



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



ED DUEHR

**THE APRIL MEETING
MIDLOTHIAN COUNTRY CLUB
MIDLOTHIAN, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1957
ED DUEHR, OUR HOST
GOLF — SOCIAL MEETING
DINNER — 6:30 P. M.
BUSINESS MEETING — 7:30 P. M.
EDUCATIONAL MEETING**

*Ed Duehr will have the welcome mat out for
us at Midlothian, so let's have a record
turnout on Monday.*

THE BULL SHEET, official monthly publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS. Editor, William H. Stupple, 543 Michigan Ave., Highland Park, Ill.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, "our" season has rolled around once again. This means a lot of work for all of us for several months to come. It is an opportunity though for us to put into practical use some of the things that we have learned from the turf meetings and conferences that we have attended.

Our next meeting will be held at the Midlothian Country Club on April 8 - with Edward Duehr as our host. I am looking forward to a good turnout. It will be the first chance you golfers will have to play the game at one of this year's monthly meetings.

You will soon be receiving your tickets for the Spring Dinner Dance which will be held in May at O-Henry. Your Entertainment Chairman, Norm Kramer, is working hard on it and assures everyone a good time. Our dances have always been most enjoyable — plan to attend this one and join in the fun!

AMOS E. LAPP

THE APRIL MEETING

Our April meeting will be held at Midlothian Country Club, Midlothian, Illinois on Monday, April 8, 1957. Ed Duehr will be our host. This is the first time we have arranged a meeting at Midlothian for many a year and many of our members have never been on the course. It will be interesting to visit Ed's layout. There will be golf in the afternoon (at the present writing it sure doesn't look like golfing weather, but that can change in a hurry and we might be lucky enough to get some good weather at that time) and there will also be the usual social get together in the clubhouse in the afternoon, dinner at 6:30 P.M. and the business and educational meetings following. It should be an interesting day and so let's have a good turnout.

COMING EVENTS

The May meeting, Ruth Lake Country Club.

The Spring Dinner Dance, O'Henry Ballroom, Archer Ave., and Willow Springs Rd.

The June meeting, Deer Park Country Club.

The July meeting, Edgewood Valley, Country Club.

The August meeting, to be announced.

The September meeting, joint meeting with Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, North Shore Country Club.

The October meeting and Fall Golf Tournament, Medinah Country Club (Tentative).

The November meeting will include a tour of International Fertilizer Company plant and dinner and meeting at Chicago Heights Country Club in the evening.

The December meeting, Glendale Golf Club.

We had a nice turnout at our March meeting at Mohawk, there being 72 for dinner and the meeting. Al Hintz was his usual hospitable self and all who attended had a wonderful time. Mr. Edward Chord of the Chicago Park District was our speaker and gave a very interesting talk on tree planting and care.

Russ Reed reports that somebody picked up his topcoat by mistake at our meeting at Mohawk, leaving his own which was very similar to Russ'. So, if you have a strange topcoat, contact Russ.

St. Peter Lutheran church in Schaumburg was the scene of a candlelight ceremony February 16 in which Miss Janet Lee Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray

Davis became the bride of Nowell H. Fiene of Roselle. Four hundred and twenty-five guests attended the reception held in Bensenville Fireman's hall where a buffet supper was served. The bridal couple honeymooned in Florida for two weeks and are now residing in their new home in Schaumburg.

Floyd Sander of Ridge Country Club is a busy man these days superintending the installation of a new watering system and building a new equipment building at his club. Floyd says they are spending \$95,000.00 on the projects.

Spring arrived officially in Chicago at 3:17 P.M. March 20, but seemed to have arrived before that. Some of the Superintendents in the Chicago area cut green on March 14. A number of others were ready to mow the following week, but the weather changed and on the 25th and 26th a heavy snowfall covered the ground and it looked like winter was back again. Severe attacks of snow mold were reported mostly in Poa Annua on fairways and aprons this winter. Most of the Superintendents treated greens and tees and disease was very light in these areas. We noted that some of the snow mold resembled Pythium very strongly, being in patches ranging from one inch to 6 inches in diameter and in streaks much like Pythium. In fact, Jim Holmes calls it gray snow mold or cold weather Pythium. This type of snow mold is especially severe, killing the grass right down to the ground, with very little recovery to date. It appeared in some spots in the early part of November before there was any snow and again during the winter. Weather there will be any more after this last snow remains to be seen.

1957 SPRING OBSERVATIONS

by C. O. BORGMEIER

There has been some feeling of hesitancy and skepticism concerning business conditions during January and February. To many people it appears that the boom has lost its steam and will level off. During March the weather was excellent to provide some life for the Golf and Garden and Lawn business. In the south, golf play has been up to, if not ahead of, 1956. Spring appears to be several weeks early. That is always a shot in the arm for the golf courses. Golfers are anxious to get out in the spring, so many superintendents have been busy during March, and now all set.

