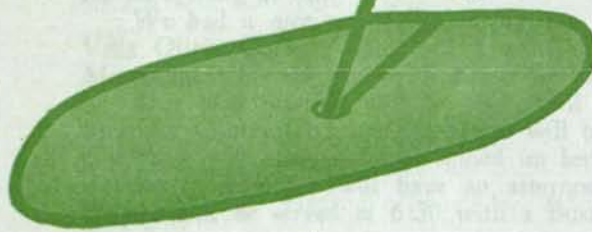




The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



AL HINTZ

**THE APRIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1958
MOHAWK COUNTRY CLUB
BENSENVILLE, ILLINOIS
AL HINTZ, OUR HOST**

**GOLF — SOCIAL MEETING
DINNER, 6:30 P.M.
BUSINESS MEETING
EDUCATIONAL MEETING**

*This Will Be Our First
Outdoor Meeting of 1958.
It May Be The Weather Will
Permit Us To Play Golf On That DAY,
So Bring Your Clubs And Enjoy A
Pleasant Day With Us.*

SPRING DINNER DANCE, RIVER FOREST COUNTRY CLUB, MAY 3.

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

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Most of the Superintendents are back from their well earned vacations and are anxiously waiting for the warm weather.

I am certainly pleased at the nice turnout we had from our Association at the Purdue Conference. It seems like every year we have an increase in our attendance. It was a very good meeting and I want to thank Dr. Daniels for a job well done.

The annual Spring Dinner Dance will be held on May 3rd at the River Forest Golf Club. Norm Kramer and his wife have planned another enjoyable evening for us, so please set that date aside and plan to come for an evening of fun.

We had a nice attendance at our last meeting at Villa Olivia Country Club and I want to thank the Management for the wonderful dinner we had.

Our next meeting will be held April 7th at the Mohawk Country Club and Al Hintz will be our host. Get those golf clubs out and shined up because if the weather is good we will have an afternoon of golf. Dinner will be served at 6:30 with a Business Meeting after.

ED STEWART, PRESIDENT

OUR APRIL MEETING

Our April meeting will be held at Mohawk Country Club, Bensenville, Ill. on Monday, April 7. Al Hintz will be our host. It could be that the weather might be favorable for golf that day, so you had better look up your clubs and bring them with you. We doubt whether there will be a tournament scheduled so early in the season, but if the conditions are right, there will surely be some golfers. For others, there will be a social meeting in the afternoon. Dinner will be at 6:30 P.M. and the business meeting will follow. We are sure that Educational Chairman Wes Updegraff will have something interesting in that line following the business meeting. Let's have a good turnout for this meeting.

THE MARCH MEETING

There was a good turnout for our meeting at Villa Olivia Country Club on March 10. We did not get an accurate account, but there must have been close to 70 at the dinner. A number of superintendents arrived early in the afternoon and a social meeting was enjoyed by all. The dinner that evening received the approval of all. It was chicken and beef served family style and that always seems to go over big with our members, who all seem to have healthy appetites. President Stewart announced that our Spring Dance would be held at River Forest Country Club on Saturday evening, May 3. Norman Kramer is planning a wonderful evening for us. President Stewart also announced that the Fall Dance would be held at Elmhurst Country Club on Saturday, November 8.

It was announced at the meeting that Walter Killmer and Gabriel Rosset were in the hospital, and that George Roloff would be in the hospital in Elmhurst for quite some time.

Dave Mastroleo held a drawing of door prizes.

DOOR PRIZES

1. Joe Canale, 2. Adolph Bertucci, 3. Don Stewart, 4. Dave Mastroleo, 5. Gordon Brinkworth.

ON THE AILING LIST

Gabriel Rosset was taken ill while attending the Conference at Purdue and since he arrived home has been confined to the Medical Pavillion in Highwood. Gabe says that the doctor has advised him to rest there until about April 1.

George Roloff is still in the DuPage Memorial Hospital at Elmhurst. George has been there since January 6, and will be there for a number of weeks yet.

Walter Killmer was reported as being in St. Luke's Hospital at our March meeting, but has returned home since. It is expected that Walter will soon have to return to the hospital for another operation.

We are happy to report that Gordon Brinkworth's son who required heart surgery this winter, is getting along fine. In fact, he was at Washington with Gordon.

