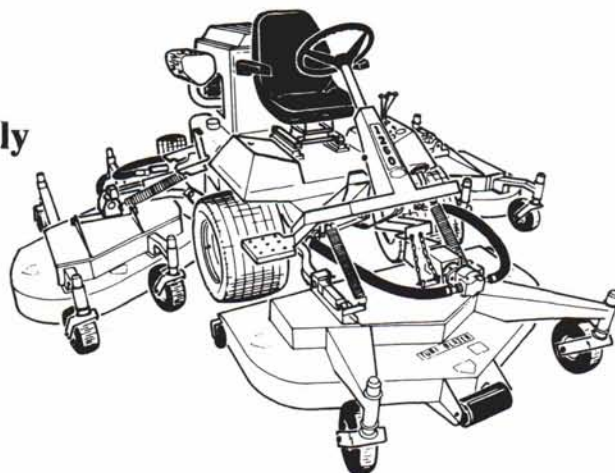


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Adolph Bertucci
(continued from page 20)

Ed Braunsky
Geneva G.C.

So many people lately have been telling me how nice it is to work with golf course superintendents. We recently lost one of the nicest. Adolph Bertucci was always nice to me and to many other people in our industry. I truly miss those long drives to Lake Shore C.C. for "the Christmas Party of the Year."

Paul Voykin said it best in Anaheim when we honored Adolph at the hospitality room. He talked about helping out that super down the road who might be in a jam and need some assistance. Keep the Adolph Bertucci spirit alive by being a "nice guy" and lending a hand.



Adolph and Roger Brown

Roger "the Dodger" Brown

There never was and never will be another Adolph Bertucci. Adolph wasn't one of a kind, he was the *only* one of his kind! If you wanted to be cheered up and have a fun day, you went to see Adolph.

He was even more fun when he was mad at one of his *paisons* like Bill Saielli, especially when the tables were turned, and he'd have one up on Bill. He'd get that silly grin on his face, hunch up his shoulders, and laugh and point his finger at Bill and say, "See? See? I tol' you, Bill, I tol' you, Bill. Didn't I tell you, Bill?" Saielli would say a few of his choice words, take off his hat, rub his perpetually bald head, turn around in a circle and say, "Don't you point your finger at me, you, you!" Usually words would escape him in his frustration, and that would make Adolph all the merrier! It was better than being with Laurel and Hardy.

Adolph Bertucci, "the Godfather," will live forever in the memories and hearts of the thousands that he has touched. I will miss him until the day I die.

Jim Burdett
Burdett's, Inc.

My memories of Adolph Bertucci started with my brother Paul. In the late 1950s, Paul sold to golf courses on the North Side. One of his customers was Adolph. The common interests of bowling and poker gave them a common bond. They would frequently be at Adolph's and Mary's house. Their friendship lasted for years.

After Paul's passing in 1965, I got to call on Adolph. He was always the gentleman inquiring regularly after Paul's wife Edie and their kids. Such is the mark of a great man.

Cecil Kerr

Adolph Bertucci was my friend. He had many friends and would give the shirt off his back for a friend who needed help. Adolph introduced me to the superintendents of the North Shore. His friends remain my friends. If Adolph said you were OK, then you were accepted.

For years, I attended every annual Bertucci Christmas party. Every police chief, mayor, and party boss attended Adolph's Christmas party.

I called Adolph at the hospital from Florida just before he died. Adolph said to be sure and tell Dudley I called. I am going to miss Adolph Bertucci.

Paul Voykin
Briarwood C.C.

Adolph Bertucci: For 37 years, you've been my dearest friend. You had countless friends; I only have a few, and you were on top of my short list. Every week, I waited for your phone call. Every day, I wanted to call you and listen to your laugh and hear you tell me about your grandchildren and family.

You always asked about my family. You went to their weddings, you and Mary brought them toys when they were small, and your son Jimmy took care of them when they got into trouble as teenagers. Whenever I had a problem at work or at home (and I had my share), you were always ready to help me out—not as someone whose ego knows everything but as a gentle, wonderful, dear, dear friend who never once whispered a boast or said an unkind word about his friend, "the Turk."

Adolph, the Turk has an empty space in his heart. Until we meet again . . .

Dave and Penny Meyer
Prestbury and Hughes Creek
Golf Clubs

The passing of Adolph Bertucci ends a longtime friendship for my wife and me. His greetings and support were always there through the many years Penny and I served the MAGCS. We are

(continued on page 24)



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Adolph Bertucci
(continued from page 22)

sorry that we did not hear of his passing for six weeks and sad that we could not show our respects at the time of his death.

Adolph would go out of his way at a local meeting or a national show to greet Penny or me. If Penny was not with me, Adolph would always say, "Be sure to say hi to Penny." Adolph was one of the old-school superintendents who used common sense and hard work to keep the grass green at Lake Shore C.C. His parties at Christmas always brought true friends together. We will miss his friendship and smile.

Brian Bossert
Bryn Mawr C.C.

I didn't know Adolph as well as many of the veterans of this industry. However, I enjoyed his Christmas parties and was struck by Adolph's friendly nature.

