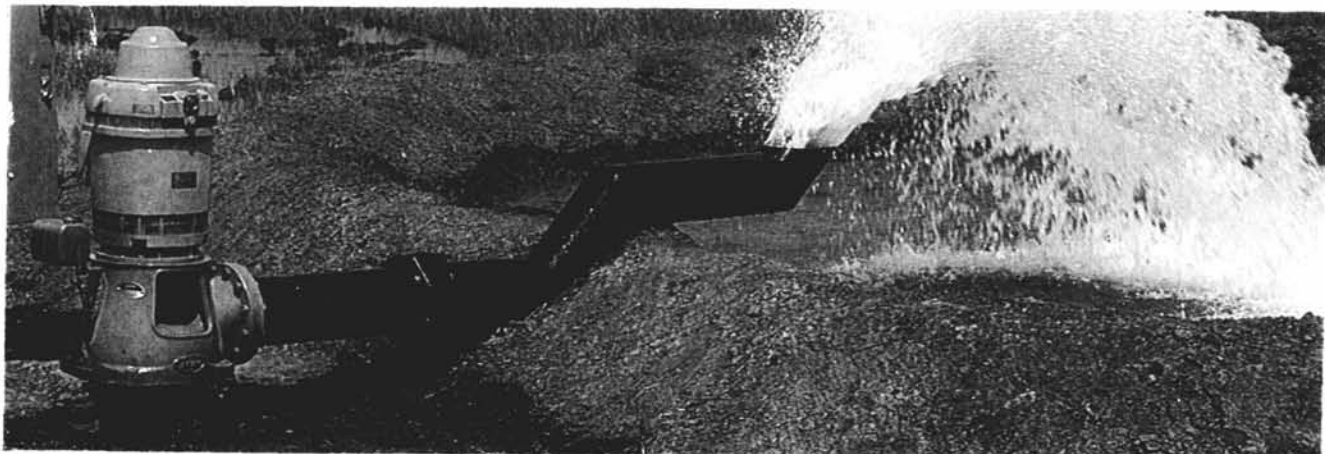
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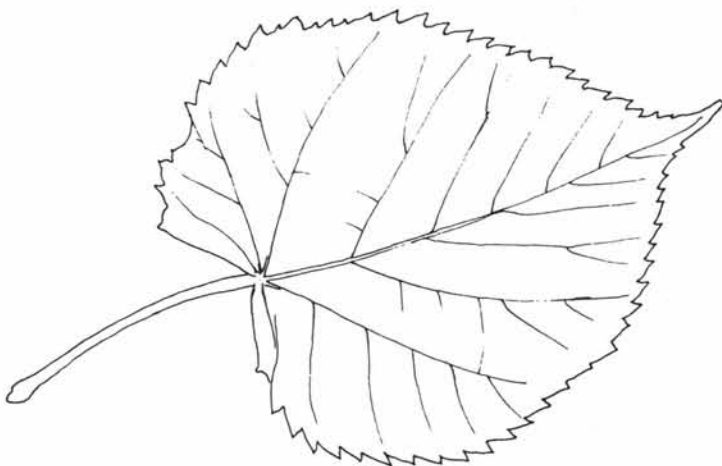
by Fred D. Opperman



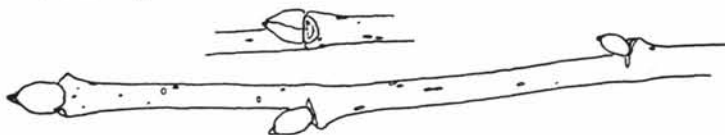
Tree Trivia Question: What is the most common wood used for the manufacture of quality heads for your golf clubs?

This month's selection is found on most golf courses and is quite common. Decoy carvers love the wood for it is straight grained and carves very easily. *Tilia americana* or American Linden, sometimes called Basswood, is a tree that should be in your tree inventory on the golf course.

Leaves: Alternate, simple, broad-ovate, 4 to 8" long, and almost as wide, abruptly acuminate. Coarsely serrate with long-pointed teeth, dark green and glabrous above with light green underneath. There are tufts of hair in the axils of the lateral veins.



Buds: Terminal-absent, laterals - 1/8-2/5" long, somewhat flattened, often lopsided, brown, reddish brown or greenish. They are smooth or slightly downy at apex, bud shaped like a teardrop.



Bark: Gray to brown, broken into many long narrow, flat-topped, scaly ridges, very tough and fibrous. The Indians used the inner bark for making string or ropes and used it for making cloth.

Stem: Smooth gray-brown, shining brown or greenish red, generally zigzag in shape.

Size: In our area will grow to about 60 to 80 feet in height, with a spread of 40 to 60 feet.

Flowers: Perfect, pale yellow 3/5" wide, very fragrant in mid to late June. The honey from Lindens is delicious.

Culture: This tree transplants very easily and is found in all nurseries. It prefers deep moist fertile soils and is pH adaptable. Likes full sun, but partial shade is okay. The most common cultivar is the Redmond Linden.

Answer to tree trivia question:?

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