SNOW MOLD NEWS

Snow mold in the Chicago area this Spring has been about as severe as many of us can remember. Snow lay on unfrozen ground from the first of January until the middle of March in some parts of the District (notably the north side) and when it started to melt, snow mold was all over the place. Greens and tees that had been treated in the fall, came thru very well, but even on treated turf there was some signs of the fungus. On a number of courses, this was the first year in many that there was any sign of either the Pink or Gray Snow Mold on treated turf. It may have been that the heavy rains late in December had much to do with lessening the effectiveness of the fungicides used earlier. Poa Annua and Bent fairways were hard hit, but we are relieved to note that 99 percent of the damage is superficial, that is, just the leaves were affected and the stems and roots are still living and starting to show new growth. We try to find an explanation for things that we note, and think that the turf is recovering faster this year, not because of any unusual weather conditions, but because there was practically no frost in the ground where it was covered by snow and that the grass has had a chance to develop new roots much sooner than is usually the case. This may be wrong, but it seems logical to us. Untreated greens are hard hit and most of the Superintendents have treated the turf since the snow went. Pink snow mold seems to be the most aggressive of the two. It seems to cover more of the turf, one patch practically overlapping another, and the fungus keeps on working longer, after the snow is gone.

Henry Lange volunteers some interesting information on his well at Glen View. The casing in the well collapsed last summer, making it necessary to redrill it. The original well, drilled in 1926 was a depth of 2058 feet and the deep well pump was set at 200 feet. The new well is only 1550 feet deep and the pump is set between 4 and 500 feet down. Henry says that the capacity of the wells will be the same. With the receding water table and the necessity of deeper wells in some sections, we think this is something of interest.

1958 PROSPECTS

Everyone who has been reading the daily newspapers this winter knows there is supposed to be a recession on, even tho the reader has not been personally affected. Many in the marginal class of employees have been affected. Certainly a large amount of unemployment is a tragedy, as well as an economic waste, but until we can change human nature from alternate feelings of optimism or pessimism, we will have business cycles.

Many business men are cautious this spring, but few are down-right gloomy. How is the golf business going to be affected? Very little, if at all. Golf Courses are more dependent on the weather than anything else, especially the public fee courses. Private clubs are uniformly in good financial shape, unlike the depression 30's. An early spring with a big flock of golfers will send us off to a good year. Our economic recession hit bottom in February. By fall, the politicians will be wringing their hands about inflation again.

That brings us to the strage conundrum involving higher prices, or more inflation during a period of recession. Wages, freight rates, and taxes are up, or going up. This has generally caused a mark-up of about 5% on fabricated merchandise, where a large portion of the cost of manufacturing involves labor, freight, and assemblies. As to prices on Golf Course Equipment and Supplies for the 1958 Spring Season this is the situation:

Grass Seed—down in price from Spring of 1957 about 33-1/3%.

Machinery—generally up about 5%, tho this does not hold true universally. Some manufacturers have held the price line.

Fungicides, Insecticides, and Weed Killers—no change in prices.

Manufactured Fertilizers and Plant Foods—up about 5%.

On the average the cost of your equipment and supply needs will be the same in 1958 as it was in 1957.

If the writer is wrong in his prognostications, he will be shoveling snow next winter for hire, instead of exercise.

C. O. Borgmeier

Chairman Walter Fuchs called a meeting of his Turf Research Committee on the evening of March 25 to discuss the proposition of the establishment of a turf garden at Morton Arboretum. There is a good possibility that this project will finally get under way after many long years of endeavor on the part of our association to create enough interest in this district to help us find a place where we can do some of our own turf research.

Herman Woehrl of Kankakee is walking around with his right arm in a sling. He broke it recently while giving his helpers a hand to unload a truck load of fertilizer. Herman's course at Kankakee, which our members will remember from a meeting we had there two years ago, was recently taken over by the B.P.O.E.

March has been, up to the time of this writing, an extremely dry month. We have had a few light snow storms, but measurable precipitation has been abnormally low. It will be well if you get your water system in working order as soon as possible to be ready to take care of any desiccation which may appear on the greens. From a recent examination, we find many places where greens turf has been heaved by the frost during the past month breaking off many of the roots and creating an extremely shallow root system. It seems inconceivable that it would be necessary to water turf so early

in the season, but from past sad experiences we know that turf can be severely damaged if the top inch of the soil is allowed to dry out. Don't wait too long if you see the grass turning off color during this dry weather.

Many of the superintendents in this area cut their greens the second week in March. It looked for a while as though it was going to be an especially early spring, but although the weather has been dry allowing us to get a lot of our early work done, the nights are cold and there has been very little growth.

MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION CONFERENCE

The Conference was held at Purdue University on March 3-4-5. The large number of Midwest Superintendents attending the Conference were loud in their praise of the high calibre of the speakers and of the material presented. Attendance was the highest in the history of the meeting, topping the 512 of 1957. It is interesting to note that there were 170 new names on the registration list, men who had not previously attended. There is no doubt but that a good many of the old timers who did not attend were absent due to having attended the National Conference in Washington D. C. and being on vacation. It was reported, too, that a number of the men were unable to attend due to being ill with the flu. Among these, we were sorry to learn, was Dr. Marvin Ferguson, who was to be one of the speakers. All sessions were well attended and the speakers held the attention of those present. Frank Dinelli and Oscar Borgmeier were tops in their capacity as Chairmen of their groups. Again, as we have so many times in the past, we wish to congratulate Dr. Daniel for his fine work and to commend him for his enthusiasm. Dr. Daniel is now a full professor at Purdue and we also congratulate him on this achievement. We were delighted to have our old friend Dr. Scarseth on the program. His talk and pictures were presented as only Dr. Scarseth can, and as usual, his remarks were of the utmost interest to all of us.

As has become the custom, we were again entertained by that wonderful Purdue Glee Club at our banquet. Our congratulations to Glee Club Director Stewart for his wonderful job with these boys.

26 Superintendents from the Chicago area attended the President's dinner at LaFayette during the Turf Conference at Purdue. Ed Stewart was the honored guest. This dinner is held each year at that time, to honor our Association president. The president is always handed the bill at the conclusion of the banquet. It's true that it amounts to a lot of money, and that's what the presidents think too, because they very solemnly pronounce that it might be a good idea that it be prorated among the diners.

It was suggested at our last meeting that we change the name of our Association. This hit the wrong note with some of the old timers. They point out that this association was one of the first of its kind in the country and at that time included much of the Midwest, including all of Illinois and Wisconsin. It is an old and honorable name and still lives up to its designation by having members from outside of the Chicago District. So, why not leave it alone, boys, and turn your thoughts to something more important.

SPRAYING OF ELMS for Dutch elm disease control should be done only by personnel completely competent and trained to do the job. Not only will spraying be ineffective if not done properly but serious damage can result to the foliage and the bark if the mixture is not properly formulated and properly applied. If spraying is done in high wind it is not likely that there will be sufficient deposition of toxic materials on the branches to provide suitable control.

Care must be taken that materials used are recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture or other responsible research groups. Such materials are available in formulated mixtures from reputable commercial producers of agricultural chemicals.

To maintain good vigor it is recommended that elm trees be adequately fed and watered during or following critical periods of stress such as disturbances of site or soil and especially following drought. It should be understood that keeping the tree in a healthy and vigorous condition will not make it any less susceptible to Dutch elm disease. However, it is well known that weak and old trees accumulate dead wood in their tops and frequently have an abundance of dying branches as a result of deficiencies of nutrients and water.

NATIONAL BY-LAWS CHANGES

At the Annual meeting in Washington D.C., the following by-law changes were approved by the members.

ARTICLE II — SECTION

CLASS AA — Life Members: To qualify for Life Membership, a Member must have been a Charter or Regular Member for twenty five years and who has retired from active service as a golf course superintendent. Life Members shall have all the privileges of this Association with the exception of holding any office and shall be excused from payment of annual dues and/or assessments; however, such Life Members shall pay annual insurance premiums.

CLASS B — Golf Course Superintendents qualifying for this classification shall have completed at least one year as a superintendent in charge and/or previously had three years experience as assistant to a Class A Member; or the equivalent thereof. Class B Members shall have all the privileges of this Association.

CLASS C — Inactive Members. An Inactive Member is one who by circumstance such as unemployment, illness or adverse financial condition, is unable to pay dues. Membership in this class may, after due application, be granted at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Inactive Members may not vote or hold office. Inactive membership shall pay annual insurance premiums.

Ray Gerber, Bert Rost and Bill Stupple met at Norm Johnson's Country Club of Florida one day in February and found that Norm was in Miami attending a Superintendent's meeting there. However, Matt Bezck was there and took the boys on a tour of the course. The cold weather had turned the Bermuda grass brown and Matt was worried about weeds infesting the dormant turf. Matt says that the Superintendent in the South has plenty of headaches and that if any of us are seeking an easier job by going there, his advice is to stay where we are.

Joe Bertucci has retired as Superintendent at Lake Shore Country Club on a pension. His son, Adolph, who has been his assistant for many years takes over as superintendent.

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