Despite not being close friends, he remembered my name and always went out of his way to say hello. That says a lot about a person and means a lot to guys when they are young and just trying to get to know people.

Peter Vandercook

I have many memories of Adolph Bertucci. The one I would like to relate to you took place one sunny, late-winter day at a Chicago District Golf Association meeting at Butterfield Country Club. It was late morning, and I was standing in the hall talking to Adolph when an old Catholic priest (a Butterfield member, I believe) came down the hall to see who had invaded the club that morning. Adolph shook his hand as he introduced himself to the priest. Although they had never met before, within seconds they were talking about priests, golfers, politicians, etc., that they both knew. It was amazing. When

I related this story to Adolph's wife Mary at his wake, she said "connections." Obviously, she had witnessed similar conversations. When Adolph met anybody, he could, and would, always find a "connection," someone they both knew.

Adolph had friends every place, and on the North Shore, he knew almost everybody. If you were a North Shore resident and were of Italian descent, were a country club member (any club), were connected with golf in any manner, or were a priest, a rabbi, a judge, a lawyer, a politician, or a police or fire official, Adolph knew you. He also knew your grandfather, father, uncles, sons, daughters and neighbors. All of these friendships were part of Adolph's "connections."

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(continued on page 26)

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Adolph Bertucci
(continued from page 24)

class party host, a father and grandfather. I prefer to remember him as a people person who may well be the busiest guy in heaven making his "connections."

Luke Strojny
Popular Creek G.C.

I met Adolph Bertucci in 1986 at his annual Christmas party. Wayne Trometer and I had driven up early to help set up. Adolph asked me to take some old stale buns out and feed them to the birds. I felt very silly breaking up those buns and feeding them to some nearby crows. I think Adolph was testing me, but from that day on, we were friends.

I looked forward to our monthly golf games with Art Clesen, Wayne Trometer, Adolph and myself. Adolph and I were usually partners against

the two peddlers. Although we lost most of the time (because Wayne cheats), we always had a good time together.

Adolph knew everybody! We could be in a truck stop in Ottawa, Illinois, or a restaurant in San Francisco—he knew someone that knew someone that knew someone; and if by chance he did not know them, he would talk to them until he was sure they would remember him and where he was from.

I am going to miss our road trips to the ITF meetings and eating popcorn out of a Lake Shore C.C. shoe bag. I am going to miss just talking to my pal. It was a privilege to have known Adolph Bertucci and have him as my friend.

Arthur Clesen
Arthur Clesen, Inc.

I'm a man of few words, and what I have to say about Adolph is short and to the point. Adolph was a man who loved his family with a passion. He had an abundance of friends and would help them in many ways, like job referrals, turf problems, personal problems. Adolph was always cheerful, had a correct attitude, was strong in his beliefs, and stood by others. Adolph was a friend of mine, a friend I will never have again.

Bob Johnson
Illinois Lawn Equipment

A few thoughts about our dear friend Adolph Bertucci, or "Bert" as those of us who were privileged to be close friends over the years called him. He was everyone's friend, always with a good word, with a wide scope of

(continued on page 32)

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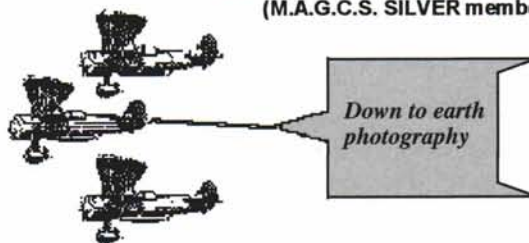
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Combined Golf Day . . .

(continued from page 10)

A key player in design, construction, and development of The General was Bob Graunke, CGCS, who is director of grounds for the entire Eagle Ridge Inn & Resort property. Bob has been involved in the golf industry for over 30 years, with the last 25 years or so at Eagle Ridge (the North course opened in 1977). Perhaps only the newest *On Course* readers wouldn't know Bob, or at least know of him; he has been active in Illinois golf associations for many years. For example he has been a board member and president of both the NWIGCSA and Illinois Turfgrass Foundation. In fact, Bob was awarded the ITF Distinguished Service Award in 1993 for all of his contributions and support of education and research activities.

Over the years, as the Eagle Ridge Inn & Resort has expanded in size and scope, the grounds maintenance staff has expanded as well. While Bob Graunke is the majordomo of grounds at Eagle Ridge, there are now three golf course superintendents under his guidance: Lee Rogers is superintendent of the South course, Tim O'Connor is superintendent of the North course, and Jim Wyffels is the superintendent of The General. Lee is immediate past president of the Northwest IGCSA, while Jim is currently treasurer. Since the General is the host course for the Combined Golf Day, we will focus in on Superintendent Jim Wyffels.

Jim got an early start in the turf business while working with his father on athletic fields in the Quad Cities area. Jim's father, Jim Sr., is a turf/athletic field consultant for C.D. Ford & Sons, which is a wholesaler of lawn and garden products in northwestern Illinois. Jim's early interest in golf took him to Ford Hills G.C. in

Geneseo, where he started working for Superintendent Dennis Peck at the ripe age of twelve. (Note Ford Hills is now called Maple Bluff, and Denny Peck is a co-owner with Bob Graunke.) Jim worked for Denny Peck all through his high school and college years at Ford Hills. Jim attended Black Hawk Junior College in Moline where he received an Associates Degree in Agronomy and where he also played on the golf team. Jim went on to study Turf Management at Illinois State University in Normal, and he is just a few credit hours away from a Bachelor's degree.