Generally speaking, Machinery and Supplies are in comfortable supply this year. Most factories have expanded their output in anticipation of a banner year. It is well to remember, however, that the turf business is quite seasonal, and some delays are inevitable. One should not wait until equipment breaks down to replace it. Planning ahead pays off on this score.

Grass seed is in good supply, with the exception of Seaside Bent. Here the crop was a complete failure. Merion Blue is more plentiful and lower in price.

Fungicides, insecticides and chemicals are becoming more technical and complicated. New products will certainly find their place, but to repeat a previous statement, before putting your eggs in one basket, be sure it has been thoroughly tested and you yourself have satisfied yourself, by limited testing or use, that your chances are excellent for good results.

In this day and age efficiency is a much used word. It shouldn't be confused with economy. However, we shouldn't quarrel with the desire for efficiency. That means good help at good wages, a big step toward efficiency. Also modern machinery and equipment to complete your picture for efficient operation of your golf course.

IN RETROSPECT:

By John MacGregor

This dissertation must necessarily include the birth of the National Association, as it was the means by which all of the locals throughout the U.S.A. and Canada came into being.

In the late spring of 1926 a man came to visit me at The Chicago Golf Club where I was employed. He introduced himself as John Morley, Greenkeeper at the Youngstown Country Club, Youngstown, Ohio. His Club had given him a leave of absence to make a survey of the Golf Clubs in the Metropolitan areas of the East and Middlewest to ascertain whether or not the Greenkeepers of those areas would be interested in forming a National Association of Greenkeepers. He informed me that on his survey through the East, the idea had been well received, that most of those he had spoken to assured him they would join such a movement.

I believe my Club was the last one he visited in the Chicago District, among several others. It appealed to me, as at that time there were only two men I knew that I used to visit, Frank Mastroleo at Geneva Golf Club and Dave McIntosh at Glen Oak Country Club. However, I told him to submit my name for membership, when and if such a meeting was called.

A meeting was called at The Sylvania Golf Club Toledo, Ohio, September 26th 1926, at which time the officers and board of directors were elected. John Morley — President, John McNamara — Vice President, Wm. Rockefeller — Secretary, Alec McPherson Treasurer, Directors — Fred Burkhardt, John Pressler and I believe Joe Valentine and myself.

In due time I received a letter from the Secretary notifying me of my election to the board, also requesting me to arrange for a meeting in Chicago as soon as this could be arranged, and when the time and place could be ascertained, to notify the President so he could come and explain the Aims and Objects of the Association and to assist us in forming a local Organization of our own.

My first thought was how far should I reach out for prospective members. After much consideration I decided to send an invitation to all of the Greenkeepers in the states of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, if such a thing was possible. I found there was a book known as the Frazer's Year Book with all of this information which I purchased, and found in it the names of Golf Clubs and the Greenkeepers all over the United States. My problem then was how to go about getting those invitations ready for mailing. I bought a Hectograph, and found twenty copies could be imprinted from one letter, so I had to write in long hand five letters for every 100 letters. Writing paper, envelopes and stamps had to be bought. For three weeks my wife, my three children and myself worked evenings and Sundays, at the end of that time I found that we had mailed 500 invitations.

The time set for the meeting was November 26th, 1926 and was held at the Great Northern Hotel Chicago, with John Morley and Fred Burkart of the National Association officiating. I had hopes of a pretty good percentage out of the 500. However, when the meeting was called to order, only sixteen were present, one came from Wisconsin, two from Indiana, thirteen from Illinois. President Morley explained the aims and objects of the Association, which was founded on Education, Justice and Benevolence. He then proceeded to organize our group. I was elected President, Alex Binnie - Vice President, Eddie Dearie - Secretary, and Fred Sherwood -

Treasurer. The board members I do not recall at this time. It was gratifying to note that all of the sixteen joined both our local and the national, and this was notably true for quite a few years.

At a later meeting, we decided on a name for our local, and were to be known as the Mid-West Greenkeepers Association, which I am glad to say has not lost its identity. We were host to the N.A.G.A. convention in March 1927, there were several speakers on the Program. The Equipment Show was not a feature until 1928 in Detroit. It might be interesting to you to know just how many attended the first convention. There were 68 members and I would say that was a very good representation.

During our infancy we had well attended meetings. Our regular meetings were once a month, and at those meetings everyone would go on a tour of the course conducted by the host Greenkeeper, in that way we got to know each other. Many questions were asked and there was less reluctance about explaining why one did this or that. Two weeks after the regular meeting we would play golf, no business, so we visited two courses a month. Before our association started no one would want to visit another golf course.

We became better acquainted with each other, and felt more free to discuss our problems and methods of solving them, although, as I look back to those days thirty years ago, we did not have the problems you are confronted with today. The only disease I can recall that gave us any trouble was large Brown Patch, and our remedy was an application of Lime which seemed to have the desired effect, indicating to us then that acidity was the cause. It seems to me even today that application of lime intelligently applied would eliminate a great deal of our Fungii troubles.

Our methods of maintenance were somewhat different than they are today. We believed in top-dressing our greens, and that was done religiously once a month, starting as soon as weather conditions permitted in the Spring and as late as November for the last dressing. (These dressings were approximately one yard to average green.) We had no mat on our greens, as the monthly dressings well rubbed in did not give the grass a chance to mat.

Progress has been made, there is no question about that, as problems have arisen over the years that have demanded research and brought into prominence such men as Noer, Daniels, Musser, Tyson, Stoutmeyer, Grau, Monteith, and many others, who probably never would have had an opportunity to bring their talents to bear on your problems.

Had it not been for the National Association I never would have had the opportunity of visiting hundreds of Golf Clubs, and traveling in twenty different States and meeting and knowing hundreds of men in your profession, whom I call friends. This alone is worth more to me than all of the time and money I have contributed toward its success. Our Organization is built on education, no one can ever learn enough, Conferences, Short Courses, Local or National Meetings, give one an opportunity to observe and absorb much. Read, write, learn and inwardly digest.

We have gone a long way in thirty years, from sixteen regular members to 105 is a healthy growth, every member should strive to become a member of the board of directors of either his local or national, even aspire to the Presidency. However, to achieve this he has to have the support of his local association. I hope that

those of you who are not members of the national will join and help elect the man you have chosen to be Vice-President. Our Mid-West Association has been noted since its origin as a model for progress and education. Many other local are adopting our program of education and look to us as the leaders in Association work. This is an honor indeed. Many good men have served as President and Directors of the Mid-West during the past thirty years, we have just concluded a very successful year under the leadership of Bob Williams.

We now enter a new year under the leadership of Amos Lapp, who I predict will be a real credit to the Association. Another notable change toward better understanding between the men in charge of private clubs and public fee clubs. This is evidenced by the fact that five of the eight members of the board are superintendents of daily fee clubs.

We must not forget that the National Association was not the first organized group of Greenkeepers in the U. S. The New England greenkeepers were organized in 1923 or 24 and were known as The New England Greenkeepers Club, so we must salute this group as the first to see the necessity for association.

SPREADING IT THIN

We see by the sample ballot that Dave McIntosh of the Oak Hills Golf Club is running for Commissioner of Highways on the Palos Township regular Republican Party Ticket. The election is April 2nd. Good Luck Dave.

Al Rauch is now a director of the Bonnie Dundee Country Club. Al and his wife and family are now living in their new house south of the course. It is a beautiful place and beautifully furnished. Al plans to spend the summer working on the golf course. Most of the winter he spent in getting the new house under way and completed.

Harold Reed who served the Ridgemoor C.C. for many years and who spent the last two years in St. Petersburg, Florida, has returned to the Chicago district. Harold and Mrs. Reed finally decided that it was better that they come back to be closer to their grandchildren.

Emil Cassier expected to go to Florida this winter but took cold on his way home from Louisville and couldn't make the trip.

Henry Lang of the Glen View Club has recovered completely from his recent operation. He looks fine.

Gabe Rsettt of Skokie and his wife had a wonderful vacation touring Mexico after the Louisville meeting. Gabe took many pictures with his new camera and wishes he could go back till it gets warm here.

Frank Dinelli of Northmoor has stayed close to the club this winter watching and supervising construction of a 2 acre lake on the club grounds. Frank needs the lake for a water supply but is already planning how he can stock it with fish and weeds so he can fish close to home next summer.

Gordon Brinkworth of Olympis Fields C. C. has stayed close to the club too this winter supervising the installation of a watering sytem in one course. Gordon's son is feeling much better than he felt during the winter.

Mr. Gottschalk of the Morton Arboretum is planning a truf demonstration garden in connection with experimental shrub planting demonstrations at the Arboretum. There will be room for 65 grass plots 15 x 15 feet. This work will be started this spring unless work on the Toll Road takes priority when it will be done later in the year. The Nursery demonstration plots will be an extensive experiment in planting technique on evergreens and shrubs and will show the effect of 2-4-D, DDT and other things.

Ray Davis, looking over Burdetts Louisville pictures comments "That Wes Updegraff, he sure is slicked up looks like a preacher about to sermonize."

The Mole and his wife went dancing at O Henry's Ball Room last Friday evening and looked over the room Norm Kramer has set aside for the Spring Dance in May. It is a beautiful place and will have our own bar, and be very private. The music at O Henry's is always very good. Plan to attend, you will have a fine time.

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