Before he could finish at ISU, Jim went to work at Eagle Ridge as a crew leader working under Bob Graunke. He worked his way up to assistant superintendent of the East course in '94 and to acting supervisor of the North and East courses in early '95. By the end of '95, he was spending

more and more time on construction of The General and became the course superintendent for The General in '96.

Jim has been married to wife Krista for three years ("no kids yet, just cats") and has noticed a steady increase in his handicap index since becoming: a) married, and b) involved with the Eagle Ridge project. Also, it is interesting to note that Krista's brother Greg Rounds is a turf student at the University of Illinois and spent last summer as an intern working for Jim on The General. Jim, who turned 27 the end of April, has learned a great deal about growing grass from his father, from Denny Peck and from Bob Graunke. And he is already working on passing along what he has learned to the next "generation" of turf managers. ■

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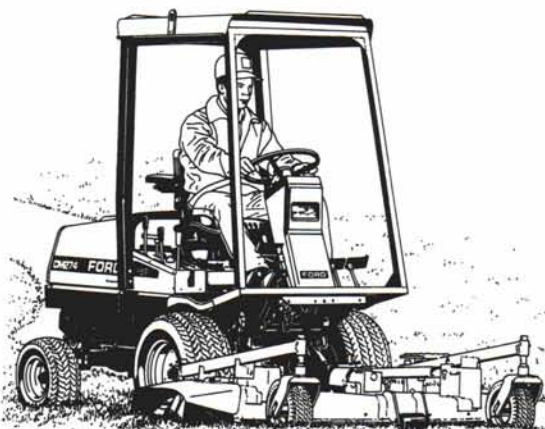
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ing establishment, these areas receive little or no fertilizer. In fact, excessive nitrogen fertilization of many of these plants can produce rank, unattractive growth.

While chemical weed control may be useful during early stages of development, it is hoped that little weed control will be necessary following establishment. Chemical insect and disease controls are almost never employed in plantings of this type. These species have co-evolved with local pests and are commonly resistant to their attacks.

When areas on golf courses are planted to native species, routine labor can be reduced. Large amounts of financial resources dedicated to golf course maintenance are normally budgeted to mowing grassed areas. In areas where these natives are growing, frequent mowing on a predetermined schedule does not occur. Reducing these inputs obviously translates into financial savings.

The Study

During the summer of 1997, full sun and open shade areas were planted and established with native grasses, sedges, and forbs at three golf courses in the Chicago area. Olympia Fields Country Club in the south suburbs, Cantigny Golf Club in the west suburbs, and Skokie Country Club in the north suburbs were chosen to provide representation for the entire metropolitan area. Thirty native species were planted in the full sun areas (Table 1), and twenty-eight species were planted in the open shade areas (Table 2). For all but two species, plugs, 2-1/4 by 2-1/4 inches were purchased and planted. In the full sun installations at each course, plots 2 feet by 3 feet were planted with three plants each of the thirty

species of native plants except for the one *Andropogon hallii* in which one, one-gallon potted plant was planted per plot and *Hierochloa odorata* in which two, 4-inch potted plants were planted per plot. The plots were replicated three times. In the open shade, three to five plugs of each species were grouped and planted. The open shade plots were not replicated. Plantings at each site were irrigated as necessary to ensure establishment.

At each site, plantings were handled differently. At Cantigny Golf Club, the full sun site was planted on 2 and 3 July into the far rough. Site preparations included removal of the existing vegetation to one inch (mostly cool season grasses) using a string trimmer. In the open shade, an area was treated with glyphosate, and three plugs of each species were planted on 18 July. The site was visited 7 August, 4 September, 17 September, and 22 October to evaluate plant conditions.

At Olympia Fields Country Club, both the full sun and open shade sites were planted on 11 July. The full sun site was mowed to two inches, rotary tilled to approximately five inches, and planted. Following planting, the

site was broadcast with Preen at the labeled rate to deter invasion of annual grasses and broadleaved weeds. In the open shade, five plugs of each species were grouped and planted into the existing vegetation. The site was visited 15 July, 1 August, 4 September, and 19 October to evaluate plant conditions.

At Skokie Country Club, both the full sun and open shade sites were planted on 23 July. Both the full sun and open shade settings were treated with glyphosate and mowed to less than two inches prior to planting. The site was visited 6 August, 24 September, and 22 October to evaluate plant conditions.

Results and Discussion for Year One

At visits to each site during this initial year, plant survival and flowering was recorded. As of the last visit to each site, it appeared that most plants have become established and are in good condition going into winter. Table 3 lists those species that flowered during this establishment season. In future years, data on several criteria, including flower color and effective period of appeal; plant height, silhouette, and spacing; and overall ornamental potential

(continued on page 32)



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